



Tropical Fruit Club Newsletter

JULY 2008

Officers: Pres.: Ervin Janssen **Vice Pres./Programs:** Abe White **Treas.:** Lincoln Lai, **Secretary:** Pete von Lersner
Committees: Newsletter, **Librarian:** Shirley Silvasy **Roster:** Heidi Flinchbaugh **Field Trip:** Christine Young
Summer meetings: 3rd Mondays, July 21st August 18th 7:00p.m. to 8:45p.m. Leu Garden, 1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando. Bring your items for the tasting and raffle tables; don't forget to list your item & name on the sign-in sheet. If you would like to share your recipe please send to silvasy@aol.com

Program for July Celeste White, Agricultural Extension Agency, **Best Management Practices for Landscapes Minutes from June Meeting** by Pete von Lersner

Call to order by Ervin Janssen, 7:00 p.m. Guests: Caroline McDonald, Cathy Rapp, Jim Toomey, Jim Broughton.

Old Business: May Minutes approved. Treasurers report read & approved. Members of the Costa Rica tour group shared experiences. Christine Young set a visit Nov. 2nd to the Olive Branch Tree Farm in Citra, FL. Tour starts at 10am; cost is \$13 per person and includes lunch and olive samplings. Thank you Christine for your efforts.

New Business: The tour group presented a gift certificate to Clyde & Phyllis Stephens in appreciation. Ervin Janssen donated a Costa Rican cookbook and Ginger & Heliconia Identification Charts to the library. Heidi Flinchbaugh recited her commemorative poem.

June Program Dr Martin Quigley, Director, UCF Arboretum, Campus Landscaping & Natural Resources presented a slide show summarizing the historical development of agriculture and horticulture from gatherers to cultivators to modern landscapers. An interesting note was the original concept of the Garden of Eden original translation as a "walled garden;" over the centuries became the current concept. Dr. Quigley advised a multidimensional outdoor "room" with designated use areas. One suggestion was to mix vegetable plants among the garden beds and take advantage of central Florida weather to grow tropical fruits in layered canopies.

Fond Remembrances: Herbert Henry, a longtime member, died early July, 2008.

More items were on the tasting & raffle tables than listed on the sign-in sheet, if you brought something & do not see your name here....*thank you* and *Thank you* to the following members:

June Tasting Table Doyle & Mae Abbott: lychees, Pam Flesher: Mango-Peach Salsa+chips, Hayri Lawrence: watermelon preserve, Jean House: Upside Down Cake, Sousan Orlando: Watermelon, Marie Orlando: Zebra Cake, Bob Burns: Tropical Jello, Lincoln & Daphne Lai: Banana Bread, Heidi Flinchbaugh: Pineapple Upside Down Cake & Tres Leches Cake

June Raffle Table Hayri Lawrence: Apple Banana Wolf Von Lersner: Pineapple Pam Flesher: Banana Plants, Christine Young: Perennial Phlox, Maria Orlando: Rosemary, Gary Williams: Daylilies, Thomas Ferlauto: Banana Plant, Doyle & Mae Abbott: lychees, Lincoln & Dalphe Lai: Sugar Cane, Ervin Janssen: Machete, Costa Rican coins, Pete Von Lersner: Canistel Seedling, Rollinia

******Special Request**** Please bring any extra 1 and 2 gallon pots to meeting******

Ensey's Mango stand 9880 S. Tropical Trail, Merritt Island, FL 32952 321-773-2652 open daily 9 to 5 through August.

Our Kids Tropical Nursery, Winter Garden (407-877-6883) Club members receive 15% off!!

During July/August's HOT SUMMER SALE we get 25% off; and on flowering trees we get 33% off

Orange County Agricultural Extension Agency, 6021 South Conway Road Orlando, FL 32812-3604 (407) 254-9200

Monday Morning Free Plant Clinic Diagnose plant problems or test soil from 9:30 to noon.

Thursday October 16, 2008 6:00-7:00pm Tropical Fruit for Central Florida Education Center - Magnolia Room

Tropical and subtropical fruit crops for home landscapes. Free - PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Nov 2nd, 10am, tour of Olive Branch Tree Farm in Citra, FL

Useful links for information on tropical fruits also included on Central Florida Tropical Fruit Club website

