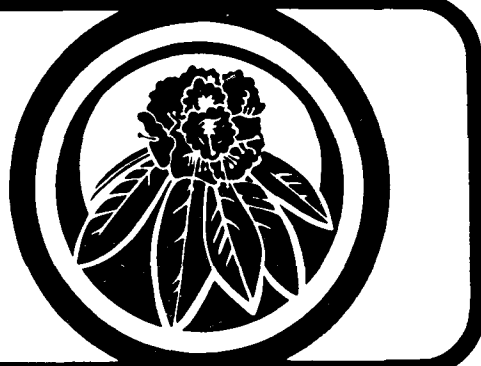


Friends of the Botanical Garden

Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY



WINTER 1982

Vol. VII: No. 1

BOTANICAL GARDEN DAMAGED

The Botanical Garden's staff is still mopping up after the slide disaster of January and may not finish for some months to come. Accomplished to date, debris blocking the roads has been cleared with the assistance of a backhoe and dump truck. A soil engineer, working through the University on an evaluation for the entire Strawberry watershed, viewed the Garden's slide areas. The Garden has been advised to leave the Asian Hill slide area as is until March. If the drainage from the slide has not abated by then, the engineer has suggested drilling horizontally into the bank to control and direct the flow of the spring and thus reduce the chance of further damage.

Numerous water pipes, broken by the slide have yet to be redirected around the Asian Hill slide. Additionally, two paths, crossing through the area, must be reconstructed around the slide's perimeter.

Expenses to date have been for the cleanup of the roads, planting beds and paths flooded by slide debris and mud. Bills have not yet been received for the engineer's inspection and for the assistance from the backhoe and dump truck. The greatest expenses are yet to come. Drilling to direct the flow of drainage in the Asian Hill slide will be costly. Landscaping the slide will be the other major expense.

The Garden staff wishes to express its gratitude to the following Friends' contributors who responded so quickly and so generously to the needs of the Garden after the storm:

David & Jackie Allswang
Phil J. Beilin
James Benet
Ethel & Lorna Blumann
Leo & Rose Brewer
Henry & Eugenie Bruck
Granville & Georgia Brumbaugh
Eleanor Buehler
Karen Burt
Katherine Caldwell
Robert & Francis Capdevielle
Alfred & Helen Carlson
E.E. & Genevieve Cassady
James & Charlotte Clayton
Barrie Coate
Lois Collins
Robert Connick
Lincoln & Sara Constance
Paul & Marion Covell
Thomas Daniels
Klaus & Jean Dehlinger
Douglas & Leila Erskine
Doris Foster

Mrs. Clive Ginner
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Reason Goodwin
William & Toby Gottfried
Barbara & Woodford Harrison
Virginia Havens
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George W. Kilbourne
Herbert Kling
Wayne Lazarus
Jack & Edna Lewis
Margaret Luebs
Doris B. Lum
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Roberta Maloney
Errol Mauchlan
William & Helen McCullough
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Kenneth & Joan Mirov

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W. Newell & Elizabeth Nelson
Diana Obrinsky & Donald Whorton
Josephine Opalka
Dianne Oswald
Catherine Pigford
James & Diane Plank
Rene & Melanie Polard
Joyce Pyle
Sylvan & Rosemary Raphael
R.J. & Kathryn Riddell
Susan E. Rogers
A.H. & Helen Rosenblatt
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Rosenmeyer
Maribel Sandner
Elizabeth Schumacher
Sara Shankman
Ronald & Joan Sipherd
Erwin & Leonara Strohmaier
Marta Tobey
Harriet Walker
George & Edna Whaley
Bernard & Jane Witkin

Horticultural Tour of New Zealand

October 15, 1982 has been set as the date of departure for the Friends of the Botanical Garden sponsored tour of New Zealand. We are including with this newsletter a flyer highlighting the tour program.

