

2016 Calendar

January

Membership Dues (Please see enclosed form)

February

Valentine's Day A BIG day for growers. (Best of luck everyone!)

March/April

Spring General Meeting Date/Time TBA

Tentative Topic: Banksia Bar-B-Q

After the great success and positive feedback of our Stem-Swapping Propagation Party, we are putting together another hands-on workshop featuring some fire & smoke techniques used to extract Banksia seeds from dried flower heads, tips on how to increase your seed germination success-rate and more about growing new Banksia plants.

March 6 – 8:

Spring Home & Garden Show Del Mar

April 19 (Sunday):

Fallbrook Avocado Festival

Sept 23 - 25:

Del Mar Fall Garden Show

California Protea Association

Newsletter - January, 2016

Happy New Year CPA members!

We hope you all had a wonderful holiday with friends and family, and are ready for a fun-filled, informative and successful year with our association.

In this newsletter, our first of 2016, we review our last general meeting and bring you some wonderful news about this year's Rose Parade. On the left is a first-pass at our calendar of planned events for this year. (This is likely to grow as we move forward.) Also enclosed you will find the membership form for 2016. Please get these back to us as soon as you can – we really appreciated it.

We're looking forward to a great year — which includes a Banksia Bar-B-Q workshop that should be a blast. More about that to come (and in the left column).

General Meeting: Presidents Report From Australia and Town Hall-Style Q&A

The Autumn General Meeting was held at the Fallbrook VFW and featured a presentation by our president Mel Resendiz. Mel shared the report he had given in Perth about the US Protea industry and discussed highlights from the various speakers and scientific studies that were featured at the International Protea Association's Conference in Perth.

Members were also treated to a beautiful slide show by Diana Roy which featured photos from the conference as well as stunning images of Australia's unique flora and fauna.

Town Hall Q&A a welcome surprise

Following the presentation, Mel began to take questions from the group, and invited Ben Gill and others to jump in as well. What resulted was a fascinating discussion and a host of expert advice. We learned how to maximize profits by controlling and delaying the bloom-timing of certain varieties and how to prolong the season of others. We also discussed erosion control and canopy management for maximum sales. A wealth of information was shared and happily received. If this kind of information is of interest to you, be sure to show up at the next general meeting.

Website: <u>californiaprotea.org</u> / A Non-Profit Organization