

**California
Rare
Fruit
Growers**



**May 2018
North San Diego
County Chapter**

Dr. Gary Bender on Longans and Lychees

Friday, May 18 7:00 PM

MiraCosta College Student Center, Aztlan Room A/B

This month we are lucky to have Dr. Gary Bender speaking to us about growing Lychees and Longans in Southern California. Dr. Bender is a wealth of knowledge in the world of horticulture, and I am sure that this presentation will be a wealth of information.



Cheers From The Chair

Cheers from the Chair...

First, many thanks to, Cory Krell, nominating committee chair, who was assisted by Tandy Pfof and Jill Linsey. Their work has paved the way for our chapter to continue the mission of CRFG.

Our new board has some familiar and some new faces. Dawne Dickinson, our past member at large and membership chairperson, has become our vice chair and will now dedicate herself to planning our monthly programs. Please e-mail her your ideas for programs that you would like to have. Our past vice chairs, Helen Driver and Art Logan will remain on the Board to serve in positions they have held before. Helen is returning to be co treasurer and Art will serve as one of our Members at Large. Dottie Logan has been and will continue to be co treasurer as well as organizing our summer potluck, holiday party, and Earth Day plant sale. She dedicates untold hours to our chapter and will definitely need many people to assist her with these fun events. New to the Board, Kate Palmiere has been an active member and volunteer for several years and she will now be co secretary. Also joining the Board for the first time, Ellen Maisen, an organic grower and propagator, will also be co secretary. Carolyn Buckman will be a member at large. Carolyn's vast CRFG background will help us to improve our chapter. Richard Reid guided the chapter for three years, shared his fruit growing expertise with all of us, and will now assist the Board as Immediate Past Chairperson. Additionally, he will continue to be our newsletter editor. He can use everyone's help with newsletter content. Please remember to send him interesting items and dates for upcoming events to include in this year's monthly newsletters. In addition to our officers, Helen Withers has agreed to assume the essential job of membership chairperson. You will all meet Helen at our sign-in table!

It's an honor to serve as your chairperson to work with an outstanding Board. I look forward to a great year of meetings and activities as we learn more about our favorite edibles!

Cheers,

Kathryn Blankinship

Please don't forget early bird sign-up for this year's Festival of Fruit ends this month! Just click festivaloffruit.org to register and save \$\$!

CRFG EXHIBIT at San Diego County Fair 2018

Del Mar Fairgrounds

Friday June 1 - Wednesday July 4

but closed all Mondays except open July 2 & closed all Tuesdays except July 3 & on Friday June 1 not opening until 4PM

by Carol Frye Graham

THANK YOU to all who have already volunteered. I hope that the following information will be useful to you and that it may encourage others to volunteer. **We will again have an exhibit space outside the Pat O'Brien Building. This year our space will be southeast of this building close to the Master Gardener exhibit. The same location as last year.** Yes, we are still in the Flower & Garden Show area (very nice). The Fair is kindly providing a shade canopy but I always feel it is a good idea to take your own sun hat. Fair entrance passes for CRFG members staffing our exhibit will again be distributed through WILL CALL (see below). CRFG is endeavoring to have multiple members at our exhibit every full day of this Fair so numerous staffers are needed. **This year, the Fair gates are scheduled to open at 11AM on most weekdays (remember closed on June 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 & 26) and 10AM on Saturdays and Sundays and July 4. We are hoping to have members staff our exhibit from 11AM-2PM and 2-5PM on most weekdays and 10AM-1PM and 1-4PM on Saturdays and Sundays and July 4.** This is a VERY BIG undertaking and your support is always appreciated! **To volunteer, please call me at (760) 7536757 (recommend evenings) or email me at navanax@AOL.com.**

