Garden Highlights

African Collection: Early spring is the best time for masses of color in this area. Currently in flower are drifts of daisy flowers such as, Arctotis acaulis and Dimorphotheca species. Many succulent plants of Aloe species are also in flower with a profusion of orange to yellow spikes of rich color. Also of note are numerous flowering bulbs and the shrubs of Erica species (South African Heathers).

Asian Collection: Many species and hybrids of Rhododendrons’ and Magnolias are now in flower.

South American Collection: It is the wrong time of year for a floral display of southern hemisphere plants but a few species of note are gamely in flower. Look for orange flowered shrubs of Berberis darwinii (bed 600) and the scarlet trumpets of Brugmansia (Datura) sanguinea.

Australian Collection: As with the other southern hemisphere collections, the Australian collection has entered a dormant phase. An exception of note is the vivid purple flowered, climbing, evergreen pea, Hardenbergia comptoniana (bed 509).

Herb Garden: U.C. Berkeley’s colors are the random result of early spring flowering herbs such as the orange composite Calendula officinalis (Pot marigold) and the blues of Rosmarinus officinalis (Rosemary) and Borago officinalis (Borage).

California Native Collection: Many California wildflowers have come into flower, too numerous to mention. However, do note the scented Erromum species (Wallflowers) in cream to orange colors in the coastal habitat beds. Also a must are the native flowering bulbs in bed 23.

Mexican Collection: Most of the flowering plants in the Mexican area behave as though they were from the southern hemisphere and flower during our autumn and winter. Still in flower and worth observing is the large flowered Salvia gesnerifolia with red flowers cupped with black calyces. Other species are in flower as well and are also well worth seeing. As attractive as these Mexican Salvias are in flower, the flowers do not compensate for the open coarseness of their growth.

Garden Notes

The Botanical Garden is pleased to announce an addition to its staff. James M. Affolter, who is just completing requirements for the Ph.D. at the Univ. of Michigan, will join the staff in April as Senior Museum Scientist. Jim, a graduate of Williams College, in 1973 received a Thomas J. Watson Foundation fellowship that enabled him to spend seven months in South America retracing Darwin’s travels on the BEAGLE, followed by several months of study of Darwin’s papers at Cambridge Univ. In 1980 he was the recipient of the Lawrence Memorial Award, which he used for field work in Australia and Japan in connection with his thesis study. Upon completion in early December, they will become docents and will start giving tours in January 1984.

As of the first week in March the Botanical Garden had just under forty inches of rain and was thoroughly soaked. Fortunately, there were no new slides this season although the overpass to the Lawrence Hall of Science was still moving and causing distortion and uplifting in the Mather Grove. In spite of all the rain, Spring’s approach is firmly announced by a profusion of flowers throughout the Garden. Do come for a visit to enjoy the color, but don’t forget your raincoat.

Alwine Van Allen Memorial

Dear friends and associates of Mrs. Alwine Van Allen, long time Berkeley resident and pioneer in the field of virology and ricketsiology, have recently established the Alwine Van Allen Memorial Scholarship Fund at the UC Botanical Garden in order to provide an internship for a student resource person at the Garden on weekends. Mrs. Van Allen was a graduate of the UC Berkeley School of Public Health and a retired supervising microbiologist of the California State Health Department. She was an inspiration to many microbiologists as they trained in the new developing field of diagnostic virology.

Mrs. Van Allen was an avid gardener with a knowledge and love of plants. Her father was a landscape architect and designed the grounds and gardens of the beautiful Hillside Cemetery in Plainsfield, New Jersey where she walked as a child. That may have been the beginning of her interest in flowers. She spent many hours in her own lovely garden as well as the UC Botanical Garden.

Memorial tributes have been received from: Mr. and Mrs. Francis Abinanti, Lucy E. French, Shirley J. Hagens, Helen H. Ho, Florence W. Jensen, Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Ota and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Stevens.

