

The University of California, Riverside Botanic Gardens

UCRBG Newsletter

Volume 33, Number 1 Spring 2013

40TH ANNUAL U.C. RIVERSIDE BOTANIC GARDENS

SPRING PLANT SALE NEWS

Friends Preview Sale: Saturday, April 6, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Public Sale: Saturday, April 6, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

and Sunday, April 7, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

What's new at the sale? Grasses, grasses, grasses! Grasses continue to be all the rage after several years of gaining popularity. They are versatile, they can be dramatic, they provide year round interest and change, they are easy to grow and many are water efficient or drought tolerant. They have a lot going for them. There is a bewildering variety of grasses available and plenty of conflicting information but we'll try to give a clarifying overview here. There will be more than 20 varieties of "grasses" available at the Spring sale for 2013, including several genera of grass-like plants. Ten varieties are new to the sales.

Among the new grasses are two "muhlys," *Muhlenbergia pubescens*, soft blue Mexican muhly, and *Muhlenbergia emersleyi* 'El Toro', bull grass. As the common name suggests,



Muhlenbergia emersleyi 'El Toro', bull grass, photo courtesy of Mountain States Wholesale Nursery, Litchfield Park, AZ

soft blue Mexican muhly is native to Mexico. It forms foot-tall clumps of fairly coarse textured, downy, blue green leaves. In spring or early summer are produced two- to three-foot, soft flower clusters that start out pale lilac and age to amber. It is evergreen in our comparatively mild climate and does not have to be cut back every year to look good. Bull grass is also evergreen in Inland gardens. It is native from Arizona to Texas and forms 1.5-foot mounds of blue green foliage and three-foot, fluffy plumes of purple

flower heads that age to cream. Red switch grass, *Panicum virgatum* 'Schenandoah', is a Midwestern U.S. native. This winter dormant grass grows to two or three feet tall with foliage that emerges blue green but soon develops striking red tips. Slender-stemmed, airy flower clusters are produced above the foliage in summer. Red switch grass will accept

much or little water.

Selecting from the palette of grasses from out of the U.S., we have two cultivars of giant feather grass from the Mediterranean: *Stipa gigantea* 'Little Giant' and *Stipa gigantea* 'Pixie'. It may turn out these are identical, just separate names offered by two different nurseries. Both are dwarf selections of the species that form clumps of slender, arching, matte green leaves and tall, shimmering, airy panicles of golden flower heads in spring and summer.

These dwarf forms are still good-sized, growing to three or more feet tall in bloom. From Latin America comes *Stipa ichu*, Peruvian feather grass. This handsome grass makes dense, graceful clumps of needle-thin leaves that are iridescent bright green. In summer it produces a fountain of feathery flower heads that look attractive for months. It has the look of Mexican feather grass, *Stipa tenuissima*, but without the latter's somewhat invasive seeding habit. Slender veldt grass, *Pennisetum spathiolatum*, hails from South Africa. Its fine textured foliage is gray green with a tint of purple. From the 18-inch-tall foliage clumps arise three- to four-foot wiry stems bearing short, rod-like flower heads that bob in the slightest breeze. Slender veldt grass is mostly evergreen in Inland gardens.

Though not true grasses, sedges (*Carex*) and rushes (*Juncus*) are similar in general appearance and often serve the same function in the landscape -- three are new to the Gardens' sales. *Carex buechananii* 'Firefox' is an especially colorful selection of leather leaf sedge. It forms a tight, upright clump of narrow leaves that are gracefully curled at the tips. The leaves are a rich red

bronze. New Zealand hair sedge, *Carex comans* 'Olive Oil', forms a mop-like mound of slender leaves with pig-tail tips; these are an attractive tawny silver. Blue medusa rush, *Juncus inflexus* 'Afro', is really unusual. Its cylindrical stems are dark gray green

and coiled into spirals of varying shapes and sizes. It grows to 18 inches tall by two feet wide. It is easier to grow and requires less water than its similar cousin,

Juncus effusus 'Spiralis'. These last three grass-like plants require fairly regular irrigation.

Two true grasses that are native to California will make their debut at this spring sale: side oats gramma, *Bouteloua curtipendula*, and coast range melic, *Melica imperfecta*. Side oats gramma forms an 18-inch-tall, shaggy clump of narrow, blue green leaves and long-stemmed, narrow flower heads with oat-like seeds arranged along one side of the stalk - quite distinctive. It is two or three feet tall, in bloom, and is a warm season grass, so it needs moderate summer irrigation. Coast

range melic is drought tolerant and can be grown in sun or shade. It has stiffish, fine-textured, dark green foliage and few-branched,

gray green flower heads in spring.

