



**Foothill Chapter
California Rare Fruit Growers**

Next meeting:

Guest speaker Julie Bawden Davis on growing strawberries in Southern California

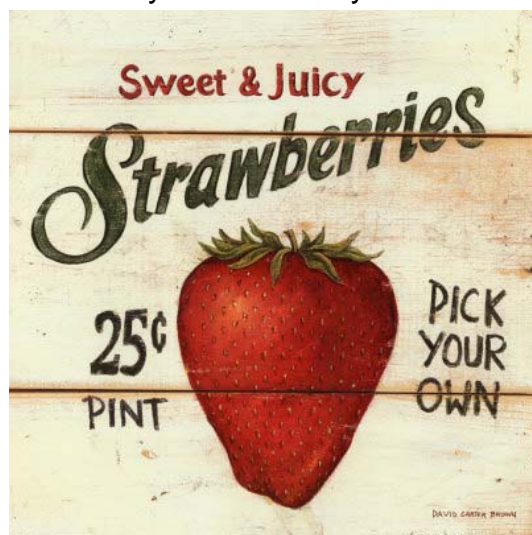
Saturday, December 6, 2008

Lecture Hall A

Los Angeles County Arboretum
301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia

December meeting: Growing strawberries with Julie Bawden Davis

We are fortunate to have as guest speaker Julie Bawden Davis, a Master Gardener certified by the University of California. Julie literally wrote the book on growing



strawberries in Southern California. Julie's writing has appeared in The Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Chronicle, Family Circle, The Gardener, Native Plants, and other publications. She has written four books: *Indoor Gardening the Organic Way: How to Create a Natural and Sustaining Environment for Your Houseplants* (2007), *Readers Digest Flower Gardening: A Practical Guide to Creating Colorful Gardens in Every Yard* (2004), *Houseplants & Indoor Gardening: Decorating Your Home With Houseplants* (Black & Decker Outdoor Home Series, 2002), and of most relevance, *The Strawberry Story: How to Grow Great Berries in Southern California* (1993). She is the founder of

HealthyHouseplants.com. You can get more info about our speaker at juliebawdendavis.com, and send her e-mail at julie@juliebawdendavis.com. At the meeting, Ms. Bawden Davis will be signing her book, "*The Strawberry Story: How to Grow Great Berries in Southern California*".

October meeting: All about bees with Bruce Steele

Our October meeting featured a delightful lecture by local bee expert Bruce Steele, who keeps a large number of bees in Altadena. He brought a live hive with him for show and tell, answered all our questions, plus offered different types of honey to sample. The meeting was highly entertaining and educational.



Left: Bruce Steele

Right: Bruce identifying the various inhabitants of the hive.

Upcoming meeting: Scion Exchange, February 1, 2009



It's that time of year again! Our annual scion exchange and grafting demonstration is always a popular chapter event. Most importantly, it is a chance for you to share your expertise, advice, and favorite fruit trees with your fellow chapter members. This event always draws visitors and so is a good opportunity to recruit new members. As advance notice, please remember to save (and label!) scion wood from your winter pruning. Even if you won't be doing any grafting this year, please take the time to collect scion wood for others - trimmings from your favorite hard-to-find trees can help start or build other members' fruit orchards. Please collect wood from your pruning, about pencil-thin, with several buds. Store in the refrigerator or other cool spot, with a damp paper towel in a ziptop bag (the fresher, the better). And please bring some extra bags and a marker to the event, so you can identify what you have traded.

Co-Op & Food Exchange of Altadena

I again would like to bring attention to the Co-Op & Food Exchange of Altadena (COFEA), founded by our own CRFG member Gail Murphy. This is an active and growing local group dedicated to everything related to growing your own food. COFEA members 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/>.

Sharing table, raffle, and dues

Sharing Table

Members with last names starting with 'A' through 'M', please bring your late fall/early winter 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.

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."

Date of next CRFG chapter meeting: Saturday, February 1, 2009: Don't miss "SciEx 2009", our annual scion exchange and grafting demonstration.



Above: Honeybee on flowering loquat, editor's garden