

# California Rare Fruit Growers



**October 2015**  
**North San Diego County Chapter**

## **Alan Haghghi of California Fruit Wine, Co.**

The **California Fruit Wine Company** was founded in 2009 by twin brothers, Alan and Brian Haghghi. After discovering that wine could be fermented from any fruit, the brothers made it their mission to unveil fruit wine to the world, because they figured, why should grapes have all the fun? They scraped together \$12,500, started making their first batches of wine and within a year were selling fruit wine at street fairs and farmers markets throughout San Diego County.

While the business has grown since then, the brothers try to stay true to their farmers market roots. That's why every bottle of wine is wholly made from each fruit and is absolutely free of any added coloring or flavoring! That's also what inspired them to pioneer a new type of employee ownership that they call Social Value Enterprise.

The California Fruit Wine Company is the pioneer producer of all natural wines handcrafted from fruits other than grapes. Our wines are light, refreshing, fruit forward, and surprisingly not sweet!

The secret is in the freshness and simplicity – they literally ferment fruits other than grapes, without adding any artificial colors or flavoring, to make wines that are surprisingly not sweet and pleasantly all natural.

California Fruit Wine fans will bring a cold bottle of pineapple wine to the beach, enjoy a delicious cranberry sangria at cocktail hour, or share a chilled glass of pomegranate wine at dinner with friends. With Their fun variety of fruit wines, the options are truly endless.



# Cheers from the Chair

by Richard Reid

It is starting to feel like fall. I got up this morning, and there was a briskness to the air that I have not felt in some time. After our long hot summer, I know that both my plants and I will enjoy the cooler nights and crisp mornings. If we get a bit more rain this month, I will be able to turn off my irrigation for the season and let my plants start to go into their winter dormant modes.

With my yard pretty much full, I will not be planning for any more plantings this season, other than my winter vegetables. In the past, October has been one of my favorite months to put things out in the ground. I think that the plants get a month or so of warm soil to get over transplant shock and the inactive winter to help the root systems establish themselves before the spring growing season commences.

I also stop up-potting my subtropical plants and seedlings in October. Experience has taught me that if I repot plants too late in the year, I have a lot of issues with root rot over the winter. It seems as though that with the cooler weather my potting soil can't dry out quickly and the plant roots cannot absorb enough of the water to make a difference. So even those plants that really could use a larger pot, are going to have to wait until spring.

For those of you that do have space, now is a great time to look into what bare root trees you might want to plant this winter. It is much better to do your homework now, learning which trees and rootstocks do best in your particular location, than to walk into a garden center in January and be overwhelmed by the choices. Another benefit of starting now, is that many of our local garden centers participate in the Dave Wilson "SOFT" program, where you can special order many trees and rootstocks that would not otherwise be available. Call or stop by your local purveyor to see if they participate.

Finally, with the change of seasons, I start thinking about next seasons grafts. I find myself looking at my trees, trying to see where there might be a branch in a good location to add another variety. I start putting out feelers to see who might have scion wood of varieties that I am interested in, and letting others know what I have that they might be interested in. Enjoy your fall, and the time we get to spend in our gardens

Cheers,

Richard

## Member Matters

### Membership

Chapter dues with E-MAIL newsletters are \$10.00 for one member plus \$5.00 for each additional household member. Chapter dues with USPS newsletters are \$15.00 for one member plus \$5.00 for each additional household member. **USPS is only for those without E-mail.** You must also be a member of our parent organization, **CRFG, Inc.** **Anyone joining this month will get the balance of this year free when they pay for next year.** To renew, please fill out a **NEW APPLICATION** online or bring it to our next meeting. Please contact our Membership Committee Chair Dawne Dickinson if you have any questions.

### Chapter Board Members

Richard Reid	Chairperson	619-857-7505	<a href="mailto:rtreid@me.com">rtreid@me.com</a>
Wendy Czech	Vice-Chairperson/Newsletter	760-707-2397	<a href="mailto:czeching.into.reality@gmail.com">czeching.into.reality@gmail.com</a>
Helen Driver	Co-Treasurer	760-652-5011	<a href="mailto:driver.hl1975@gmail.com">driver.hl1975@gmail.com</a>
Dottie Logan	Co-Treasurer	760-806-6678	<a href="mailto:crfglogan777@gmail.com">crfglogan777@gmail.com</a>
Richard Frost	Co-Secretary	619-301-5325	<a href="mailto:richard.frost.crfg@gmail.com">richard.frost.crfg@gmail.com</a>
Ben Pierce	Co-Secretary		<a href="mailto:mariposacrfg@gmail.com">mariposacrfg@gmail.com</a>
Dawne Dickinson	Member at Large	760-522-3596	<a href="mailto:dawnegale@gmail.com">dawnegale@gmail.com</a>
Art Logan	Member at Large	760-806-6678	<a href="mailto:art.logan77@gmail.com">art.logan77@gmail.com</a>
Kathryn Blankinship	Immediate Past Chairperson	760-518-9922	<a href="mailto:kblankinship1@cox.net">kblankinship1@cox.net</a>
<b>Chapter Website:</b> <a href="http://nc.crfgsandiego.org">nc.crfgsandiego.org</a>	Chris Finley	Webmaster	<a href="mailto:crfgchris@gmail.com">crfgchris@gmail.com</a>

## New Members

by Dawne Dickinson

Mark & Laura Lee of Chula Vista

## Raffle

There are no more raffles for the 2015 year.