Spring is not the best time to plant many California native plants. The Gardens sells only those natives that are likely to establish well with spring planting. Among the California native plants that will be available for the first time are two deciduous shrubs: small-leaved creambush and a selection of red flowering currant. Small-leaved creambush, *Holodiscus microphyllus* var. *glabrescens*, is a fairly small shrub, growing to only three feet. It has bright green leaves and fluffy clusters of tiny, creamy white flowers at the branch tips. It blooms in summer and the flowers attract butterflies. Red flowering currant, *Ribes sanguineum* var. *glutinosum* 'Barrie Coate', has dark green, aromatic, maple-like leaves. Its pendulous clusters of small, dark rose red flowers come in late winter and are loved by hummingbirds. The flowers are followed by blue black berries.

Among the California native perennials that are new to the sales is Siskiyou buckwheat, *Eriogonum siskiyouense*. It forms a

tight, low mound of red-tinted, gray green leaves.

From this low mound arise in summer, long-stalked, button-like clusters of tiny, yellow flowers that are loved by butterflies.

There is a flock of coral bell, *Heuchera*, selections in the "Canyon" series; *Heuchera* 'Canyon 'Melody' is one of these.



Pennisetum spathiolatum, slender veldt grass, photo courtesy of San Marcos Growers, Santa Barbara, CA



Bouteloua curtipendula, side oats gramma

It forms tight, rounded clumps of lobed, dark green leaves and many 1.5-foot, airy spikes of tiny, bright pink flowers that are loved by hummingbirds. These are produced from spring to summer and they make good cut flowers. Two California natives for at least part shade that we've not offered before are a new selection of sand strawberry,

Fragaria chiloensis

'Aulon', and California hedgenettle, ***Stachys bullata***. Like the coral bells, California hedgenettle makes a good cutflower with its two-foot, shish-kebab spikes of two-lipped, purple and white flowers. These are produced in summer and they are attractive to



***Eriogonum siskiyouense*,**
Siskiyou buckwheat.

both hummingbirds and butterflies. It has aromatic leaves and goes dormant in winter, at least in the colder parts of its range. California hedgenettle needs fairly regular watering. ***Fragaria chiloensis*** 'Aulon' is a robust selection of sand strawberry. It is a groundcover that spreads by stolons, forming a lush, six- to 12-inch-tall carpet of shiny, dark green, three-parted leaves. The five-petaled, white flowers are all male so no fruit is



***Ribes sanguineum* var.
glutinosum 'Barrie Coate'**
red flowering currant.

both hummingbirds and butterflies. It has aromatic

produced.

There will be a number of non-native perennials offered for the first time. Among these is ***Euphorbia*** 'Copton Ash', Copton Ash spurge. This is one of a confusing array of herbaceous perennial euphorbias. It has numerous, unbranched stems

arising from the crown. These slender stems are lined foxtail fashion with narrow, gray green leaves. At the branch tips in spring or early summer are produced long lasting clusters of chartreuse flower heads. Another new perennial is ***Scutellaria*** 'Starrfire', starrfire skullcap. This is a bit of a mystery plant -- there isn't much information available. It forms a compact mound of tiny, bright green, pointed leaves and is dotted with red, two-lipped, salvia-like flowers from spring to fall. According to *High Country Garden*, the flowers attract both butterflies and hummingbirds. This is a new plant for us but it was selected in Arizona so it is likely to do well in Inland gardens. It does require regular watering. Continuing with new perennials we come to two from South Africa. The first is ***Arctotis acaulis*** 'Sun Spot Orange', one of many plants with "African daisy" as a common name. This produces a low mound of felty, gray green,

lobed leaves and three-inch, long-stalked, orange daisies that are reminiscent of gerberas except that these close at night. It blooms from spring to summer and is quite water efficient. Also from South Africa is sea rose, ***Orphium frutescens***. This unusual gentian relative has thick, upright stems lined with rubbery, bright green leaves. It blooms in spring with clusters of bright pink flowers with five satiny petals. Sea rose needs good drainage and regular irrigation, and we're recommending part day sun or light shade. We have not tested it Inland so consider this an experiment and let us know how it does for you.

Other perennials new to the sales include two bulbs from South Africa. Most are familiar with the easy-to-grow, drought tolerant and beautiful naked lady, ***Amaryllis belladonna***, with its pink flowers. This sale we will have the uncommon white-



***Arctotis acaulis* 'Sun Spot Orange',**
African Daisy

flowered form, ***Amaryllis belladonna*** 'Alba'. This has large, fragrant, lily-like flowers on two- to three-foot stems in summer while the plant is dormant and

and leafless. In fall, with the first rains, a head of strap-shaped leaves is produced that lasts until the following summer. Another South African "bulb" actually grows from a corm -- that is baboon flower, *Babiana rubrocyanea*. Baboon flower is a freesia relative forming clumps of strongly ribbed, fuzzy, strap-shaped leaves. The spring flowers are quite spectacular -- deep blue purple funnels with bright red centers. Baboon flower should be kept dry during its summer dormancy.

