

Oak Notes

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NEWSLETTER OF THE CALIFORNIA BOTANIC GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

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FROM THE PRESIDENT Betsy MacLaren, Volunteer President

What a pleasant surprise it has been to receive so much rain at the start of the season. It has benefited my own garden as well as our Botanic Garden. I hope this portends a decent rainy period for the rest of the year. And cooler temperatures are welcome as well.

It feels like we have gone from zero to sixty in terms of events to be held at the Garden. There are many opportunities for volunteers to help out, and sign-ups are available on Volgistics as well as on the new volunteer portal called Vic-Net. There are instructions about how to download Vic-Net on the CalBG website when you log into Volgistics.

One of the most popular and fun upcoming events is **Bump in the Night**, which has returned after a hiatus of four years. There are many opportunities to be a part of this spooky adventure on Friday and Saturday nights, October 6 and 7.

Also popular with members and non-members is the opening of the **Grow Native Nursery** on the weekend of October 13, 14, and 15. Last year the opening was a huge success that resulted in the emptying of the benches in the nursery. I personally have a neighbor who made a point of becoming a member of the Garden just so she could scoop up our California native plants.

CalBG will have a booth at the annual Claremont street fair, **Village Venture**, on Saturday, October 28. Our booth is a popular attraction, and we hope the exposure will encourage folks to visit the Garden and consider becoming members.

Finally, the magical **Luminaria Nights** will be held on December 8, 9, 10, 15, and 16. This has been one of my favorite nights to volunteer at the Garden. Attendees appear uniformly happy as they roam the paths in the muted darkness, listen to the musicians, and warm themselves with a hot cup of cider or a glass of a more bracing libation.

Please consider taking advantage of these wonderful volunteer opportunities!

—Betsy

The deadline for articles to be submitted for the OAK NOTES is the **15th** the month **prior** to publication. Thank you for your prompt submission!

Volgistics

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



FROM THE DIRECTOR

**Lucinda McDade,
CalBG Executive Director**

Thanks to so many of you for joining us to celebrate and honor Peter Evans. We had a terrific taco lunch and thanked Peter so thoroughly that we left him speechless! We are hoping that he won't be too much of a stranger – in fact, we hope to see him here at events celebrating the opening of the GNN in October. Meanwhile, I know you join me in rallying behind our new Director of Horticulture, Ashlee Armstrong, ably assisted by Grounds Manager Jared Nokturne. Great things will continue to happen!

I also know that you have joined *all* of the staff in welcoming Patty Nueva España as new volunteer manager! And just in time as we head in to a very busy fall season. “Bump” is back — a bit earlier in October than has been typical but — if you've not heard – October is the new June which means that most weekends were long ago booked for weddings. Our Facilities Rentals program is a great revenue earner for us but its success does require that we act early to schedule Garden events. “Bump” in 2023 — first time since 2019 — will bring back some of the old and familiar, but will also feature some entirely new ‘events.’ Jennifer Scerra and her back-up of staff + graduate TAs are doing a great job getting it all organized. And I know that *many* of you volunteers will be there helping out and supporting the return of this terrific event.

After “Bump,” we go directly into the launch of the Grow Native Nursery. Watch for calls for volunteers to help out — Mariana and Israel will need help in advance as they confront thousands of pots that need to be labeled and organized, and then of course there will be the grand opening. As we old-timers know, it is not what it used to be when we sold plants only a few days of the year, but it is still a really big deal with a lot of excitement and a LOT of native

plants headed out to good homes. We will need help both from people who know a bit (to a LOT) about plants, but also from volunteers with other skill sets including just being your friendly selves!

In preparation for fall, the Native Designs crew has been at work on wreaths. The grape vines were bent into shape nearly six months ago and they are now getting adorned. They will debut for sale at the GNN launch and we expect most of them to be sold that weekend. If you want one, best be the early bird! The funds that the Native Designs team raise go to support volunteer and garden endeavors year around which makes purchasing one a definite win-win.

