



# THE BARK

Newsletter for the Volunteers  
of the UC Davis Arboretum

February-March 2009

## A Note from Suzanne

The Arboretum volunteer ranks had a “growth spurt” last month as 40 new volunteers attended a half-day orientation in mid-January. What an outstanding response to our call for new volunteers!

It’s heartwarming to see that even in times when many are feeling financially squeezed, people are still committed to giving back to the Arboretum, and the community, through volunteerism. Read more about our enthusiastic new volunteers and some of our brand new volunteer teams inside this issue.

This month many volunteers are busy gearing up for the spring plant sale season. Plant sales are the major fundraising events coordinated by the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum each year.

We are fortunate to have such capable and organized team leaders to coordinate the dozens of volunteers who help at each sale. We truly appreciate your work team leaders! And of course our hats are off to **Mary Patterson** and **Kathy Olson** who coordinate all the team leaders and collaborate with Arboretum staff throughout the year to make sure every event detail is carefully planned.

I hope to see you at the spring plant sales!

Suzanne Ullensvang  
Resource Development Manager

### Spring 2009 Plant Sales

- **March 14**, 9am–1pm Member Appreciation Sale
- **April 4**, 9am–3pm: Arboretum All-Stars Centennial Celebration & Sale
- **April 25**, 9am–1pm: Gardeners Fair & Sale
- **May 16**, 9am–noon: End of Season Clearance

*Team leaders are currently recruiting volunteers to help at the spring sales. If you sign-up to volunteer at one or more sales, you’ll be invited to a special pre-sale in early March, exclusively for sale volunteers. You’ll get the very first pick of our spring selection – a great perk! If you haven’t been contacted yet but are interested in volunteering at the sales, please contact Mary Patterson at [maryp@capayranch.com](mailto:maryp@capayranch.com) or (530) 304-1521.*

## Announcements

### *Sign up now for the SF Flower & Garden Show Trip, March 18*

Don’t miss out on this fun annual trip! Join other Arboretum volunteers and local plant enthusiasts for a great day exploring the fabulous San Francisco Flower and Garden Show. A limited number of seats remain so sign up soon. See insert for details and registration form. Pre-registration is required.

### *Volunteer Appreciation Party Friday, June 5, 2009*

Save the date for our special event to extend thanks to you...our wonderful volunteers. The volunteer appreciation party will be Friday, June 5 from 5:30-7:30pm at Putah Creek Lodge. Come enjoy food, fun, prizes and more!

### *Arboretum on the Airwaves*

Arboretum Superintendent Warren Roberts will be a guest on Farmer Fred Hoffman’s Sunday radio show “Get Growing” on March 29, April 19, and May 10. Tune into Talk 650 KSTE around 11am to hear Warren and Fred chat about garden topics.

### *Condolences to Weeth family*

We are sorry to share the news that Jo Ann Weeth Wildenradt Barnett passed away in November. Jo Ann was an active volunteer teacher with the Arboretum for a number of years. A memorial service for Jo Ann will be held at Putah Creek Lodge on March 14 from 2-4pm. We thank her family for suggesting that gifts may be made to the Arboretum in her memory.

## Volunteer Crew Updates

### Welcome New Volunteers!

We are so pleased to have an enthusiastic and talented group of new volunteers. They will be a great addition to the Arboretum team.

New volunteers met for the first time on January 14 for a half-day orientation that included staff presentations on Arboretum history, collections, GATEways plans and a general introduction to volunteering at the Arboretum. You might also see a few familiar faces among our "new" volunteers; current volunteers **Marjorie March, Kend Linderholm, Pat Greene, and Jeanne Enos** signed up for training to expand their involvement into new areas.

Since the orientation, new volunteers have continued weekly training in their specialty areas or jumped right in to help with their work teams. Following is an overview of the various teams:

### Gardeners

Sixteen new gardeners completed five weeks of specialty training with Assistant Director of Horticulture Emily Griswold. Now they are well versed in pruning, deadheading, weeding and much more!



Some newcomers will be joining existing gardening teams in various areas of the gardens.

**EAST END** (Tuesday): **Stacy Baba, Susan Hall**

**CENTRAL AREA** (Tuesday): **Marjorie March, Mike Lopez, Younah Cho**

**WEST END** (Thursday): **Jeanne Enos, Jenny Meadows-Smith, Judy Hecomovich, Sara Ringen**

Plus we are excited to have enough new gardeners to create a brand new Thursday group dedicated to the Arboretum Teaching Nursery demonstration gardens: **Anneli Sovero, Bette Swarts, Emerald Holzwarth, Frances McChesney, Gwynne Reid, Julie Hamilton, Tom Tucker.**



*Gwynne, Julie, Anneli, Bette and Stacy share a table during Gardener training class.*

### Nursery Records

Seven nursery records volunteers have been learning the BG base database during their specialty training: **Cindy Anders, Roberta Burke, Mary Ann Kendro, Joyce Max, Nyla Wiebe, Prescott Williams, and Agnieszka Zalicka.** They are a new team formed to work with Nursery Manager Beth Gale on Wednesdays to update and maintain the nursery plant records.



