

The University of California, Riverside Botanic Gardens UCRDBG Newsletter

Volume 34, Number 1, Spring, 2014

41ST ANNUAL U.C. RIVERSIDE BOTANIC GARDENS

SPRING PLANT SALE NEWS

Friends Preview Sale: Saturday, April 5, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Public Sale: Saturday, April 5, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

and Sunday, April 6, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Drought is in the news and on everyone's mind, so water efficient plant offerings will be the emphasis for the UCRBG Spring Plant Sale. Of course there will be the usual great selection, and only plants that can be established successfully at this time of the year will be offered. There will be many plants that attract hummingbirds and butterflies and nearly 60 varieties that have never been offered at the sales before -- and that's saying a lot after 40 years of sales!

Australia is a source of many choice water efficient plants and there will be plenty of these at the spring sale. Among the plants of Australian origin



Grevillea 'White Wings', spider flower



Grevillea 'Pink Midget', spider flower

colors, and with plants ranging in size from two to nine feet. The smallest is

Grevillea 'Pink Midget', spider flower, which is being offered for the first time. This cutie grows only one or two feet high and three feet wide. It has narrow, pointed leaves and balls of pink, spidery flowers that are produced nearly all year. Next in the size line-up, at four to five feet tall and six to eight feet wide, is ***Grevillea lavandulacea 'Penola', lavender grevillea***. It has narrow, gray leaves and clusters of red and white flowers in winter and spring. Growing to eight feet tall and ten feet wide is ***Grevillea 'Constance'***. It has narrow, dark green leaves that are light on the back,

and its large flowers are orange-red. About the same size as 'Constance', is ***Grevillea 'White Wings', spider flower***. 'White Wings' has narrowly-lobed, feathery, green leaves and fluffy clusters of white, sweetly scented flowers in winter and early spring. All these grevilleas need good drainage, and as with many Australian native plants, no phosphorus fertilizer. And they all attract hummingbirds.

Among the other plants of Australian origin is **pink melaleuca, *Melaleuca nesophylla***. This is a small tree or large shrub growing up to 20 feet



Melaleuca nesophylla, pink melaleuca, photo by Jvherlum

high. It has small, bright green leaves and rounded, brush-like clusters of mauve-pink flowers appearing most heavily in spring and summer, but they can appear almost any time of year. Its distinctive bark is gray-white, thick and spongy. Two other

to be available are four varieties of *Grevillea* with their clusters of unusual, spider-like flowers in many

Australian plants in the Myrtle Family with *Melaleuca* are *Callistemon citrinus* 'Jeffersii', purple bottle brush, and *Calothamnus villosus*, silky net bush. Some Friends may remember the silky net bushes which grew near the entrance to the Conference Room before they had to be removed for the new entrance plaza. It is a somewhat open shrub with soft, gray, needle-like leaves and bright red, brush-like flower clusters produced in winter and spring. Though the flowers are produced along the branches, rather than at the branch tips, they are conspicuous due to the airy structure of the shrub. Silky net bush can grow to seven feet tall. Purple bottle brush is a favorite of Gardens volunteer and supporter, Gail Watson, who grows it in her garden. It is similar to the common bottle brush, but with narrower leaves, smaller size (to six feet or so), and flowers that, rather than the common red, are red-purple aging to lavender.

Also from Australia and in the Myrtle Family are the waxflowers. These are in the genus *Chamelaucium* and the intergeneric cross of *Chamelaucium* and *Verticordia*. Rather than having flowers made up of conspicuous, showy stamens like the bottle brushes, these have more "traditional" flowers with five showy petals. The flowers are more or less cup-shaped and small, but are produced in abundance in winter and spring. They are long-lasting in cut flower arrangements and are sold commercially for that purpose. All have short, needle-like, aromatic leaves and are somewhat wispy shrubs of open growth. Four will be offered at the sale. Growing four to six feet tall are *Chamelaucium* 'My Sweet Sixteen',

C. 'Purple Gem' and *Chamelaucium x Verticordia* 'Southern Stars'. 'My Sweet Sixteen' is called bicolor waxflower for its white flowers that age first to pink, then to red. 'Purple Gem' has pink to purple flowers that are comparatively large at three-quarters of an inch. 'Southern Stars' has white flowers blushed with pink.

Chamelaucium x Verticordia 'Jasper' grows to only three or four feet tall and has pink flowers. The waxflowers have moderate water needs and, like the grevilleas, need good drainage and should be given no phosphorous fertilizer.

