

Oak Notes

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NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA BOTANIC GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

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The deadline for articles to be submitted for the May 2021 issue of OAK NOTES is **Thursday, April 15**. Thank you for your prompt submission!

Volgistics reminder:
Please submit your monthly volunteer hours to Volgistics. Every volunteer minute counts.



FROM THE PRESIDENT Marla White, Volunteer President

"As a Nation and a people we have been going through changes, some of them hard to take.... We have learned to be a little sad and a little lonesome, without being sickly about it.... There are things we love that we're going to have [again] if the breaks are not too bad against us."

—Carl Sandburg, in the Chicago Times.

Sandburg's quote from 1942 is not vastly different from the sentiments we feel in early spring 2021. In the year since COVID-19 restrictions began we have faced many challenges and changes in our own lives and at CalBG. Aristotle's statement, "In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous," rings true as I wander the mesa and Alluvial Gardens noticing the colorful diversity of plants scattered amongst the Clayfornia exhibit and observe the progress of the Forest Pavilion structures.

March rains have prompted a bloom in the Garden. Manzanitas, monkeyflowers, Ceanothus, currants, poppies, Penstemon, Heuchera, and sugar bush are all in their glory right now. There are local resources for information. If you are on Facebook try Southern California Native Plant Gardeners <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=southern%20california%20native%20plant%20gardeners> or local branches of California Native Plant Society <https://www.cnps.org>.

With the loosening of county health restrictions, I am grateful for the return of Garden Guide refresher walks and the company of old friends. Virtual classes continue with Volunteer Enrichment with Horticulturist Ashlee Armstrong (TBA), Mare Nazaire's plant collection and specimen preparation (April 10 and 17), and CGU graduate student Maria Jesus's virtual tour of wildflower hotspots (April 22). Consult these websites for latest updates on wildflower blooms in California http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=30077 and many links in <https://modernhiker.com/best-wildflower-info-for-california-hiking/>

Our website <https://www.calbg.org> remains a fluid, informative resource for Volunteers, from What's Beautiful Today photos, current exhibits, classes, GNN, the online store, and digital content archived resources. Thanks to CalBG staff Danielle Wildasinn and Ming Posa for their efforts updating the website.

I look forward to seeing you around the California Botanic Garden soon.

—Marla



FROM THE DIRECTOR

**Lucinda McDade, CalBG
Executive Director**

Hello Garden Volunteers:

This is a quick up-date on the status of our two major capital projects that are underway: the California Courtyard and the Forest Pavilion, plus our smaller scale project (the CA Welcome Garden).

But first: hats off and thanks to the volunteers who are conducting exit surveys as guests leave our Garden. These surveys will inform the last phases of our Interpretive Master Plan, which we have been involved with for the last couple of years. Thank you volunteers!

Returning to capital projects, the former first: the preliminaries are done and the California Courtyard is ready for concrete! The last full week of March should see a *LOT* happen there, such that this news will probably be old news by the time you get Oak Notes. Among the last things that will happen is that the seat wall around the courtyard will be resurfaced. The contractor will be taking special measures to guard against cracking of the surface (you can no doubt picture walls with cracked surfaces). The Courtyard will likely be done—except for the planting (our part)—by mid-April.

The Forest Pavilion is looking spectacular! The images that accompany this article show you some of the truly beautiful concrete work that enlivens the facility with a sense of flowing. A lot will be happening there in the next couple of weeks that will give us a real sense of the project and the facility that will soon be ours. A couple of items will be among the last to be installed because they are rather special and require customization. This includes the skylight (to be constructed from a very special product that will not yellow for decades) and the parasoleil. The

latter is the vine-like extension of the roof that increases the shade footprint of the Forest Pavilion. That is an entirely custom design: fabricating it is challenging and it must fit perfectly from the get-go. We may well be using the Forest Pavilion before the final forms of these last two items are installed.



Lastly, the California Welcome Garden along the entryway pathway has seen a *LOT* of progress in the last few days. Some clearing out of plant material happened first, followed by trenching for irrigation (always fun given those giant Claremont potatoes!). We will also be upgrading the lighting along the path. Planting is to happen on the 31st of March, with help from Claremont Rotary and the Interact clubs at Claremont High School and Webb School. Soon we will have an entryway that makes a major impression on visitors as they enter our Garden for the first time!



