



Tropical Fruit Club Newsletter

October 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

Meetings: 3rd Monday 7:00p.m. to 8:45p.m. Oct 20th, Nov 17th, Dec 15th Leu Garden, 1920 N. Forest Ave., Orlando. Bring your items for the tasting and raffle tables; please label your items; don't forget to complete the sign in sheet. If you would like to share your recipe or info on your plant, please send to silvasy@aol.com

Program for October: Bill Fredrickson, **Apiarist:** "Wonders of the Hive" He'll also have honey for sale.

Minutes from August Meeting by Pete von Lersner

Call to order by President Ervin Janssen. The President welcomed guests Olive Mackay and Pearl _____.

Old Business: Minutes & Treasurer's Reports approved. Pete von Lersner and Pamela Flesher presented a brief overview of the Tampa Rare Fruit Club Meeting held Sept 14th. Brevard Rare Fruit Club extended their trip with visits to a garden and a winery. **New Business:** Orchid Auction to be held Saturday September 20th.

September Program *What about growing vanilla? Abe White shared pictures of his flowering vanilla vines, summarized the history of commercial vanilla, and described the painstaking ordeal those pods have to endure to become our savory treat. The six months between harvests are just enough time to process the beans thru various precision weekly soaks, drying, and heating before storing or using to flavor ice cream, cookies, and*

Sun Nov 2nd Field Trip: 10 am tour of Olive Branch Tree Farm located at 16650 NE 47th Court in Citra. Check them out at www.olivebranchtreefarm.com There is no charge for the tour, however, an optional lunch and olive tasting is offered for only \$12. A head count is needed no later than Oct 20th. For 15 or fewer diners an Italian dinner will be served: *spinach manicotti, salad, bread, dessert*. More than 15 people we can **either** choose Italian dinner **or** have the Spanish dinner: *Chicken with rice, red and black beans, bread, salad, dessert*.

→A sign up sheet will be available on the registration table, if you will not be at the meeting, please contact Christine Young at 386-747-2374. Also if you get lost on the way, call Christine for directions to the farm driveway.

Tour starts at 10:00am but please come a little earlier so we will all be there at 10am.

There will be trees for sale. They make great ornamental trees also. (Mine are doing great.)

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:

September Tasting Table Kathy Anderson: *Papaya and Key Limes*; Dwight Thorton: *Cookies*; Dolores Taylor: *Shrimp Snacks*;

Frank & Nancy Zeleznik: *Key Lime Cookies*; Bob Burns: *Mango Bread*; Lincoln & Daphne Lai: *Starfruit*;

Heidi Flinchbaugh: *Palm Heart Salad*; Mort & Luzmin Garcia: *puffed corn*

September Raffle Table Abe White: *vanilla cuttings*, Bob Burns: *Starfruit*; Jim Ford: *Pineapple tops*; Eliza Alfonzo: *Guavas*;

Pete Van Lersner: *Ceylon Tropical Olive*; Lincoln & Daphne Lai: *Persimmons*; Aracely Rodriguez: *Guava Trees*

Ben Shaddrick: *Plumeria, Ornamental pineapple*; Kathy Anderson: *Key Limes*; Doug Visnius: *Edible Hibiscus*

******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. If you have a copy or know where one is, please let me know so I can answer Ed and post the info???

Note from the Editor:What's Growing In Your Yard? Any volunteers to share a short list or article for our newsletter about what's fruiting in your yard? Like to put something in the newsletter or have questions? Your comments & suggestions are welcome. Please email silvasy@aol.com, or call 407-482-0042.

Upcoming Events

Sat-Sun Oct 11-12 10a-3p Fall Plant Festival & Sale, *Tampa Rare Fruit Council* **USF Botanical Gardens**, Tampa

Thurs Oct. 16 6:00-7:00pm **Orange Ag Ext Agency** Tropical and subtropical fruit crops for home landscapes

Free - PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED 6021 S Conway Rd Orlando 32812-3604 (407) 254-9200

Sun Oct 25, VEGFEST, 10a-6p Loch Haven Park, Orlando www.CFVEGFEST.com

Sun Nov 2, 10a **Olive Branch Tree Farm** Citra, Fl. Tour free; \$12 per person for lunch and olive samplings.

Sign up Sheet will be available October 20th. www.olivebranchtreefarm.com

Mon Nov 17th Tropical Fruit Club program: **Dr. Jonathan Crane**, Tropical Fruit Specialist at Homestead, Florida.

“Best Management Practices for Tropical Fruit.”

Mon Dec 15th. **Annual Tropical Fruit Club Holiday Feast.**

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 County Ag Extension <http://ocextension.ifas.ufl.edu/> (407) 254-9200
- *Lake County Ag Extension <http://lake.ifas.ufl.edu/> (352) 343-4101
- *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
- *California Rare Fruit Growers <http://www.crfg.org/>
- *Hawaii Tropical Fruit Growers <http://www.hawaiitropicalfruitgrowers.org/index.html>

Reminder, bring any 1 or 2 gal pots to meeting!!!!



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