



# Tropical Fruit Club Newsletter

## November 2008

**Officers:** Pres: Ervin Janssen VicePres: Abe White

Treas: Lincoln Lai, Secretary: Pete von Lersner

**Committees:** Newsletter/Librarian: Shirley Silvasy Nominating: Doyle Abbott; Roster: Heidi Flinchbaugh  
Field Trip & Name Tags: Christine Young

**Meetings:** 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday 7:00p.m. to 8:45p.m. Nov 17<sup>th</sup>, Dec 15<sup>th</sup> Leu Garden, 1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando.

Bring items for the tasting and raffle tables; please label items and complete the sign in sheet.

**Program November 17<sup>th</sup> :** **Dr. Jonathan Crane**, Tropical Fruit Specialist, Homestead, Florida.

*“Best Management Practices for Tropical Fruit.”*

**October Minutes** by Pete von Lersner Call to order by President Ervin Janssen, guest Roddy Stec welcomed.

**Old Business:** September Minutes & Treasurer’s Reports approved by membership. Christine Young talked about the upcoming Olive tour Nov 2. **New Business:** motion to appoint nominating committee carried. Doyle Abbott, Pete Von Lersner, Shirley Silvasy so appointed.

**October Program** *Wonders of the Hive* Bill Fredrickson, Apiarist from Geneva described mites & beetles hurting hives, explained systemic insecticides destroy not only bees but are toxic to all life. Carpenter ants, hornets, and the aggressive African Bees also threats. Raw Honey, a natural antiseptic, contains hydrogen peroxide as well as traces of proteins, vitamins, minerals, pigments and wax in a unique carbohydrate. Huge assortment of honey for sale, samples available to taste. Free beekeeping class scheduled for Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 10:30, if enough members want to go, a separate class could be scheduled. Sign up at November meeting. Frederickson Apiaries: 407-765-1048

**More items were on the tasting & raffle tables than listed on the sign-in sheets,**

if you brought something & do not see your name here....*thank you* and **Thank you** to the following members:

**October Tasting Table** Cecilia & Adrian Novenario: Guava Paste, Cream Cheese, Crackers; Mae Abbott: Mango Cobbler;

Shirley Silvasy: Chocolate Chip Vegan Cookies(Ethos Vegan Kitchen); Pam Fleisher: Guava w/cream cheese, Banana Bread

Lincoln & Daphne Lai: Persimmon preserves & crackers, Frank & Nancy Zeleznik: Key Lime Cookies;

**October Raffle Table** Mae & Doyle Abbott: carambola, key limes; Abe White: Eggplant, multiplying onions; Jean House:

Basil plants; Barry & Pari Hakimian: Sugarcanes; Eliza & Jerry Alfonzo: Cochucha Peppers; Hayri Lawrence: Guava

Tree, Tamarind Tree; Dolores Taylor: Coffee Cans; Cecilia & Adrian Novenario: Sorelle; Pete Van Lersner: Dragon Fruit;

Lincoln & Daphne Lai: Carambolas; Ken Wutscha: Fuyu Persimmons; Pam Fleisher: Smoked Salmon, Banana Plant

### \*\*\*\*Special Requests\*\*\*\*

**Please bring extra 1 and 2 gallon pots to meeting so we can start potting up plants for the 2009 plant sale**

???Edwin Wilson of Ft. Myers wants the Tropical Fruit Club’s Ice Cream Recipes. The Murrays of Treehouse Nursery, Pine Island told him about it. Have a copy or know where one is? Please let me know so I can post the info???

**Viviana Rey-Palmer** *What’s Growing In Your Yard?* Well before I answer this question, let’s look back a bit; I joined TFC about a year ago. I’ve always enjoyed gardening and had previously planted a Ruby Red Grapefruit Tree that produced fruit the second year. So I thought, “nothing to this gardening stuff,” lets see what else I can grow.....¶ I have since planted (with my father’s expert help) blueberry bushes, figs, two mango trees, one avocado tree, a ponderosa lemon tree, a key lime tree, a tangelo tree, a naval orange tree, a Hamblin orange tree, a mandarin tree, a guava bush, a pineapple guava bush, two banana trees and a persimmon tree. (I loved persimmon after trying it). ¶As you can see I’ve turned into a planting nut! No I have no nut trees, YET! However my pride and joy is the Mamey Sapote tree that I traveled to Homestead (twice) to buy. The first tree I planted, Lucy, my black lab, dug up while I was at work. I didn’t notice this for a few days, at which point it was too late; the tree was drier than the desert. So off I went again to buy another tree. I’m hoping a freeze won’t do it in. ¶I am now on watering, fertilizing, mulching and weeding schedules. I walk my yard daily for pest and leaf inspections and think “*nothing to this gardening stuff, right?*” THANK YOU, anyone else? email [silvasy@aol.com](mailto:silvasy@aol.com) or call 407-482-0042.

**Lincoln Lai’s advice:** 1<sup>st</sup> taste the fruits to see what you like, 2<sup>nd</sup> pay attention to variety, 3<sup>rd</sup> plant it in the right place

**What’s fruiting now:** avocados, bananas, carambolas, citrus, papaya, persimmons, sugarcane (always),

**Cold Sensitive?** Mulch around the trunk, warm up with little lights. If you cover don’t use plastic and remove during the day.

**Persimmon Preserves** 2 cups pulp (approx. 6 large fruits), 2 cups sugar: Cut persimmons in half, scrape out pulp, remove any seeds. Puree pulp in blender. Measure 2 cups into pot. Add sugar, mix well. Cook on medium heat approx 30 minutes, stir often until thick. Ladle into sterilized jars and seal. Makes 3 small pint jars. Enjoy! *Lincoln & Daphne Lai*

**Upcoming Events**

Mon Dec 15<sup>th</sup>. ***Annual TFC Holiday Feast.*** Can you help organize, set-up, or clean-up? Sign up at next meeting.  
***Election*** Willing to serve as an officer? Want to nominate someone (after getting their permission!)?

**Useful links for information on tropical fruits (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* <http://ocextension.ifas.ufl.edu/> (407) 254-9200; *Lake* <http://lake.ifas.ufl.edu/> (352) 343-4101  
*Osceola* <http://osceola.ifas.ufl.edu/> 321-367-3000 *Seminole* <http://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/coopext/> 407-665-5551
  - \*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://www.Brevardrarefruit.org> {pictures & info on tropical fruits}
  - \*Tampa Rare Fruit Council <http://www.rarefruit.org/> \*Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden <http://www.ftg.org/>
  - \*Rare Fruit Council International <http://www.tropicalfruitnews.com/>
  - \*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](http://www.floridagardening.com/html) \*California Rare Fruit Growers <http://www.crfg.org/>
  - \*Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers <http://www.hawaitropicalfruitgrowers.org/index.html>
  - \*Gene Joyner's Articles <http://www.quisqualis.com/joyart00.html>
- Reminder, bring any 1 or 2 gal pots to meeting!!!! Share your comments & suggestions [Silvasy@aol.com](mailto:Silvasy@aol.com) 321-228-4310



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