



Tropical Fruit Club of Central Florida Newsletter

April 2010

Officers: President: Pete von Lersner Vice-President: Christine Young
Treasurer: Lincoln Lai Secretary: Bill Saravanja

Committees: Newsletter: Cathy Saravanja Programs: Christine Young, Larry Shatzer, Abe White, Hayri Lawrence, Pam Flesher Library: Jay and Rajani Vaidya
Plant Sale Chairperson: Joann Maynard

2010 Membership Drive: \$15 individual \$20 Family payable to Tropical Fruit Club
Renew at next meeting or send to Lincoln Lai at 688 Carnation Dr., Winter Park, FL 32792
Membership Applications available at club meetings and on line at <http://tropicalfruitclub.org>

Meetings: 3rd Monday 7:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.; April 19th, May 17th and June 21st at
Leu Gardens, 1920 N. Forest Avenue, Orlando

TFC newsletters available on our website

<http://tropicalfruitclub.org>

Please bring items for the tasting and raffle tables; be sure to label items and
complete the sign up sheet

Minutes:

Pete von Lersner called the meeting to order and welcomed guest Ashley Stephens.

Lincoln Lai treasurer's report was accepted as were the February minutes.

Old Business:

Nothing to report.

New Business:

The librarians, Jay and Rajani Vaidya, requested that all the books be returned to the meeting so that an updated library list can be cataloged, Jay stated that he has issues of The Rare Fruit Club as far back as 1989.

A get well card signed by the members who attended the meeting was presented to Doyle Abbott, one of our most esteemed members who is recovering from cancer. Thanks to all for your wonderful messages of encouragement to Doyle as I am sure he enjoyed reading all of your lovely messages on his "Get Well Certificate" card. It was so good to see Doyle and Mae attend the meeting. Doyle surprised us by showing up at the meeting and we had to be creative in signing and concealing his card until it was presented by President Pete von Lersner. A speedy recovery Doyle and we will keep you in our prayers.

Club wear will be sold at meetings by Eliza Alfonzo. Available are: polo shirts; various color baseball caps, hats & t-shirts; long and short sleeve button down denim shirts. Additional items may be ordered

Upcoming Program :

Our April speaker is Dr. Denise Gray who will give a presentation on Muscadine grapes and muscadine grapes research.

Past Program:

March 15- Gary England, Sumter County Agricultural Agent gave a presentation on deciduous fruit that can be grown in Central Florida. Gary England is a regional specialized horticulturist who works with nurseries, he presented an interesting slide show full of valuable information to anyone who grows plants and trees. Key points were focused on making plants cold hardy to survive extensive cold spells, timely pruning to increase fruit size and quality, and advice when considering deciduous crops for Central Florida. Gary can be contacted at: gke@ufl.edu

Special Report

Leu Gardens Plant Sale: March 20 and 21

Our plant sale was a success, sincere gratitude is extended to all who attended and helped out with all the necessary tasks. Photos of the event will be on the website for all to enjoy, and Lincoln Lai will give a financial report on the outcome of the plant sale. Plant Sale Chairperson Joann Maynard did an outstanding job keeping everything flowing smoothly, all her efforts are appreciated and she will report on the sale's activities at the April meeting; thanks Joann for all your hard work.

The following people were major key players to the plant sale, their contributions and help is appreciated as follows:

Although they were not able to attend, special thanks are expressed to Doyle and Mae Abbott for the outstanding variety of plants they raised and contributed to the plant sale; thank you both so much.

Also a special thanks to Abe White for all the effort on his part in planting and caring for the

several hundred banana plants maintained in his greenhouse.

Thanks to all who contributed plants for the plant sale event.

Pick-up and/or delivery of plants – Abe White, Lloyd and Victor Orlando, Ben Shaddrick, Rafael Flores, Erwin Jansen, Lincoln Lai

Set up – on Friday – Horace and Goldie Thompson, Lincoln Lai, Clyde and Phyllis Stephens, Pete von Lersner, Abe White, Martha Merritt, Cathy Saravanja

Plant Sale on Saturday and Sunday - Benny Cambare, Barry and Raji Hakimian, Jay and Rajani Vaidya, Lincoln and Daphne Lai, Pete von Lersner, Joann Maynard, Erwin Janssen; Jim Ford, Kim Lornsorfer, Hayri Lawrence, Alicia Thornton, Delores Taylor, Bill and Cathy Saravanja, Clyde and Phyllis Stephens

Breakdown on Sunday – Abe White, Clyde and Phyllis Stephens, Pete von Lersner, Bill and Cathy Saravanja and Joann Maynard, Lincoln Lai

If I left out anyone or if someone showed up that had not originally signed up to help, we also thank you for your help and support. Those of us who attended had a good time meeting people and selling plants and look forward to doing it again next year. There was an abundance of plant vendors at Leu Gardens with interesting plants and trees to see and learn about, if you did not attend, then you missed a great event.

Tasting Table Donations

Cathy Saravanja – Candied Green Papaya preserves; Goldie Thompson – Irish Soda Bread and Cheddar Cheese; Phyllis and Ashley Stephens – Calamondin Cake; Dolores Taylor – Tea; Jean House – Caramel Corn; Lincoln and Daphne Lai- Brownies; TFC – Bagel Chips and Hummus; Mae Abbott – Spanish Bean Soup; Earl and Anne Peterson – Orlando Tangelos; Pari and Barry Hakimian- Indian Snack; Tom Ferlanto-Grapes; Bryan and Melinda Cummings – Home baked Bread and Orange Honey Butter; Victor and Marie Orlando-Pita Chips and Mango Salsa

Raffle Table Donations

Hayri Lawrence – Black Sapote; Jim Ford – Sweet Lemons; Bryan Cummings – Carrots; Melinda Cummings – Home Made Bread; Pam Flesher – Tropical Fruit Book; Bob Burns – Ruby Red Grapefruit; Abe White – Kale, Collards, Turnips, Lemons; Cathy Saravanja – Calamondin Marmalade

If you didn't sign in, thank you for your contribution.

To share your comments and suggestions please email me at: wsaravanja@gmail.com or tel: 407-365-8875.

Interested in links to other clubs or to extension services, check our website <http://tropicalfruitclub.org> or some older newsletter issues on the website.