## North San Diego County Chapter Financial Statement September 1 - September 30

by Dottie Logan and Helen Driver

<b>Opening Balance (9/1/15)</b>	<b>\$15,159</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	
<b>Membership dues</b>	<b>\$20</b>
<b>Raffle Income</b>	<b>\$60</b>
<b>H&amp;G Show Plant Sale</b>	<b>\$64</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$144</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>Website Fee</b>	<b>\$60</b>
<b>Speaker Fee</b>	<b>\$75</b>
<b>Check Order from BOA</b>	<b>\$22</b>
<b>Deposit Slip Order from BOA</b>	<b>\$26</b>
<b>Del Mar Fair (overpaid)</b>	<b>(\$7)</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$176</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(\$32)</b>
<b>Closing Balance (9/30/15)</b>	<b>\$15,127</b>

## Refreshments: PLEASE BRING ITEMS IF YOUR BIRTH-MONTH IS October

Please bring something to share for the refreshments table at our Chapter meetings. Home grown fruits and vegetables are the best. However, other munchies are also greatly appreciated. Please be sure they are ready to serve.

### San Diego Botanic Garden Volunteer Orientation

Join the over 300 volunteers who contribute time to San Diego Botanic Garden.

Join others for Volunteer Orientation and discover the many varied opportunities available. A short tour of the Garden is included. RSVP 760/ 436-3036 x206.

Future date: Saturday, November 7 @ 9:30-12.

NEXT WORK PARTY: November 14, 2015 8:30-12.

**Bob Holzinger is organizing a new special interest group dedicated to the growing of passiflora/passion fruit. Initially the group will be started here in San Diego County, but ultimately he hopes to expand the group to include interested people living in all of Southern California, up to Santa Barbara. All are welcome, from novice to very experienced growers. The plan is to have several meetings per year to exchange information, seeds/plants and experience. Meetings will move around to allow more people to attend meetings. Interested enthusiasts can contact Bob at (760) 274-6442 or [holzinger@roadrunner.com](mailto:holzinger@roadrunner.com) to be included on future mailings.**

### HOLIDAY PARTY

Our Holiday Party is scheduled for Sunday, Dec 13 at Alta Vista Botanical Gardens. from 10 AM to 4 PM. The first and last hours are for setup & takedown. We need everyone's help for a successful Holiday Party. Richard Reid, Helen Driver, & Kathryn Blankinship have agreed to bring a ham and 2 turkeys. Everyone else should bring their favorite dish to share (to serve about 8 people). Please label your dishes.

We need people to help setup, takedown, take trash home and to help clean up after this event. You are welcome to do a self guided tour of the Gardens after our Party.

We will be closing the garden gate at 4:30 PM, Do not get locked in!

You may sign up for the Holiday Party at the Oct or Nov meetings. Please see Dottie Logan for signing up.

More to come next month.

Please keep your name tags after each meeting and bring them back with you for the next. We are hoping to have everyone be responsible for their own name tags to make things a bit easier on those who have had to keep track of them all this time. If you are interested in a more professional looking name tag, you can purchase them from the CRFG Inc. for \$11 by calling 805-543-9455 or email [market@crfg.org](mailto:market@crfg.org). You must be a member of our parent organization (CRFG, Inc.) to order name tags from CRFG. To make it easier you can pay using PayPal.

## RESERVE STUDY COMMITTEE

By Dottie Logan

**Helen Driver and I (Co-Treasurers) have been asked to chair this committee. We need members to join us on this committee. You may also give your input without being on this committee. We would especially like to see members on this committee who have helped with the fundraisers. Plant sales, raffles and helping at the fair have been great fundraisers.**

**Please email me at [crfglogan777@gmail.com](mailto:crfglogan777@gmail.com) with your ideas. Please state whether you want to be on this committee or just submit your ideas to this committee. This should not be 'self-serving' ideas eg 'my child wants to go to college, please give him/her a one thousand dollar scholarship'. With our Thomson scholarship we do give \$1500.00 to MiraCosta college for a horticulture internship and also give \$300.00 to the college each year to help maintain their rare fruit orchard.**

**There are other chapters with larger treasuries that are just holding on to their funds until there is a worthwhile project that their members want to support. We would like to hear from you. Should we continue to build our reserve or is there a project that we should be working on? Remember any project costing more than \$300.00 must go before the membership after it has been approved by our board.**

**You must be a Chapter member as well as a member of CRFG, Inc. (our parent organization) in order to vote. Remember the board is here to serve it's members so please share your thoughts with us regarding the Reserve Study.**

**Please email Dottie Logan at [crfglogan777@gmail.com](mailto:crfglogan777@gmail.com)**

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Thanks to Richard Reid and our volunteers we earned \$1627.00 from the plant sale. The majority of the plants came from Richard Reid's supply of plants.

Thanks to all who helped.

CRFG North San Diego County Chapter  
 Wendy Czech  
 1477 Montgomery Drive  
 Vista, CA 92084-7246  
<http://nc.crfgsandiego.org>



Calendar of Activities	
North San Diego County CRFG	MORE DOIN'S in the County
10/16 Alan Haghghi of <a href="#">California Fruit Wine Company</a> 7PM	
11/20 Dadla Ponizil; Utilizing Grey Water for the Garden 7PM	
12/13 Annual Holiday Party at <a href="#">Alta Vista Gardens</a> 11:00-3:00	