Two recent issues of the University of Washington Arboretum Bulletin contains articles describing the Arboretum sponsored tour of New Zealand in 1980. The Friends' tour will follow roughly the same itinerary, so those of you thinking of signing up for this tour might be interested in reading these articles. The bulletins will be available for perusal in the Botanical Garden office, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

PLANT SALE

The Friends 8th Annual Spring Plant Sale will be held Saturday, May 8. The sale will take place at the Lawrence Hall of Science Plaza on Centennial Drive from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Members of the Friends of the Botanical Garden are invited to a special pre-plant sale held on the same day. The preview sale is from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. If you are not yet a member of the Friends, you are invited to join on the day of the sale. Individual memberships cost \$15 (\$7.50 for students and seniors).

As always, the collection of plants offered is outstanding both in variety and uniqueness. Many of the plants for sale have been propagated from the huge collection of the garden or grown from seed or plant material collected by its botanist. This year there is a spectacular rare collection of high elevation perennials and shrubs from Mexico as well as an extensive collection of orchids and bromeliads. The garden's collection of cactus and succulents is especially large. Look also for ferns and California native perennials.

With scarcely two months till sale time, seedlings are sprouting in the Garden's potting sheds. A year-round potting and propagating effort by a group of committed volunteers is required to produce the vast selection of plants for sale each year. A relatively small group of volunteers shoulder the responsibility for this year's sale. They are: Ellie Badé, Patricia Brown, Sally Chritton, Joey Clark, Dorothy Dye, Edna Ellern, Dick Emery, June Falkner, Iris Gaddis, Eileen Gold, Jean Homrighausen, Alice Hope, Jim Jones, Jim Lewis, Joan Mirov, Paul Mucci, June Nabosek, Carole Schemmerling, Mary Schroter, Kathy Seeburger, Claire Smolik, Myrtle Wolf and Betty Wright. According to the plant propagators there is an acute need for volunteers. Volunteers need not be "experts" **JUST PLANT ENTHUSIASTS.**

If you are interested in participating in this vital volunteer effort, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Bernice Kattchee, at the Friends Office 642-2084. Better yet, we are including a brief questionnaire concerning volunteer options available to you at the Garden. Fill it out and let us know what your areas of interest are.

GARDEN NOTES

Visitors to the garden may not have noticed that one of the Grass Trees (*Xanthorrhoea quadrangulata*) in the Australian collection has been badly burned. This seeming act of vandalism was perpetrated early one December morning by Senior Manager Daniel Campbell and Director Robert Ornduff as a means of stimulating the growth, branching, and eventual flowering of this unusual plant. Grass Trees are native to Australia where they grown in vegetation that is regularly burned. Those species that achieve a bush-like or tree-like form are often stimulated to do so as a consequence of periodic fires and normally have black, charred trunks and branches. This act of creative arson was carried out in an attempt to duplicate the natural conditions under which this plant grows and will be repeated annually for the next several years.

On African Hill, opposite the Rhododendron Dell, a few large specimens of *Lobelia telekii* have been planted. These are seedlings

from seed obtained on Mount Kenya some years ago by Botany Department Professor Thomas Duncan. These plants occur in the Teleki Valley of Mount Kenya at elevations above 11,000 feet where frost may occur any night of the year. One curious adaptation of these plants to this stringent habitat is that the leaf rosettes close up at night, presumably to conserve metabolic heat. For those interested in what these curious plants look like in flower, they are figured in an article by German botanist Werner Rauh in the September-October 1981 Cactus and Succulent Journal (available in the garden office).

Stop by the orchid house on the third Sunday of every month and talk with David Weinstock, orchid fancier. David became interested in growing orchids after a sojourn in Hawaii. We appreciate David sharing his enthusiasm and knowledge of orchids with the Friends and the general public. His hours are 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Friends have taken further steps to strengthen our effectiveness in raising funds for the Garden. We have assumed full responsibility for all sales and other fund raising activities, including all plant sales and all sales at the Information Center. Our ability to do this has been enhanced by having an Executive Director, Wendy Mitchell, and a Volunteer Coordinator, Bernice Kattchee. Wendy and Bernice have been doing an outstanding job; we all feel that the fund raising activities are in good hands.

