



UCRBG Newsletter

ONLINE SPRING PLANT SALE

Members - Saturday, April 2, 6 am - midnight

Public - Sunday, April 3, 6 am - midnight

By Janine Almanzor

For nearly half a century the UCR Botanic Gardens has been holding Spring Plant Sales. Although it won't be in-person this spring, this year marks its 49th year! What began as a small in-place sale to make some money from extra plants propagated for the collection turned into a huge endeavor attracting about 4,000 customers. We continue to sell plants propagated from our collection by dedicated volunteers directed by UCRBG Horticulturist, Lois Whyde. This spring we will offer a variety of shrubs, trees, vines, shade plants, cacti/succulents, house/patio plants and California native plants.

With climate change in mind, I have highlighted here plants from Australia and California. Southwestern Australia has a Mediterranean climate similar to southern California, so plants from that region are water efficient and perform well here. All will need sites with good drainage.

Kangaroo paws (*Anigozanthos*) - We have dwarf forms of this water efficient perennial with deep green, sword-shaped leaves and long-lasting spikes of velvety flowers that will attract hummingbirds. Red, orange, and yellow flowered plants will be available.



Australian flame tree (*Brachychiton acerifolius*) - This spectacular, nearly evergreen, large tree (30 to 50 ft.) has a thick, smooth trunk and a dense head of large, shiny, lobed leaves. The small red flowers are borne in red-stemmed, coral-like clusters in leafless portions of the tree. This tree is native to eastern Australia and has low water needs.

Australian fuchsia (*Correa*) - Two very attractive selections will be offered. **'Dusky Bells'** is a low shrub/tall groundcover to about 2 feet high and 3 feet wide with rich olive green, sandpapery leaves and bell-shaped, rosy-red flowers over a long winter season. **C. pulchella 'Pink Eyre'** is a compact shrub to about 3 feet high and wide with shiny, dark green leaves and an abundance of 3/4 inch bell-shaped, rose-pink flowers from winter to spring.



Mingenew Gold emu bush

Emu bush (*Eremophila*) - We will have several types of emu bush for sale. **Mingenew Gold emu bush** (*E. glabra* 'Mingenew Gold') grows to about 1-foot-high and spreads 9-12 feet with narrow, bright green leaves and tubular, yellow flowers with protruding stamens produced much of the year. **Red rod emu bush** (*E. calorhabdos*) is an unusual shrub to 8 feet tall with upright stalks from a single stem with gray-green oblong

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Director's Report - Dr. Jodie Holt



Change has become a way of life, including at the UCR Botanic Gardens. When I began my tenure as Director 5.75 years ago the staff and I created our vision for the Gardens, our mission, and goals going forward. This resulted in a significant reinvention of our operations to increase income, reduce expenses,

expand staff, conduct deferred maintenance, and plan new gardens and activities. We revamped the Friends membership program to introduce new tiered benefits commensurate with membership level; restructured our volunteer program; installed informational, safety, and garden signs; and developed valuable partnerships with many campus units, resulting in a new more impactful website, new Agave brand image, more expansive PR program, and much broader recognition on campus and the wider region.

In 2020 Covid presented big challenges for the Gardens, including the need to reinvent our operations again. With in-person gatherings and activities curtailed and student workers and volunteers prohibited on campus, we again experienced the limitations of having only a small staff to maintain the Gardens and operations. Happily, after developing a Return-to-Work plan, we were able to recruit new student workers, invite volunteers back, and reopen the Gardens. We also worked with campus partners to institute new health and safety measures, move volunteer onboarding and management online, develop a social media presence to reconnect with constituents, move plant and merchandise sales online, revamp our photography policy, initiate touchless online admission donations, launch monthly eNews to accompany our quarterly Newsletter, and offer our first virtual workshop.

Although it was widely assumed that the pandemic would be over by now, lingering concerns will remain for the foreseeable future and reinvention is needed again to move forward while prioritizing the health and safety of our staff, volunteers, and visitors. With our hard-earned experience we are ready for it! While Spring Plant Sale will be online (with in-person pickups), we are developing a plant nursery close to the Gardens to eventually host in-place plant sales. To offset the loss of members-only in-person shopping, we are planning new member benefits such as special hours and members-only days. We are also working with our CNAS Development team to revamp Primavera in the Gardens. Our ever-popular Bird Walk & Breakfast events will continue, and we are working on adding photography and other workshops soon.

