

Members-Only Plant Sale To Honor Our Best “Friends” –for 40 Years!

Margaret Kralovec, Community Outreach Manager

Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum celebrates a milestone



Carmia Feldman

Mary Patterson, former president and current secretary of the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum (in apron), helps shoppers locate the right plants for their garden conditions at a Fall 2010 plant sale. The March 12 Members-Only Plant Sale will celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum.

The year 2011 marks the 40th anniversary of the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum. For the past 40 years, members have given their all—time, energy, money, and enthusiasm—to support UC Davis Arboretum’s development into a world-class botanical treasure for the university as well as for the public. The Arboretum’s programming, staffing, and plant collections would not have been possible without this support.

Everyone is invited to celebrate this milestone at the Members-Only Plant Sale, Saturday, March 12, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Arboretum Teaching Nursery. There will be refreshments and a free plant for every member who attends (one per membership), and of course, members always get a 10% discount on plants. If you are not yet a Friend, you may join at the gate. Membership information is also available on our website, arboretum.ucdavis.edu, or at (530) 752-4880.

The Friends-run plant sales have a long history. In 1973, the Friends held a small iris sale to raise funds for the Arboretum. They dug up iris corms from the Arboretum, set up a table in Central Park, and sold them for ten cents

each, raising \$206 the first day. In 1975, they launched the annual Plant Faire. Since then, Arboretum plant sales have grown into a widely-anticipated series of events that attract the interest of customers throughout Northern California and beyond. These sales allow Arboretum horticulturists to distribute beautiful, environmentally-friendly landscaping plants to the public. They also provide an important source of operational funding for the Arboretum. In 2009, the Friends organization was recognized by the University as a Chancellor’s Laureate for donating over \$1 million in accumulated gifts to the Arboretum.

Our 2011 spring plant sales will promote a broad selection of native and regionally-appropriate plants, many of which are Arboretum All-Stars, a tested group of 100 reliable, easy-to-grow plants for most California climate zones. This spring, we will feature the Santa Margarita foothill penstemon (*Penstemon heterophyllus* ‘Margarita B.O.P.’), a beautiful native penstemon well suited to a garden environment. You can learn more about ‘Margarita B.O.P.’ and other Arboretum All-Stars on our website, arboretum.ucdavis.edu.

SPRING PLANT SALES

Saturday, March 12

Members-Only Sale 9 AM–1 PM

April 2, April 30, May 14

Public Sales 9 AM–1 PM

Arboretum Teaching Nursery

Look for These Outstanding Plants at the Arboretum's Spring Plant Sales

HONEY FLOWER

Melianthus major

Stem Sheibs



This eye-catching shrub reaches eight feet and has large, blue-gray, toothed leaves. In later winter the “honey”-coated, foot-tall, maroon flower spikes attract song birds. Your neighbors will all be asking, “What is that plant?”

MOCHA CORAL BELLS

Heuchera ‘Mocha’

Beth Gale



This vigorous new cultivar has large, chocolate-brown, almost-black leaves and is topped with cream-colored flowers in late summer. It is more sun tolerant than other coral bells, thanks to its *H. villosa* parentage, but still prefers afternoon shade and regular water.

SANTA MARGARITA FOOTHILL PENSTEMON

Penstemon heterophyllus ‘Margarita B.O.P.’

Nikhil Joshi



This fantastic California native plant is also a UC Davis Arboretum All-Star. From spring through fall, unique flower buds start golden yellow, open to bright blue and then change to a pinkish-purple. It is more garden friendly than most native penstemons and thrives with good drainage, low water and full sun.

CUT-LEAF LILAC

Syringa × laciniata

Lauren Broersma



This winter-deciduous UC Davis Arboretum All-Star shrub has a nice open form and attractive, lacy foliage. Classically fragrant, lavender flowers cover the plant in spring. It is one of the few lilacs that thrives in the Central Valley.

PURPLE SPOT MOCK ORANGE

Philadelphus ‘Belle Etoile’

Emily Griswold



This UC Davis Arboretum All-Star, a deciduous shrub, reaches six feet tall and has a lovely vase-shaped form. White flowers with small purple dots and a rich, fruity fragrance adorn the plant in late spring and glow in the moonlight.