VISITOR EXPERIENCE COORDINATOR Danielle Wildasinn

Hello everyone and happy spring! I've enjoyed walking through the Garden recently and finding new blooms every week! The new season brings me a sense of hope for a future where we can gather in person again.

We are excited to announce that our exhibition, *Clayifornia: Ceramic Sculptures in the California Sunshine*, has been extended! We will be able to enjoy these magnificent sculptures on display in the Garden until Memorial Day weekend. We are still in the process of coordinating joint programming with AMOCA (American Museum of Ceramic Art), so keep an eye out for announcements regarding these exciting opportunities soon to come!

The Visitor Experience Department recently welcomed two new Visitor Experience Associates to the Admissions Kiosk. Tania Parra and Antoinette Anderson are both eager to share their love for the Garden with our visitors. Stop by and say hi when you see a new face in the kiosk!

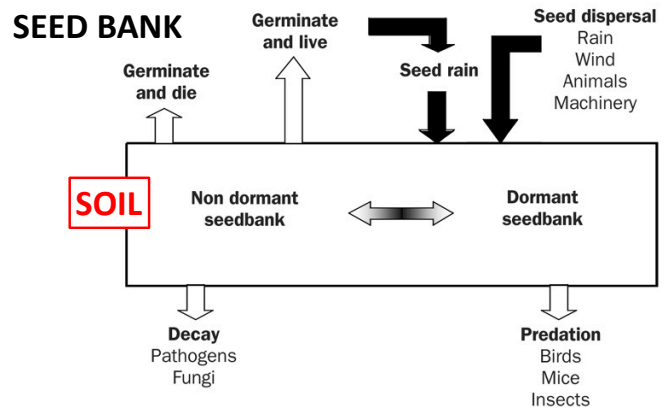
SUPER BLOOM by Lucinda McDade

In the past several years, we have been lucky enough to experience super blooms in a couple of southern California springs. We have heard that California wildflowers were visible from orbit as giant swaths of color! Our super bloom made the news feed of Al Jazeera! Down in the Santa Ana mountains, eager visitors trampled the flowers and caused such traffic jams that the authorities restricted access to viewing from a 'flower bus' that departed from a public parking lot in town. All of that is a remarkable

amount of hoopla about flowers and it naturally yields the question:

What causes a super bloom?

It is all about the seed bank and the weather in a given year.



The seed bank is simply the sum of viable seeds that are in the ground at any one time. The seed bank may be dominated by native wildflowers and thus offer the basic resource necessary for a super bloom. However, in impacted areas, the seed bank can be dominated by invasive plants. Many of us will have seen a fairly awful 'super bloom' of invasive yellow-flowered mustard plants along the 57 to the SW of Claremont: NOT the kind of super bloom we want!

As the figure that accompanies this article indicates, some of the seeds in the seed bank will inevitably be eaten by predators and others will succumb to fungal pathogens and rot. Some of the remainder will be ready—dormant—to respond to the right conditions to germinate and grow. Several entire treatises could be written about the factors that cause seeds to break dormancy, germinate and grow. Time, heat, cold, rain, abrasion—often some combination of those factors and often at least one major rain storm. If you are interested, we can ask Seed Program Manager Cheryl Birker to write for an upcoming issue of Oak Notes or to give an enrichment talk.

Let us say that conditions have been perfect—seeds have germinated and are tiny little seedlings—(some of you will have been lucky enough to see a desert location at this stage: a dense fuzz of green as far as

the eye can see). What happens next is critical. If it does not get suddenly hot and dry, and if it rains at least a little bit every three or four weeks for the next two or three months—THEN we can get a super bloom. Hot, dry periods and lack of subsequent rain are super bloom killers. Super bloom non-starters are years with very little rain.

Will we have a super bloom this year? Unlikely—we had a fairly decent storm in early November but then nothing until late December. Thus far this winter/rainy season, all months have had way less than normal precipitation and rainy episodes have been interspersed with extended dry periods. This pattern describes a year when a super bloom did not get started and is unlikely to happen (a March miracle

might change that but it would have to be pretty spectacular).