The membership program, chaired by Mike Gerba, has several new members. The Committee members are: Mary Jefferds, Dorothy Harrington, Jim Lattie, Betty Nasset, Bob Ornduff, Jim Ratcliff and George Waters. We can still use more people with ideas and energy to help increase our membership. Call Wendy at 642-2084 if you want to volunteer.

The Master Plan does indeed appear to be close to publication, and once in hand will become a major tool in helping to raise the substantial funds needed to bring about the changes and improvements the Plan calls for. We hope to have a synopsis available to members in the near future.

Jerry Carlin, President

AROUND THE BAY

The 4th annual spring CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SALE will be held at the Botanic Garden of Tilden East Bay Regional Park, Berkeley (Wildcat Canyon Rd. & South Park Drive) on April 17, 1982 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Jointly sponsored by San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of California Native Plant Society and Friends of Tilden Botanic Garden; all proceeds to go benefit the Botanic Garden in Tilden. Pacific Coast Native Iris will be featured and other rare, choice natives including wood ferns will be available in limited quantities. Please bring boxes for carrying your purchases home.

Collecting Expedition To Chiapas

by Bruce Bartholomew

Last November I had the opportunity to spend two weeks on a plant collecting trip to Chiapas, Mexico. One of the reasons for this trip was to collect seeds for the Garden's seed exchange list that is sent bi-annually on exchange to about 400 botanical gardens around the world. An additional reason for the trip was to collect seeds, cuttings, and plants for growing in the Garden's Mexican Area and hopefully in other botanical gardens in California. Many surplus plants from this collecting trip will also be offered at the Friends plant sale next spring.

This trip was a result of an invitation from Dennis Breedlove of the California Academy of Sciences who has been working on the flora of Chiapas for the past fifteen years. For the past year Dennis has been collecting in Chiapas, and this will be his last major collecting trip to the area. My trip was made possible through Dennis' National Science Foundation grant as well as through funds given to the Garden by the Friends. Over the past five years Dennis has collected numerous plants for the Garden, and his 1976 collecting season was funded by a grant from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust that was given jointly to the University of California Botanical Garden, California Academy of Sciences and Saratoga Horticultural Foundation. The majority of the plants in our Mexican Area were collected by Dennis during his 1976 trip.

The plan of my trip was to visit high elevations area, mostly cloud forests, and to concentrate on plants of both botanical and horticultural interest. The reason for only collecting at high elevations is that the State of Chiapas is the southernmost State in Mexico and is well within the tropics. Only by collecting above about 6,000 feet is there a fair chance that the plants will be sufficiently cold hardy to grow in the Bay Area. Most of our collections were made between 7,000-9,000 feet with some collections as high as 10,000. During the two week period we made over 200 seed and live plant collections which

are now being propagated at the Garden.

Although it is not possible to mention all the plants it might be of interest to indicate a few. Perhaps one of the most ornamental groups are the species belonging to the genus *Salvia*. This genus is quite diverse in southern Mexico, and we already have many species in the Garden's Mexican Area. Of the numerous salvias that we collected on this trip the outstanding one is *S. wagneriana*. As with many Mexican salvias, *S. wagneriana* is quite variable, and we found an unusually fine form in the mountains above Motozintla de Mendoza. This salvia forms an arching shrub about 8-10 feet high with bright red flowers and large enveloping red bracts.

