



**Foothill Chapter
California Rare Fruit Growers**

Next meeting:
Guest speaker Bruce Steele on beekeeping
Saturday, October 4, 2008

Lecture Hall A
Los Angeles County Arboretum
301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia

October meeting: Bruce Steele

Our October 4th speaker will be local bee expert Bruce Steele, who keeps a large number of bees in Altadena. He will be showing a video about pollination, and discussing the honeybee in great detail. He's been known to bring a live hive with him for show and tell, though I haven't confirmed if we will be so privileged. With the spring rains he was looking forward to a bountiful honey harvest, and should be bringing some to sell.

PS. If anybody has the equipment to project from a DVD onto the screen, please contact Joel Johnson asap at 818-636-5184.



August meeting - Cellarmasters Home Wine Club of Los Angeles



CELLARMASTERS

Home Wine Club Los Angeles

We had a fantastic last meeting in August. Mike Holland and Jon Weisickle from LA Cellarmasters gave a great talk about making fruit (and grape) wines. We learned that even green pepper wine has a place in this world! Chapter members were enthralled, and asked a lot of questions. To wrap it up, we got to sample several of their creations, including Blueberry and Plum wines. A favorite was the award winning Pomegranate, which was truly remarkable. See www.cellarmastersla.org for more information on this organization and an interesting hobby.



Left: *Jujubes*



Right: *Dwarf Brazilian bananas*

Sharing table, raffle, and dues

Sharing Table

Members with last names starting with 'N' through 'Z', please bring your fall harvest to share for the Sharing Table. And please lend a helping hand with the clean up during and after the meeting.

Plant Raffle

Please bring extra plants, seedlings, cuttings, etc., to the next meeting, with information and instructions for care. This is a steady fundraiser for our chapter, so please make the effort to share your surplus materials.

Dues

Please pay dues to Pauline Assarian at the next meeting if overdue.



Left: *Praying Mantis on white sapote*



Right: *Fuerte avocados*

Co-Op & Food Exchange of Altadena

COFEA (Co-Op & Food Exchange of Altadena), founded by our own CRFG member Gail Murphy, was featured recently in the L.A. Times. See:

<http://www.latimes.com/features/home/la-hm-exchange13-2008sep13,0,4525505.story>

COFEA is a group of about 70 members (and growing), who share fruits, vegetables, eggs, advice, and just about anything home-grown. For more information, contact Gail at a CRFG meeting, or go to the group's site at:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/COFEaltadena/>.

THE FOOTHILL CHAPTER OF THE CRFG meets at 9:30 a.m. the first Saturday of alternate months (February, April, June, August, October, December) at the Arboretum of Los Angeles County, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia (just south of the 210 Freeway). There is no charge to enter the Arboretum to attend the meeting, which is usually in Lecture Hall "A". The easiest access is straight through the Gift Shop, then down the stairs to the right in the adjacent building.

CHAIRMAN: Joel Johnson (joel@aridscapes.com, foothill@crfg.org).
Newsletter: David Szymkowski (david.szymkowski@gmail.com).

Also see the website of our parent organization: www.crfg.org:

"Founded in 1968, the California Rare Fruit Growers (CRFG) is the largest amateur fruit-growing organization in the world."



Left: Editor's son with passion fruit

Right: Editor's son with watermelons and pumpkin



Date of next CRFG chapter meeting: Saturday, June 6, 2008: Julie Bawden Davis will share everything there is to know about growing strawberries.