Meanwhile, improvements continue on the grounds. In just a few days, we will have a fleet of gently used shipping containers on a pad north of Maintenance to provide various departments at the Garden with desperately needed storage. As part of the project, we are also acquiring parking space north of Maintenance and will be able to move the Garden's field vehicles there, freeing up much needed space on the gravel lot. A number of ‘generations’ of volunteers have worked with us to try to control the entropy that seems naturally happens in the area north of maintenance when no one is watching. With specific



A Very Happy October Birthday to:

Alec Bryson	Jeremiah Sailor
Valerie Cressy	Paul Salazar
Aria Garcia	Benjamin Segura
Kathy Henkins	Frank Swift
Benjamin Mercier	Linda Lee Worlow
Gordon Olson	

departments having specifically assigned space there, we hope to keep things neat and tidy (or at least inside of the containers!).

The Marilee Scaff Butterfly and Marcia Goldstein Bird Garden is all but ready as many of you know. Coming soon is lighting — fixtures and materials have been ordered and our hort colleagues are ready to jump on it as soon as the hardware arrives. Next will come planting — plant lists have been prepared, plants have been requisitioned from the nursery or ordered as the case may be. Finally, we will add interpretation. I am personally thrilled and cannot wait to see the Garden take its full intended shape! What a terrific way to honor and preserve the memories of Marilee and Marcia — wonderful friends and volunteers at CalBG!

Luminaria will come next and of course we are all on pins and needles as to what the winter rainy season will bring. The summer has been a series of surprises and we can only imagine what will happen next. If anyone had told us in June or July that August would end with a hurricane and more than 3" of rain, I doubt we would have believed it. I'm not sure what that implies for November, December and beyond but it will without doubt be interesting!

Thanks, volunteers, as ever, for all that you do. You add immeasurably to the effectiveness of our staff and make this a very fun and special place to work!

Onward!

—Lucinda

OCTOBER AROUND THE GARDEN

by Laura Christianson

In October, as the sun's position begins to lower over the horizon, it streams through the trees at a lower angle creating a beautiful mix of shadow and light. In Japan, they have a word for this "interplay of light and shadow" called, "*komorebi*." This phenomenon

becomes a spectacular sight while walking through the Garden in the morning. If you can plan your trip around the 8 a.m. opening, or again at 5 or 6 p.m. in the evening, you are sure to catch a glimpse of *komorebi* lighting up the North Mesa. More specifically, walk the oak-tree-lined West Path maintained by Horticulturist Jennifer Chebahtah, or go slightly downhill towards the communities where the light bounces off sycamores, oaks, and a beautiful Catalina ironwood.



In addition, the yellows of late summer continue through October with profuse blooms of *Ericameria* (rabbitbrush) in the North Garden, maintained by horticulturist Rowan Steffey, and a continued

flush of yellow *Helianthus annuus* (sunflowers) welcoming everyone in the Wildflower Meadow, cared for by Senior Horticulturist, Chip Grubbs. Red nudges its way into the Garden in October through tufts of *Fuschia* dotting the Mesa and the Southern California Gardens, along with the bright red berries from Toyon found throughout the Garden. The change in sun intensity and weather brings much needed relief to the Garden, Garden staff and volunteers, and local wildlife.

In October, we welcome back our migrating birds for winter! Look for White-crowned Sparrows, Yellow-Rumped Warblers, Ruby-Crowned Kinglets, flocks of Robins and Cedar Waxwings, and if we are lucky, Northern Flickers and the duo of Great Horned Owls that seem to stay close by the old golf course next door.

In your own gardens, October is the moment when all your gardening plans can be put into action with the start of a new planting season. We hope you will join us for the Grow Native Nursery sale on October 14th and happy planting!

AED (AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR) LOCATIONS

by Betsy MacLaren

Last year the volunteers donated two AED devices to CalBG. The price tag of \$3,285 was well worth the expense. Most of us are aware that AED devices are located in shopping malls, gyms, and other public locations. The staff of CalBG received training on how to use the AED at their last biannual CPR re-training class.

The most important thing to do first if someone suffers a cardiac arrest is to call 911, and then to grab

an AED. People who have been trained on the device can open it, attach sensor pads to the chest, and allow the device to analyze the heart rhythm (absent or irregular). If a shock is advised, the machine makes that pronouncement and a life-saving shock can be delivered.