The good news: seeds remain in the seed bank to shine another day. We just have to be patient!

VOLUNTEER ENRICHMENT

Speakers: Ashlee Armstrong, Grounds Manager and Yvonne Wilson, Volunteer
Date: April 19th, 2021

Maintaining your Established Native Plants: Buckwheats, Ceanothus, Manzanitas, Matilija, and Sages

Ashlee Armstrong, Grounds Manager, and Yvonne Wilson, Volunteer, will talk about watering and

IN MEMORY OF FRASER PEMBERTON



It is with sadness that we report the passing of our dear friend and long-time Volunteer member Fraser Pemberton on February 1 at age 86 of COVID-19-related causes. Fraser was a past president of the Volunteer Organization (2006–

2008), a Nature Interpreter (now Garden Guides), and the leader of countless bird-watching tours. He had a gentlemanly, soft-spoken manner and was graciously generous in sharing his vast knowledge of botany and birds with us. He will be greatly missed.

Until perhaps a year before the COVID-19 lockdown, Fraser and his wife Beverly could be seen walking weekday mornings in the Garden. My last in-person visit with them came as they rested on a bench under a Coulter pine just north of the Majestic Oak. As he viewed the scene, he was wistful in his remarks, noting that the Coulter pines in the area were not faring well and would probably have to come down.

Fraser was born in Hertfordshire, England and emigrated to Ontario, Canada, at age 17 where he went to work on a farm. As reported in the *Claremont Courier*, he joined the Babson Bros. Company and worked for them at various locations in Canada and the U.S. until 1987 when he and Beverly moved to California. In addition to Beverly who is now living at the Claremont Care Center in Pomona, Fraser is survived by his daughter Suzanne, son Stuart, and two grandchildren. A memorial service will be held in the future when it is safe for the family to travel. The family requests donations in his memory be sent to the Garden.



maintaining common native plants that have already been established in your home garden. This last presentation of the Volunteer Enrichment series will cover how and when to prune; how to water during the summer; and how to keep your plants looking their best.

MILKWEED AND MONARCH EATERS, PART 2

by Stephen Bryant



Milkweed (*Asclepias* spp.) eaters: Yellow oleander aphids (*Aphis nerii*) can take over and damage plants, especially new growth. They also make it harder for young larvae to feed and may interfere

with egg-laying. Crush by hand or use a strong spray of water to reduce their population. Large (*Oncopeltus*



fasciatus) and small (*Lygaeus kalmii*) milkweed bugs are primarily seed predators, but they will eat other plant parts and can become common. Remove by hand if you wish, though it doesn't seem to do much good in my garden. Other possible milkweed eaters include: leaf miners that burrow tunnels in the leaf tissue, mature scale insects that form dark, roundish bumps on stems, and tiny red spider mites that damage leave and create webbing on plants. Ants protect aphids and scale.

Monarch eaters: Tachinid flies are about the size of a house fly and have red eyes. Fly larvae burrow into the caterpillar and feed on its tissues. They emerge from chrysalises or mature caterpillars and "rappel"

to the ground on long white strings. OE (*Ophryocystis elektroscirrha*) is a protozoan parasite that reduces the fitness of monarchs, and may result in a butterfly being unable to emerge from the chrysalis and/or expand its wings successfully. Infected chrysalises may have dark patches underneath the green.

Infection is spread by spores detaching from adults and landing on plants and eggs, which are then eaten by the butterfly larvae. OE seems to spread easily among monarchs raised in captivity. Tiny parasitic wasps, often in the family Braconidae, can also parasitize monarchs. Ladybird beetles, ladybird larvae, and lacewing larvae may also eat monarch eggs and small larvae. In my yard, tachinid flies, ladybirds, and lacewings are present, and perhaps OE as well, though most of the pupae I find seem to produce healthy adults. Bacteria and viruses don't seem to be a problem on my plants.

WILDFLOWERS AT CALBG

by Peter Evans, Director of Horticulture

When one thinks of California native plants the first images that come to mind are those of our wildflowers, such as the iconic California poppy. At the end of summer, we begin thinking about the upcoming rainy season and looking at which wildflower seeds are available. We purchase them in late August or early September so that we have them on hand and can react quickly when the first winter storm of the season turns up. Typically, this would be early in the fall, say October, but this year the rains arrived late. The first significant rain was on December 28, while all of the horticulture staff were off for the holidays, so no seeding happened.

