



THE FRIENDS OF THE BOTANICAL GARDEN ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AND PICNIC

will be held on
Saturday, June 23 11:30 a.m.
at the Botanical Garden

Included in the program will be the election of officers and board members, and a preliminary report on the Garden's Master Plan by Consultant Eldon Beck. All members are encouraged to attend. Members will receive further details prior to the meeting.

Camellias of Yunnan, China

云南茶花

The Friends of the Botanical Garden is sponsoring an illustrated lecture by Professor Yü Te-tsun on the origin and classification of *Camellia reticulata* cultivars of Yunnan Province, China. This free public lecture, which should be of great interest not only to Camellia enthusiasts but to anyone with a general interest in horticulture or in China, will be on Monday, May 28 at 8:00 p.m. in Room 2000 Life Sciences Building, University of California, Berkeley.

Professor Yü is visiting the United States as a member of an exchange delegation of botanists that has been arranged between the Botanical Society of America and the Academy of Sciences of the People's Republic of China. Professor Yü is the foremost expert on the cultivated Camellias of Yunnan. He was formerly the Director of the Yunnan Institute of Botany in Kunming and is now the Director of the Peking Botanical Garden and Deputy Director of the Institute of Botany of the Academy of Sciences in Peking.

Professor Yü studied at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland between 1948 and 1950 as well as at the Royal Botanical Garden at Edinburgh and the Royal Horticultural Garden at Wisley, England. During this period he participated in the Magnolias and Camellias Conference held in England in 1950. In the report of this conference, Professor Yü published an article titled, "*Camellia reticulata* and its Garden Varieties." This article was the first description in English of the vast resources of cultivated Camellias in Yunnan. It was through contacts made available by Professor Yü that Walter E. Lammers and Ralph Peer were able to import many of the Yunnan *reticulatas* into the United States in 1948.

Camellia reticulata has been cultivated in Yunnan Province, mostly in and around the cities of Kunming and Tali, for hundreds of years. The flowers are prized by the Chinese as the foremost of the cultivated Camellias. These flowers range in color from rose, to rose and white, to deep red and are either semi-double or fully-double. The flowers are the largest of any Camellia and in some forms are over six inches in diameter. These Camellias will eventually form trees over thirty feet tall, and plants that date back over four hundred years are still growing around temples near Kunming in Yunnan Province. *Bruce Bartholomew, Curator*

Garden Notes

The response to the Botanical Garden's new Enrichment Series has been outstanding, reports Education Coordinator Laurianne Hannan - in fact, all six of the classes have been oversubscribed. So far, participants have been treated to a tour of the Rod McClellan Orchid Farm, a lecture on plant diseases by Dr. Robert Raabe, and a seminar on the formation of the Pygmy Forest in Mendocino County by Dr. Hans Jenny. Enrollment is closed for the remaining classes, but a new series will begin in August -

details will be given in the next newsletter.

The annual Friends Preview Plant Sale on May 5 was an unqualified success. Undaunted by the damp weather, Friends members lined up before the start of the sale to get first pick, and purchased almost \$3,000 worth of plants by the end of the day. The huge selection available was testimony to the year-round potting and propagating carried on by dedicated volunteers.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As a result of the grant awarded to the Garden by the Institute of Museum Services (reported in our last newsletter), the Friends of the Botanical Garden are pleased to announce the selection of Eldon Beck, A.S.L.A. as planning consultant for development of a 20-year master plan for the Botanical Garden. Mr. Beck, who is currently an adjunct Professor of Landscape Architecture at U.C. Berkeley, has been engaged in the practice of Landscape Architecture for approximately 23 years; during most of that time he was a principal in the nationally known firm of Royston, Hanamoto, Beck and Abey. Mr. Beck's experience includes planning and design work for numerous park, residential and college campus projects throughout the United States, including master planning of Red Rock and Lahontan State Parks in Nevada and direction of overall planning and design for Vail, Colorado.

Throughout the planning process, Mr. Beck will work closely with the Friends Master Plan Steering Committee, made up of garden staff and volunteers. He is currently consulting with a wide spectrum of garden users as part of the research phase of the design process, reflecting his conviction that the plan should be an evolution of design from the different viewpoints of the users, rather than an imposition of the viewpoint of the planner. Another of Mr. Beck's concerns is that the Garden must continue to match the stature of the University in the quality and variety of its research and academic uses and at the same time respond to the growing need for public education. Mr. Beck solicits your ideas on the garden and its programs - please direct your comments to the Friends Office at 642-2084.

Although the Master Plan is not scheduled for publication until this fall, Mr. Beck will present his preliminary findings at the Annual Friends Membership Meeting on June 23. We urge you to attend this meeting and let Mr. Beck know of your concerns. *Jerry Carlin, President*

*Friends of the Botanical Garden
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Berkeley, CA 94720
Laura Hess, Editor*

Trichocereus candicans - the spectacular six-inch long white flowers of this columnar cactus are part of the brilliant display of blooming succulents to be seen through mid-June in the New World Desert and African Hill areas of the U.C. Botanical Garden.