Throughout the years of change we have maintained focus on our mission to promote campus and community engagement in nature, gardens, and conservation. Now more than ever we strive to create a place at UCR where visitors can experience the healing power of nature. We hope you will continue to support us and stay connected through our website, eNews, and social media, and send your thoughts and feedback to me at bgdirector@ucr.edu or 951-827-7095.

Jodie

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College of Natural &
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Slender emu bush



Spotted emu bush

leaves and tubular flowers changing from orange to pink. **Slender emu bush** (*E. decipiens*) is a showy spreading shrub to about 3 feet high with narrow, green leaves and tubular orange-red flowers. **Spotted emu bush** (*E. maculata* 'Aurea') is a wide-spreading shrub 3 to 6 feet tall with small, gray green leaves and 1-inch, tubular, yellow flowers borne near the branch ends most heavily in winter and spring.

Australian saltbush (*Rhagodia spinescens*) - This is a fast growing, low shrub 2 to 4 feet tall with fine-textured, silvery green foliage making an excellent large-scale ground-cover or slope cover.



Australian saltbush



Ceanothus 'Yankee Point'

Fall is the preferred time to plant California native plants in southern California since many of them do not like summer water, and the plants don't have ample time to get established before the heat of summer if planted in the spring. Here are some California native plants that can tolerate some summer

water. Several **California lilacs** (*Ceanothus*) will be available including 'Concha', 'Yankee Point', and two we have never sold before. 'Owlswood Blue' is a large shrub to 12 feet tall and can be pruned up into a small tree. 'Cornflower Blue' is a selection from Cornflower Farms Nursery, is medium sized for a *Ceanothus* and has blue flowers.



Ceanothus 'Cornflower Blue'

Catalina perfume (*Ribes viburnifolium*) is a great choice for dry shade. This is a low spreading shrub with handsome, shiny, dark green foliage that is deliciously fruit scented. The small, rose pink flowers appear from late



Catalina perfume

winter to early spring followed by small red fruits that attract birds.

We will also offer a new **autumn sage** named after George Spiliotis, a dedicated volunteer. George is a docent, steward, works in the Butterfly Garden, and much more. He is very knowledgeable about California native plants and has produced 33 short videos on native plants which can be found on our website. *Salvia x jamensis* 'George Spiliotis' has bright orange-red, tubular flowers with a white throat.



Salvia x jamensis 'George Spiliotis'

A complete plant list with descriptions and photos will be posted on our website two weeks before the sale, but the order form will only be available on Saturday, April 2 from 6am to midnight for Friends members and Sunday, April 3 from 6am to midnight for the public. Becoming a Friend or renewing your membership is easy on our website, gardens.ucr.edu. The plant pick-up days are on Tuesday, April 12 and Thursday, April 14.

JOIN OR RENEW
BY 3/25/22
Friends
Members

UCR BOTANIC GARDENS
2022 ONLINE
SPRING
PLANT SALE

For more information: gardens.ucr.edu or 951-827-7090

ONLINE SALE

APRIL 2, 2022- MEMBERS
APRIL 3, 2022- PUBLIC

PICK UP

APRIL 12, 2022 (9AM- 1PM)
APRIL 14, 2022 (9AM-4PM)

How to buy online?

1. Go to gardens.ucr.edu.
2. Each plant will have a description, size, price, and photo.
3. Choose and purchase!

How to pick up purchased plants?

1. Select the pick up day and time from the options provided at checkout.
2. Pick up your plants at the UCRBG entrance, where staff will assist to load into your vehicle.



1 Botanic Gardens Dr.
Riverside, CA 92507

Butterfly Corner

The Sara Orange-Tip

Article and photos by Ann Platzer



Photo 1: Male dorsal view

A true herald of spring and the beginning of a new butterfly season is the presence of the Sara Orange-tip, *Anthocharis sara*. As we walked through the Box Springs Mountain Reserve Park (Two Trees Trail), several of these beautiful white-winged butterflies with glowing orange wing tips flew by us. This burst of color is characteristic of our spring foothill fauna. As we leaned against a big bolder and watched a male patrol the trail searching for a female, another male flew by in the opposite direction, but they took no notice of one another. Then a female appeared, and the pair flew up in the sky in circles. What a sight to behold.