—Beth Gale, Nursery Manager

NATIONAL LEADERSHIP ROLES FOR ARBORETUM STAFF

Diane Cary, Communications Director

Arboretum staff have been making their mark nationwide. Brian Morgan, GIS manager, and Curator Mia Ingolia gave a GIS training workshop for 30 public garden professionals in October at the Center for Public Horticulture at the University of Delaware. The hands-on class prepared public garden staff from around the country to use GIS (Geographic Information Systems) for plant conservation, collection planning, and tree assessment, as well to engage visitors, answer questions, and share data to advance the mission of the garden. The workshop was videotaped to create an online training program.

Director of Horticulture Ellen Zagory, Curator Mia Ingolia, and GATEways Horticulturist Ryan Deering met with Master Gardener coordinators, Extension advisers, and associated faculty and staff from all over the country, who were attending a national meeting at UC Davis in October. They discussed the Arboretum

Marcy Hochman



Curator Mia Ingolia leads a tour of the Storer Garden for State Master Gardener Coordinators from all over the country.

All-Stars program and gave a guided tour of the Arboretum Teaching Nursery, Peter J. Shields Oak Grove, Carolee Shields White Flower Garden, and Ruth Ridson Storer Garden.

Superintendent Emeritus and Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum Board member Warren G. Roberts was awarded honorary membership in the Garden Writers of America and traveled to Texas to accept the award at the GWA annual meeting in September. Warren was honored for his extensive plant knowledge and many years of experience testing and evaluating plants at the UC Davis Arboretum.

Kathleen Socolofsky, Arboretum director, is currently serving a six-year term on the Visiting Committee of Longwood Gardens in Kennet Square, PA and as the Vice-Chair of the Center for Public Horticulture, University of Delaware. Mary Burke, director of planning and collections, is the chair of the Information Technology Professional Section for the American Public Gardens Association. Emily Griswold, assistant director of horticulture, is the curator of the Multi-site Oak Collection for the North American Plant Collections Consortium.

COMMUNITY SERVICE IN THE ARBORETUM

Diane Cary, Communications Director

Building on our strong support in the community and the region, the UC Davis Arboretum hosted two local organizations this past October for community service work days.

Davis-based AgraQuest, a company that produces biopesticides and innovative technologies for sustainable agriculture, celebrated its 15th anniversary on October 6 by putting some muscle into its commitment to the local community and the environment. More than 100 employees spent the day building a new trail in the Shields Oak Grove, at the west end of the Arboretum.



Emily Griswold

Be sure to visit the new trail in the Shields Oak Grove built by AgraQuest employees.



of the oaks is astonishing—mature specimens range in size from 10 to 90 feet tall, with leaves and acorns of all shapes and sizes. The project is part of an ongoing effort to make the riches of the Shields Oak Grove more accessible to students, teachers, researchers, and other visitors, and to conserve this important biological collection.

Over the last few years, the Arboretum has been developing visitor-friendly educational features in Shields Oak Grove, with accessible trails, native understory plantings to improve bird and insect habitat, interpretive signs, an audio tour, scientific plant labels, and a gathering area at the entrance to the grove.

The UC Davis Art-Science Fusion Program has collaborated with the Arboretum to develop some striking works of art in the oak grove, including the “Oak Family Tree” ceramic mosaic mural. More recently, students and community volunteers created a series of 35 ceramic mosaic tree plaques picturing insects and other animals from each oak’s native habitat. The plaques are available for dedication—see page 5. The ceramic oak leaves created by AgraQuest employees will decorate a curving seat wall and add another creative, playful element to the visitor experience in the oak grove.

We invite you to visit Shields Oak Grove to enjoy these recent enhancements as well as the magnificent trees. For a map of the Oak Grove, visit arboretum.ucdavis.edu and click on Education and Research/Plant Collections.

THINKING GLOBALLY, ACTING LOCALLY

The AgraQuest volunteers spread and compacted 50 cubic yards of decomposed granite to surface the new Oak Diversity Trail in the Arboretum’s Shields Oak Grove. They also sculpted and painted oak leaves on decorative ceramic tiles for a mosaic bench near the trail.

“We share a common commitment to the natural world with the UC Davis Arboretum and want to help assure the continued prosperity of such a beautiful and significant community asset,” said AgraQuest CEO Marcus Meadows-Smith. “We are honored that we can be part of the Arboretum’s long history of community support.”