Another new bulb that should be kept dry during its summer dormancy is lady tulip, *Tulipa clusiana*



Babiana rubrocyanea, baboon flower, photo by Andrew Massyn

chrysantha. This is one of the few tulips to naturalize in Inland gardens. Lady tulip has waxy gray green, strap-shaped leaves and elegant, long stalked, rose red and yellow flowers in spring.

Among the non-native shrubs that will be offered for the first time are two from Australia. The first is Mingenew Gold emu bush, *Eremophila glabra* 'Mingenew Gold'. This emu bush grows to only about one foot high but can spread nine to 12 feet wide. It has narrow, bright green leaves and flowers that are produced much of the year. The flowers are bright yellow, tubular and have protruding stamens. It is

heat tolerant and water efficient. Another Australian shrub is *Grevillea lavandulacea* 'Penola', lavender grevillea. This is a dense, mounding shrub to five feet tall and wide. It has narrow, light gray green leaves that set off the clusters of spidery, red and white flowers. As with most grevilleas, this needs perfect drainage and no phosphorus fertilizer. From the Mediterranean region comes dwarf St. John's wort, *Hypericum aegypticum*. This is an ultra compact, slow growing shrub with tiny, closely spaced, blue green leaves. The inch-wide flowers are bright yellow, five-petaled and have a central tuft of stamens. Dwarf St. John's wort grows to only one or two feet high.

We don't seem to plant many deciduous shrubs in Southern California but they have many virtues: winter branch patterns, fall foliage color and handsome flowers, to name a few. Here are three that are new to the Gardens' sales.

We'll be offering a pomegranate with peach-colored flowers, *Punica granatum* (peach flowered). This is otherwise much like the typical pomegranate: a large



Eremophila glabra 'Mingenew Gold', Mingenew Gold emu bush, photo by Wendy Proud

shrub or small tree with crinkly-petaled flowers in summer and yellow fall foliage color. The nursery source claims it produces large, dark-skinned fruit. Let us know!



Hypericum aegypticum, dwarf St. John's wort, photo courtesy of San Marcos Growers, Santa Barbara, CA



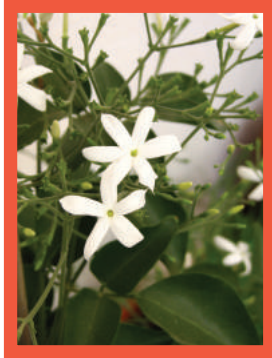
Grevillea lavandulacea 'Penola', lavender grevillea

Flowering quince, *Chaenomeles* 'Pink Lady', is another sale first. This is a briefly deciduous shrub with dark green, shiny leaves and masses of two-inch, coral pink flowers in late winter or early spring. The flowers are followed by edible, apple-like,

fragrant fruits. The blooming branches are good cut flowers and hummingbirds love them. *Viburnum opulus* 'Roseum' (Sterile), common snowball, is an old

fashioned favorite shrub that grows eight to 15 feet tall. Its arching branches bear maple-like leaves and many rounded clusters of white flowers - really spectacular.

There will be two new vines at the sale: lemon-scented jasmine and Cape Arid kennedia. Lemon-scented jasmine, *Jasminum azoricum*, is a tame, twining vine that grows to just 10 or 15 feet. It has lush, deep green, three-parted leaves and, in summer, small clusters of one inch, fragrant white flowers



Jasminum azoricum,
lemon-scented jasmine

sales. Don't be scared off by the term "ice plant." This is a well-mannered ice plant growing three to five inches tall and only a foot or two wide. It has vertical, finger-like, bronze-tinted leaves and two-inch, bright

red flowers made up of many, narrow, satiny petals. It blooms mainly in winter but may produce flowers at any time of the year. Red spike ice plant is native to South Africa. Also from South Africa comes golden spurge, *Euphorbia mauritanica*.

This succulent shrub grows to two or three feet high and, perhaps, twice that in width. It forms a near-leafless mound of pencil-like, upright branches. The bright yellow flower heads are produced at the branch tips in winter and spring. From Baja California comes *Dudleya ingens*, Baja live-forever. This produces solitary rosettes of green, lance shaped leaves. In spring arise

red-stemmed, branching spikes of short-tubular, light yellow flowers that are blushed pink -- these attract hummingbirds.

There is not enough space to discuss all of the 60 plants that are new to the sales, let alone the hundreds of other plants that will be available. Friends will have to check out the plant list to read more about these and many other choice plants.

See the box below to review all the ways you can get the detailed plant list. But even the detailed list can't include everything. There are still many cacti and succulents, hundreds of herbs, vegetables and



Cephalophyllum stayneri,
red-spike ice plant,
photo by Stan Shebs

wildflower seeds that will be available but are not listed. Plan to spend some time surveying our wide selection of plants and visiting the Gardens, too. Be sure to tell your friends and relatives about the sale. Thank you in advance for supporting this great event and, in turn, for your support of the Gardens. 🌿 S.M.



