

Friends of the Botanical Garden

Newsletter

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY



WINTER 1984

Vol. IX No. 1

Garden Highlights

Winter rains may occasionally dampen spirits but they bring bursts of color back to many areas in the Botanical Garden. Whether you are on the alert for new curiosities or merely anxious for the return of old favorites, February and March are excellent months for a visit.

Aloes highlight the **African collection**. These succulent-leaved members of the Lily family produce showy spikes of brightly-colored, tubular flowers. Flowering with the Aloes are numerous African bulbs as well as several species of *Erica* or Heath. About 450 of the more than 500 species of *Erica* occur in southern Africa, most of them restricted to Cape Province. On the Cape Peninsula alone, an area less than one-third the size of Marin County, there are over 100 species of *Erica*. They are evergreen shrubs with whorls of small, needle-like leaves. The flowers are usually nodding and are either bell-shaped or long and cylindrical.

The **Japanese Pool** is a short distance up the path from the African collection. Many of the Rhododendrons that encircle the pool are in flower during February and March. Many of these are 50-year old giant specimens of rare or unusual species. If you enjoy spectacular displays of color, these are a "must" to see. More than 700 of these 1200 described species of *Rhododendron* occur where the borders of China, Tibet, Burma, and Assam meet. Also in flower in the Asian collection are showy species and hybrids of *Magnolia* and *Camellia*.

Many plants in the **California Native Plant collection** begin to flower in response to the winter rains. This is the best time of year to observe the small but attractive flowers of *Archostaphylos*, the Manzanitas. This woody evergreen genus, which includes species that range from prostrate shrubs to small trees, is a conspicuous element in the California flora. The diversity within the group is well represented in the Botanical Garden collection. Other highpoints in the California area are the curious daisy *Coreopsis gigantea* (beds 5A, 6B) and the mallon *Sidalcea malviflora* (bed 1B). Also note the scented *Erysimum* species (Wallflowers) in cream to orange colors in the coastal habitat beds.

Two new table displays and one closed-case exhibit have recently been set out in the Garden. A table display funded by the Prytanean Alumnae, placed near the entrance to the **Mather Redwood Grove**, discusses the history and ecology of Redwood forests. The Redwood Grove may be closed to visitors due to road construction so you may not be able to examine this display until later in the spring. At the opposite end of the Garden, in the rose section of the **Floriculture Area**, another new table display describes the history of cultivated roses. Representatives of most of the important species and varieties that make up the rose genealogy are growing here. Finally, in the closed case next to the **Tropical House**, is a collection of color photographs with accompanying text that provide a glimpse into the unusual and beautiful world of tropical rain forests.

Garden Notes

The Botanical Garden's Education Program graduated twelve new Docents in December, bringing the total number to 55. The new docents who completed a thirty week training program under the direction of Bernice Katchee are: Marge Brostrom, Christ Broughton, Suzanne Clausen, Addie Collins, Mitch Harvey, Peggy Klentz, Elly Platou, Lisa Pasqualone, Audrey Rodgers, Donna Stoddart, Leland Unsell and Lillian Wu. Thanks to these dedicated volunteers, the Garden will be well prepared for the Spring's full schedule of tours for school children, senior citizens' groups, and other organizations. Congratulations Docents!

The past year marked the start of a new form of public assistance. The Botanical Garden accepted for the first time student help on an internship basis. Students from Diablo Valley College cleared ground and planted a Mexican cloud forest plant community, revitalized the herb garden, and offered general assistance in other areas. One student from Merritt College worked in areas throughout the Garden, and a Dutch post-graduate student, Frank Pagen, assisted in the Garden's curatorial work. All students worked without pay for college credit toward their respective classes.

Other "firsts" were achieved by the Botanical Garden's volunteer propagators. Reorganization of the propagators resulted in a new level of professionalism, more successful sales, and revenues of \$10,500 meeting one-third of the coming fiscal year's budget.

Public support for the Botanical Garden has allowed the staff to make some badly needed improvements. A new handsome footbridge now connects the meeting room with the California Area. The old footbridge had succumbed to decay and the rigors of last winter's high water. A new rock wall, also made possible through donations, is helping to stabilize a slope in the Asian Area which has been subject to land movement and slides.

A special mention of support is owed to the Friends of the Botanical Garden for coming to the Garden's aid in covering the cost of the Botanical Garden's new color brochure, now available in the Information Center. The new year is sure to be a success with the continued help of our friends and our FRIENDS.

The Restoration of the Japanese Pool

The Botanical Garden was the fortunate recipient of the landscape stones and stone lanterns that had once been part of the Japanese Pavilion at the Golden Gate International Exposition of 1939 on Treasure Island. The gift was made possible through the generosity of the Japanese Alumni Association and the Japanese Government. The stones and lanterns were reassembled around a central pool at the Garden by designer-builder Kaneji Domoto. In 1962 a flood of rubble and mud damaged Mr. Domoto's landscape design. Parts of the stone lanterns were salvaged, as were most of the stones which were replaced in their former positions. The pool, however, remains almost completely full of gravel and rubble.