The next rain event when the staff were here came on January 28 and the day before we sowed the seeds of California poppy, Baby Blue Eyes, Clarkia, and my favorite *Phacelia campanularia*, or Desert Bells, into the Garden. By the second week of February, we were able to see the fine leaves of California poppy seedlings.

We have noticed that we get the best germination and growth of wildflowers where we have thrown the seed into areas covered by a thick mulch. Having recognized this, we now cast the seed over mulched beds and even oak leaf mulch, then water in the seed with a forceful spray of water from a nozzle on the end of the hose in order to wash the seed down into the nooks between the pieces of mulch. This way, the seed stays cool and moist and seems to germinate much better than sowing seed over bare earth.

The benefits of sowing wildflower seed are that they attract beneficial insects and pollinators, prevent erosion on slopes, improve water quality, and are a pleasure to observe. Ideally, choose wildflower seeds of plants that are local to the part of California you live in. Plant them in a part of the garden that gets full sun for most of the day. There is no need to amend the soil since California plants are used to poor soils. After they bloom, leave them in the ground a while so that they drop their seed and contribute to next season's wildflower show.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CALIFORNIA INDIANS, PART 2

by Shaunna Gygli

Following secularization (1834–1836), most surviving California Mission Indians returned to their tribal lands. Their communities had been decimated by population decline and domestic animals had destroyed the native flora. Mexican citizens were awarded an additional 762 land grants, further reducing Indian lands. Guerrilla Indians, made up of former fugitive Mission Indians and Indians of the interior, formed bands that effectively raided stock. Despite their success, over 77 years smallpox, malaria, forced labor, and slave-hunting parties reduced the Indian population from 300,000 to 150,000.

After the American forces arrived, slavers such as Mariano Vallejo and Johann Sutter were appointed as Indian sub-agents. Along with the military government, they suppressed stock raiding and restored free movement to the Indians, though the latter were required to carry certificates of employment.

After the discovery of gold at Sutter's sawmill, 100,000 gold seekers descended on the native people resulting in widespread sexual assault and mass murder, with an equivalent number of Indians killed during the first two years! There is nothing like this in American Indian History!

In 1851, the United States negotiated 18 treaties and set aside 7,466,000 acres but few tribes were aware or participated. There were promises of help from farmers, teachers, and tradesmen, along with agricultural equipment, cloth, and other supplies.

—Yogi Berra

"It was impossible to get a conversation going, everybody was talking too much."



A Very Happy April Birthday to:

Jordyn Brase	Peter Kavounas
Rachel Cheung	Betsy MacLaren
Zoe Carlson	Al Noreen
Maia Donadee	Michael Shelley
Katy Douglass	Ingrid Spiteri
Alegria Garcia	Janice Tsuma
David Gish	Alejandra Vargas-Lara
Alison Hansen	Joe Vlietstra
Bev Jack	



An idealized portrait of the first Christian baptism in California | Image: "San Juan Capistrano Mission" by Engelhardt, Zephyrin (1922)

However, enraged Americans stopped ratification of the treaties by the California Senate. Congress created a commission to validate land titles but Indians were not told that claims must be filed, so none were! With the loss of their land, most tribes withdrew from this hateful environment.

California entered the union in 1850 as a free state. Despite guarantees in the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, Indians were denied citizenship, voting rights, and the right to testify in court. Slavery was legalized as "indentured servitude" and male children could be indentured until age 30, females until age 25. Indian parents were sometimes killed and their children kidnapped and indentured. This practice



Garden Guides resumed. Photo: Dean Shimek, Linda Clement, Ann Morgan, Katy Douglass, Virginia Herd

was abolished four years after Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation in 1863.

In 1854, the US government established the Bureau of Indian Affairs and appointed Edward Beale as Superintendent. He started a prototype Indian preserve within the 75,000-acre boundary of Fort Tejon and was authorized to create four more reservations. He squandered the money, however, starting decades of corruption and incompetence that characterized the Bureau in California and other states. Other reservations and Indian rancherias were established but lacked suitable game, agricultural land, and water. Records show that fewer than 3,000 of the 70,000 surviving Indians received recognition, let alone provisions.