Photo 2: Female dorsal view

The distinctive key field mark of the Sara is the glowing orange color on the dorsal forewing tips. The male's forewing has a large inner solid orange spot, margined by black (Photo 1), while the female has a paler orange spot with a paler, black margin interrupted by spots of ground



Photo 3: Male ventral view

color (Photo 2). The underside of the hind wings of both sexes is marked with irregular patches of greenish scales having a mottled "mossy" appearance (Photo 3); thus, when resting with wings closed the Sara camouflages as a leaf. In southern California, flight time for the Sara is from late January to April for the first brood and from May to early July for the second brood. Wingspan is roughly from 1 to 1 ½ inches; however, the second brood is larger. The female Sara Orange-tip lays her eggs singly on native and introduced host mustard plants (family *Brassicaceae*). These mustard plants contain toxic oils that the caterpillar ingests and in turn are transferred to the adult, thus distracting would-be predators, to make Sara Orange-tip another flying jewel with toxic wings.

These butterflies hibernate as pupae and may remain in diapause for more than three years! Pupae resemble a thorn on a stem or twig thus providing excellent camouflage. The pupae have head starts over butterflies that overwinter as eggs or larvae to make them one of the earliest flying butterflies in the spring.

The Sara Orange-tip ranges throughout California and the Western United States from the Rocky Mountains west to the Pacific Coast. It has many subspecies and occurs in a variety of habitats, including desert hills, coniferous forests, mountain foothills, open grassy hillsides, widely scattered woodlands, and chaparral.

The adults nectar on many plants such as fiddlenecks, *Amsinckia* spp., and blue dicks, *Dichelostemma capitatum*, in addition to their host plants, the mustards, which bloom even during the driest of years. Since the Sara Orange-tip is unlikely to occur in our urban gardens, two places to visit in addition to Two Trees Trail are the Harford Springs Reserve and Big Morongo Canyon Preserve.

Please plant California native and butterfly friendly plants in your garden to help restore our native habitat.

Happy Butterfly Gardening! ~ AP.

Wildlife of the Gardens

Anna's Hummingbird

by Michele Felix-Derbarmdiker

Dazzling colors and lightning quick moves, all wrapped up in a feathery ball of attitude, is a good way to describe the Anna's Hummingbird (*Calypte anna*). This feisty defender of feeders is a common bird of the west and a joy to observe. Provide a water feature, add nectar plants or hummingbird feeders and voila! Sit back, set that camera to rapid shot mode, and enjoy as Anna's Hummingbirds flock to your garden.

Habitat/Diet

This hummingbird can be found in a variety of wild habitats and urban spaces. Less than one hundred years ago this species' range included only California and Baja. The species has expanded its range to include most of the west coast, as well as parts of Canada, Arizona, New Mexico, and Nevada. The expansion is believed to be the result of the increased use of bird feeders. Throughout its range, the Anna's Hummingbird primarily stays at low elevations but can head higher to cooler temperatures during the hottest months. Whether in wildlands or urban



Photo by Lee Reeder

landscapes, this bird uses its long tongue to feed on both native and non-native nectar rich plants. They will also feed on tree sap and a variety of small insects.

Breeding

Anna's Hummingbirds are year-around residents and seldom migrate. This behavior enables them to have several clutches of eggs a year and nest earlier than most local species. Nests can be seen as early as December, so be mindful of winter tree or shrub pruning. One of the most interesting times to observe this species is during courtship. The male ascends to a great height then



quickly plummets towards the ground. As he reaches the lowest point, he emits a high-pitched noise by manipulating air flow through his tail feathers. The male can do this many times to woo a female. If she is interested, she will allow him to chase her towards her nest site. The finale of the performance is the shuttle display. This involves singing and swinging horizontally above the female. The female will construct a small cup shaped nest made of a combination of plant fibers/down, spider webs, and mosses. Typically, two white eggs are laid. The female provides all the parental care. Total time from incubation to fledging young is about five weeks.

Identification

Anna's Hummingbirds are relatively easy to identify compared to other species, particularly if you can train your ear to their chatter or see them perched. Both males and females are covered in gray and iridescent green feathers. The male is easily distinguishable when the sunlight hits the iridescent rose-colored feathers on the head and throat. When not flitting from flower to flower, the males will often perch on top of a shrub or tree and chatter. The Anna's chatter is quite distinct and once you learn it, you will likely hear them before you spot them.