Another group of plants that has a great potential as ornamentals in the Bay Area is members of the family Melastomataceae. A common shrub in this family is the Princess Flower, *Tibouchina urvilleana*, from South America. Although none of the Chiapas members of the family have as large flowers, there are many shrubs and sub-shrubs belong to such genera as *Heterocentron*, *Miconia*, *Monochaetum* and *Tibouchina* that would make outstanding additions to our cultivated flora. Three particularly nice species that we collected are *Heterocentron hirtum*, *Monochaetum alpestre* and *Tibouchina longisepala*.

One of the high elevation cloud forest trees that is very spectacular is *Rhamnus breedlovei*. We collected seeds of this species in the mountains near San Cristobal de las Casas. It forms a tree about 30 feet tall with glossy leaves and bright red fruit about ¼ inch in diameter that make the tree look very much like an *Ilex*.

Perhaps one of the rarest plants we collected is *Magnolia sharpii* that looks very much like the commonly grown *M. grandiflora* but has much larger leaves and flowers. This collection was particularly important because the plant that is grown in California, from a Thomas Mac Dougall collection, as *M. sharpii* is

not this species but rather a lower elevation species, *M. schiedeana*. The fruit of *M. sharpii* is born at the top of large trees, and fortunately Dennis' Indian assistant is trained as a tree climber so he was able to climb a tree to collect seeds. We had an added benefit from this particular collection because the tree also contained a very attractive epiphytic *Cissus mertiana* that was in fruit.

It will take a year or more before many of these new Mexican plants start appearing in the Mexican Area. We already have a very large collection of Mexican plants, and the new plants strengthen our collection even more. Although the area of the Garden for Mexican and Central American plants is already very overcrowded, the Garden is planning to move this area to the back of the hill that contains the North American Area. This move is in the future, but the path system for this new area is already partially complete. This new larger area will allow for the full development of our collection of montane southern Mexican and Central American plants.

Meet Bernice Kattchee

With her excellent people skills, organization skills and communications skills along with her innovative ideas, Bernice Kattchee joined the Friends of the Botanical Garden in October as Assistant to the Executive Director, Wendy Mitchell. Her primary duties for the Friends are to coordinate the volunteers for the Information Center and the Propagation Group and to coordinate the Annual Spring Plant Sale. Bernice is also on the Garden staff as tour coordinator for the Docent Program. She has developed and implemented new procedures which have enhanced the structure of the tour program. Bernice has been involved in the Berkeley Community in several capacities for many years, as well as the Bay Area at large. She is currently a History Docent for the Oakland Museum and serves as a Board Member of the San Francisco Bay Girl Scout Council.

VOLUNTEER INTEREST SURVEY

FRIENDS OF THE BOTANICAL GARDEN

Please indicate with a ✓ the area in which you want to participate. Return this form by mail or you may drop it off at the Garden's Information Center. You will be contacted by the Volunteer Coordinator.

For further information, please call the Friends office 642-2084.

Plant Propagation & Preparation

- _____ Potting & transplanting.
- _____ Pruning, weeding & grooming.
- _____ Writing plant labels.
- _____ Indicate area of interest, i.e. Cacti, Herbs, Orchids, Shrubs, Succulents, etc.

Plant Sales

- _____ Provide transportation for moving plants.
- _____ Set-up, loading, unloading & arranging plants.
- _____ Tallying plant prices on sales slips.
- _____ Cashier
- _____ Guard at the entrance & exit.
- _____ Membership information.
- _____ Hospitality

Information Center

- _____ Information/sales person.
- _____ Preparing & packaging special materials.

Other Comments _____

Thank You - Please mail to the FRIENDS OF THE U.C. BOTANICAL GARDEN, Volunteer Coordinator, University of California, Centennial Drive, Berkeley, California 94720.