Most California Indians without government aid or recognition were on the verge of starvation and this led to a series of Indian wars between 1860–1872. The government responded, allowing massacres by the militia and deportation to reservations in Oregon. Squatters overran the reservation land and the Bureau did little to help the tribes.

Under President Grant's Peace Policy of 1869, Christian missionaries, who gained control of many reservations, were determined to destroy Indian culture and belief systems. Policy makers said the surviving Indians should be Christianized, with a path to private property ownership. Reservation agents insisted that the residents join churches and stop practicing the old ways.

The General Allotment Act of 1887 divided tribal reservation lands. Small parcels were given to Indians who agreed to build a house, farm, or ranch, send their children to school, renounce tribal allegiance, and basically please the agent. After 25 years, he would receive title to the land and citizenship. By 1930, about 2,300 allotments had been established. In 1932, the law was repealed due to tribal resistance and pan-tribal opposition. Thousands of acres of Indian land were lost due to this policy.

RECENT VOLUNTEER PURCHASES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO CALBG by Marla White

Thank you for your continued and ongoing support of our fundraising efforts for CalBG. Each year the Volunteer Organization of California Botanic Garden, upon the recommendation of the Volunteer Board and based on CalBG Staff input, provides monetary support as well as tangible items. Scattered throughout the Garden are purchases that include the beautiful decorative screens and decorative trash receptacles for the Corral and Sycamore classroom. Your donations and support have helped provide the Volunteer Library with book purchases, a book rack, and a cork bulletin board. The picnic tables near the visitor lot and trash cans have been widely utilized by school groups and Garden guests. Donations for materials to be used in the Native Designs Garden have improved that area as well. Financial support of family events (Bump in the Night, Acorn Day, and Bird Fest) has aided these successful experiences.

Monetarily, individual Volunteers have always been supportive of appeals for the General Fund. Collectively, we were sponsors of the annual Gala, donated nearly \$167,000 towards the Forest Pavilion, and before COVID-19 restrictions donated thousands of service hours monthly in departments across CalBG and in public outreach on behalf of the Garden.



POETRY CORNER

Lizard Love



Today I spied a lizard
But he did not see me.
The push ups he was doing
Were not for me to see.

The object of his interest
Was another little she
Who watched, but at this time,
Pretended not to see.

I continued on my walk
As it was plain to see
The quality of his push ups
For him would be the key.

Betsy MacLaren

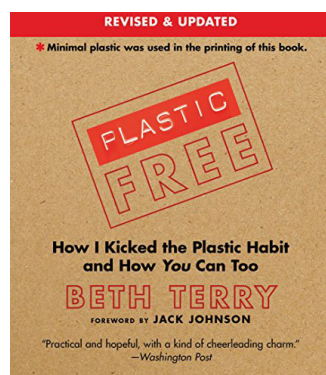
h u n - B

morning woke before me,
eyes felt heavy —
from the gulp of midnight and merlot
unzipped the tent, breathed in
Sedona woods covered in dew
and green and gilded light —
broken light; mottled cloudcover;
she sat pressed against her cup
peering at the last of night-heat and ash;
dense conifers mixed with the steam
lavender and lemon rind —
still hot on the kettle. Her hair
honeyed by the sun —
it was our first morning
miles into nowhere

Jared Nokturne

BOOK OF THE MONTH

Amy Baumann, Volunteer
Library Committee



Plastic Free, how I kicked the plastic habit and how you can too. By Beth Terry. Skyhorse Publishing, 2015: 352 pp.

