

**California  
Rare  
Fruit  
Growers**

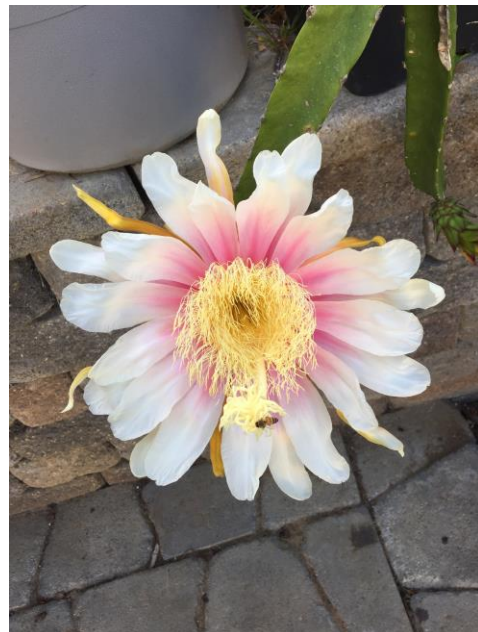


September  
2017

**All About Dragonfruit with Richard Reid  
Friday, September 15 7:00 PM  
MiraCosta College Student Center, Aztlan Room A/B**

Richard has been an avid gardener for as long as he can remember. Growing up in San Diego, with its 365 day growing season, never a day went by when he was not getting his hands dirty.

After finishing his PhD in Chemistry at the University of California Santa Barbara, Richard returned to the San Diego and moved out to the East County to start a life and backyard garden. Soon after settling in, a chance encounter with a forlorn potted jaboticaba at the old Simpson's Nursery would change his life forever. He had been bitten by the exotic fruit bug and started collecting and growing every exotic fruit he could find. Time passed, and he left that collection, but not his interest in exotics. He currently lives in Carmel Valley with his wife, daughter and far too many potted plants on a too small suburban lot. Among those pots are close to one hundred different dragonfruit plants encompassing least 70 different accessions.



at

In addition to dragonfruit, his plant interests are finding new species of fruit to grow in Southern California as well as "zone pushing," trying to figure out just what tropical fruits might be able to adapt to our climate zones

## Cheers From The Chair

Changing of the seasons

I have come to think of September is the month where we leave summer and head into fall here in San Diego. With the exception of the occasional Santa Ana, the days get a bit cooler, but what I really notice is that around the middle of the month the nights start to significantly cool down. The growth of my subtropicals slows way down and the deciduous trees get to looking really ragged. I always debate whether or not to do one last round of fertilization for some of the plants, trying to get that last bit of growth out before they need to harden off for the winter. Since so many of the things I am trying to grow are marginal in our climate anyway, I usually will give them a final shot of a liquid or other quick acting fertilizer, usually before the 15th of the month. My plants in general respond favorably to this, giving one final strong flush before the end of the growing season.

This is also the time where I try to set aside more time to planning what I will do in the late fall as far as planting goes. I have been making decisions all spring and summer, figuring out what stays, gets one more year and what goes. For the plants that are out, this opens up a spot in my too small yard for one of my many potted plants to find a possibly permanent home.

This is also my last chance for grafting this year. I will be attempting a bit of chip budding over the weekend, mainly some cherries. I am attempting this now so that the bud graft will have a chance to heal over the fall and be ready to push out with vigorous growth in the spring. Wish me luck!

Cheers,  
Richard

## San Diego Botanic Garden Volunteer Opportunities and Work Party

Join the over 300 volunteers who contribute time to the San Diego Botanic Garden. Join others for a volunteer orientation and discover the many varied opportunities available. A short tour of the garden is included. In order to participate in the CRFG sub-tropical garden work parties you must attend an orientation. To receive more information and the dates for the upcoming orientations call 760-436-3036 x 206

Next work party, October 14<sup>th</sup> 8:30 – 12:00

## Raffle

September is the Last Raffle this Year

Members please bring anything loosely related to gardening. Any fruit, veggie, or herb plants, decorative containers, or vases, fruit wines (sealed), jams & jellies, gloves, tools, fertilizers, or other related items the members want. Members who promised plants at our picnic, this is your 2<sup>nd</sup> chance

You will get one free raffle ticket if the value of your donation is \$3.00 or more. Limit one per member.

Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

We can use a volunteer to help with the raffle.

Please see Dottie.

## New Members

by Dawne Dickinson  
Please Welcome

Chris Parreno San Marcos

Nate and Nina Russell Oceanside

## Refreshments:

If your birthday month is September, please bring some refreshments to the meeting this month.

Home grown fruits and vegetables are the best. However, other munchies are also greatly appreciated. Please be sure they are ready to serve.



## Check out the website!

We have a website, the URL is [nsdcrfg.wordpress.com](http://nsdcrfg.wordpress.com). We are adding new information often, so please take a look and let us know what you would like to see there. Thank you Linda and Helen for all your hard work in keeping this going.

## Member Matters

### Membership

#### **CHAPTER DUES FOR 2018 ARE COMING UP SOON**

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. Make check out to NC CRFG and send it to;

Dawne Dickinson

7923 Calle San Felipe

Carlsbad CA 92009

Please contact our Membership Committee Chair Dawne Dickinson if you have any questions.

## Now on Facebook!

North San Diego County Chapter now has a Facebook Page. Please check us out at [www.facebook.com/groups/northsandiegocrfg/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/northsandiegocrfg/). This is a closed group and is for our members only, so you will need to ask the administrator to join.

## Name Tags

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.

## Chapter Contacts

### Board Members

Richard Reid	Chairperson	619-857-7505	<a href="mailto:rtreid@me.com">rtreid@me.com</a>
Helen Driver	Co-Vice Chairperson	760-652-5011	<a href="mailto:driver.hl1975@gmail.com">driver.hl1975@gmail.com</a>
Art Logan	Co-Vice Chairperson	760-806-6678	<a href="mailto:art.logan77@gmail.com">art.logan77@gmail.com</a>
Dottie Logan	Co-Treasurer	760-806-6678	<a href="mailto:crfglogan777@gmail.com">crfglogan777@gmail.com</a>
Keri Brookshire	Co-Treasurer		<a href="mailto:keri.brookshire@gmail.com">keri.brookshire@gmail.com</a>
Linda Mercurio	Secretary		<a href="mailto:sundanz91@gmail.com">sundanz91@gmail.com</a>
Dawne Dickinson	Member at Large	760-522-3596	<a href="mailto:dawnegale@gmail.com">dawnegale@gmail.com</a>
Chris Finley	Member at Large		<a href="mailto:crfgchris@gmail.com">crfgchris@gmail.com</a>
Kathryn Blankinship	Past Chair	760-518-9922	<a href="mailto:kblankinship1@cox.net">kblankinship1@cox.net</a>

### Other Contacts

Membership	Dawne Dickinson	760-522-3596	<a href="mailto:dawnegale@gmail.com">dawnegale@gmail.com</a>
Newsletter	Richard Reid	619-857-7505	<a href="mailto:rtreid@me.com">rtreid@me.com</a>



North San Diego County Chapter, CRFG  
 Richard Reid  
 11385 Fairwind Ct.  
 San Diego, CA 92130

Calendar of Activities	
North San Diego County CRFG	Other Local Events
9/15 General chapter meeting – Dragon Fruit 7:00 PM Miracosta Student Center	9/27 San Diego Chapter Meeting – 7:00 PM Casa del Prado Bldg. Balboa Park
10/14 SD Botanic Garden Work Party 8:30-12:00 San Diego Botanic Gardens	9/22 – 9/24 San Diego Home and Garden Show Del Mar Fairgrounds