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
(DAY) (EVENING)
Best Time To Reach You _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received: _____
Date Contacted: _____
By Whom: _____
Assigned: _____
Referred to: _____
Other: _____

Welcome New Members

David Allswang
 Donald Angus
 Anna Badger
 Peter Bathen
 Eric Beckwitt
 Barbara Blake
 Len Borg
 Alice Breakstone
 William & Lisa Brinner
 Genevieve Calvin
 Janet Caprile
 Annita Clark
 June Faulkner
 Harold Flesher
 Charles Hartman
 Charles Hassett
 Lawrence Heckard
 Jane Hipple
 George Hohnsbeen
 Kathleen Howard
 Baki Kasapligil
 David S. King
 Thomas Koster
 David & Esther Landis
 Marvin Larson
 Barbara Leighly
 Claire Lewis
 James Lewis
 Sharon Lincourt
 Val Little
 Maureen Lubben
 Marilyn MacGregor
 Gregory Maltby
 Patricia L. Meneghetti
 Forrest Merrill
 Katherine J. McBride
 Joan McClellan
 James E. Ratcliff
 Maurice Rosen
 Michael Rossman
 Jennifer Russell
 Clarence F. Smith
 Nancy B. Smith
 Mark Thompson
 Jinx Tyler
 Albert Wilson

DIRECTOR'S DIARY

by Robert Ornduff

The 13th International Botanical Congress was held in Sydney, Australia, in August, 1981, and I took the opportunity to attend the Congress and see a fair amount of Australia and its plants as well. Prior to the Congress, a colleague from Cal State Hayward and I drove north

from Sydney along the coast to southern Queensland, where we saw more eucalypts than I needed to see, plus cycad "forests" and the interesting coastal heath with its grass trees, banksias, leptospermums, tree ferns, and other shrubs that can also be seen in the garden's Australian collection. The return to Sydney was via an inland route where it was still very early spring, and it was something of a surprise to see daffodils and freesias in flower in late August.

Following the Congress, a Stanford colleague and I flew to Perth in Western Australia, where we rented a car and drove north to Geraldton to see the spring wildflowers which were at their peak. The masses of yellows, pinks, and whites rivalled our own Californian spring wildflower displays. We then drove southward along an interior route, ending up at Albany on the southwestern coast, which we used as a base for visiting the Stirling Range and some of the highest peaks in Western Australia. That range is noted for its colorful banksias, hakeas, and other members of the myrtle and protea families. Whenever seed was available, I collected what I could, and also visited two wildflower nurseries where interest in helping the garden obtain desiderata from the wild was expressed.

The soils over much of Australia are extremely poor, in some cases being concrete-like in texture. In addition, I cannot recall seeing any area of native vegetation without signs of recent fire. The tightly closed fruits of hakeas, melaleucas, callistemons, and banksias all will open when heated and disperse the seeds. Indeed, I was unable to pry open some of these woody cone-like fruits so I brought them home and baked them at 350° in my own oven. After about 15 minutes, the sounds of miniature explosions emanating from the oven indicated that the seeds were being freed. In a few months the offspring from these "baked" seeds will be planted, adding to those Australian plants that we already have in the Garden.

INFORMATION CENTER VOLUNTEERS

The Information Center is staffed by a group of dedicated, informative and friendly volunteers each weekday in the afternoons. They are: Elizabeth Carter, Camille Connery, Paula Dovholuk, Barbara Edmonds, Edna Ellern, Betty Gray, Kate Heckman, Mary Hutton, JoAnn Kendall, Betty Rollins and Marci Thomas. We honor these volunteers for the service they provide for the Garden visitor. On weekends, from 10 to 4:30, the Center is staffed by Bill Cook, a work-study student at the University.

The Center is presently open to visitors from noon until 3 p.m. during the week. We would like to remain open longer hours, though to do so we need additional volunteers. If you would enjoy participating in this valuable public service activity on a regular basis for a few hours every other week or even once a month, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Bernice Kattchee at 642-2084.

The service you will perform is appreciated by the visitors and the Garden. You will greet people as they come into the Information Center, answer their questions regarding tours, programs, etc., tend the plants, sell various materials and books, and the bonus for you, enjoy the wonderful surrounding of the Garden.