Threats

The Anna's Hummingbird population is stable. According to Audubon climate models, a temperature increase of 3°C will result in an approximate 28% loss of habitat with increased threats of spring heat waves and fires. As of now, their main threats are window impacts, predation by cats, and bacterial/fungal diseases contracted via dirty feeders. Hummingbird feeders are a great way to attract hummingbirds to your yard, but feeders need to be cleaned weekly in cooler months and several times a week in hotter months. Feeder solutions should only contain one part white sugar to four parts water, no honey or dyes.

Michele is a UCR graduate who worked as a field biologist for six years throughout Riverside County and is currently a naturalist for Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District.

Spotlight On...Barbara Gable

By Janine Almanzor



I first met Barbara in 2008 at the Docent Training Class, but she had been volunteering at the Gardens long before that. In 2004 Barbara retired from teaching at UCR and the University of Hamburg, and immediately started volunteering at the Botanic Gardens' Plant Sales. She had been coming to the sales for years and saw how much work went into their preparation, so she wanted to help before, during, and after the sales. Over the years, Barbara has volunteered in many different ways. Her love for teaching is seen as she leads school tours, sharing her knowledge and love of the Gardens. For years she propagated plants for Plant Sales, but then saw the need to help in the Rose Gardens. For over ten years Barbara has been a key factor in making the Rose Gardens the beautiful display they are today. She continues to dedicate a day each week to the roses and is also a Garden Steward greeting visitors at the front gate. Her passion for the Gardens is seen in her dedication year after year. A new autumn sage, hybridized by Dr. Giles Waines, has been named after Barbara and will be available this fall. Barbara's continuing support as a multi-talented volunteer is much appreciated.

Salvia x jamensis
'Barbara Gable'



Docent Training Class of 2022

By Janine Almanzor

On February 3rd, thirteen volunteers eagerly began their training to become UCRBG Docents so they will be well informed about the Gardens and be able to lead school tours and specialized adult tours. The six-week long course met once a week for a three-hour class covering the most popular areas of the Botanic Gardens, including the North American and South African Desert Gardens, Herb Garden, Butterfly Garden, Rose Gardens, Native American Garden, and Greenhouse. Botany, wildlife, and trees were also part of the curriculum as well as learning about our Gardens GIS app and content-rich digital Story Maps of various gardens. The classes were taught by Gardens staff, expert volunteers, and a UCR professor. Long-time volunteers in the class were amazed at how much they learned about the Gardens, even though they have been volunteering for many years. They all can't wait to share their new knowledge and love for the Gardens at upcoming tours.



L to R: Daniel Weatherford, Kay Force, Kate Kramer, Ann Platzer, Laura Lampers, Judi Newby, Sharlene Campbell, Elizabeth Smith, Peter Kallinger, Nikki van de Klundert, Nancy Cullen, Jill Hishmeh, (not shown - Maricela Perez)

VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED!

Please consider joining our volunteer team.

Visit gardens.ucr.edu/volunteer
for more information.



What to See in the Gardens

Article and photos by Miguel Estrada

If you are reading this article for suggestions on what to see, then you cannot go wrong by simply taking a stroll on any one of our trails. It is spring and that means the garden is once again filled with a wonderful demonstration of life. Branches have added new growth, deciduous plants have leafed out, many specimens are in bloom, and even the insects and vertebrates have added to the display. There is almost too much to see, and it is easy to understand how certain specimens go unnoticed. Allow me then to recommend two trees that may have been overlooked.

Each of my picks are plants that at one time were vigorous and have over time or rapidly taken a turn for the worse. The choice to showcase declining specimens is not because I am low on ideas, but rather because each plant in decline tells a story worth listening to. The factors that lead to decline are numerous and I will not attempt to cover every detail, but will give a general explanation for what may be afflicting each tree.

Incense cedar (*Calocedrus decurrens*)



This specimen is approximately 120 feet northwest of trail marker 36. Healthy specimens can grow as tall as 50 feet and spread just over 10 feet giving a columnar shape. Properly identifying a specimen and knowing the history is important to diagnosing and understanding the cause

of decline. Incense cedars do not have serious insect or disease problems, but they are intolerant to low water conditions. You can see in the picture that the crown density has been severely diminished. Anything at 75% density is cause for alarm, and this tree is below 10%.