Some of you may be aware of this life-saving experience if you watched the Buffalo Bills/Cincinnati Bengals Monday Night Football game last year. One of the players, safety Damar Hamlin, suffered a cardiac arrest after he tackled an opponent. Quick work by the medical team and the use of an AED helped to restore a heart rhythm. He has recovered and returned to the team this year.



AUTOBIOGRAPHY: LISA HAHN Vice-President, CalBG Volunteer Board

My name is Lisa Hahn and I am so pleased to be the new vice president of the CalBG Volunteer Board, as well as the Chair of the Outreach Committee. The outreach committee is the new name of the PR committee.

I have been a part of the Claremont community for over 40 years and the botanic garden has played a central role in building my love of this area. I started coming to the botanic garden when my children were toddlers and walking around the garden gave them an appreciation of nature. There were plenty of tadpoles and later frogs in the pond at the front area of the old entrance. When I wanted to escape my busy life of being a mom and business owner, I would come to the botanic garden and sit under an oak tree doing some contemplation and breathing in the wonderful air.

I became a volunteer at CalBG in 2017. I took the training to become a nature interpreter and did

adult tours. My favorite tour was when the origami exhibit was at the garden. I also enjoyed staffing various events like the summer concerts and Bump in the Night.

I want everyone who lives in this area to know about the botanic garden and that is why I am chairing the Outreach Committee. If any volunteer wants to be an ambassador from time to time and share your enthusiasm for CalBG, please contact me, or sign up directly to staff an exhibit table at an event. Even better, join the Outreach Committee.

My background is in public health and water resources consulting, as well as management. I have a Master's in Public Health and co-owned a publishing and consulting firm. I have a daughter who lives with her husband in Sherman Oaks, and a son who lives with his wife and two spoiled cats in New York City. I am an animal lover and recently rescued a crazy young Shih Tzu/Jack Russell dog named Meatball.

Please reach out to me, introduce yourself, and give me any ideas you have for enhancing the experience of the CalBG volunteers.



Although we hope we'll never have to use the AED at the Garden, having it accessible may be the difference between life and death. One of the AEDs is mounted on the wall just outside the herbarium in the administrative building (right). The other is located in the kiosk (left). Please take a moment to locate these devices the next time you are visiting the Garden.



by Jen Pizzolo, Interim Director of Advancement

In August, the Garden opened its gate to members only on Monday nights! Cooler temperatures and beautiful sunsets created a quiet oasis for our

Member Monday evening strolls. Woodland Roasting Company partnered with us to offer a pop-up coffee and tea shop, too. Some of the choices were: Douglas Fir Spring Tip Iced Tea, Yerba Santa Iced Tea, and cold brew lattes with the option of vanilla and lavender syrup.

During the last two Member Mondays, the CalBG Volunteer Organization helped serve Bert & Rocky's native plant-infused ice cream, *Freeze Wild*, for a requested donation to Community Education. Scoops of Bluecurls 'n Cream, Chocolate Orange Bay, and Elderflower Lemon Sorbet delighted members during these warm summer evenings. With the help of our dedicated volunteers, we were able to raise over \$475! Thank you to everyone who participated in Member Mondays!



THINGS THAT GO BUMP IN THE NIGHT by Sally Hy

The time is here! Things that Go Bump in the Night returns after its four-year hiatus this first weekend of October (October 6 & 7, 5:30–9:00 p.m.). There will be loads of fun, family friendly nighttime activities! Here's the scoop on what's happening at the Garden:



VIRGINIA HERD Co-Chair, Visitor Education Committee

I grew up in the Highland Park area of northeast Los Angeles.

There were hills and vacant lots across the street from our house where I loved to play and collect trapdoor spiders. Our neighbors had a fish pond where they let us catch pollywogs to put in our fish bowls so we could watch them grow legs and turn into frogs.

After college I became a teacher of mostly 4th and 5th grades in El Monte and Covina. My classes

learned the common names of several wildflowers and made drawings of them. The kids would come to class and excitedly tell me which ones they had seen on the weekend while going places with their families. Several times we came to RSABG for field trips to learn more and we all enjoyed those visits to the garden.