Kennedia beckiana 'Flamboyant',
Cape Arid kennedia

opening from pink buds. It is native to Madeira. From Australia comes Cape Arid kennedia, *Kennedia beckiana* 'Flamboyant'. It is the largest flowered of the kennedias, the flowers fully 2 inches across. Like lemon-scented jasmine, it is a twining vine of moderate size, just eight or 10 feet. It has three-parted leaves with broad, rounded leaflets and rather striking bright orange red, sweetpea-shaped flowers with chartreuse centers - these are produced in spring and summer.

We can't leave out the succulents! *Cephalophyllum stayneri*, red spike ice plant is new to the

About the Plant List

Friends can choose one of several ways to retrieve a plant list. You can call the office at 951.784.6962 or e-mail us at ucrbg@ucr.edu to request a list be mailed to you. The list may be found online at the Gardens' website, to print or peruse. Go to www.gardens.ucr.edu and follow the links to the calendar and plant sale. Copies of the list will be available at the entrance to the sale.

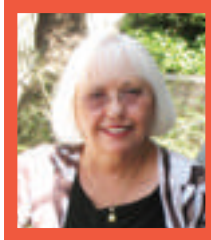
Whichever source you use, the list includes trees, shrubs, vines, herbaceous plants, most of our landscape-size succulents and cacti, shade plants, house/patio plants, and water plants. To help you prioritize your shopping, the list also includes the number of plants we expect to have available. The list is continuously being updated as the inventory changes so check in periodically and get an updated list. Note that containerized plants are a perishable commodity and are subject to watering problems and weather issues, so be sure to check the updated list close to the sale to make sure your choices are still available. Do make use of this informative publication! S.M.



By **Jodie S. Holt**,
Associate Dean
for Agriculture and
Natural Resources

CNAS Column

In this issue I would like to introduce Jo Ann Anderson, Senior Director of Development in CNAS, who is also a Friend of the Botanic Gardens. Jo Ann brings to UCR over 15 years of experience in development, most recently at The Scripps Research Institute. Jo Ann is part of UCR's development team and the Dean and Associate Deans in CNAS work closely with her to pursue development initiatives that advance the vision and goals of departments, centers, institutes, including infrastructure projects, scholarships, endowed chairs, and other initiatives. For the Botanic Gardens Jo Ann has already provided valuable assistance in bringing the conference room renovation to fruition, and she looks forward to working more closely



with the Botanic Gardens Director and Friends to advance their vision and goals.

Conference Room Renovation Update

Phase 1 of the conference room renovation is now complete and showcases the excellent work and craftsmanship of UCR's Physical Plant. We are indebted to Mrs. Grace Pernet Lorenz and Mr. Gary Lamberson for their generosity in funding the remodel, and Doug Holt for donating a new gas stove for the kitchen. Thanks to additional funding from CNAS, Phase 2 of the renovation has now been initiated. This phase will include completion of the kitchen, the storage area, and the conference room. Following completion of the conference room project, renovation will begin on the restroom building to make the restrooms more accessible and to reopen the gate house. This will facilitate having staff or volunteers on site to greet visitors to the Gardens. Additional funding will be sought to build a new ADA accessible restroom adjacent to the current building.

What's New on Campus

I would like to update you on the issue that I introduced in the last Newsletter, which is the recent audit of all UCR units that handle cash, checks and credit

cards. As a result of the audit the Botanic Gardens is required to make significant changes to all cash and credit card handling operations so that we are in compliance with UC systemwide business policy, identical to the requirements of all UC departments and other units. The primary reason for these requirements is the high exposure to risk of fund loss, and more importantly, the safety of volunteers and employees. In order to continue holding activities in the Gardens that involve cash, we must ensure compliance with all UC policies and procedures during these events. If you care to read the regulations, please let me know; it is a lengthy document!

We are very fortunate to have excellent administrative and financial support provided to the Botanic Gardens by the Department of Botany and Plant Sciences. Deborah Terao is our Financial and Administrative Officer and Juliet Lin is Senior Administrative Analyst and Financial Operations Manager. Deb and Juliet have devoted countless hours working to implement the required changes in financial activities that will bring us into compliance. As always, I welcome your input; you may contact me at Agdean@ucr.edu. 🌿 JH

State of the Gardens

PLANTS TO SEE: Along the **main drive**, look for box-thorn (*Lycium brevipes*), chuparosa or beloperone (*Justicia californica*) red and yellow colored flower forms, wild cucumber or chilicothe (*Marah macrocarpa*), desert apricot, (*Prunus fremontii*), jojoba (*Simonsia chinensis*) separate male and female plants, cat's claw acacia (*Senegalia greggii*, syn. *Acacia greggii*).

On the **South African Slope**, look for the aloes, euphorbias, and ice plants. Several early and mid-season lilacs are in bloom along the **Lilac Loop**. Nevin's barberry (*Berberis nevinii*) near the **bridge** and **Chancellor's gate**. Small-leaved rose (*Rosa minutifolia*) is lovely in the **Rose Garden**. Winter flowering buddlejas, dwarf viburnum in the **Butterfly Garden**. The **Herb Garden** has Mediterranean herbs that flower in winter and spring.