Valley oak (*Quercus lobata*)



This tree is located approximately 80 feet south of the bridge to the Oak Woodland area. This specimen is endemic to California, and like most California native plants will suffer from frequent summer water, especially in soils that hold onto the moisture, such as clay. However, this species, as well as the *Quercus engelmannii*, of which we have several in the area, are less tolerant of dry soil. Both species in prolonged drought stress will prematurely drop some or most of their leaves. This is an adaptation for survival, but if these trees experience dry winters year after year, then this adaptation becomes detrimental since it greatly reduces the opportunity for photosynthesis and thus, survival. Unfortunately, this oak was planted in a location that makes it difficult to provide enough water for the crown, and California's lengthy drought means winter rains have become insufficient to sustain healthy growth. Compounding this problem is the fact that the tree is wedged between two trails. Second only to irrigation, compaction is the next leading abiotic disorder that sends plants into decline. If you look at the picture, the area in blue is the area where water can enter the soil, and the red arrows mark areas of compaction.

What now?

This article does have a happy ending for the oak. There is no saving the *Calocedrus decurrens*. The oak on the other hand is going to get some help from a better watering system. By the end of March, we hope to be in progress or finished with an automatic irrigation system that will provide all the needed supplemental water for all the oaks in the flat area.

DOCENT-LED ADULT & SCHOOL TOURS AVAILABLE

We look forward to welcoming you to a wonderful outdoor tour experience.

To schedule a tour or for more information visit gardens.ucr.edu/tours.

Plants & Human Affairs Series

A Rose is a Rose...

By Jo Ann Anderson

...is a rose is a rose" so famously wrote Gertrude Stein over a century ago. She also wrote "Civilization begins with a rose..." Generations of scholars have mulled over her meaning in those words, but there can be no argument that by writing them she elevated the rose to a new place of honor in the minds of all who read or hear them.

The rose has come to signify for generations of people across the cultural spectrum the pure essence of beauty. It also has been seen as a symbol of love, purity, peace, prosperity, mysticism, and even war. For one plant, this covers a lot of ground! But if the fossil record is accurate, roses are several times older than humans and our closest primate relatives.

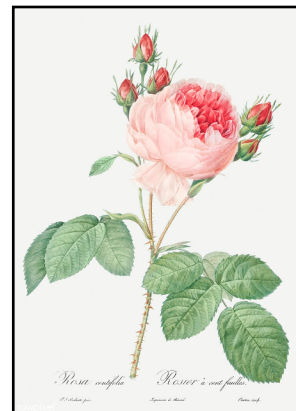
Probably no other flower has figured so prominently in the world's collection of myth, legend, poetry, and literature as the rose. Among the great poets who, along with Stein, celebrate the rose are Emily Dickinson, William Blake, and Robert Burns, to name only a few. And writer Dan Brown in his recent book "The DaVinci Code" framed the rose as a symbol for the Holy Grail, placing it squarely in the center of one of the world's great religions.

The ancient Syrians and Greeks believed that Aphrodite, upon learning of the fatal wound to her lover Adonis, was wounded herself by a thorn of a white rose and that her blood forever stained the rose red. This Damask "Old Rose", precursor to many of today's rose varieties, is still a favorite in many gardens and the inspiration for many rose perfumes.

Roses have symbolized blood, both of Aphrodite and Christ, were honored in Dionysian rites for warding off drunkenness, have represented discretion (*sub-Rosa*), have been seen as mystical in the rose cross of the Rosicrucians (named for the legendary Christian Rosenkreuz), and appear on graves as symbols of eternity. Romans celebrated Rosalia in May and June with roses to

honor the spirits of the dead.

Most of the mythology around the rose in our western culture arose from civilizations of the Middle East, where roses have flourished throughout recorded history. That is not to say, however, that roses were overlooked in the myths and legends of other cultures. Moving to Asia, we find the legend of the god Vishnu creating Lakshmi, his wife, from 108 large and 1008 small rose petals. Throughout the cultures of the Middle East and Asia the rose appears again and again as symbolic of love, beauty, and rebirth.