GETTING TO THE FAIR & PARKING (NOTE DIRECTIONS TO FREE PARKING LOT) The Fair will again be charging for parking in its main parking lot (at least \$14 per vehicle, yes the parking fee again increased from last year) and this will cause traffic congestion. No one expects you to pay for parking so that you can staff the exhibit, so please use the free parking at Horsepark (same as last year). From Interstate-5 drive approximately 1 mile east on Via de la Valle. At the traffic light, turn south (right) onto El Camino Real and start looking to the west (right) for the entrance to Horsepark's large unpaved parking lot. Taking a few seconds to note where you parked can save several minutes when returning to your vehicle. From one hour before the Fair opens to closing time, a free shuttle will travel between Horsepark and the Fairgrounds four times an hour (shuttle does not leave at precise times). I recommend staying on this shuttle until it stops at the O'Brien Gate (Fair's main entrance), about a 15 minute ride through the back of the Fairgrounds to the O'Brien Gate. This shuttle service will run everyday that the Fair is open.

Warning - Read the next two paragraphs only if you want to go to the Fair on a Saturday or Sunday or July 4 or a weekday starting Wednesday June 20

If you are going to the Fair on a weekend or July 4 (I need to emphasize that the following information applies only to these specific dates) you may find one of two alternate free remote parking and shuttle services more convenient. If you are driving south to the Fair, you may exit Interstate-5 at Manchester Avenue in Encinitas, go east for approximately 3/4 of a mile and turn north (left) into Mira Costa College, San Elijo Campus (the traffic light makes it simple to find the only vehicular entrance into this small campus). I have used this site for weekend access to the Fair and have always found it most convenient. If you are driving north to the Fair, you may exit Interstate-5 at Del Mar Heights Road, go east for approximately 1 mile and turn north (left) into Torrey Pines High School. The parking and shuttle services from both Mira Costa College (San Elijo Campus) and Torrey Pines High School are free and leave at approximately 15 minute intervals, starting an hour before the Fair opens.

If you are going to the Fair on a weekday starting Wednesday June 20, you may use the free parking and shuttle service from Torrey Pines High School.

WILL CALL Before you enter the Fairgrounds, you need to pick up an entrance pass (credential) at WILL CALL, a small booth immediately south of the O'Brien Gate.

Identify yourself as staffing the California Rare Fruit Growers Exhibit and give your name. You will be asked to initial next to your name on the staffing calendar.

REMEMBER: Go to WILL CALL (not the Ticket Sales Booth) to pick up your pass. WILL CALL will be open at least an hour before the Fairgrounds are scheduled to open to the public.

EXHIBIT AREA The O'Brien Building (first large building left of the main entrance) and the Flower & Garden Show area will open to the public simultaneously with the opening of the main gate of the Fairgrounds. As an exhibit staffer you will be permitted entrance before the onslaught of the public (it would be very nice if the first shift of each day would be at our exhibit and ready to smile at our first visitors at 11AM or 10AM respectively). Please wear your CRFG name tag or CRFG shirt if you have one. **Our exhibit is outside and southeast of the O'Brien Building, under a shade canopy close to the Master Gardener exhibit. Same location as last year.**

Bringing a jacket in case of cool or windy weather is recommended (remember the Fair's proximity to the beach frequently subjects it to cooling influences, sometimes even fog). On many days, heat and not coolness may be of greater concern for personal comfort so dress accordingly. Also recommended is bringing your own cooler with lunch or snacks (but no glass containers) to avoid the high cost of refreshments at the Fair and minimize temporary absences from our exhibit. Please do not leave our exhibit while your partner is also temporarily away. If you have

unusual fruit, please bring it for display during your shift (you need not give out samples). In case anyone wants to give out samples, I will try to leave a knife at our exhibit for cutting up fruit but remember no knives will be permitted to come through the admission gates once the Fair has opened due to security concerns. Three chairs will be provided at our exhibit for your comfort. A broom, dustpan, dusting cloth, and trash bucket will be provided to help keep our exhibit looking its best. Please take your Fair mementos, programs, newspapers, etc. with you when you leave for the day.

