

# California Rare Fruit Growers



September 2015

North San Diego County Chapter

## The Girl Next Door Honey with Hilary Kearney

September 18, 2015, 7PM

Hilary Kearney is the girl behind [Girl Next Door Honey](#). She is a San Diego native with a degree in fine art from the University of California Santa Cruz. She began her beekeeping journey in 2008 and has been enamored of the subject ever since. Her favorite thing about honey bees is that they are almost all female. When she's not working with bees, she's juggling a dozen other hobbies and passions including but not limited to: art, knitting, dishing out fashion advice, travelling, movie-going, playing the mandolin and kickball.

Girl Next Door Honey isn't your typical honey business; They want to reach out to the community on every level. They offer raw, natural, uber local honey, beekeeping classes and workshops, one-on-one consulting, a host-a-hive program, kid's bee presentations and perform live bee removals. So whether you're a foodie, aspiring beekeeper, concerned bee supporter or just wanting to have a beehive in your yard they've got you covered.



Their Mission: "Girl Next Door Honey is more than just raw and local, it's made in backyard hives—maybe even your neighbor's yard! That's the concept behind Girl Next Door Honey. We integrate bees into the local ecosystem through a network of backyard hives instead of lumping them together on some distant apiary. The bees live as they naturally would and their benefits reach more people. Our goal is to raise San Diego's bee population throughout the city and at the same time spread awareness among the community. Our hope is that these backyard hives will facilitate a dialogue among neighbors, friends, family and the community at large about the importance of bees.

We like to think of it as pollinating hearts and minds."

# Cheers from the Chair

by Richard Reid

I had a fruit a little while back, well technically a berry and even that only in the biological sense. It was small, red, about the size and shape of an olive pit, with a large seed and very little flesh. The taste was bland, almost flavorless, with a bit of sweetness and a slight resinous aftertaste. It is not a super food, packed with anti-oxidants, vitamin C or other important nutrients to give it some redeeming properties. Clearly this berry will not be the next big thing in the fruit world. Never the less I thought it was great! And now you are probably thinking “this guy is nuts, why would he care about this fruit?”

Well, I thought it was great because I grew it from a seed. A batch of seeds I received from a friend in Brazil a few years ago contained the one that this plant grew from, along with about a half dozen other bushes I have in my yard and that I hope to taste the fruit of some day. Every day I wander through my tiny yard, looking at what is growing, and I can't help but think that every one of those plants has a story. This plant came from Dijpati's seeds, that one was from the batch that Miguel sent me. The one over there, well it's really special because it is from the third replacement shipment after the first two were destroyed by APHIS due to the fact that they had germinated in transit (yes, seeds that have sprouted in transit are considered by the government to be plants and not importable under my permit).

I enjoy planting my vegetable garden every year and I delight in reaping its bounty. But for me there is something extra special about adding something permanent to my garden. Something that I nurtured and cared for, from a seed that looks so lifeless yet so full of potential, through its (often very long) juvenile stage until I finally get a chance to see all my, or really the plants, hard work come to fruition and I can sample the fruit.

And the best part? I get to start the cycle all over again. For even with this little red berry, I have at least three people who have asked for seeds when my main “crop” ripens in the next month.

This hobby is all about sharing. Sharing knowledge, experiences, stories and plants. And be they from plants, cuttings or seeds so many things we have in our yards come with a story and often a friendship behind it. It might be the plum tree that the helpful employee at the local garden center said would do well in your climate (and does). Or the plant that you picked up on your travels that is now flourishing and reminds you often about how much fun you had on that trip. It could be the person sitting next to you at the upcoming meeting who has an extra pot of what ever it may be that you have been looking for these so many years.

So, if you don't know that person sitting next to you, say hi and introduce yourself. Invite other members to see your garden. Bring in a plant to the opportunity table with a note attached telling who you are and a bit about the plant you brought in (and maybe some contact information incase the new caretaker has questions). The more we share, the more we learn and the better off we all are.

Cheers,  
Richard

## 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>

# 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.](#) 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.

## Raffle

There will be a raffle for the September meeting. THIS WILL BE THE LAST RAFFLE OF 2015. Please bring garden related, fruit, veggies, extra plants, jams, decorative pots or other items for the raffle. Those who bring in items with a value of \$3.00 or more will be given (1) raffle ticket. Limit (1) per member. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or (6) for \$5.00. Please see Helen or Dottie to purchase tickets.

### North San Diego County Chapter Financial Statement August 1 - August 31

by Dottie Logan and Helen Driver

<b>Opening Balance (8/1/15)</b>	<b>\$13,460</b>
<b>INCOME</b>	
<b>FOF Plant Sale</b>	<b>\$1,627</b>
<b>Raffle Income</b>	<b>\$81</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,708</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
<b>Newsletter stamps</b>	<b>\$10</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$10</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$1,698</b>
<b>Closing Balance (8/31/15)</b>	<b>\$15,159</b>

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

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: October 10, 2015 8:30-12.

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 and I will forward this to Helen when she returns from her European vacation on Sept 2. 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)**

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.

CRFG North San Diego County Chapter  
 Wendy Czech  
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 Vista, CA 92084-7246  
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Calendar of Activities	
North San Diego County CRFG	MORE DOIN'S in the County
9/16 Board of Directors meeting, <a href="#">Encinitas Public Library</a> 6PM 540 Cornish Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024	
9/18 the Girl Next Door Honey with Hilary Kearney 7PM	
9/26 The Fruit Shop fruit tasting and tour. with the San Diego City Chapter. \$5 cost for each person, RSVP to Wendy Czech. 10AM	