In Persian legend it was the nightingale of heaven who fell in love with the white rose; having been pierced by a thorn, it was her blood that tinged the rose red. Once again, the rose is associated with sacred blood.

The rose continues to figure prominently in much of the world's religious imagery. Examples of this can be seen in many cathedrals; a notable one is the rose window in Paris' Notre Dame. And for many of us, the rose is intertwined with our own life story. Roses express our first love, roses are exchanged on very special occasions, a single rose is often placed on the grave of a grandmother, many people plant and tend a rose garden, and roses feature in other deeply felt moments. In my own life, I have long cherished the memory of a privileged visit to the city of Shiraz, Iran, and its world-famed rose gardens. A few years later I saw Nureyev and Fontaine dance the ballet *Le Spectre de la rose* (*The spirit of the rose*) at Lincoln Center in New York City, another unforgettable moment.

The Botanic Gardens' Rose Gardens will soon be in full bloom and are a high point for any visitor, whether a rose fancier or not. Come and enjoy these special plants and meditate on the language of roses throughout human history.

I welcome your feedback and ideas for future articles; contact me at joann_anderson@outlook.com.

Join or renew your membership at gardens.ucr.edu/friends

Benefits of Membership

- Early plant sale shopping; members-only plant sales
- Quarterly Newsletter in digital or print format
- Reduced price for select UCRBG events
- Members-only events
- Use of Horticultural Library
- 10% discount at local nurseries
- Free or discounted entry to over 345 gardens, arboreta and conservatories in the U.S. through the American Horticultural Society's Reciprocal Admissions Program, ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/rap

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UCR FACULTY &
STAFF!

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Rose Pruning Demonstration Returns



Consulting Rosarian, Gary Wagner (right) shares his expertise with visitors

The popular Rose Pruning Demonstration that began in 1979 was able to resume this year after a modified event last year. Master Gardeners, UCRBG staff and volunteers, and members of the Raincross Rose Society all participated on January 9th with pruning and demonstrating. Visitors learned how to prune hybrid teas, floribundas, grandifloras, miniatures, and climbers. At the conclusion of the event every participant received a door prize, thanks to the generous donations from Cherry Valley Nursery, Corona Tools, Karen Fleisher, Kellogg Garden Products, Louie's Nursery, Parkview Nursery (Chicago Ave.), Sunshine Growers Nursery, and the Botanic Gardens. Over 100 people were in attendance during this fun, two-hour event.

American Horticultural Society

The UCRBG is an institutional member of the American Horticultural Society. A Friends membership entitles you to the benefits of participating in the AHS Reciprocal Admissions Program, which gives you free or discounted admission and other discounts at 345+ gardens and arboreta throughout North America. The AHS RAP Directory can be viewed and downloaded at their website at: ahsgardening.org/gardening-programs/rap.



Join or renew today at
gardens.ucr.edu/friends

UCR Botanic Gardens branded merchandise can be purchased online! at gardens.ucr.edu

For pick-up only on Thursdays, Fridays & open Sundays



In the Works

By Botanic Gardens Staff

Our staff and volunteers have been very busy with ongoing and new projects as well as new activities and events. Here is a summary of our projects and activities since the last newsletter.

Gardens and Grounds:

- ▶ The Herb Garden has been cleaned up and refreshed with some new plants. The Herb Garden Tour booklet is in the process of going digital in the form of a Story Map.
- ▶ The Butterfly Garden crew has been busy planting new plants. An updated map is in the works.
- ▶ We have two new autumn sages named after dedicated volunteers George Spiliotis and Barbara Gable.
- ▶ The climbing roses above the switchbacks have been replaced by carpet roses and tree roses, which were generously donated by our rose volunteers.
- ▶ A new storage shed was installed in the lath house for Docents to store materials used during guided tours.
- ▶ A new bench was installed by trail marker 23, overlooking the future site of the California Native Bee Garden.
- ▶ New fescue seed blend (Defiance XRE) was planted in Alder Canyon for a fescue with greater disease resistance and recovery from damage.
- ▶ Some jojoba was pruned and removed in Chaparral to clear the way for new plants.
- ▶ The first 14 rows of the Subtropical Fruit Orchard have been weeded and pruned.
- ▶ The jojobas in front of the ramada in the Desert Garden have been pruned to clear a view of the garden below.
- ▶ Locations for 90 cu. yards of new mulch have been selected; mulch will be spread in March.
- ▶ Miguel is working on an irrigation design in the Oak Woodland, which is planned for installation in March.
- ▶ Repairs are in the works on the entrance arbor, and the UCR Botanic Gardens sign will be reinstalled in late February to early March.
- ▶ Damaged railroad ties at the switchbacks have been repaired.
- ▶ The desert wild grape by the arbor near the pond has been aggressively pruned to keep the vine off of the trees.