Before your shift starts, please spend a few minutes familiarizing yourself with the exhibit and the CRFG binder. When a person appears interested in membership, invite them to our next meeting and offer them our small leaflet giving details of our two county chapters' meetings and websites. Inform them that **joining the CRFG state organization does not automatically place them on the mailing list of their local chapter and that membership in our state organization is required to join any chapter.**

To help answer questions about fruit, you will find copies of HP's Citrus, HP's Western Fruit, Berries and Nuts, Ortho's All About Citrus and Subtropical Fruits (updated 2008 edition) and, most importantly, a binder containing CRFG's numerous "Fruit Facts". If you find that any of the "Fruit Facts" are missing (unfortunately this has happened in the past), please leave a dated note identifying which "Fruit Fact" needs replacing. If you are the last person to staff our exhibit for the day, store the books and the binder discreetly out of the public's view under the counter. If you are asked a question concerning fruit that you cannot answer, please direct the inquirer to our list of "Fruit Specialists" (in the binder with our "Fruit Facts"). If the inquirer intends to write to a fruit specialist, please remind them to enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope with their question. The binder will also contain a list of CRFG Member Nurseries and Certified Farmers' Markets in San Diego County. Visitors' questions concerning where they can buy fruiting plants or unusual fruits clearly demonstrate that the exhibit is stimulating interest. If you bring personal literature, make sure people are aware that it is your own and not a handout.

If leaflets from other organizations are left on our counter (this has frequently happened), please remove them immediately. We want the public to quickly identify us as the California Rare Fruit Growers and not be confused. Please remember that the main purpose of our participation at the Fair is to encourage the growing of rare fruits and thereby stimulate CRFG membership. All sales from educational exhibits are prohibited by Fair regulations. **If emergency medical assistance is ever needed, remember the Fair security guards carry walkie talkies.**

ENJOY THE FAIR Either before or after your shift, please take the opportunity to enjoy looking at the educational and garden exhibits. If you leave the Fair and want to return later that day for your personal entertainment, remember to have your hand stamped when exiting (your pass is good for only a single entrance). If you have a problem while staffing, please call Carol (760) 753--6757.

An event of possible interest to our members

Sex and Ice Cream: Medicinal and Edible Orchids

This incredible presentation by Christopher Croom will explore numerous examples of how orchids are being used in traditional medical and food systems around the world.

The biochemistry of some orchids will also be briefly discussed, along with their significance to Ayurveda and other traditional healing frameworks.

Also covered will be the need for orchid conservation amid the accelerated wild collection of food orchids that has led to documented extinction of local populations and entire species.

Beautiful orchid plants will be raffled off after the talk, and refreshments will be served.

Christopher Croom has been growing orchids for 18 years, and has worked sporadically for Andy's Orchids, home to one of the largest collections of orchid species in North America, which was also where the nickname of "Dr. Fragrance" was bestowed on him. Christopher is the former newsletter editor and board member of the San Diego County Orchid Society.

Christopher has a collection of approximately 200 species orchids, all of which are grown outdoors in a shade house in Normal Heights. Christopher has Master's degrees in Anthropology and Education, and works full-time as a high-school Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Earth Science, and U.S. History teacher at Mark Twain High School in Mira Mesa.

Talk Location and Date:

Wednesday 5/16/2018, 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

San Marcos Senior Activity Center

111 Richmar Avenue

San Marcos, CA 92069

<http://www.sdorchid.org>

EARTH DAY

Plant Sale co-chairs Richard Reid & Dottie Logan

Earth Day Plant Sale

Thanks to all who donated plants or worked at the plant sale.

This includes Cory & Lena, Kathryn & Richard, Dawne, Wendy, Chris & Sara, Helen, Ellen, Michael, Carolyn B, and Art & Dottie.

Plant sitters, please bring 1/2 of your plants to the May meeting and 1/2 to the June meeting.

We made \$305.00.

Thanks for your hard work

Dottie

SAVE THE DATE

No SD County Chapter Picnic & plant sale at SD Botanic Garden (Quail)
July 14th from 11 AM to 3 PM.

We are inviting the SD Chapter to our picnic.

This is our own plant sale.