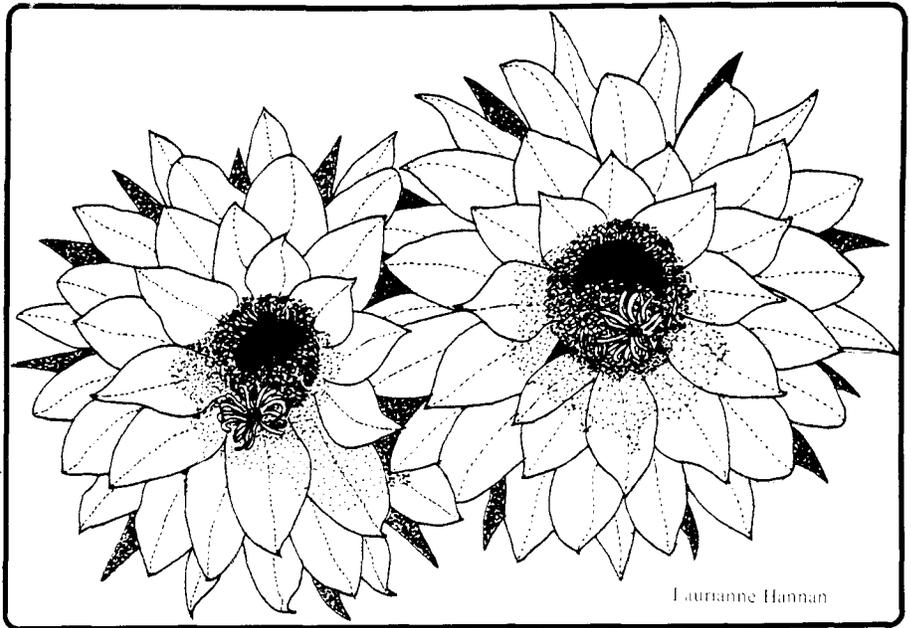
FRIENDS QUARTERLY CALENDAR

May 28 - "Cultivated Camellias of Yunnan, China."
Illustrated lecture by Dr. Yü Te-tsun.
Illustrated lecture by Dr. Yu Te-tsun.
8 p.m., 2000 Life Sciences Building.

June 19 - Botanical Garden Enrichment Class #5:
Paleobotany lecture-demonstration.
10:30 a.m., Botanical Garden Meeting Room.

June 23 - Annual Friends Membership Meeting and Picnic. 11:30 a.m., Botanical Garden Meeting Room.

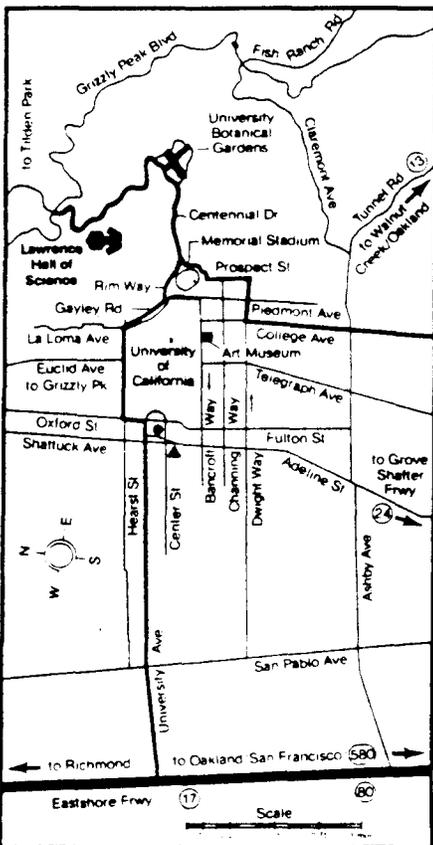
July 17 - Botanical Garden Enrichment Class #6:
Saratoga Horticultural Foundation/
Filoli Gardens Field Trip. Botanical Garden parking lot, time to be announced.



The Friends of the U.C. Botanical Garden provide assistance to the garden in improving and extending the plant collections, enriching the education program, and meeting general capital requirements.

Membership benefits include special programs on plants and gardening; mailings of the Botanical Garden Quarterly Newsletter and seasonal self-guided tours; a 20% discount on selected UC Press Books; and admission to the annual Preview Plant Sale exclusively for Friends.

Student, senior citizen, and garden volunteer memberships are discounted to \$5. Standard dues are \$10 for individuals, \$15 for families. The Friends of the Botanical Garden functions as a support group under the auspices of the UC Berkeley Foundation, and dues and gifts are tax-deductible.



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