An increase in newspaper articles regarding the negative impact of plastics on our health and the environment motivated me to finish a book I received as a gift from a friend. *Plastic Free* is a practical book on how to reduce the use of plastics in our homes. It offers some easy tips but also includes some that are definitely more challenging. As the first chapter states, “plastic is everywhere.” The book is divided into eleven chapters that address reducing the use of plastics in our everyday life. Topics include tips for reducing plastic in grocery shopping, personal care products, and the purchase of durable goods. There is a chapter on take-out food and single-use containers, which has become an even bigger issue in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. I found the chapter on feeling overwhelmed especially helpful as eliminating plastic can feel like a daunting task that is beyond our control. Author, Beth Terry, recommends trying one new change each month to keep moving forward. She suggests focusing efforts to reduce plastics in the present moment regardless of the possible outcome. Terry encourages us to keep trying “...because if we don’t try, we are certain to fail. Setting an example through our personal actions is powerful. The more people see us with our reusable bags and water bottles, the more normal those things will become. Peer pressure works. We can use it for good or evil.” The book reminded me that our actions not only affect the planet but our health and the health of those we love. The fun and friendly writing style makes this book inspiring and easy to read.

POETRY CORNER



The Rose

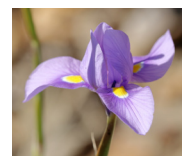
The bud
Of beauty
Unfolds, glows.

Though one
Has faded,
Another grows.

Its scent
Penetrates
Deepest pain.

Passion,
With promise,
Spring again.

Judy Moffet



angelsare fromearth

sky nothing —
what have you lost
underoak
isolate grows
once-rivers
echo like storm-borne
iris, sharp purple
drenched wildcream
kiss in rain-cold
devastate all things
bummel before
spring vacancy
so damn lovely
wash my hands
deepsoil
light cannot see
axis mundi

Jared Nokturne

THE PRESSED PLANT: Techniques in Plant Collecting and Herbarium Specimen Preparation 2 Sessions, Saturdays, April 10 & April 17, 10 am to noon

Every plant is a perfect form. When pressed, dried, and mounted onto paper, its perfection is captured and preserved. Herbarium specimens are beautiful works of art, but also serve importantly to document the natural world, to assist in plant identification, and in botanical research.

Join us virtually for this two part workshop series with Mare Nazaire, Ph.D., Administrative Curator of the Herbarium at CalBG, and become familiar with the techniques of plant collecting and making herbarium specimens.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

In its coming issues, *Oak Notes* will be highlighting volunteer board members and committees.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

by Dorcia Bradley

Being a part of Public Relations is a happy job. As ambassadors of the Garden we get to connect with the community through numerous activities during the year, whether by distributing coming-event flyers at businesses throughout Claremont and surrounding cities, or being greeters at both onsite and offsite events. These community outreach activities heighten CalBG's visibility and promote its mission to educate the public about the use of native plants in the landscape.

CalBG volunteers have been an active presence at Claremont fund-raising events for several years, checking people in at the City's June Beer Walk and September's Wine Walk. We also have a table at Village Venture in October, as well as at the Dia de Los Muertos celebration at the Depot in November. These are great events for PR participation and Garden visibility.

The Visitor Experience staff let us know when and where PR can be of assistance. We often have a table near the kiosk, greeting visitors at special times, such as on Mothers' & Fathers' Days, to answer questions and provide information about membership opportunities. And one can always find PR Team members volunteering at the wonderful annual events the Garden normally is able to host.

This year, of course, all those activities have been on hold, but in the midst of the void PR became involved in a very important new opportunity through the Advancement department. Since June, several of our PR volunteers have been making calls to check in with CalBG's new members who have been with us for about three months. And, there's the occasional short term project for which PR raises its hand; this year it is conducting exit interviews of

visitors regarding the Interpretive Master Plan for the Garden.

It is a rewarding experience to connect with people who are interested in, or maybe even unaware of the Garden, to share information, to hear their thoughts and ideas, and to get the sense that the Garden is making a difference in their lives.

VICE PRESIDENT

Lynn Miller



As with so many CalBG Volunteers, I joined the organization after I retired. I've enjoyed the flexibility of working in numerous areas and events in the Garden, and with that came many friendships, continuous learning, and nurturing-time outdoors. For me, the two biggest draws as a volunteer have been leading school tours and working with flowers. Both being a Garden Guide and an occasional flower/wreath arranger with Native Designs have been fulfilling, so when I was asked to serve on the Board as Vice President, I was happy to say, "Yes."