- ***Central Florida Tropical Fruit Club** <http://tropicalfruitclub.org> {links, past newsletters, contact info}
- ***Agricultural Extension Agencies** <http://solutionsforyourlife.ufl.edu/map/index.html>
- ***Orange County Ag Extension** <http://ocextension.ifas.ufl.edu/> (407) 254-9200
- ***UF Institute of Food & Ag Sciences** <http://trec.ifas.ufl.edu/fruitscapes/>
- ***UF/IFAS Publications – EDIS Electronic Data Info Source** <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>
- * **Brevard Rare Fruit** <http://Brevardrarefruit.org> {pictures & info on tropical fruits}
- ***California Rare Fruit Growers** <http://www.crfg.org/>
- ***Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden** <http://www.ftg.org/>
- ***Rare Fruit Council International** <http://www.tropicalfruitnews.com/>
- ***Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers** <http://www.hawaitropicalfruitgrowers.org/index.html>
- ***Tropical Fruit Growers of South Florida** <http://tropicalfruitgrowers.com/>
- ***Tropical Research & Education Center**, 18905 SW 280 Street, Homestead, FL 33031 Phone: 305-246-7000
- * **Florida Gardening Magazine** www.floridagardening.com/html

Note from the Editor: To conserve, I have reduced the fonts and length. Would you like to put a notice, a recipe, a hint in the newsletter or have questions? please email silvasy@aol.com, or call me at 407-482-0042. I welcome your comments & suggestions, Shirley Silvasy



Tropical Fruit Club
10001 Creekwater Blvd
Orlando FL 32825-7759

Trip to Costa Rica, June 2008

To Clyde and Phyllis Stephens

By Heidi Flinchbaugh

I first heard of the Tico Trip

And made a note on my pad
And now we did participate.
The trip was great, and we're glad!

Invited there by Phyllis and Clyde
Who know just where to go
We knew it would be
A grand touring spree
With the Fruits and Nuts bunch in tow.

Orlando, Miami to San Jose
The flight was nice as could be
We got on our bus without any fuss
And were on our way happily.

Exploring Mercado and buying fresh fruit
It really was a nice treat.
Papayas, 'vocados and mangos, too
The pineapples also were sweet.

Delicious dinners filled us up
The "Agua Fresca" was juice
Our rooms were the best
For getting our rest
We each had a comfortable roost.

Enroute to San Vito we saw pretty views
Of mountains and rivers and hills
The road was washed out!
We detoured about
On narrow bridges without any spills!

We toured around Wilson Botanical
Saw nut trees, cycads and bamboo
Bromeliads, ginger, bananas and birds
And flowering passion vines, too.

We learned 'bout restoration ecology
From botanists and the Director
The flowers were gorgeous,
And fragrant and bright, with
Figs pollinated by a wasp vector.

Agoutis and squirrels, toucans and flycatchers
We learned about fauna and flora,
Saw vegetable ivory, large acorns and nuts
And even a souvenir store – AH!

For mealtimes and snacks we all ate and ate
We tried new fruits and new dishes
The food was nutritious, and very delicious.
I think we all put on some weight.

Then on to Golfito's Samoa del Sur
A swimming pool and a good rest
We ate at the "Fish Hook," saw a yacht that a trip took
(Our bus driver was really the best!)

Oil palm plantation and processing plant
Were interesting, but loud!
We slipped on oil & slid, saw the boiling pot lid –
Palm oil will make Costa Rica proud!

We went to Robert Beatham's "Paradise,"
We toured his botanic collection.
We ate our fill on tamales, and still
He brought MORE food in our direction.

We toured Golfito's residences
Where Clyde and Phyllis had dwelt
The United Fruit town, now really has grown
And soon will be thriving and svelt!
Back at Hotel Samoa del Sur
The power and lights were out,
But the pool was so welcome
We dove in, and fell, some,
Swimming and tossing a ball about.

We had a lovely sing-along
With native and Asian dance
Canons sung in French; we sat on our bench
The camaraderie put us all in a trance.

A 51st Anniversary was feted with flair
David & Heidi enjoyed all the fun.
They got a nice dinner, wine and a book
On Costa Rica signed by all and one.

Again in (San) Jose we toured the town
Through streets old or modern & fine.
Some houses were small, others were tall
Churches and schools all had flowering vines.

At the history museum we learned a lot
About native artifacts
The *Teatro Nacional* included a Hall
Where we saw a ballet in 2 acts.

We partied and dined till time to go home.
Pedro, the driver was dandy.
He drove us around. Oh, the places he found
To buy souvenirs, coffee and candy!

Costa Rica is progressive and clean
Their folks are ecology minded
They recycle all They can think will be "green"
And the people are very behind it.

The duty-free shops at the airport are full
Of the most amazing selection
Of liquor and perfume and spirits and booze
And candy and chocolate confection.

We are sorry to leave and all want to return
And have another visit.
With Phyllis and Clyde by our side
To interpret and show us "how is it."

And now we really must depart
The trip was much too short!
We thank the Stephens and all other, even
Who helped us and were such good sports!

Three Cheers!