TRIBUTES

IN MEMORY OF
 DR. JEANNETTE ABBOTT PAYNE

Pamela & Elmer Grossman

CONTRIBUTIONS OF CASH,
 GOODS, OR SERVICES HAVE
 BEEN RECEIVED FROM THE
 FOLLOWING FRIENDS:

American Heart Association,

Alameda County Chapter

Mrs. H. B. Foster

Duncan & Pat Haynes

Hillside Club

International Succulent Institute

Lewis & Adele Sawyer

Newell Nelson, Jr.

Piedmont Garden Club

Agnes Roddy Robb

Thomas Vanasek

Mr. & Mrs. Nelson S. Weller

Albert Wilson

TOUR PROGRAM

The Garden is open every day from 9:00 AM to 4:45 PM (except Christmas). There is no admission charge to the Garden. Free public tours are given on Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 PM.

Guided tours, for a fee, are available at other times upon request.

Theme tours available upon request are:

California Indian Nature Trail is a walk through the Garden's California Area with a special emphasis on the materials used by Native Californian Indians for food, medicine, fiber and tools.

Plants for Mankind (Economic Tour) includes the Slosson Garden, Herb Garden, and the Tropical House collection. Plants that we use for economic importance are discussed.

The Spring Tour (Feb.-May only) is highlights of the plants that flower this time of the year.

The General Tour is a walk through the Old and New World Deserts, Rhododendron Dell, Slosson Garden, Australian Area and The California Area. Indoor collections can also be viewed.

Reservations are required for all tours and must be made at least 3 weeks in advance.

Tours can be scheduled on:

DAYS

TUESDAY (except first Tuesday of the month)

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

TIME

10:30 AM on Tue., Wed., Thurs., Sat.

1:30 PM on Wed., Fri.

COST

50¢ per person (minimum \$5.00)

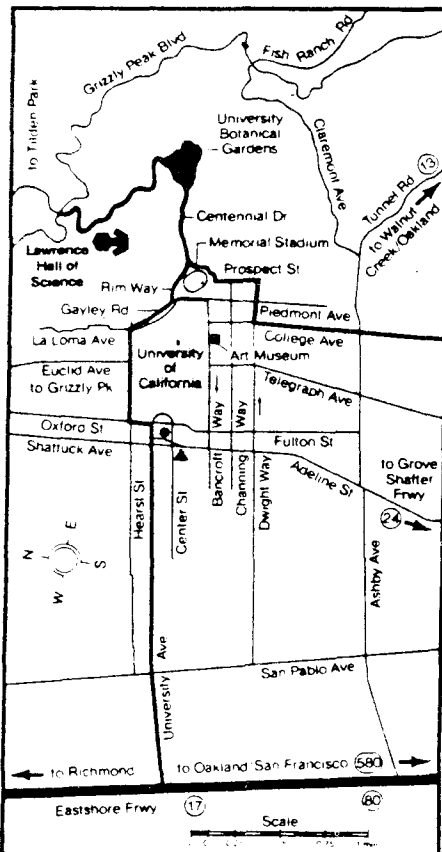
Make check payable to: UC Regents
Mail to:

Tour Scheduler
University of California
Botanical Garden
Centennial Drive
Berkeley, CA 94720

The tour will last for approximately an hour. Wear comfortable and appropriate footwear for unsurfaced garden paths.

Further information can be obtained by calling the Garden. 642-3343 or 642-3352.

The Tour Program welcomed eight new docents in November 1981. Trained by Chris Byal, Education Program Botanist, they are: Ramona Davis, Peggy Donaldson, Polly Feinberg, Robert Lichtenstein, Joye Pregnall, Al Stout, Jacqueline Woodfill and Liz Schumacher.



Legend — Major access routes to Lawrence Hall of Science
● Express Humphrey Go-BART
▲ Berkeley BART Station

UC Berkeley Foundation
Friends of the Botanical Garden
University of California
Berkeley, California 94720

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