*Beth Gale (left) leads Nursery Records volunteers on a tour of the growing area during training.*

### Naturalists

Three new naturalists, **Candace Cross-Drew, Marilyn Ritz, and Linda Sharrow,** are in training with Youth & Family Outreach Coordinator Elaine Fingerett. They, along with a number of new student volunteers, will be leading tours for school groups this spring.

### Fix-It Crew

Four hardy volunteers braved cold and rain to launch our new Fix-It Crew, supervised by Arboretum Steward Robert Bohn. **Tony Ballman, Jim Grieshop, Kend Linderholm, and Phil Nelms** are game for any hands-on project!



*Phil Nelms (left) and Jim Grieshop help install one of the retaining walls for the new demo beds at the Nursery.*

### Office

**Pat Greene, Meg Meyering, and Karen Smith** will be working with Administrative and Gifts Manager Judy Hayes in the office. We appreciate their work assisting visitors and helping with behind-the-scenes projects.

### Propagation

**Lynda Ives and Evelyn Healy** joined existing Nursery Propagation teams when openings became available through the fall. We now have a waiting list of people interested in joining these propagation teams in the future!

## Have you seen the Arboretum Vidcast yet?

There's a new Arboretum video - a vidcast - posted on the Arboretum's website homepage at: <http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu>. Just click on the circle that says "Click to Watch" in the left side of the page to view it. You might recognize our very own **Mary Patterson** as one of the featured stars! Plus watch for all the different Arboretum staff members with cameo appearances. How many can you spot?

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## Big thanks to Shirley Maus!

We are very grateful for **Shirley Maus's** many contributions to the Arboretum. In addition to serving as Treasurer on the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum Board, Shirley has also volunteered as the Docent Scheduler for the free weekend public programs. Now Shirley is ready to lighten her load and pass along the job of public program Docent Scheduler to someone else in our volunteer corps (see announcement below). We thank you for your great work as Docent Scheduler, Shirley!

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## Volunteers needed for special roles!

**Docent Scheduler:** This volunteer job involves communicating with our docent volunteers to help fill in the quarterly public tour schedule. The work can be done from home, once a quarter, in 3-5 hours over a couple weeks using phone and email. It would be a great role for someone who likes contacting other volunteers and enjoys making up schedules.

**Event Hosting Brigade:** Do you enjoy planning parties and hosting events? We're seeking a few volunteers to form an Event Hosting Brigade to help with 2-4 Arboretum receptions and gatherings throughout the year. Volunteers of the Brigade will work on planning, décor, site logistics, and assist with registration and hospitality during the events. Sounds fun!

Please contact Suzanne at [sullensvang@ucdavis.edu](mailto:sullensvang@ucdavis.edu) or 752-8324 if either of these opportunities sounds like your cup of tea!

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The **Arboretum Ambassadors** are a terrific team of UC Davis students volunteering to support the Arboretum through environmental leadership, education and outreach. This fall they developed plans for specific projects for their outreach, habitat, and discovery teams. Now they are ready to implement!

One of their major spring activities will coincide with Picnic Day and take place in the Arboretum. The Ambassadors invite you to mark your calendar for this year's first annual Discovery Day, April 18, 2009, 10am – 2pm. Wvatt Deck.



Bring your families and enjoy a variety of music, games, prizes, kids' activities, environmental demonstrations, and FUN! The event is free of charge and created by our wonderful student volunteers.

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Did you know that this is the UC Davis Centennial Year of Service? ([http://centennial.ucdavis.edu/year\\_of\\_service/](http://centennial.ucdavis.edu/year_of_service/)) Arboretum volunteers exemplify this commitment to service in the community. We thank you for all you do!

## Staff Directory

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## ***Calendar of Events*** *(for full listing, please visit [arboretum.ucdavis.edu](http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu))*

- Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**, TOUR: Beat the Winter Blahs, 11:00am, Gazebo
- Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**, LECTURE: Consilience of Art and Science, 6:30pm, Location TBA
- Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup>**, FOLK MUSIC JAM: noon, Wyatt Deck
- Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>**, TOUR: What's in Bloom, 11:00am, Gazebo
- Wednesday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**, TOUR: Walk with Warren, noon, Arboretum Headquarters
- Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**, SALE: Member Appreciation Plant Sale, 9:00am – 1:00pm, Nursery
- Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>**, TOUR: Spring in the California Garden, 11:00am, Alumni Center
- Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**, TRIP: SF Flower & Garden Show, 7:45am-5:00pm. Pre-registration required
- Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**, FOLK MUSIC JAM: noon, Wyatt Deck
- Sunday, March 22<sup>th</sup>**, TOUR: All About Oaks, 2:00pm, Gazebo
- Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**, TOUR: Living Under the Redwoods, 11:00am, Alumni Center