ANNUAL FUND TELETHON:

In mid-February I gave a small pep talk to the students who man the telephones when previous donors to the Botanic Gardens are solicited for new pledges and donations in 2013. The telethon is organized by the UCR Foundation and last year it raised over \$5,000 for the requested projects. One important project is support of garden maintenance. This 2013 fiscal year, after deductions for

obligatory fees, such as campus communication, etc., the Gardens received \$1,845 from the College and campus to maintain the 40 acre museum and keep it open on weekends. Maintenance of the Gardens and supplies and expenses cost more than \$30,000 a year. We need to make up over \$28,000 from donations, plant sales, and other funds, including pay-out from the Botanic Gardens Endowment. Funds from the Friends Endowment and from Primavera support development of new projects in the Gardens and the our ability to offer school nature tours. A requirement of such tours is the good condition of our asphalted path ways. These paths were constructed 20 to 40 years ago and are in constant need of repair from damage by tree roots and normal wear- and-tear.

UCR HERBARIUM NEWS:

Curator Andrew Sanders reports that the UCR Herbarium contains over 230,000 specimens of higher plants and lichens, mainly from Southern California, adjacent states and northwest Mexico. It is the third largest UC Herbarium after UC Berkeley and UC Davis



Photo by Rachael Harms

DONATIONS: End-of-year gifts were received from the following donors.

Botanic Gardens General Fund:

Song Bi & Xuemei Chen, Mimi Brown, Brian & Claire Federici, Anthony & Louise Huang (for the subtropical fruit orchard), Dennis & Brenda Focht, David and Lenita Kellstrand, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Krieger, Carol Lovatt, Tamara Nuijens, Mr. & Mrs. Paul Pryor (in memory of Bob Gunther), Arleen Raysor, Barry Taylor, Vintage BMW House, J.G. Waines.

Botanic Gardens Endowment:

Lewis H. Cohen, Douglas & Jodie Holt, Isgouhi Kaloshian (in honor of Ann & Ed Platzer-Butterfly Garden), Ed & Ann Platzer (for the Butterfly Garden Endowment)

Friends of the Botanic Gardens

General Fund: Roger Atkinson & Janet Airey, Mark & Pamela Balys,

Cathy Beatty, Yanis Binam, Joane Cate, William Derrenbacher, Norman Ellstrand & Tracy Kahn, Margaret Ann Hawkins, Barbara Hayes, Dana Klatt, Donald Krukowski, Derek Roth & Daphne Fairbairn, The Boeing Company (matching gift for Richard Sidwell), The Community Foundation Serving Riverside & San Bernardino Counties, Arbor Fund, Cecelia Traugh, John Wiese.

Friends of the Botanic Gardens

Projects Fund: Art in the Gardens. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Aklufi, Richard & Jane Block (sponsor for Primavera), Sandra Garcia, Frank & Lucy Heyming, Peter & Rebecca Kalinger, Jennifer Katz, Noble, Wood & Clay, Concepcion Rivera (sponsor for Primavera).

Kristine M. Scarano Memorial

Endowment Fund: Lori Garvey
UCR Herbarium Fund: Jodie & Douglas Holt. 🌿GW

IN MEMORIAM: In February I received a card from Lillian Pickoff in Texas to say that her friend and husband, Leo, died in the fall. Leo and Lillian were responsible for many of the plantings of the cacti and succulents in the California Desert and South African plant gardens. Lynne Seymour, artist and member of the Friends' Board of Directors, died in January. In February we learned that Bill Gary, who worked half-time in the greenhouse and Herb Garden, and half-time for the Botany & Plant Sciences greenhouses, had died. Saturday, March 2, 2013, Oscar Clarke, first Curator of the UCR Herbarium, and author of "Flora of the Santa Ana River Basin" passed away. Oscar was a wonderful resource of knowledge on local plants and animals. GW

Coming Up at the Botanic Gardens!

THE WATKINS SOCIETY PROGRAM

Thursday, April 18, 2013, 9:30 - 11:30 AM

Featuring: **The Immortality Study**

by *John Martin Fischer, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy*

Bonus: Enjoy a tour of the new Butterfly Garden!

The Watkins Society honors individuals who have remembered UCR in their estate plans. If you are providing for the Botanic Gardens in your plans and would like to be included in the Watkins Society, please call the UCR Office of Gift Planning at 951.827.3793.

Butterfly Corner

Attracting the Gray Hairstreak

Article and Photos by Ann Platzer

The lovely little Gray Hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*), with a 1 - 1.25 inch wingspan, is common in Southern California.

In fact, it is one of the most widely dispersed butterflies in North America. This is not surprising, since it feeds on numerous plant families. The flight time in Southern California is from February through November.