In addition to the hard work of its employees, the company also made a financial donation for materials for the project.

“We had the vision and the plan, but we didn’t have the staff or the funding to make it happen,” said Emily Griswold, assistant director of horticulture at the Arboretum. “The contribution from AgraQuest, both the volunteer labor and the financial gift, made it possible.”

The quarter-mile trail leads visitors through oaks from different habitats around the world, ranging from Mediterranean woodlands and Meso-American cloudforests to Texas desert scrub and Asian temperate forests. The variety

CAL AGGIE WORK DAY—GIVING BACK TO CAMPUS



Toni Alejandria

Student Alumni Association volunteers

retum Teaching Nursery to the Nature’s Gallery Court site. Then they enjoyed a special tour of the demonstration plantings at the Nursery and lunch in the garden. This community service event was sponsored by the Davis Alumni Network and the Student Alumni Association.

If your group would like to explore a community service work project in the Arboretum, please contact Margaret Kralovec, community outreach manager, at makralovec@ucdavis.edu or (530) 752-1404.

Volunteers from the Cal Aggie Alumni Association participated in an Arboretum Work Day on September 12. They planted more than 400 plants in an Arboretum All-Stars demonstration garden along the new sidewalk that connects the Arboretum Teaching Nursery to the Nature’s Gallery Court site.

Gabby Battista



▲ Foreground from left: Stephanie Hankinson (Nurse) listens intently to Gia Battista (Juliet) in the Davis Shakespeare Ensemble's premier production of *ROMEO AND JULIET* at the Arboretum's Gazebo, co-sponsored by the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum. Background from left: Ian Walters (Romeo) and Kristopher Ide (Friar Lawrence).

Elaine Fingerett



▲ Chumash healer Cecilia Garcia (above) and USC Pharmacy Professor James Adams engaged the audience in a spirited discussion at a **SCIENCE CAFÉ** event on Chumash Traditional Medicinal Uses of California Plants.

Elaine Fingerett



▲ Poets Susan Kelly-DeWitt and Chicano/a Studies faculty member Xico Gonzales read from their work for the **POETRY IN THE GARDEN** series at the Arboretum's Wyatt Deck.

Carmia Feldman



Aaron Port



Elaine Fingerett



Student musical groups such as the Samba School (in green shirts, above) and Gamelan Ensemble entertained the crowd. Students in Professor David Grenke's dance class performed an Arboretum-inspired dance (dancer in white shirt, above left) to music composed by graduate student Ching-Yi Wang and students in Professor Lucy Gough's drama course read monologues inspired by the Arboretum. Iranian guest artist Raheleh "Minoosh" Zomorodina, along with students in Professor Robin Hill's art class, created a quilt (above) made from natural materials collected in the Arboretum, while Professor Hearne Pardee and a student in his plein air painting class painted the work as part of the Arboretum landscape.

Carmia Feldman

Elaine Fingerett



▲ From left, English Dept. faculty members Yiyun Li (a 2010 MacArthur "Genius" Award recipient) and Lucy Corin, and graduate student Julia Halprin-Jackson, at the 4th annual **OPENING NIGHT: Readings by UC Davis Creative Writing Faculty**, at the Arboretum's Wyatt Deck.

FRIENDS' ANNUAL APPEAL WILL SUPPORT NATURE EDUCATION

Suzanne Ullensvang, Resource Development Manager

In this age of smart phones, social media and “screen time” do you think it’s still important for young people to have places to explore and connect with nature? We do, and you can help!

A core part of the Arboretum’s mission is environmental education, not only for students on campus but also for children and families from the region. The gardens are an inviting place to touch a tree, admire a hummingbird, learn about water-thrifty plants and so much more. School tours, family events and children’s activities are all part of the Arboretum’s array of kid-friendly programs.

Please show your support for this important work through a gift to the annual appeal of the Friends of the Arboretum. Your donation directly supports the family education programs happening this year... and the gardens that are free and always open to the public.

Why do the Friends ask for your help with this once-a-year appeal, over and above the dues you pay to be a member of the Friends? The Arboretum is a regional resource connecting campus with community; it depends on investment from both the University and people in the community who love the gardens. University funding covers less than half of the Arboretum’s operating budget each year—much of the rest comes from generous individuals like you.