In 2002 I retired and decided to volunteer here at CalBG. I have worked in the herbarium mounting plants ever since then. I also worked for special events such as "Bump in the Night," "Acorn Festival," "Bird Fest," "Water Festival," "Luminaria Nights" at Christmas, led school tours, and worked in the butterfly pavilion. Each time I volunteer I try to learn something more.

If you're a fan of improv or story time, then you're in luck! "Without a Box" improv from the Claremont Colleges will be performing a plant-themed improv show and we'll be hosting a special nighttime-themed story time (don't worry—nothing too spooky!).

Are owls and wolves returning? Yes! Our seasoned Bump presenter, Wild Wings, will be partnering with Pomona Valley Audubon and return with their owls, and we welcome a new Bump presenter, Guardian of the Wolves, with their ambassador wolfdogs. You can also expect to see live reptiles and spiders from our Garden.

There will be no shortage of fun educational activities as well. The SoCal Bat Working Group will have fun coloring sheets and crafts along with their display of museum specimens and live bat echolocation recordings. Owl-pellet dissection will be returning! Make-your-own pollinator headbands and finger puppets can be found at the Cultivar Garden, where our new night garden plant adventure takes place. We will also be hosting nighttime trivia at the Outdoor Classroom.

We'll have Guided Night Hikes again for those who want to enjoy the sights and sounds of the plant communities at night, and we'll offer Guided Oak Forest Hikes around our Garden for a new experience.

Whether you'll be volunteering at this year's event or attending as a guest, we hope to see you there!

GROW NATIVE NURSERY FALL OPENING!

by Mariana Ramirez Rodriguez

A sneak peek on fall sale inventory and a call for volunteer help

Planting season and the Grow Native Nursery's opening weekend are coming up fast! We have lots of returning cultivars, such as GMR White Penstemon (*Penstemon heterophyllus* 'GMR White'), Marian Sampson Monardella (*Monardella macrantha* 'Marian Sampson'), and Las Pilitas Hummingbird Sage (*Salvia spathacea* 'Las Pilitas'). Along with these

are two exciting cultivars we haven't offered in a while: the Ortega Beauty Chaparral Currant (*Ribes malvaceum* var. *viridifolium* 'Ortega Beauty' and Channel Islands Bush Poppy (*Dendromecon harfordii*).



The Ortega Beauty Chaparral Currant is a narrow, deciduous shrub that can reach 6' in height. The foliage is deep green and the peeling bark is reddish brown. The flowers bloom in late winter with long, pink tassels; a perfect splash of

color while other native plants go dormant. It prefers part shade, well-draining soil, and moderate watering once established. Keep in mind this native plant loses its leaves during the summer.



The Channel Islands Bush Poppy is a shrub that can grow to 20' in height and 8' wide. The leaves are smooth edged, oval shaped, and a silvery green. The bright yellow flowers bloom almost year-round. It prefers full sun, well-draining soil, and little to no water once

established. Handle the roots gently when planting into the ground.

Nursery staff have been working hard getting these plants ready, but we also need your help. For three Thursdays, starting September 28th, we ask for volunteers to help label plants and stock the GNN sales floor from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. We need assistance during the Fall Plant Sale as well. Volunteers can choose from multiple jobs including: Checkout Line Attendant, Register Assistant, and Cart Drivers. There are three shifts to choose from. The Acorn Member Pre-Sale and Happy Hour will be on Wednesday, October 11th, from 4 to 6 p.m. The Fall Plant Sale will be on Saturday, October 14th, from 8

to 10 a.m. for Members and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for the general public. The GNN will also be open Sunday, October 15th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thank you all for your continued support of the GNN!

VOLUNTEER SUNSET SOCIAL DATE SET



What better way to welcome the changing of the seasons than to gather with friends for a late afternoon of socializing? As volunteers we get to

see each other when we are at CalBG in our volunteer capacity, but often there isn't enough time to get to know one another better.

We will have that opportunity from 4–6 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1, in the courtyard of the Garden. Light hors d'oeuvres, wine or beer, and non-alcoholic drinks will be available to share with your fellow volunteers. We hope to see you there!