Yet even more versatile Australian shrubs will be offered. The largest of these is leatherleaf acacia, *Acacia craspedocarpa*,

topping out at 18 feet or so in age. Since it is fairly slow growing, a more practical expectation might be eight feet tall and five feet wide. As the common name suggests, it has small, rounded, steely gray green "leaves" that are tough and leathery in texture. As with many acacias, what appear to be leaf blades are actually flattened petioles, called phyllodes. Like some of the plants discussed earlier, the flowers are composed of conspicuous stamens; these are bright yellow and arranged like a bottlebrush. The flowers are followed by attractive, rounded, bright green seed pods. Next in size, at four to six feet tall, is rosemary everlasting, *Ozothamnus rosmarinifolius* 'Silver Jubilee'. It is



Callistemon citrinus 'Jeffersii', purple bottle brush

an aromatic shrub with narrow, silvery leaves on silver stems and clusters of papery, white flowers that open from pink to red buds in early summer. The flowers are long lasting in arrangements, either fresh or dried. The last Australian plant to be discussed here is *Correa reflexa* 'Kangaroo

Island', one of the many pretty shrubs commonly called Australian fuchsia. Australian fuchsias, in general, are valued for planting in dry shade and this one is no exception, preferring part day sun or light shade. It grows to three or four feet high and as wide and has small, shiny, dark olive green leaves. The flowers are pendulous, red tubes tipped in green. These bear some resemblance to fuchsias though the two are unrelated; instead, *Correa* is in the Rue Family with citrus. And, of course, with red, tubular flowers they are loved by hummingbirds.

Like Australia, South Africa supplies us with many fine ornamental plants. Among these are members of the genus *Coleonema*, also in the Rue Family, and commonly called breath-of-heaven. Five types will be available



Calothamnus villosus, silky net bush



Chamelaucium 'Purple Gem', waxflower

at the sale. All have tiny, needle-like leaves and an abundance of small, starry flowers in winter and spring that are loved by butterflies. Their foliage is pleasantly aromatic when brushed. Growing to six feet tall and as wide are *Coleonema album*, *Coleonema pulchellum* and *Coleonema pulchellum* 'Magenta'. *Coleonema album* has white flowers; *C. pulchellum* has light pink flowers; *C. pulchellum* 'Magenta' has dark pink flowers. *C. pulchellum* 'Sunset Gold' has golden yellow foliage and pink flowers and grows from two to four feet tall and four to six feet wide. *C. pulchellum* 'Compactum' has pink flowers and is the shortest of the group, at three feet tall, but it can still spread to four to six feet wide. All require good drainage and moderate watering.



Coleonema album, white breath-of-heaven

South Africa is also the origin of many plants that grow from bulbs and corms. Several of these will be offered at the spring sale. Two varieties of *Babiana*, baboon flower, will be available: *Babiana* 'Deep Dreams' and *B. 'Electric Rose'*. Baboon flowers are foot-tall freesia relatives with upright fans of conspicuously ribbed leaves and spikes of funnel-shaped flowers in late winter or early spring. 'Deep Dreams' has deep blue-purple flowers with white markings. 'Electric Rose' has vivid magenta flowers. Baboon flowers are best planted where they will go completely dry in summer, unless the soil is very sandy. Alternatively, grow them in a container where you can have complete control of the watering. Related to *Babiana*, and also from South Africa, is *Tritonia crocata* 'Flaming Fancy', commonly called flame freesia. This selection grows to about 1.5 feet tall and has gladiolus-like leaf fans and branching spikes of funnel-

shaped flowers in fluorescent orange-pink. *Tritonia* is probably best kept dry in summer, as well. Another summer dry, South African corm to be available

is the bizarre orchid iris, *Ferraria crispa*. It has gray-green, narrow leaves and fan-shaped flower stems bearing unusual, starfish-like, ivory-colored flowers with purple-brown markings and frilled petal tips. The individual flowers last only a day or

two but they bloom in succession over an extended period.

Several bulbous plants from South America will also be available at the sale. *Rhodophiala bifida*, oxblood lily, comes from Argentina and Uruguay and is related to the amaryllis commonly forced into bloom at Christmas-time. It has narrow, strap-shaped leaves in winter and spring, and goes dormant



Babiana 'Deep Dreams', baboon flower, photo courtesy of Suncrest Nurseries, Inc., Watsonville, CA



Ipheion uniflorum 'Alberto Castillo', white star flower

and leafless in summer. The flowers appear in late summer while the plant is still leafless. They are dark red, nodding trumpets, several produced at the top of

each upright stem. The plants offset freely and soon form a showy clump. Also from Argentina and Uruguay is *Ipheion*, called *Tristagma* by some botanists. These form a low clump of grassy, gray green, onion-scented foliage and many starry, upward-facing flowers produced singly at the top of the flower stems. *Ipheion uniflorum* 'Alberto Castillo', white star flower, has extra large, pure white flowers. *Ipheion* 'Rolf Fiedler', blue star flower, has bright blue flowers. Both of the starflowers and the oxblood lily are dormant in summer, but they do receive some summer rainfall in their native

South America. So here, they are best with at least occasional summer irrigation to prevent their roots from dying back completely.