Hairstreaks belong to the Gossamer Wing Family (Lycaenidae) and have evolved so that their hind wings look like their head. Why is this a successful adaptation? Let's look at the Gray Hairstreak. It has



Photo 2. Gray Hairstreak larva

look like eyes and the thin tails look like antennae (photo #1). Adding to the deception, when nectaring it perches with the head down and false "head" upward, giving the illusion that the head is the tail. Not only that, it shuffles its closed hind wings back and

forth, drawing attention to the wrong end of the body so a predator attacks the hind wings rather than

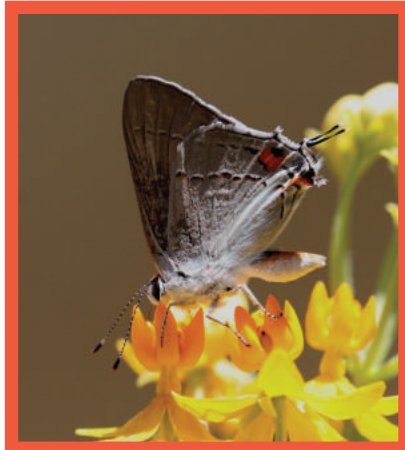


Photo 1. Gray Hairstreak

the vital head area. The success of this adaptation is demonstrated by the many hairstreaks that have nips out of their hind wing from failed bird attacks.

The female lays hard-to-see, pale green eggs singly on buds and flowers. The color of the larvae is extremely variable, but on our coral vine (*Antigonon leptopus*) they are rose-colored with short, tiny spines and blend in with their host flowers, which the young larvae devour (photo #2). Betty Moore once gave me a bouquet of coral vine. However, I soon noticed tiny, black pellets next to the vase. What were they and where did they come from? Inspecting a flower with a hole in it, lo and behold there was a tiny caterpillar the color of the flower. You guessed right: the larva was a Gray Hairstreak. I soon purchased a

coral vine for my own garden and it now spans 15 feet of our chain link fence. Older larvae also munch on coral vine leaves. The pupae, which are brownish with dark blotches and short spines, resemble dead leaves or bumps on the attached branches (photo 3). They have many broods and hibernate over winter as pupae.

The host plants include an incredibly wide range of plants in many families, such as mallows

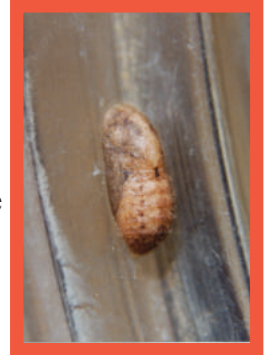


Photo 3. Gray Hairstreak pupa

(family Malvaceae), buckwheat (*Eriogonum*), coffeeberry (*Rhamnus californica*) and legumes such as clover and beans. It is easy to introduce this cute, little butterfly into your garden by planting a few of the above host plants. In fact, you probably already have a few of their host plants!! Although the Gray Hairstreak is sometimes considered an agricultural pest in bean fields, I don't mind sharing my beans with them especially since I have a number of drought tolerant and colorful host plants such as buckwheat scattered throughout my cactus garden. Happy Butterfly Gardening! AP

Primavera is Coming!
SUNDAY, MAY 19

Volunteers of the Month

By Janine Almanzor

JANUARY- BERNIE TANK For more than two decades Bernie has given of her time, energy, and wisdom to care for the Botanic Gardens. She began, once a week, in the lath house propagating plants and soon increased it to twice a week because she loved it so much. Bernie has an eye for noticing needs, so when she saw that the seeds needed organizing she set to it. Another need she noticed was for the Botanic Gardens' library to be organized. She set up the library and catalogued over 3,000 books. Bernie has also helped out with numerous plant sales in many roles. Over the years, Bernie has shifted from working with the plants to administrative work. She functioned as the Friends' secretary for about ten years and has been on several committees. Even after volunteering for 23 years she continues to give about 15 hours per week, and every minute is greatly appreciated.

FEBRUARY- BOB TANK Just like his wife, Bernie, Bob has been volunteering at the Botanic Gardens for about 25 years, and has been as committed as if he

were being paid. He started off collecting seeds from around the Gardens for propagation. Then he worked on upgrading the watering system with timers. From there, he worked with the rosarian to identify the roses and create a computer database. At one point he was coming in every day to record temperature



Bernie Tank ranges at recording stations throughout the Gardens. In 1995 he began maintaining the Friends



Bob Tank the accession information for every plant in the Gardens. Bob has created an index for the Newsletters, so that any topic or author may easily be found. Bob summed up his service by saying "When they can't find anyone else to do something, they ask him".