Now is the time when the Friends ask you to do your part. Mail a gift today in the enclosed envelope to help support educational programs for children and families in the Arboretum. Whether it’s \$5, \$50, \$500 or more, your contribution makes a difference. You’ll feel good knowing you’ve helped kids and families connect with nature.

Thank you to the donors who have already contributed to this year’s appeal.

NEW! MOSAIC TREE PLAQUE DEDICATIONS AVAILABLE

Looking for an exceptional gift or a unique way to honor a loved one? Consider dedicating a mosaic tree plaque in the Peter J. Shields Oak Grove.

UC Davis students and community members worked with the Art-Science Fusion Program to create beautiful mosaic tree plaques for 35 oak trees along the paths. Each plaque is a striking portrait of an oak tree, bringing alive the story of its unique leaves, acorns, bark and the animals that share its life.



Above: Mosaic tree plaques in the Oak Grove spark young visitors’ imagination. Plaques are available for dedication. Right: Arboretum Ambassadors provide hands-on environmental education for children and families.

In the short time the plaques have been in the Oak Grove, we’ve already seen how children’s imaginations are sparked by the whimsical portrayals of jays, deer, and insects that live with and on the oaks. The plaques have already become a treasured and anticipated feature of the stately grove and the Arboretum’s educational programs.

Each beautiful and distinctive tree plaque is available for dedication for \$1,500. Dedicating a tree plaque along the new Oak Discovery Trail supports the Arboretum’s education programs for children and families, including our partnership with the Art-Science Fusion Program. Donors will receive special recognition in the Oak Grove.

There are also a limited number of plant and insect tiles still available for dedication in the Nature’s Gallery Court mural being installed this year in a site between the Oak Grove and Arboretum Teaching Nursery.



Photos by Carmia Feldman

To learn more about all of these special dedication opportunities, please visit dedications.ucdavis.edu or contact Suzanne Ullensvang at (530) 752-8324 or sullensvang@ucdavis.edu.

THE ARBORETUM ONLINE

If you would like to receive periodic updates about Arboretum events and other news by email, visit our website at arboretum.ucdavis.edu to sign up for our email newsletter, *The Leaflet*. Or you can send an email to arboretum@ucdavis.edu with Leaflet in the subject line.

Another good way to keep up is to follow the Arboretum on Facebook—search for The UC Davis Arboretum. Director of Horticulture Ellen Zagory maintains the site and posts frequent updates on her favorite plants.

One more fun online learning opportunity: if you visit www.yourgardenshow.com and search for “Storer Garden” you can watch a great short video with Superintendent Emeritus Warren Roberts showing some Arboretum All-Stars, our top recommended plants for California gardens.

UC DAVIS ARBORETUM

CALENDAR OF EVENTS WINTER 2011

Arts & Letters

TWELFTH NIGHT

Thursday–Sunday, January 13–16
and January 20–23

8 p.m., Gazebo

Tickets: \$12 adults; \$8 students;
\$5 children 12 and under

Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and the Davis Shakespeare Ensemble present *Twelfth Night*, Shakespeare's most musical play as well as greatest comedy, directed by Rob Salas.

The production will feature a live rock band playing original pieces, with music directed by UC Davis Alumnus Dave Moschler. To reserve tickets or for more information, email davis.shakespeare@gmail.com or call (760) 310-0323.

FOLK MUSIC JAM SESSIONS

Alternate Fridays: January 7, 21,
February 4, 18, March 4, 18
12–1 p.m., Wyatt Deck

Folk musicians are invited to bring their acoustic instruments—fiddles, guitars, banjos, mandolins, squeeze boxes, you name it—and play together informally over the lunch hour. All skill levels are welcome, and listeners are invited.

(530) 752-4880

arboretum.ucdavis.edu

Family Programs

Storytime Through the Seasons UNDER THE PERSIAN OAK

Sunday, January 30, 2–4 p.m., Gazebo
(Rain Location: 146 Environmental Horticulture)

Children and families are invited to join us for a free outdoor reading program exploring the natural and cultural world of the Middle East. Discover the diversity of oaks through hands-on activities. All ages are welcome. Sponsored by the Arboretum Ambassadors with a grant from Target.