Some of our most popular and best-adapted garden plants come from the Mediterranean region. Among the most valuable for both landscape and herbal

uses are the lavenders and rosemaries. Two varieties of each are new to the sales and, of course, all have deliciously aromatic foliage. *Lavandula x intermedia* 'Romana', lavandin, has narrow silvery gray leaves and thick clusters of tiny lavender flowers on long, wand-



Ipheion 'Rolf Fiedler', blue star flower

like stems. It grows to two or three feet tall. Slightly shorter is ***Lavandula* 'Regal Splendour', Regal Splendour lavender**. It is a hybrid of Spanish lavender, *L. stoechas*, and looks similar but is more vigorous. It has narrow, gray green leaves and stocky, pineapple-shaped clusters of tiny, dark violet-blue flowers, the clusters topped by three showy, purple bracts.



It's hard to believe that someone could come up with yet another rosemary selection, but the two we are offering for the first time are quite distinctive. ***Rosmarinus* 'Gold Dust'** is a dwarf, growing only eight to 12 inches tall. It has tiny, deep blue flowers, but its claim to fame are the leaves which are strongly gold edged, giving the plant an overall golden appearance. ***Rosmarinus* 'Paris'** is a medium-sized, upright plant growing two to three feet high. It has comparatively large leaves and flowers, the flowers pale blue with dark markings. The leaves are positioned such that the light underside is more conspicuous than usual, imparting a distinctive look to the plant. Both rosemaries are recommended for culinary use; not all rosemaries are.

As usual, there is only enough space in the newsletter to discuss a few of the many plants to be available at the sale. There is no room to

discuss **brown boronia, *Boronia megastigma* 'Jack Maguire's Red'** with its unusual orange-red and chartreuse, freesia-scented flowers, not to mention the three other choice *Boronia* selections. We can't talk about the golden yellow and red flowered ***Coreopsis* 'Tequila Sunrise'** with its foliage handsomely marbled olive green, cream and pink. Nor is there room to describe the new -to-the-sales **white tower of jewels, *Echium simplex***, which forms a dramatic, four- to eight-foot, conical cluster of white flowers above its rosette of leathery leaves. We can't even discuss the out-of-this-world **sapphire tower, *Puya alpestris***, with its sharp-toothed leaves and branching stalk of bell-shaped, metallic blue-green flowers with orange stamens. Friends will have to check out the plant list to read more about these and many other great plants. See the box to the right to review all the ways you can get your detailed plant list. But even the detailed list can't include everything. There are still



About the Plant List

Friends can choose from several ways to obtain 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 in place.

Go to **www.gardens.ucr.edu** and follow the links to the calendar and plant sale. Copies of the list will also be available at the entrance to the sale.

The list includes trees, shrubs, vines, herbaceous plants, most of our landscape-size succulents and cacti, shade plants, house and 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. Make use of this informative publication! S.M.

many cacti and succulents, hundreds of herbs, vegetables, and wild-flower seeds that will be available but are not listed. Plan to spend some time studying 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.

Friends' Winter Luncheon

The Friends' Winter Luncheon was held on Sunday, February 9th, in the Conference Room of the Botanic Gardens. This space was recently remodeled by a generous donation from Mrs. Grace Pernet-Lorenz. The event was well attended by 60 members and guests. Mr. Dennis Kucera, the first Manager of the Gardens was a special guest. Giles Waines, director of the Gardens, presented "32 Years of

Roses and Wine: UCR Botanic Gardens, Recent History and Future Vision". Giles led us through the history of the Gardens, acknowledging those who made this garden grow. He showed a photograph of Victor Goodman, who first had the idea for the Life Sciences Research Area, which opened in 1963. Frank Vasek, who spoke in February, 2013, was the first director, followed by George Gillett,

who added the lath house, pond and changed the name to the Botanic Gardens. Louis Erickson was the third director. Louis reached out to the garden clubs in Riverside. They helped develop specialty gardens such as the Rose Gardens, the Iris Garden, the Herb Garden, the lilac collection and many other improvements over the years. Volunteers Lillian and Leo Pickoff planted the cactus and succulent

gardens. Louis also oversaw the formation of the Friends of the UCR Botanic Gardens, a support group, in 1980. It was the brain child of estate attorney John Babbage, attorney Grant Carner, and Frank Hagen. Giles showed a rare photo of John Babbage, who was Riverside Assemblyman in Sacramento in 1948 when the law was passed to start a general campus of UC at Riverside. John also helped start the UCR Foundation.

