Elaine Boyd
California Rare Fruit Growers

Elaine Boyd belongs to the San Diego chapter of the California Rare Fruit Growers and she helps to staff their booth at the Del Mar Fair every year. She is joining us to talk about the basics of growing popular trees like citrus, apple, peach and avocado, as well as excellent drought-tolerant favorites like pomegranate and fig (and which varietals are best). She will touch on mango and banana as well. The talk covers how to plant a new tree, soil basics, avoiding common pitfalls, plus general tips and tricks.

California Rare Fruit Growers traces its beginnings to a telephone call received in November 1966 by Paul Thomson in Bonsall, Calif. from John Riley of Santa Clara, Calif. The telephone call led to a meeting at the Thomson home, and later a visit to Thomson’s orchard in Vista, where mangoes, litchis and longans were mature and producing fruit. This led to a realization that among the many gardeners and orchardists along the subtropical Pacific Coast there was a store of knowledge and experiences which might help them all in the cultivation of rare fruits.

The CRFG did not happen overnight, however. Thomson canvassed his friends and acquaintances and corresponded regularly with Riley. By November 1968, there was enough interest to form a group. A name was chosen to best express their objective: the California Rare Fruit Growers. Thomson and Riley drew a manifesto and 27 others joined the group as charter members. One thing was certain: the need for a timely publication through which members could exchange knowledge. In these early years the focus of CRFG was almost exclusively on California conditions. A list was drawn up of all the unusual fruits known to the founders at that time, along with a membership roster. The fruit list was a puny thing compared to the one we know now, and serves to remind us just how far we have come. The old list of fruits “not known in current cultivation” is now obsolete, and the hardiness of many fruits can be adjusted several degrees downward. Early on
Important Dates:

Nov 20th  Elaine Boyd – California Rare Fruit Growers
Nov 20th  East County Rotary Clubs Mystery Social 5:30pm – 8:00 pm
Nov 27th  Sue Richardson – La Mesa Parks & Rec
Dec 2nd   La Mesa Rotary Board of Directors Meeting  5:30pm
Dec 7th   Bikes for Kids – Bike Build – 8:00am until we are done!
Dec 10th  La Mesa Rotary Holiday Party
Dec 13th  Bikes For Kids – Bike Giveaway – Harriet Tubman Charter School 10:00 am
April 4th  Comedy Hypnosis Show!

Scott Elam chosen as Rotarian of the Month!

Thanks Jerry!
 Rotary Mystery Social
Wednesday, November 20
5:30 pm – 8:00 pm

We will meet in the parking lot located in the SW corner of Spring Street & University Ave. From there Caravans will be organized to a Secret location for a fun-filled night!

Joint event with the East County Rotary Clubs!

Cost is $20 per person and that includes dinner!

Visit the La Mesa Rotary online!  www.LaMesaRotary.org
Or find us on Facebook! Just search for La Mesa Rotary.

La Mesa Rotary TATTLER Editor: Scott Elam
elamshallmark@cox.net
Fill-A-Bag, Feed A Child

Help feed La Mesa School children during Thanksgiving & Christmas Break. You can help out by bringing food to donate to Fill-A-Bag, Feed-A-Child each week at Rotary! Holiday time is a big time when families in the community really need our help. Dani will pick up any donations each week at Rotary and bring back to keep filling those bags.

Needs: Peanut Butter, Boxed Dinners, Granola Bars, Oatmeal, Fruit Cups, Crackers, Soup, Dry Pasta, Refried Beans, Beans & Franks, Mac & Cheese, and any other items they can put in the bags!

Save the Date!
La Mesa Rotary Holiday Party!

Tuesday December 10th
6:00 pm at the La Mesa Community Center!

Dictionaries for 3rd graders!
This year we will be giving out Dictionaries to every 3rd grader in the La Mesa & Lemon Grove school districts – 17 total schools! Mike Fellows has a list of schools if you can volunteer to represent La Mesa Rotary and pass out the dictionaries to the students!
We will be having a Sticker party to put the 4-Way Test sticker in the front of each dictionary soon!