MARCH- BARBARA GABLE

After years of enjoying the Plant Sales as a member of the Friends, Barbara decided she would like to

help out once she retired. In 2003 Barbara retired from being an English Composition lecturer at UCR and began volunteering at the Gardens. She helped with all the work before, during, and after the Plant Sales. For years she has also enjoyed the learning experience in the nursery while propagating plants. In 2008 she took the training classes to become a docent, and she finds that leading school tours, and introducing young people to our beautiful Gardens, is most rewarding. She makes it a fun and interesting learning experience for the kids. Barbara also made an effort to learn all she could from the consulting rosarian, Gordon Ballmer, and now maintains the roses and teaches many others how to prune and care for roses. In her own garden, she enjoys growing roses and vegetables and has plans to convert her lawn into more vegetable beds.



Barbara Gable

VOLUNTEER NEWS

We have Volunteer Orientations on the second Tuesday of each month. If you would like to find out more about the kinds of volunteer opportunities we have in the Gardens, please meet us at the Front Gate at 9 AM. Please wear comfortable shoes, as we will take a short tour of the Gardens. We also have a program for volunteers who would like to serve on weekends to greet visitors. For more information on either of these opportunities, please contact Karen Fleisher at 951-682-3795 or volunteerucrbg@gmail.com.

Around the Gardens

MESSAGE FROM THE FRIENDS CO-PRESIDENT:

Spring is upon us. My favorite time of the year! This is the time of year when Riverside is at its best. No smog issues, the temperatures are cooler and almost everything is in bloom. Several of our biggest fundraisers are coming up: the Spring Plant Sale and Primavera in the Gardens. Please come, enjoy and support the Gardens.

The Plant Sale offers an opportunity to acquire unusual plants and attend lectures by local experts. During Primavera, the Gardens get all dressed up and ready to impress. Come and sample the different wines, microbrews and restaurant fares that the Inland Empire has to offer. You might discover a new favorite.

We look forward to seeing everyone soon. Not only is this the perfect time to visit the Gardens, but it is also the 50th Anniversary of the Gardens and the 15th Anniversary of Primavera. - *Amy Hao*, Co-President of the Friends

dimension to the project by demonstrating how to personalize the boxes by adding a little 'bling'. With Brenda's expertise, attendees learned that a succulent box is a piece of art, where the proper placement and choice of items and plants, to create texture and color, can result in a masterpiece. *AH*

WINTER LUNCHEON

February 10

We had a full house in our newly-remodelled conference room to hear the fascinating presentation by Dr. Frank Vasek, the first Director of the UCR Botanic Gardens. Dr. Vasek led us back in time, through historical photos of the Campus and Gardens as well as of the people who were instrumental in establishing the special botanic collection that we see today. We were also pleased to have special guests, including Dennis Kucera, the first employee of the Gardens, Oscar Clarke, who established the Herbarium, and Andrew Sanders, present Curator of the Herbarium.

Adult Ed: SPRING SOIREE

January 19

This floral design class was presented by Joel Udayke, designer and owner of Flowerloft Florist. Attendees were instructed on designing a Japanese style arrangement. Joel gave the class basic instructions and guides for visual placement of the different kinds of flowers and then allowed attendees to create their own arrangements, as one would a painting or sculpture. The second half of the class utilized materials from the Gardens. Joel took the class on a stroll through various parts of the Botanic Gardens and gathered materials such as branches, berries, flowers and unusual fruits. Using the collected materials he showed the attendees how much fun one can have by getting creative, using the natural materials we see in our own gardens.

Adult Ed: VERTICAL GARDENING

February 2

More than 20 attendees participated in this much anticipated class.

Presenter Brenda Cook, designer and owner of Botanical Perspectives, instructed the class on how to create a succulent garden in a picture frame box that could be displayed vertically. Brenda showed us how to assemble the boxes, choose the proper type of soil, and affix the succulents and moss. A surprise guest to the class was Brenda's friend, Karla Bender, a local jewelry designer. Karla brought another



Dennis Kucera, Giles Waines, Andrew Sanders, Frank Vasek, and Oscar Clarke (seated)

Lynne Seymour

The UCR Botanic Gardens Board of Directors has established a memorial fund to remember Lynne Seymour, a member of our board, who passed away on January 14, 2013. The Lynne Seymour Memorial Fund will be a tribute to Lynne's many years of community involvement as an active member and supporter of many local organizations. Lynne was a Master Gardener, and had been an elementary school and traveling art teacher with the Jurupa Valley School District. Lynne was instrumental in organizing the first Art in the Gardens event at the UCR Botanic Gardens last fall, bringing together artists from the local art community. Please join us in honoring Lynne's service to our community and her love of art in public places by contributing to the Lynne Seymour Memorial Fund which will be used to place a piece of sculpture at the UCR Botanic Gardens in her honor and for future acquisitions. This will be a lasting tribute to our friend Lynne and her devotion to our community.