Dennis Kucera, Stephen Morgan and student Brian Philips collected local endangered species such as Otay Mesa rose and Nevins' barberry. Volunteers such as Daisy and Jack Mitchell and many others helped propagate plants. Docent training classes were started, with an emphasis on school tours. Van Stout and Lee Gross enjoyed construction projects and built the stairs to the pond and vine arbor.

John Ernsberger requested the history of Primavera. In spring 1997, John Brown mentioned a fund raiser he had attended for the local hospital at Fort Bragg Botanic Garden in Mendocino County. It featured food by local restaurants and wines by local wineries along with music, art, and an auction. In May 1999 the first Primavera was held with Concha Rivera as committee chair. It has been held each year since and is a main fundraiser for the Friends' projects in the Gardens.

Giles mentioned the generous support of Robert Gunther who donated the geodesic dome lath house in memory of his father, Francis Gunther. Kurt Gunther engineered the dome. Peggy Fouke

Wortz and husband James Wortz supported the building of the first wheelchair pathway in 1987-1989.

Peggy and Jim also donated funds for the new restrooms across from the herb garden and additional wheelchair pathways to the rose gardens and pond. In 2000 they donated funds for the new entrance gates and

plaza. New plantings included the South African slope and the north coast communities. Robin Salter, Garden Manager, oversaw the construction of 6 feet wide brick paths in the herb garden to accommodate visitors in wheelchairs. Susan Kean and Rochelle Campbell donated benches in the Rose Gardens in memory of Susan's family, Neil Campbell and John Moore.

George Zentmyer and Diane Keen, members of the Friends board of directors, encouraged the annual transfer of funds from the membership account to the Friends endowment account to provide payout to help develop the Gardens in perpetuity. Dr. Betty Moore and William Olson donated funds to start the Botanic Gardens endowment fund for garden maintenance. More recently Ann and Edward Platzer and Friends donated funds to build the Butterfly Garden, which was designed and planted by Theresa Arial. Additional donations set up the Butterfly Garden endowment to help maintain that garden.



John Babbage

Daisy Mitchell donated funds for a Celebration of Life Memorial, which is much loved by art students who use the Botanic Gardens repeatedly for drawing, painting and photographic classes. It is a place for quiet meditation and remembrance, situated south of the oak grove near the memorial to Chancellor Rosemary Schraer.

Giles touched on future plans, including completion of an ADA-compliant bathroom facility near the entrance, funded by Mr. Gary Lamberson, Monika Ittig, Hal Snyder and Friends; renovation of the greenhouse, funded by teaching funds and generous donors; renovation to the gatehouse to accommodate UC cash-handling policy, construction of a new ADA pathway on the South African slope funded by Mrs. Dorothy Zentmyer, The Community Foundation, and Friends. Special mention was made of the generous support of the Community Foundation, serving the Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino, and of the Arbor Fund.

Additional projects for the future include renovation of the iris garden to provide more color throughout the year. Giles mentioned the urgent need to build a swale across the creek above the pond, so that pick-up trucks can gain access to the west



Victor and Marjorie Goodman

side of the Gardens for maintenance. There is need to renovate and replant the Old Rose Garden. This will tell the history of garden roses, which involved species from Europe, the Near East and China. The subtropical fruit orchard, which is used for teaching purposes, requires replanting and upgrading of the irrigation system. Also the need for additional parking for school buses near the entrance. Around 3000 school children visit the Botanic Gardens annually. The

Gardens are also heavily used by older students. Interns in the Gardens are funded by the Kristine M. Scarano Memorial Endowment, which allows students interested in plant biology and horticulture to gain hands-on experience.

Giles ended by showing early pictures of Victor and Marjorie Goodman, who recently left their estate to the UCR Botanic Gardens.

We also honored one of our volunteers, Margo Chabot. Margo recently received the "Roy Hord" volunteer

award from the Downtown Riverside Partnership. In the presentation she was acknowledged for her tireless contributions through various organizations, especially here at the Gardens, the successful 50th anniversary event and for starting the Children's Fund for a future Children's Garden. To date, \$5,000 has been raised for the Children's Garden and we are beginning to collect ideas of what the garden should contain.

State of the Gardens

PLANTS TO SEE:

California desert plants, South African aloes and ice plants, lilacs, spring bulbs, the butterfly garden, irises, the herb garden, salvias.