YOU MUST BE A CHAPTER MEMBER AND A MEMBER OF OUR PARENT ORGANIZATION (CRFG, INC)

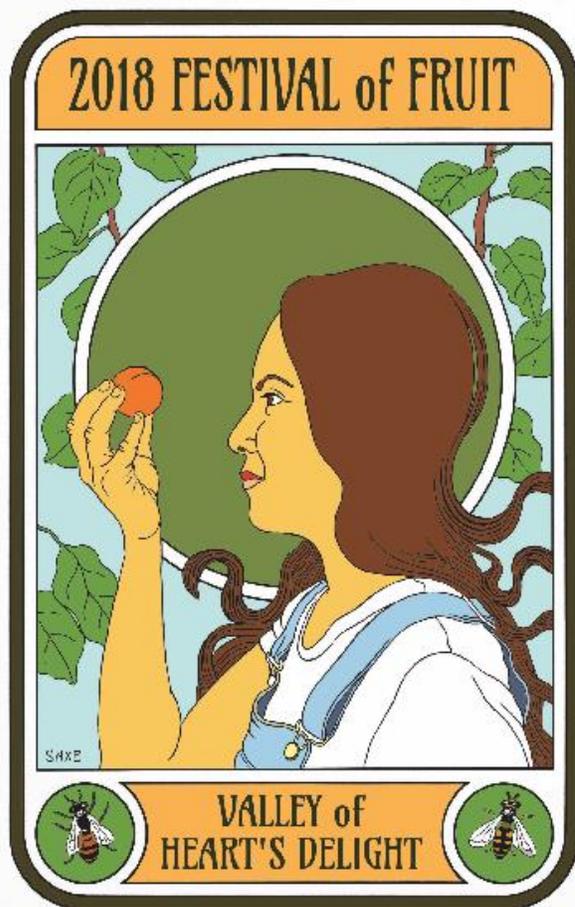
No Exceptions

Website Skills?

The club is currently looking for someone with website skills to assist with the maintenance and updating of our website. If you have experience, or would like to learn please contact Helen Driver

Raffle

Great Raffle at the May meeting w/ 1/2 of plants from Earth Day.
Thanks to all who donated plants.
Reminder Free raffle ticket with a donation value of \$3.00 or more.
Also Mystery Goji Berry - need I D & it's on the raffle.
Tickets are \$1.00 ea or 6 for \$5.00.



The Santa Clara Valley Chapter of
California Rare Fruit Growers
invites you to join us for:

The Festival of Fruit and the 50th Anniversary of CRFG!

July 27 to 29, 2018
Campbell Community Center
1 W. Campbell Ave. in Campbell, CA

The 28th will be a full day of
speakers, presentations, vendors,
raffles, and lunch! Optional dinner
banquet with guest speaker.

Enjoy garden tours and tastings
on July 27 and July 29!

More information at our website:
festivaloffruit.org

Check out the website!

We have a website, the URL is 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.

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, June 9th, 8:30 to 12:00

Refreshments:

If your birthday month is May, 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.

Now on Facebook!

North San Diego County Chapter now has a Facebook Page. Please check us out at 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.

Member Matters Membership

CHAPTER DUES FOR 2018 ARE PAST DUE!

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.

New Members

by Dawne Dickinson

Valerie Wagner Cardiff
David Young Vista

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. 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

Kathryn Blankinship	Chairperson	760-518-9922	kblankinship1@gmail.com
Dawne Dickinson	Vice Chairperson	760-522-3596	dawnegale@gmail.com
Ellen Maisen	Co-Secretary	818-462-3222	msmaisen@gmail.com
Kate Palmiere	Co-Secretary	760-943-7002	katepalmiere@roadrunner.com
Helen Driver	Co-Treasurer	760-652-5011	driver.hl1975@gmail.com
Dottie Logan	Co-Treasurer	760-806-6678	crfglogan777@gmail.com
Carolyn Buckman	Member at Large	760-659-8002	careart@icloud.com
Art Logan	Member at Large	760-806-6678	art.logan77@gmail.com
Richard Reid	Past Chair	619-857-7505	rtreid@me.com

Other Contacts

Membership	Helen Withers	760-522-3596	helenwithers2014@gmail.com
Newsletter	Richard Reid	619-857-7505	rtreid@me.com

Chapter Website: nsdcfrg.wordpress.com Webmaster Open



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