MEET THE CALBG GRADUATE STUDENTS!



Oak Notes is currently featuring the newest cohort of Botany graduate students.* In this issue, we introduce Matthew Yamamoto, a first-year master's student who will be completing a floristic inventory for his thesis project.

Matthew Yamamoto, Master's Student



I grew up in San Francisco and am grateful to have had easy access to the rich diversity of California's

plant life early on. My work in botany includes conducting rare plant surveys, seed collection, invasive plant control, revegetation projects, and nursery work in Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Rocky Mountain National Park, and Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Park. I got my bachelor's in botany from Connecticut College where I conducted research on woody plant invasions in deciduous forests. My drive for exploration motivates me to do field research and to work in science.



When I was younger there were times when I envisioned myself searching for life on Mars, but it turns out there is a lot

we don't know about the things living right near home. I am conducting an inventory of the vascular plants of the McGee Creek watershed (top photo) in Mono County, California. This eastern Sierra drainage is notable for its diversity of rock and soil types, which is unusual in a mountain range that is mostly granitic. It is geologically similar to the adjacent Convict Creek watershed (bottom photo) that contains a number of disjunct populations of species not found elsewhere in the Sierra Nevada or

in the state. Unlike Convict Creek, however, McGee Creek has not been extensively studied and the number of oddities this drainage might hold is still a mystery. Alpine areas like those in this drainage tend to be underdocumented because they are difficult to access. They are also more vulnerable to global warming. Without floristic studies of these areas, we could lose biodiversity without ever knowing it existed.

*For more information on the graduate program, check out the webpage <https://www.calbg.org/research/graduate-program> and the article “Seeding the Future of Botany” in this fall’s *Matilija* magazine!

IN HONOR OF PETER EVANS

by Ashlee Armstrong
and Lucinda McDade



Peter Evans, Emeritus Director of Horticulture, retired at the end of August. Peter came to the Garden in early January 2015,

bringing with him over 25 years of experience as a landscape designer. He was also serving on the Board of Directors of the Laguna Niguel Preserve, where he had designed and managed their California Native Plant Garden. Peter was very interested in joining the Garden to promote and conserve native plants through horticulture. He was looking for a new challenge and we had a major challenge on offer! Peter immediately jumped into not just the midst but the lead position for two major projects at CalBG: installation of an entirely new irrigation system and the renovation of Johnson’s Oval.

Peter worked tirelessly with the then Plant Records Manager, Helen Smisko, and with Braeger

Construction to install miles of new irrigation pipe, charting a careful course through the Garden optimized to minimize damage to the living collection. He continued to expand the system to new areas of the Garden throughout his 8-plus years. Concurrently, Johnson’s Oval had been redesigned and was being installed. Peter acted as a talented mediator between the landscape designer and construction crew throughout the process. He also designed and installed the intricate irrigation system there, and assumed leadership over all other aspects of the installation, from the Garden cottage to the dry stream bed to the bubbling rock.



Soon after these two projects were complete, Peter transformed the Percy Everett Garden from a rock pile to a beautiful mountain seep landscape. He then moved on to begin the long process of attempting to “argue” Fay’s Meadow into beauty. As some of you know, Fay’s is a very troublesome area of the Garden where many plants do not like to grow. Over the years, he has planted hundreds of plants there, albeit still with limited success. This was a constant struggle that will continue long into the future!

PETER’S POEM

by Jennifer Chebahtah and
the Horticulture staff

We want you to know that we really *dig* you, Peter.
We’re so very *frond* of you.

Thank you for having the be *leaf* in us to care for
this magical place.

You encouraged us to *grow* as a team...and to
branch out as individuals.

You never *barked* orders at us, even though
there were times when we were surely a *thorn* in
your side.

We’re sorry to see you *leaf* and we’re all *rooting*
for you.