Victor and Marjorie Goodman Bequest:

In January 2014, the Botanic Gardens learned that Dr. Victor Goodman and his wife Marjorie Goodman left their estate of 1.3 million dollars to the Gardens. The funds will be housed in the UCR Foundation and will be reported to the office of the Dean of the College of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. A portion of the estate was released earlier and was placed in the Victor and Marjorie Goodman Endowment for the UCR Botanic Gardens. I hope the majority of the estate will be placed in this endowment so that payout might be received on an annual basis, in perpetuity, to benefit the Gardens. Victor Goodman was the first botanist hired in the Life Sciences depart-

ment in 1954. Victor taught many classes in Plant Biology. Marjorie set up the UCR Bookstore. In 1955 Victor suggested the campus needed a Life Sciences Research Area, where plants from different communities could be brought together for teaching and research purposes. This was achieved in 1963, when 40 acres on the eastern edge of campus was set aside. Later, the name was changed to the UCR Botanic Gardens by then director George Gillett. Vic received a "Chancellor's Award to honor his vision, outstanding leadership and commitment to UCR" at Founders' Day in October 1989.

Botanic Gardens' Endowments:

At the winter luncheon on February 9, 2014 I mentioned the advice I received from estate attorney John Babbage in July 1981, namely that the job of the director of the Botanic Gardens was to raise money and set up endowments to make the Gardens' finances less reliant on the ups-and-downs of State and campus

budgets. This I have tried to do with a great deal of help from the Friends of UCR Botanic Gardens, a support group, and other generous donors. In June 2013, the Botanic Gardens had two large endowments and 7 smaller ones, for a total fair market value of around 1.4 million dollars. These include the Friends of UCR Botanic Gardens Endowment (for garden development), the Botanic Gardens Endowment (for garden maintenance), the Julia Butts Barnes Endowment, the Walter Hartman Book Endowment, the Helen and Ortho Camp/Rancho Rose Endowment for the rose gardens, the Theodore Fisher Family Endowment for the Botanic Gardens, the Botanic Gardens Tree and Bench Memorial Endowment for memorial tree and bench maintenance, the Kristine M. Scarano Memorial Endowment for the Botanic Gardens, and the Butterfly Garden Endowment in the Botanic Gardens. If we add the Victor and Marjorie Goodman Endowment,

this will make 10 funds. If the CNAS Dean's Office places 1.1 million dollars of their bequest in to the Victor and Marjorie Goodman Endowment for the Botanic Gardens, the fair market value for all of these funds will be raised to 2.5 million. The present annual payout from the UCR Foundation and UC Regents endowments is 3.5%. With \$2.5 million, this will generate \$87,500 annually for Botanic Gardens expenses. I estimate the UCR Botanic Gardens requires 5 or 6 million dollars in endowments to make its budget more secure. Six million would generate \$210,000 annually at the current 3.5% payout, and would increase if the payout rises as the economy improves.

UCR Herbarium

Endowment:

In 2012 a group of friends of the UCR Herbarium set up an endowment with the UC Regents to provide payout to support this reference and research plant museum, which contains over 270,000 specimens of higher plants and lichens, mostly from southern California and adjacent areas. Unlike the Friends of UCR Botanic Gardens, this is not an official support group. The fair market value of this endowment is only \$30,000, but at least it is a start, and supporters may add to it in the future.

Donations:

Botanic Gardens General Fund: Michael Cate, Jerry Collins, Arthur Douglas, Dibblers Garden Club, Sarah Emmerson, Brian & Claire Federici, Dennis & Brenda Focht for the ADA Restrooms,

Tracy Kahn & Norman Ellstrand, Marion McCarthy, Mark Patteson, LaWanda Pennells, Connie Pia, Joseph Vander Pluym, Mikeal & Pamela Roose, Rosalie Silverglate, St. Francis de Sales School, Van Stout, J.G. Waines, Lisa Wilson

Botanic Gardens Children's Fund: Dr. & Mrs. James Dietrich, Justice Barton Gaut and Mrs. Merla Gaut, Barbara Hayes, Jane Falcon.

Botanic Gardens Wheelchair Pathway Fund: Rachel Hissey
Botanic Gardens Endowment Fund: Anthony & Louise Huang, Sharon Gustafsson, in memory of Daisy Mitchell.