NATIVE CALIFORNIAN ELDERBERRY FLUTE-MAKING WORKSHOP

Sunday, February 6, 1–3 p.m.
146 Environmental Horticulture

In this free two-hour workshop you will learn how to make a Native Californian elderberry flute from East Bay Regional Parks docent Antonio Flores. Antonio will talk about the culture of flute-making and the endangered elderberry beetle, and teach us how to play our flutes. All materials will be supplied. Please bring a sharpened pocket knife. All ages are invited. Adults will need to supervise their young children.

Storytime Through the Seasons EXPEDITION TO AFRICA

Sunday, March 6, 2–4 p.m., Arboretum Headquarters
(Rain Location: 146 Environmental Horticulture)

Take a safari to Africa with this free outdoor reading program for children and families. Explore the stories and nature of Africa in the Acacia Grove. All ages are welcome. Sponsored by the Arboretum Ambassadors with a grant from Target.

Guided Tours

No charge, no reservation required

WALK WITH WARREN

Wednesday, January 12, noon, Gazebo

WALK WITH WARREN

Wednesday, February 9, noon, Gazebo

ACACIA GROVE IN BLOOM

Saturday, February 26, 2 p.m.
Arboretum Headquarters

PLANT SALE PREVIEW

Saturday, March 5, 2 p.m.
Arboretum Teaching Nursery

WALK WITH WARREN

Wednesday, March 9, noon
Arboretum Headquarters

SPRING IN THE NATIVE PLANT GARDEN

Saturday, March 19, 2 p.m.
Buehler Alumni & Visitors Center

PLANT SALE PREVIEW

Saturday, March 26, 2 p.m.
Arboretum Teaching Nursery

Members-Only Plant Sale

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of
Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum

Saturday, March 12, 9 a.m.–1 p.m.
Arboretum Teaching Nursery

Members only—join at the door
All members receive a free plant!

Get first choice of our spring sale plants, including Arboretum All-Stars and other great plants for Central Valley gardens! Enjoy music, refreshments, and children's activities. Expert garden advice available. Bring your member card or join at the door for 10% member discount. Free parking in Visitor Lot 55.



Donations August–October 2010

We extend our sincere gratitude to these donors

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Davis Klezmer Orchestra
Hedgerow Farms
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From the Director



Dear Friends,

The year 2011 marks the 40th anniversary of the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum. An informal group of friends actually existed as early as 1960, but the organization became an official campus support group in 1971, when UC Davis dealt with state budget cuts in part by eliminating funding for the Arboretum. The Friends quickly organized to lobby for reinstating the funding and to develop new funding strategies. They mobilized tremendous campus and community support, and the following year's campus budget included renewed state funding for the Arboretum.

That was just the beginning. The Friends began raising funds through membership dues and plant sales, and volunteered their time in the gardens, the nursery, and the office. They began offering guided tours of the collections and environmental education programs for school classes. They advocated for the Arboretum on campus and in the community.

For the past 40 years, the Arboretum has depended on the support of the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum to keep moving forward. In 2009, the Friends organization was recognized by the University as a Chancellor's Laureate for donating over \$1 million in accumulated gifts to the Arboretum. We thank you all for your dedication and commitment.

The Members-Only Plant Sale on March 12 will be a celebration of the 40th anniversary. Everyone is invited—if you're not a member yet, you can join at the gate to enjoy a 10% member discount, a free plant, and the party! See page 1 for details.

In addition to our loyal Friends, we have worked with some amazing community partners this year. I'd especially like to thank AgraQuest and the Cal Aggie Alumni Association. You can read about their projects on page 3, and then go visit the new trail in the Shields Oak Grove and the new Arboretum All-Stars demonstration planting at the Teaching Nursery, built by hard-working volunteers from those organizations.

I also want to thank everyone who has donated to our annual appeal. If you have not yet had a chance to donate, you can learn about an exciting new dedication opportunity—ceramic mosaic tree plaques in Shields Oak Grove—on page 5.

Be sure to visit the Arboretum in winter to enjoy seasonal highlights like colorful berries, beautiful bark, migrating birds, and winter-blooming shrubs. I'd also like to invite you to participate in our winter programs—see the calendar on page 6.

I wish you the best for the new year and, as always, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Kathleen