The Japanese pool, placed in a center focus of the Garden, was intended to be regarded as an example of classical and authentic Japanese landscaping. The Botanical Garden endeavors to recapture that initial enthusiasm and focus. The Garden's staff has replanted around the pool, however, major changes involving reconstruction of the pool's bottom can only be accomplished with outside assistance. To restore this historic Japanese pool to a design that reflects the Japanese landscape sensitivities of the original design the Garden needs \$22,115. An initial fund has been set up, and the Garden wishes to thank Prof. and Mrs. Yasundo Takahashi, Mr. Yashshi Sumya of California First Bank, and Mrs. Ai Tsutsumi for the support to initiate this special restoration project. Further contributions are required. Please direct your inquiries to Daniel Campbell (642-3343) or Wendy Mitchell (642-2084).

Volunteers Are Always Welcome

Information Center, plant sales, plant propagation, Garden pruning and weeding, mailings - we have a project that will bring you satisfaction while enjoying the beautiful surroundings of the Botanical Garden.

CALL 642-2084 TO VOLUNTEER

You are invited to become a member of the Friends of the UC Botanical Garden. This organization was developed to provide assistance to the Botanical Garden in improving and extending the plant collections, enriching the education program, and meeting general capital requirements.

Members, in return, are offered special programs on plants and gardening, 20% discount on selected UC Press books (such as *California Spring Wildflowers* by Munz), preview privileges for the

Annual Spring Plant Sale of unique plants from the Garden's collection, and mailings of the Friends Newsletter and seasonal self-guided tours.

Student and Senior Citizen memberships are discounted to \$7.50. Standard dues are \$15 for an individual. The Friends of the Botanical Garden function as a support group under the auspices of the UC Berkeley Foundation, and dues and gifts are tax deductible.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NEW _____ **RENEWAL** _____

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____
 ZIP _____ Phone _____

Student Senior	\$ 7.50	_____
Individual	15.00	_____
Contributing	40.00	_____
Supporting	75.00	_____
Sponsor	150.00	_____
Patron	750.00	_____
Benefactor	1500.00	_____

Make checks payable to: FRIENDS OF THE BOTANICAL GARDEN

Friends of the Botanical Garden, Centennial Drive, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720, WENDY MITCHELL, Editor

Calendar of Events

February 25 Workshop: "Orchids and Bromeliads,"

Saturday, 10 a.m.-noon, Botanical Garden Meeting Room, bring your problem plant, members free, guests \$2, RSVP 642-2084.

March 3 - May 12 Educational Class: "From the Rainforest to Your Living Room,"

Instructor Fred Dortort, noted plant writer and collector. A course about orchids, bromeliads, and other exotic plants including their ecology, classification and culture. The class will include field trips and greenhouse and outdoor explorations. Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon, Botanical Garden Meeting Room, \$35.00 members, \$40.00 non-members, for information call 642-3352.

March 8 Lecture: "Tropical Rainforests: Their Diversity and Destruction" by Cathy Pringle, M.S.,

stream biologist, Thursday, 8 p.m., Life Sciences Building, Room 2003, members free, guests \$2, parking available on campus, RSVP to 642-2084.

April 13 Open House featuring the Rhododendron Dell,

Friday, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., special tours of the Garden.

April 14 Open House featuring the California Area,

Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., special tours of the Garden, workshops, and lectures.

May 12 Friends Preview Plant Sale, Saturday, 10

a.m.-3 p.m., Botanical Garden, new members welcome to join on day of sale.

May 13 Spring Plant Sale, Sunday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.,

Botanical Garden, public welcome.

May 13 Bay Area Museum Sunday Sunday, 12 noon-4 p.m.,

the Botanical Garden participates in Museum Sunday by highlighting the California Area with special tours.

May 18, 19, 20 Symposium: "Old Roses,"

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, call 642-3343 or 642-3352 for information.

June 3 Alstroemeria Wine Tasting Festival,

Sunday, 1-3 p.m., a selected tasting of new releases from ten premium California wineries, special events, music, appetizers, \$15.00 donation per person. The Botanical Garden will be closed to the public that afternoon.

June 30 Welcome Event For New Members,

Saturday, 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Botanical Garden Meeting Room, behind the scene tour of the Garden.

86 New Members

A hearty welcome to all new members. We are delighted to have you and hope you will enjoy your association with the Friends of the UC Botanical Garden. Welcome. Special thanks to the 63 people who renewed their memberships.