Friends Botanic Gardens General Fund: James & Peggy Adaskaveg, Mr. & Mrs. F. Boutin, Alejandro Cortez, Rosemary Hunt, Sharon Jacobs, The Arbor Fund (a donor advised fund of The Community Foundation serving the Counties of Riverside & San Bernardino), Lewis & Mollie Vanderzyl, John Wiese
Friends Botanic Gardens Projects Fund: Mr. & Mrs. J. Akulfi, Richard Briggs, Paul & Irma DeLey, Gardener Creative Metal Work, Frank & Lucy Heyming, Peter & Rebecca Kallinger, Jennifer Katz, Valerie Martinell, Catherine & Steven Morford, Sharon Muro, Noble Wood & Clay, Antoon Ploeg & Mein Van de Ven, Concepción Rivera, Siri & Lucy Garden Glass, Sandra Schnack, Marijke Terwisscha, Various Donors.

Kristine M. Scarano Memorial Endowed Fund for the Botanic Gardens: Lorie Garvey, Col. &

Mrs. Vincent Scarano
The Butterfly Garden Endowment Fund: Carol Lovatt, Albert & Shirley Page, Ann & Edward Platzer.

UCR Herbarium Fund: John Ekhooff, in memory of Oscar Clarke.

UCR Herbarium Endowment: J.G. Waines, in memory of David Barnhart.

UCR Herbarium News:

Number of dried plant specimens: 237,000

Publications from the Herbarium include:

Provance M. & A.C. Sanders.

2013. Lucky morning glory,

Calystegia felix

(Convolvulaceae): a new species from Southern California, with notes on the historical ecology of the Chino cienega belt. **Phytotaxa** 32:1-26.

Knudsen K. & F. Bungartz. 2013. *Chrysothrix galapagoana*, a new species of lichen from the Galapagos Islands. **Opuscula Philolichenum** 12:174-179.

A Revised Catalogue of Lichen, Lichenicoles and allied fungi in California by Shirley Tucker, UC Santa Barbara, was published recently in **Constancea** 85, 2014. It mentions the extensive recent collections and determinations of new species by Kerry Knudsen and associates, from the UCR Herbarium.

<http://ucjeps.berkeley.edu/constancea/85/>

We're on Facebook!

We are pleased to introduce the newly created Friends of the UCR Botanic Gardens Facebook page!

Visit it here:

www.facebook.com/UCRBGfriends

- and be sure to hit 'Like' so that we can keep you up-to-date with Botanic Gardens events and photos.



Do I have to have a Facebook account to use the page?

You do not need a Facebook account to view the page, but you will need one to interact with the page in any way. This includes writing comments, liking photos, or receiving notifications about new content.

How do I make sure I receive all the updates?

You have two options:

News Feed To have our updates show up in your news feed, simply

Sign into your Facebook account

Go to our page, either by typing "Friends of the UCR Botanic Gardens" into the Facebook search box, or by entering www.facebook.com/UCRBGfriends into your browser's address bar.

Click on the



next to the page title, and you're done!

Notifications If you would like to receive notifications every time we post, first follow the steps above, and then click on the 'Liked' button again to select "Get Notifications."

I have a photo or other interesting content to share.

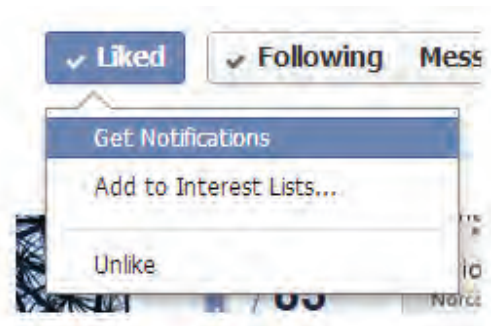
How can I get it onto the page?

We would love to see your submissions! You can either:

Post your photo directly onto the page using the dialog box at the top. It will not be visible immediately, but never fear, it will start showing up once one of our administrators approves it.

Email the submission to Amy Kwiecien (akwie001@ucr.edu) so that she can officially post it.

Please direct your feedback or any further questions to Amy Kwiecien at akwie001@ucr.edu. Thank for your support and we look forward to hearing from you!



Volunteer News

By Karen Fleisher

Our volunteers were out in full force for the Rose Pruning Demonstration on January 12. There were over 50 volunteers including the Riverside County Master Gardeners and Mountain View Rose Society, as well as UCR Botanic Gardens Friends Board members and other volunteers from the community. These volunteers demonstrated rose pruning techniques and pruned the rose bushes in the upper and lower rose gardens. This was The Gardens' most successful rose pruning event ever with over one-third of the bushes being pruned in just one afternoon. The remainder of the rose bushes will be finished by March with the help of some of our regular weekly garden volunteers including Susan Kitchens, Janine Almanzor, Barbara Gable, Elsbe Read, and Marsha McDaniel. If you have a few hours to spare during the week, join the rose garden volunteers who keep the roses looking lovely by pruning, deadheading and weeding throughout the year.