The role of Vice President is not as encompassing as the President's, but the Vice President needs to be ready to step in when needed. If the President cannot attend a function, the Vice President stands in. The Vice President also serves as a corresponding secretary who is ready to send cards; make calls or other contacts when a Volunteer is ill or has passed away; or when joys and other needs arise. CalBG Volunteers are connected in so many ways, so when a time for caring comes up, we want to be sure they are remembered.

After serving on the Board, I appreciate how many working parts make up our Volunteer Organization. I've enjoyed learning about each aspect and area in which members can serve in the Garden, and what it

takes to arrange and coordinate all of our activities. I encourage all our Volunteers to think about helping out by joining the Board or a committee and becoming an active part of the Volunteer Organization.

VOLUNTEER ENRICHMENT AND FIELD TRIPS

Yvonne Wilson, Chair

The Enrichment Committee works to find creative programs that delight, inform, and challenge Volunteers. In the past we have had horticultural staff presentations on growing and caring for California native plants; research studies by CalBG graduate students; personal adventures to such faraway places as Alaska, Fiji, and Tanzania; and reports on flora and fauna close to home, including wildflowers in Eureka Valley, birding in Madera Canyon, Arizona, and squirrels at CalBG. We have sponsored field trips to White Water, the Channel Islands, and a butterfly park in Huntington Beach. As you can see, committee members work diligently to fulfill their charge to “provide continuing education for volunteers and opportunities to socialize with their colleagues.”

After February 2020, all Enrichment programs ceased until November, when we were able to schedule noon Zoom meetings on selected Mondays. So far, we have presented a biography of Susanna Bixby Bryant, followed by a survey of women botanists in California. The latest program about library archiving gave us a welcoming view into the historic holdings of the Library and the extensive work it takes to make the materials available.

COVID-19 presented the Enrichment Committee with the opportunity to experiment, offering programs via Zoom without having to travel to CalBG, and recording and later posting them on the CalBG website for convenient viewing. We have averaged about 30 participants the day of the presentation. We think this is great! We will continue to look at the numbers of views after the fact.

Enrichment Committee members are always planning ahead. We usually meet in September and plan

programs for October through May of the same year. This year we have taken a more opportunistic approach to program planning, scheduling available programs as time allows. Even though we don't know the future of in-person meetings, we would love to receive your suggestions for future programs and field trips. Contact Yvonne Wilson at ymwilson@uci.edu.

TREASURER

Paul Donatelli

I genuinely enjoy working as Treasurer for the CalBG Volunteer Organization. Being part of each committee, with an arm's-length connection, I can see the dedication everyone brings to the CalBG experience. Some work behind the scenes baking cookies, breads, and many different goodies. Others cut vines for wreaths, and then twist and bend them into various shapes to make wreaths for sale. Our volunteers bag mistletoe for sale, act as garden guides, and tram drivers for various events and special occasions. Those wonderful dishes served at our quarterly meetings are cooked by volunteers. The committees make everything and are responsible for the income we are blessed to have. The function of the Treasurer is set out in the CalBG Bylaws, Section 2, Item d: “The Treasurer is the chief financial officer and shall have charge of the funds of the Organization, accepting payments, keeping an account of financial transactions, reporting these to each meeting of the Board of Directors and the members, and presenting a full financial report at each annual meeting. The Treasurer chairs the finance committee, prepares the annual budget, and submits quarterly reports to the CalBG finance officer.”

Some Highlights. The current term of the Treasurer started on July 1, 2019. Total funds on hand in the volunteer bank account at the time was \$6,019.94 and is now \$7,088.36, a gain of \$1,068.42. Not much, you say? But this does not tell the full story. You, the CalBG Volunteers also contributed over \$4,800 to the various ongoing projects during this same period. And we are set to give another \$2,500 very soon, bringing the total amount to over \$7,300.00. How great is that! Congratulations all around. Have fun. I do.

AROUND THE GARDEN

Top to bottom, left to right:

1 Helianthus; 2-Nemophila; 3 Erigeron; 4 Rosa;
5 Trichostema; 6 Salvia; 7 Lupinus; 8 Penstemon;
9 Ribes; 10 Arctostaphylos; 11 Eschscholtzia; 12
Ceanothus;
13 Sisyrinchium; 14 Romneya; 15 Verbena;
16 Baileyas