In addition to the projects mentioned above, Peter was responsible for designing and managing all of the major landscape projects at the Garden throughout the past eight years: the Grafton Garden, the Magical Reflecting Pond, the California Welcome Garden, the Foothill sign area, the Forest Pavilion, and the Bird and Butterfly Garden, which will be completed by the horticulture staff this fall. Don't forget the Sage Gallery: Peter and his staff in Horticulture were responsible for the all-important horticultural aspects of the exhibits that were mounted there including the remarkable *Game of Thorns*. Peter also took on his share of administrative duties, participating very actively in the Interpretive Master Planning process and in the most recent Strategic Planning exercise.

Beyond his accomplishments on the grounds, Peter impacted the lives of the many people with whom he worked throughout his tenure. Peter always approached staff, volunteers, and patrons with patience, respect, and kindness. His calm, even demeanor helped see the Garden through several years of drought, extreme heat events, a very frustrating gas leak, and a devastating windstorm. We will all miss Peter, but he has promised not to be a stranger, and we look forward to seeing him around the Garden.

DESERT ANNUALS: EPHEMERAL BEAUTY

by Steve Bryant

California's desert annuals can, in a "superbloom" year, carpet the whole Sonoran and Mojave deserts with color; I have seen three such superblooms (in 76 years). Some years, though, one can hardly find a single annual. As I write this on 15 March 2023, *Malacothrix* is turning several square miles of desert near I-10/Hwy 62 a light yellow color. Also, *Lupinus arizonicus* is turning the sides of Box Canyon Rd. a nice lavender—and this isn't really a superbloom year, merely a spottily decent one.

Although there are many desert annuals, the following are my favorites:

Five species that can cover a square km in a good year:



Lupinus arizonicus (Arizona Lupine): bush, up to 0.5 m tall, lavender flowers, grows especially along roadsides.

Eschscholzia minutiflora, *E. glyptosperma* and *E. parishii*: the desert versions of the

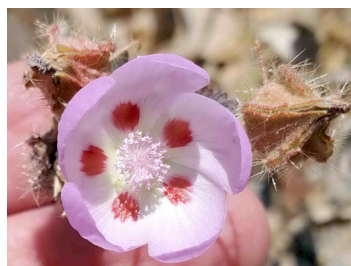
California poppy; flowers yellowish, up to 0.4 m tall. *E. minutiflora* flowers ~1 cm diam.

Malacothrix glabrata (Desert Dandelion): thread-like foliage, lemon yellow flowers with a red dot in center, usually about 0.3 m tall.

Abronia villosa and *Oenothera deltoides* (Sand Verbena and Evening Primrose): *Abronia* has spreading stems, sticky leaves, and magenta flowers. *Oenothera deltoides* also spreads, with white evening-opening flowers. These plants often grow together.

Gerea canescens (Desert Gold): tiny orange sunflower. Hairy leaves, often with multiple stems, up to 0.4 m tall.

Five others that can put on a show on a smaller scale:



Eremalche rotundifolia (Desert Five-spot): My all-time favorite CA native flower; up to 1 m. Maroon and/or green rounded leaves covered with irritating

hairs. Flowers, up to 2 cm diam., are lavender spheres, open at the top, with a carmine spot at the base of each petal.

Diplacus bigelovii (Bigelow's Monkeyflower): small plant with reddish leaves and pink flowers.

Antirrhinum mohavea (Golden Desert Snapdragon): formerly *Mohavea confertiflora* (Ghost Flower), this bushy plant has cream colored flowers.

Mentzelia involucrata (Sand Blazing-Star): flowers similar to above, but with prickly foliage.

Phacelia (Bluebells; several spp.): bushy or trailing, white to blue to deep purple flowers.

Belly plants that can cover up to 0.1 m²:

Nama demissum: tiny, brilliant magenta flowers.

Monoptilon bellioides: tiny, white daisy-like flowers.

SAVE THE DATES:

by Patty España

My favorite season, autumn, is here and with its arrival comes a bounty of exciting happenings in the Garden. One happening is the return of an oldie but goodie, another is a perennial favorite, and one more could be the start of something new. I hope you can take part in the upcoming events. Sign-ups are available in Volgistics.

Friday and Saturday, October 6 and 7, 5:30–9:00

p.m., Things That Go Bump in the Night: After three long years, it's back!! And there is a reason it is always a roaring success. It is a blast for all who come! You will not be bored if you assist in one of the craft or activity stations. It is a great way to interact and educate all who stop by and seeing all the smiles is always a plus. There will be orientations available beforehand to answer any questions you may have.