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George Hohnbeen II
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Jim succeeds Dr. Bruce Bartholomew, who has accepted a position as Collections Manager in the Botany Department of the California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.

With spring approaching, the volunteer propagators are working at a feverish pace preparing for the Plant Sale Festival in May. In addition to the usual variety of rare and exotic plant species available for sale, many rare, specimen-size fruit trees recently removed from the Plants for Mankind orchard will also be for sale. A partial list of species that will be for sale on May 6 and 7 will be published in the Newsletter in April. The propagators also collected plant cuttings for a manufacturer of natural products to be used as reference material; an activity which netted $100 for the Garden.

The Education Program has accepted 27 trainees for the Tour Guide Program with instruction in botany and ecology starting on February 7 on the Berkeley campus. After 14 weeks of intensive classroom instruction, the trainees will take a summer break and then return to the Garden in August to continue their training.

Upon completion in early December, they will become docents and will start giving tours in January 1984.

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- Camille Connery
- Wallace Evans
- Florence Holmes
- George Hohnsbreen II
- James Jones
- Lafayette Garden Club
- Laird, Norton Foundation
- Kenneth S. Mohler
- Mr. and Mrs. W. Newell Nelson
- Minnie Niederost
- Gene Noel
- James and Terri Olsen
- Piedmont Garden Club
- Agnes Robb
- James Robinetti
- Susan Rogers
- Michel Rousslin
- Dana Sambor
- William Scogland
- Mr. and Mrs. S.C. Skelly
- Mark Allen Snyder
- Mr. and Mrs. Nelson S. Weller
- Mr. and Mrs. Bernard E. Witkin
- Ben Wrighton
- Thomas Vanasek
Advance Notice of Garden Events

April 9, 1983
University of California, Berkeley Open House
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Selected tours of the Garden and glass houses, displays and representations of different botanical artists from the Bay Area, lectures and demonstrations, special events, and special sale of plants at the Information Center.

May 6, 1983
Friend's Preview Plant Sale
6 - 8 p.m.
Dwight-Hillside Playing Field
Wine and Cheese Benefit
New members welcome to join

May 7, 1983
Plant Sale Festival
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Dwight-Hillside Playing Field
Plants, artisans and crafts

May 8, 1983
Bay Area Museum Sunday
Selected tours of the Garden and glass houses. Opening ceremonies of Floriculture Area, 1 p.m.

Wendy Mitchell, Editor
NEW MEMBERS

A hearty welcome to all new members. We are delighted to have you and hope you will enjoy association with the Friends of the UC Botanical Garden. Welcome. Special thanks to the 58 people who renewed their memberships.

Mike Bade
Sarah Bade
Al N. Banks
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Benner
Edward Bielski
Dorothy Biggs
Wilma D. Brewer
Greg Brown
Janet and Gary Brown
Keith Cahoon
Estol Carte
Ani Chamichian
Joan Cohn
Virginia Cole
Mrs. Donald Cope
Antoni Corelli
Elizabeth Dante
Warren J. Dolby
Marc Donsky
Timothy Duran
Wallace Evans
Toni Fauver
Karen Gardner
Noel Gieleghem
K. Stacy Giles
Robin Glascock
Frances Grate
Mrs. Rohilah Guy
Tom Hoffman
Florence C. Holmes
Joan Kibbey

Helen Kuhne
Maggie Leighly
Robert and Caroline Lichtenstein
Marianne Loring
Roy Mayeda
Nancy McGraw
Greg Michaelson
David Miller
Dr. and Mrs. Donald Minkler
Christy Nelson
Minnie Niederost
Gene Noel
James and Teri Olsen
Col. Harry Parham
Lois Peterson
Neil and Susan Polans
Ricardo
Michel Rousselin
Pearl Ruch
Barbara Schoonover
William A. Scogland
Pamela Sher
Marcia Southward
Warren Ticknor
Paul Timiras
Lynne Tingle
Mickey von Rydingsvard
Hunter Wallof
Matthew J. Williams
Ben Wrighton