Robert Allen, Jane Andrews, Karen Andrews, Alice Beall, Marie Bailey, Mary Ann Balian, Mrs. Harmon Bell, Dennis Breedlove, Bill Brobisky, Keith Cahoon, E.B. Cain, California Flora Nursery, Noelle Caskey, Tony Childress, Britt Chilton, Mr. and Mrs. Albert G. Churchill, Victoria Collins, Robert E. Connick, Mrs. Paul H. Cronenwett, Anna Crossley, Greta Devan, Juanita Doran, Fred Dortort, Janet A. Ewing, Maribeth Halloran Firmin, Anne Fletcher, Hilary Forbes, T.J. Fountain, Anna Maria Galdieri, Mrs. A.F. Graupner, Jr., Laura F. Haggard, Mary K. Hamajl, Virginia Hanger, William R. Harlow, Rosemary Haste-Wright, Mrs. Alfred Higashi, Judy Houck, Mrs. W.C. Hubbard, John Huddleston, Mrs. Arabelle M. Hufbauer, Yoneko Iwata, Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Jameson, Mrs. Florence Jensen, Lauren Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. T.R. Jones, Inge Kahn, Jeff Kaltenbach, Annette Kindred, Henrietta Kleinschmidt, Martin Kramer, Moria Lawlor, Mrs. Rosemary Levenson, Beverly Libane, Jeannie Lum, Rosalind Meisel, Garold Melton, Kent F. McCue, Gloria Novak, Connie Odegard, Jana K. Olson, Therese Patwell, Cheri Pies-Campbell, Audrey Powers, Penny Raikes, Kathleen Rickerd, Kerrie Rine, Robert Robichaux, Helena W. Ruben, Andrew Sachere, Mrs. Geraldine Knight Scott, Carol Simmons, Leone B. Skinner, Kathy Spalding, Jim Spaulding, Leona Shapiro, Stephen Suzman, Jennifer Talbot, Elise Teagle, Sherwood A. Wakeman, Anne E. Wallace, Ann Weiss, Lindsay Wheeler, Anna Wiener, Aaron Wildarski, Bill and Roz Winkelholz, Amy R. Worth, Pauline Yelez

The Friends and the Garden Staff wish to express their gratitude to the following contributors who responded so quickly and so generously to the needs of the garden this winter:

Dr. John Adams, Jean Allen, Marie Bailey, Mollie A. Balamuth, Mr. and Mrs. Harmon C. Bell, James Benet, Berkeley Garden Club, Ethel Blumann, Jean Claire Bowman, Janet J. Breuner, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Brewer, Gregory Bridwell, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence V. Brooks, Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Brown, A.W. Childs, Michael and Judy Ciruolo, Mr. and Mrs. James O. Clayton, Ruth H. Coe, Jane S. Coney, Robert E. Connick, Rosamond S. Day, Mr. and Mrs. John Erdelatz, Polly Feinberg, Walter J. Freeman, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Goetsch, Reason A. Goodwin, Carl Hanscam, Mr. and Mrs. S.F. Hammond, Jr., Mitchell Harvey, Virginia W. Havens, Margaret P. Hayakawa, Betty Hirschfield, G. Gay Huffman, Mr. and Mrs. John Kadyk, Dorothy Besuden Keller, Dorothy M. Kesseli, David Shaw King, Henrietta Kleinschmidt, Stella May Knouse, Miss Rita Kossuth, Mrs. Karoline D. Laib, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis O. Lawyer, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Lichtenstein, Hazel C. Lowry, Mr. and Mrs. George J. Maslach, Sophie Meier, John Mercer, James Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Newell Nelson, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. C.R. Nicewonger, Consuelo Odegard, Roberta Ormaas, Mary Charles Page, Roberta R. Palmer, Piedmont Garden Club, Mr. and Mrs. Rene R. Polard, Ronald G. Prather, Mr. and Mrs. Robert V. Pyle, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Power, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Rosenblatt, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Rosenmeyer, Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon Rothblatt, Lloyd B. Ryland, Nancy Sale, Dana E. Sambor, Elaine M. Sedlack, Mr. and Mrs. Ronald K. Sipherd, Carl and Grace Smith, Jane Spelman, Caroline Spiller, George and Helene Strauss, Ted Tawshunsky, Mary E. Thille, Edward Torres, Mr. and Mrs. Paul C. Watt, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Melvin M. Webber, Jeanette Young

Contributions of Cash, Goods, or Services Have Been Received From the Following Friends:

Bill Beiriger, Janet S. Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Churchill, Vicki Collins, Mr. Crissman, Caroline M. Dieterle, Judith Finn, Mr. and Mrs. Lester E. Hartman, Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Haynes, Lilian Henningsen, Lori K. Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Johnston, James Jones, Miss Henrietta Kleinschmidt, Adele S. Lawyer, Mr. and Mrs. Carl F. Miescke, Mrs. Emily Nelson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Newell Nelson, Jr., Mrs. Geraldine Knight Scott, Bob Squire, Jim Van Sicklen, Alan Shimizu, Virginia Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. Tomas Vanasek, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson S. Weller, Harry R. Wellman, Ben Wrighton

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In Memory of Stephen Stewart

Eva and Tom Hartwell

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Friends of the Botanical Garden
University of California
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