



Tropical Fruit Club Newsletter

JUNE 2008

Officers: President: Ervin Janssen **Vice President:** Abe White **Treasurer:** Lincoln Lai

Secretary: Pete von Lersner

Committees: Newsletter, Librarian: Shirley Silvasy **Roster:** Heidi Flinchbaugh **Field Trip:** Christine Young

Summer meetings: 3rd Monday at 7p, June 16th July 21st August 18th 7:00 to 8:45 p.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 June Dr Martin Quigley, Director, UCF Arboretum, Campus Landscaping & Natural Resources

Minutes from our May Meeting Submitted for Pete von Lersner

Call to order by Ervin Janssen at 7:00 p.m. Guests were welcomed.

Old Business: April Minutes approved. Treasurers report read & approved.

New Business: Christine Young is setting up a visit in October to the Olive Branch Tree Farm in Citra, Fl. Look for details in future newsletters and meetings. Thank you Christine for your efforts. Pam circulated a "thinking of you" card to send to Herbert Henry who is at the Hospice Center on Loch Lomond next to the Winter Park Hospital.

May Program Clyde Stephens, retired banana grower, shared his extensive expertise. Clyde lived in Panama where he worked in and wrote about the banana industry. Fascinating pictures covering the many cultivars and also geographical and botanical tidbits were followed by an informative questions and answers. An important note: What we know as bananas are a mutant, a very edible development with insignificant seeds. Clyde emphasized the need to water and feed bananas in February and March, and the need to support the heavier fruit clusters.

The newly published Outline of History of the Province of Bocas del Toro, Panama was presented to our club by Clyde and Phyllis Stephens, it will be added to our library which has several other of his books. The 80 page pictorial history is written in both Spanish and English. The book discusses the geological formation of the banana growing region of Panama during Pre-Colombian times and follows it from the 1500s thru current times. Dividing domiciles between Panama and Tavares, the Stephens are a valuable asset to the Central Florida Tropical Fruit Club.

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:

May Tasting Table Doyle & Mae Abbott: Pineapple Upside Down Cake,

Pam Flesher: Mango-Peach Salsa+chips Carmen Smith: Almond Cookies, Gary Hendricksen: Plums,

Abe White: Valencia Orange Juice Joann Maynard: Bagels, Sousan Orlando: Mulberries, Marie Orlando: Chocolate Wafers, Bob Burns: Tropical Jello, Benny Cambare: Shrimp Crackers

May Raffle Table Abe White: Eggplant, Bell Peppers Yolanda Curtis: Gold Finger Banana plant

Wolf Von Lersner: Calamondia Marmelade Pam Flesher: Pots, orange jasmine plant, Christine Young: Banana plant

Sousan Orlando Avocado, Starburst (invasive), Rong-Tsai Wu: Hot Pepper & Carambola (Starfruit) Plants

Lincoln & Daphne Lai: Papaya & Sugar Cane plants Tropical Fruit Club: Sugar Cane Plants

Other donations: Pineapple plants, Angel Trumpet, Monstera, Pepper Plants, Organic Growers & Florida Gardening Magazines

Roberta Witherspoon asks: BUDWOOD? If you would bring Tangerine, Thin Skin Lemon or Lime, Juice Orange Budwood Stick [with variety name] to the meeting, I would appreciate it. From what I read best size is the length and thickness of a pencil with leaf stem still on, leaves removed, and in a piece of damp paper towel. I have small seedy tangerine, variegated pink lemon, and Navel Orange to graft on to. Thanks, Roberta

Up Coming Events abridged details in May Newsletter and on Tropical Fruit Club website

June 21& 22 Redland Summer Fruit Festival

July 10, 11, 12 & 13 Rare Fruit Conference

July 12 & 13 16th Annual International Mango Festival at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden.

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

Orange County Ag Ext Location: Extension Education Center - Magnolia Room Tropical and subtropical fruit crops may be good alternatives for planting in the home landscapes with the recent diseases affecting citrus.

Free - PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED 6021 South Conway Road Orlando, FL 32812-3604 (407) 254-9200

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/>

***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.hawaiitropicalfruitgrowers.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 something 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



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