Saturday, October 14, 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. and

Sunday, October 15 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m., GNN

Grand Opening Plant Sale: In my opinion, the best thing about being a part of the opening of the Grow Native Nursey Plant Sale is being there to see our beautiful native plants going home to take root with their new owners. It is a fulfilling time to say the least and one of the best ways CalBG gets to share with the public what is so great about our native plants.

Wednesday, November 1, 4:00–6:00 p.m.,

Volunteer Sunset Social: Getting in under the wire before the time changes and the evenings get darker earlier, is a great time for a very casual Sunset

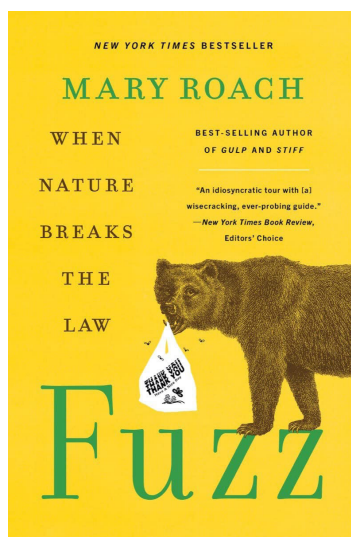
Social. Stop by the Garden for a chance to mix and mingle with your fellow volunteers and see some new and familiar faces. We will gather in the California Courtyard for some cheese and wine and good conversation. Stop by, this could be the beginning of something new.

Coming Soon:

Luminaria Nights: December 8, 9, 10, 15, and 16.

BOOK OF THE MONTH

**Amy Baumann, Voluntary
Library Committee**



Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law by Mary Roach. W. W. Norton & Company. 2021. 336 pp.

Mary Roach has been described in the Washington Post as “America’s funniest science writer.” I

laughed out loud numerous times as I read Mary’s account of black bears raiding trash cans, counting cougars by examining scat, locating danger trees, and dealing with trespassing squirrels. These do not sound like humorous topics but the author is very skilled in merging informative scientific facts with very clever language. Roach describes her adventures with animal-attack forensics investigators, bear managers, and “danger tree” faller blasters. She finds that when it comes to wildlife problems, humans are more often the problem. *Fuzz* offers hope for a compassionate coexistence between wildlife and humans in a world with ever-shrinking boundaries.

Fuzz is divided into 15 short chapters that make it easy to read. The book was a *New York Times* Bestseller, #1 *Los Angeles Times* Bestseller, and *Publishers Weekly* Best Nonfiction Book of 2021.

This book is available to volunteers for check out in the Volunteer Library.

WREATH FOR THE GNN PLANT SALE

by Linda Prendergast, Native Designs

The Native Designs volunteers recently concluded their annual grapevine wreath decorating workshop. They decorated large wreaths, small wreaths, and heart-shaped wreaths in Fall, Christmas, and various year-round themes. The designers gave their wreaths titles: "Sunbonnet Sue", "Amber Elegance", and "Friday Night in the Man Cave" are just a few of over 40 motifs. Wreaths will be sold at the Plant Sale with proceeds going to the Volunteer Organization.

Photos of wreaths and birdhouses by Linda Clement, Nancy Miller, and Marla White.



A photograph of a Panera Bread meal on a green tablecloth. It includes a large sandwich with chicken, avocado, and tomatoes on a ciabatta roll, a side salad with avocado and purple onions, and a large iced lemonade drink in a Panera-branded cup. The Panera Fundraising logo is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Panera®
FUNDRAISING

Help support us!

CALIFORNIA BOTANIC GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

25%
OF SALES
WILL BE
DONATED

November 8, 2023
4:00 pm to 8:00 pm PDT
2315 Foothill Boulevard, La Verne, CA

Use code FUND4U at online checkout, in the Panera App,
or at the kiosk in-café.*

Bring this flyer or show a digital copy to your cashier when ordering at the café or enter the
promo code FUND4U at checkout on Panerabread.com or the Panera App to ensure your
organization gets a portion of the proceeds.**

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