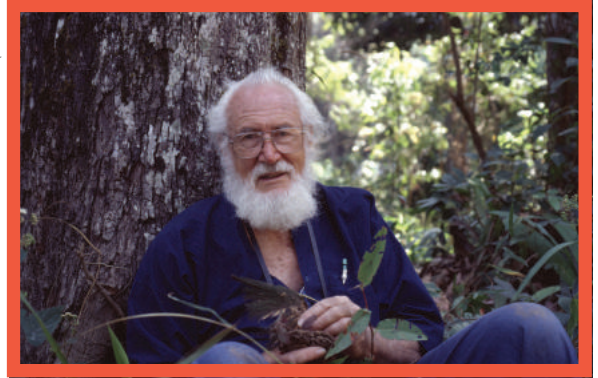
Contributions can be made to the UCR Foundation with a memo notation of "Lynne Seymour Memorial Fund" and sent to: UCR Foundation, UC Riverside, 900 University Avenue, Riverside, CA 92521



Karen Fleisher and Lynne Seymour

Oscar Clarke

The Gardens lost a good friend and supporter with the passing of Oscar Clarke on March 2. Born in Colton, CA, in 1919, Oscar was a "self-taught walking encyclopedia of local natural history," active in education and conservation groups. Oscar founded the UCR Herbarium and was curator from 1966 to 1979. Well into his retirement, Oscar documented his lifetime of natural history study as co-author of *The Flora of the Santa Ana River and Environs*. Oscar was known as a larger-than-life character and a mentor to many botanists and ethnobotanists. Despite some of the usual infirmities of living into one's 90s, in February Oscar was still occasionally helping his suc-



Oscar Clarke; photo by Greg Ballmer

cessor at the UCR Herbarium, Andy Sanders.

In lieu of flowers, Mr. Clarke's family asked that donations to be directed to The Herbarium at UCR, UCR Department of Botany and Plant Sciences, 900 University Ave., Riverside, CA 92512.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 9, Tuesday VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION 9AM at the Gate

April 13, Saturday FENG SHUI IN YOUR GARDEN

April 20, Saturday KEEP OUR GARDENS CLEAN & BEAUTIFUL DAY

April 27, Saturday BIRD WALK & BREAKFAST

April 28, Sunday BIRD WALK EXTRAVAGANZA

May 14, Tuesday VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION 9AM at the Gate

May 19, 15th ANNUAL PRIMAVERA IN THE GARDENS

U C Riverside Botanic Gardens

The UCR Botanic Gardens Newsletter is a quarterly journal published by the Friends of the UCR Botanic Gardens, UC Riverside Foundation, 900 University Ave., Riverside, CA 92521, and is one of the benefits of membership. Articles on various aspects of horticulture and its practice, history, or related subjects, especially as they apply to inland Southern California are welcomed. The selection of copy to print is at the discretion of the editors. Send copy to Steve Morgan, Botanic Gardens, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521, call 951.784.6962, e-mail Stephen.morgan@ucr.edu or visit our website at www.gardens.ucr.edu for information.

Friends Board of Directors

Officers: Amy Hao & Katherine Kendrick, Co-Presidents; Nancy Cullen, Vice-President; Dennis Ponsor, Treasurer; Brenda Bowers, Secretary;

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Ex-Officio Members: Giles Waines, Director; Steve Morgan, Curator; Margo Chabot, Past-President; Jodie Holt, Associate Dean for Agriculture and Natural Resources; Mikeal Roose, Chair, Department of Botany & Plant Science; Richard Racicot, Director, Design & Construction.

Staff: Giles Waines, Director; Steve Morgan, Curator; Theresa Ariel, Manager; Abdurrahman "Abe" Koksai, Senior Nursery Technician; Katie Shea, Volunteer Administrative Assistant. **Temporary Workers:** Jorge Fregaso, Pamela Roose, Alfredo Sevilla, and Saul Torres. **Student Workers:** Brian Kano, Troy Redfern, Mariano Resendiz, Warren Sublett.

Kristine M. Scarano Intern: Amy Kwiecien

Editors: Katherine Kendrick, Steve Morgan

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Spring Plant Sale Classes

Saturday, April 6

11:30 AM

Design a Water-Wise Garden with Color Year 'Round

Presented by **Nan Simonsen**

Nan is a Designer and Master Gardener, and owns Nanscapes, a Garden Design business in Riverside.

2 PM

Edible Landscaping- Eat Your Yard!

Presented by **Christine Markel Lampe**

Christine is a Master Gardener, and has a fabulous home garden that is both beautiful and edible.

Sunday, April 7

11 AM

Creating a Fairy Garden

Presented by **Dona Jenkins**

Dona is a Master Gardener, and the owner of GardenMoonlight, dedicated to creating magical and whimsical gardens.

1 PM

Planting a Summer Vegetable Garden

Presented by **Lucy Heyming**

Lucy is a Master Gardener and has taught numerous classes. She is host of *Gardening with Lucy* for the City of Riverside cable channel.

CHILDREN'S CLASSES: Sunday, April 7 ♦ 10 AM ♦ Noon ♦ 2 PM- TOMATOES!
Learn all about tomatoes and plant your own to take home!