Peter Stocks has joined our Visitor Information team which greets visitors on the weekends. Peter is very familiar with The Gardens, having grown up in Riverside, spent time at the Gardens while a student at UCR and later bringing his own children here to explore the many trails. Our volunteers are already preparing for the upcoming Spring Plant Sale on April 5 and 6 which requires many hours of grooming and labeling of



Some of our volunteers at the Rose Pruning Demonstration: Above: Pauline Calkin (left) and Nanci Nelson (right); Below is Cindy Peterson

plants, as well as moving and organizing the plants on the Thursday and Friday prior to the sale. Again, if you have some time in March and April, join our many volunteers as they prepare for the plant sale.

Mark your calendars for Keep Our Gardens Clean & Beautiful on Saturday, April 26, 2014, from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. We will spend the morning cleaning up various areas of the Gardens, working in teams. It is always a fun morning where we weed, weed,



and then do some more weeding.

If you are interested in volunteering on a regular basis or for any of the above activities, please contact me at volunteerucrbg@gmail.com or at 951-682-3795. We continue to hold Volunteer Orientations on the second Tuesday of the month at 9 a.m., meet ing at the entrance to The Gardens. 🍀KF

Join us for Docent-led tours of the Gardens!

Sundays at noon: April 13th & May 4th

Meet at the Entrance Gate

The tour will be free with the admission donation of \$5.00 for non members and, of course, admission and tour will be free to Friends members.

The 45-minute tour will be limited to 20 people on a first-come first-served basis.

Butterfly Corner

Introducing the Mourning Cloak

Article and Photos by Ann Platzer

The Mourning Cloak, *Nymphalis antiopa*, belongs to the brush-footed butterflies, Family Nymphalidae.

They are called “Brush-Foots” because in both sexes the two forelegs are very small and covered with hair vaguely resembling a brush. The adults walk on only the four hindlegs as the forelegs are vestigial and useless for walking



Photo 1. Mourning Cloak, adult ventral

(photo 1: ventral view, showing only two legs, see arrows). I just learned this recently, no wonder I was unsuccessful when taking photos to get a view of the front legs!! Other familiar species in this large and diverse family include Gulf Fritillaries, Painted Ladies, Monarchs and Red Admirals.

The Mourning Cloak is a large butterfly with a wing-span of about three inches. The dorsal wing surface



Photo 2. Mourning Cloak, adult dorsal

is a distinctive colorful chocolate brown with a sub-marginal row of iridescent blue dots and a broad, bright-

yellow border (photo 2). The borders may fade to whitish on older or worn out individuals. The ventral wing surface is dark brown to drab gray with a paler border. This cryptic coloration combined with

ragged and scalloped wing margins provides the butterfly with superb camouflage resembling a dead leaf when resting with closed wings.

The female lays pale yellow/green eggs in large clusters of up to 250 encircling young twigs of its host plants which are mostly trees including willow, *Salix* spp, cottonwood, *Populus* spp., elm, *Ulmus* spp., and alder, *Alnus* spp. The larvae are gregarious throughout life eating leaves of their host plants. They are also striking with a dorsal row of large red spots on purplish-black bodies and bright red prolegs (see arrow on photo 3). The larvae are covered with dark protective spines that deter predators. When the larvae reach maturity, they usually wander away



Photo 3. Mourning Cloak Larvae, with side and dorsal views

from the host plant and select a suitable location to pupate. The pupae are gray to tan with a variety of spines and horns and hang upside down (photo 4). As a young ento

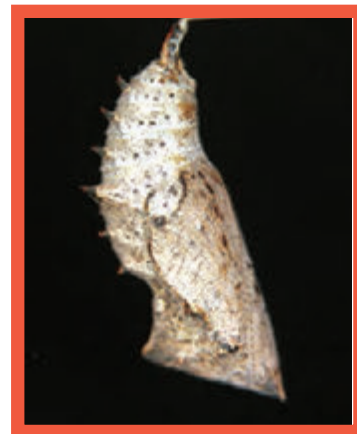


Photo 4. Mourning Cloak pupa

mologist, our son-in-law, Marco Metzger, recalls climbing elm trees in San Diego in the late 1970's to collect Mourning Cloak caterpillars to rear in terrariums. At times, the caterpillars were extremely abundant on these trees.

Few butterflies have a larger range than the Mourning Cloak. They are found throughout much of North America to Venezuela, and across Europe to Asia. They occur in almost any habitat especially deciduous woodlands, but also fields, suburbs and city gardens. They also hold the butterfly record for the longest adult life span with some living as long as 10-11 months. Yes, they even beat the famous fall migrating Monarch which may live 8-9 months!