Activities and Events:

- ▶ We welcomed 13 aspiring volunteers to our Docent Training Class, led by Janine with the help of staff and volunteers.
- ▶ We are nearly ready to launch a new Welcome Brochure, designed by Pam Ferre, that includes a full Gardens map as well as UCRBG policies.
- ▶ Our popular bookmarks were updated and will be available for visitors and distributed to campus and other groups as a useful informational promotion of the Gardens.
- ▶ Once again, we hosted the Christmas Bird Count conducted by members of the San Bernardino Valley Chapter of the National Audubon Society.



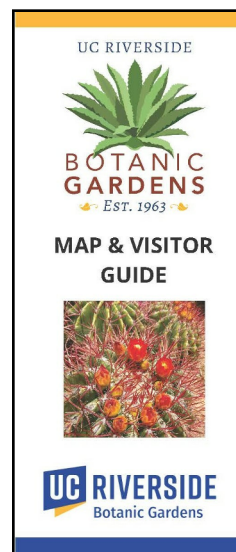
The Herb Garden



New tree roses planted



George Spiliotis teaching the new docents in the Butterfly Garden



The new Welcome Brochure

In Memoriam ~ Bernice (Bernie) Tank

By Steve Morgan



We are saddened to report the passing of long-time UCRBG volunteer, Bernice (Bernie) Tank. Bernie died at her home in Talent, Oregon, on January 12, 2022 at the age of 97. Bernie, along with her husband Robert volunteered at the Botanic Gardens for 25 years before retiring from the Gardens in 2014. Bernie wore many hats during her tenure at the Gardens. She was instrumental in the computerization of the Gardens' accession records and the computerization of the Gardens' 3000-volume library. She was closely involved with the development and expansion of the plant sales. Bernie was also responsible for much of the seed processing for the Friends Seed List, the Index Seminum, and for collection development. She helped with many other projects and activities.

Robert (Bob) passed away in 2016 at the age of 95. Like Bernie, Bob was heavily involved with the computerization and maintenance of Botanic Gardens records. He was the Gardens' unofficial in-house IT person. Before he began working with the computers he worked on plant propagation in the nursery, and he designed and installed the automatic irrigation systems in the lath house and dome. To help obtain a baseline record of temperatures in the Botanic Gardens, Bob came in every morning for a period to record the high and low readings for several recording stations on the property. That's just a few of his many undertakings at the Gardens.

Bob and Bernie volunteered two times a week, rarely missing a day. Besides being diligent workers, they gave valuable advice, and one couldn't ask for better friends. For their dedicated service to the Botanic Gardens, Bob and Bernie were nominated Honorary Friends for Life in 1996 and their name was added to the appreciation plaque in the Conference Room. The legacy of their years of volunteering at the Gardens will live on.



UC RIVERSIDE



BOTANIC GARDENS
EST. 1963



NEW!

Master Gardener docents are available in the Butterfly Garden on the first and third Sundays of the month 9:00 am to 12:00 pm to answer questions about **Gardening for Butterflies** including the life cycle of butterflies and which plants to choose to attract butterflies.



900 University Ave.
Riverside, CA 92521

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UCRBG Calendar of Events

- April 2 **Online Spring Plant Sale- Friends Members' sale, 6:00 am - midnight**
- April 3 **Online Spring Plant Sale- Public sale, 6:00 am - midnight**
- April 12, 14 **In-person, curbside plant pickup (Botanic Gardens closed)**
- TBD **Spring CA Native Plant Home Garden Tour**

**Please note: The UCRBG hours are Monday - Wednesday 9 am - 12 pm,
Thursday - Friday 9 am - 2 pm, & the 1st & 3rd Sundays 8 am - 2 pm
until further notice.**

(Please check our website for closure dates)