The number of broods varies depending on the latitude and altitude. Mourning Cloaks overwinter as adults in protected crevices such as under loose bark or in log piles. Since adults become active at 60 degrees Fahrenheit, they are one of the first butterflies to be seen in spring; in fact adults fly year

Mourning Cloak, continued

to be seen in spring; in fact adults fly year round in Southern California, whenever weather permits. It is not uncommon to see individuals on a warm winter day visiting your winter blooming nectar plants or soaring in the sky. The flight pattern is distinguished by a series of quick wing beats interspersed with flat-winged glides (a characteristic flip-glide motion). It is said that fermenting fruit put in the sun will bring brush-foot butterflies into your garden for closer inspection. Try it, it may make your day!!

Thanks to Marco Metzger and Edward Platzer for reviewing the article.

Happy Butterfly Gardening! 🌸 AP

*Spend the Day
at the
Theodore Payne
Foundation*



April 19, 2014 8:00am to 4:00pm

Bus Tour for Members & Guests, \$35 per person, space is limited

Mediterranean Lunch will be available for an additional \$10

Learn about the beauty and ecological importance of California native plants and how their use in the garden conserves water and energy. Learn about gardening for support of plant-animal relationships, biodiversity, ecosystem services and our natural heritage. There is also a native plant nursery, wildflower garden, and gift shop. Our guide will be Lisa Novick, TPF's Director of Outreach and K-12 education. Lisa is also a credentialed teacher and published writer.

We will have a picnic lunch at TPF and snacks will be served onboard on return to Riverside.

Kids-- It's Tomato Time!!

Join us at the Plant Sale, on Sunday, April 6th to learn all about planting and growing tomatoes. The class is free, but space is limited. Get tickets at the entrance gate. Two classes will be offered, at 12 noon and 1:30 p.m.

Note from the Presidents - Nancy Cullen and Sue Wallace

Dear Friends,

Well Spring, also known as Primavera, is just around the corner. We have many events happening in our Gardens this season. Staff, volunteers and friends are working hard to make all events in the Gardens successful and enjoyable.

We began the year with a great **Winter Luncheon** program from our Director, Dr. Giles Waines. He reviewed the many events of the past 30 years, and shared with us his vision for the future of the Gardens.

Mark your calendars for our 41st annual **Spring Plant Sale on April 5 & 6**, followed by a wonderful bus trip to the **Theodore Payne Foundation**

on **April 19** for our members. We will be touring their native plant collection and seeing their wild flowers.

Our largest event, **Primavera in the Gardens**, is coming up on May 18th. Wine, food, music, flowers... The Garden will be royally dressed to impress you for a wonderful afternoon. We would like to thank our Board members, staff and volunteers who continue to make all our events a success and our Gardens beautiful.

See you in the Gardens!

Nancy & Sue

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: Nancy Cullen and Sue Wallace, Co-Presidents; Amber Jones, Vice-President; Julie Oppen, Treasurer; Rosemary Neal, Secretary;

Members: Brenda Bowers, Dericksen Brinkerhoff, David Carter, Brenda Cook, Karen Fleisher, Phyllis Franco, Amy Hao, Amy Kwiecien, Rob Lennox, Dennis Ponsor, Janice Ponsor, Katia Silvera.

Ex-Officio Members: Giles Waines, Director; Steve Morgan, Curator; Theresa Ariel, Manager; Katherine Kendrick, Past-President; Jodie Holt, Associate Dean for Agriculture and Natural Resources; Mikeal Roose, Chair, Department of Botany & Plant Science.

Staff: Giles Waines, Director; Steve Morgan, Curator; Theresa Ariel, Manager; Abdurrahman "Abe" Koksai, Senior Nursery Technician; Lisa Lemoine, Administrative Assistant, Katie Shea, Volunteer Administrative Assistant. **Temporary Workers:** Jorge Fregaso, Pamela Roose, Alfredo Sevilla, and Jason Timme. **Student Workers:** Jerry Aleman, Alex Gonzales, Amy Kwiecien, and Kelsy Layne

Kristine M. Scarano Intern: MARRISA BALES

Editors: Katherine Kendrick, Steve Morgan, and Lisa Lemoine

Friends of the UCR Botanic Gardens - 145
Botanic Gardens
University of California
Riverside, California 92521-0124

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 131
Riverside, CA

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 5 & 6, Saturday & Sunday SPRING PLANT SALE

**April 19 , Saturday SPRING OUTING
to the Theodore Payne Foundation**

May 18, Sunday PRIMAVERA