1-10-61

D E L A S C A N

January 10, 1961

Election Time

Be sure to fill out your nomination ballot for the 1961 members of DELASCA (Social Committee). The ballot is in your pay envelope. After you have filled out your ballot give it to one of the members of the 1960 Social Committee (Al Bardelli, Jack McCaskill, "Marty" Martinez, Kathy Moreno, Rich Watson, Marie Castleman, or Bobby Vargas). If you can't find a Social Committee member, give your ballot to your supervisor and ask him to forward it. The members of your 1961 Social Committee will be announced in the February 10, DELASCAN.

Adult Education in Horticulture - 1961

All staff members are invited to take advantage of the horticultural education offered by the Department, by enrolling in courses either at the Arboretum or Descanso Gardens. Information and Registration Bulletins are available at the Gate House, switchboard counter or from Dr. Louis B. Martin. Classes begin during the week of February 6, 1961. SIGN UP NOW!!!!

Civic Center Adult Evening Courses

County employees have a wonderful opportunity to enroll in adult evening courses sponsored by the Los Angeles Metropolitan College of Business, Los Angeles Trade Technical Junior College, or East Los Angeles Junior College. These courses range from those dealing with supervision to accounting and trade courses. The only cost is $2.50 for registration. This entitles you to take as many courses as you wish. The courses are given at the Hall of Administration, 222 North Grand Avenue, in Los Angeles. They usually begin at 5:30PM and end at 8:30PM -- being conducted once a week. Examples of courses available to you are: Basic Supervision; Civil Service Rules and Procedures; Report Writing; Business Correspondence; Business English; Accounting; various trades courses; Psychology; Rates Processing; and Police Science. Two of these courses, Report Writing and Business Communications, are taught by our Senior Administrative Assistant, Richard Watson. You can receive college credit for these courses. They are designed to increase your vocational proficiency. Course bulletins should be posted near you in the near future. Contact Dr. Louis Martin or Richard Watson if you have questions. Registration is during the first two weeks of February.

Orchid Greenhouse Dedication

The Young Orchid Greenhouse, which was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Young and family, was formally dedicated on Friday, January 6, 1961. This completed the four orchid greenhouses -- each having a different temperature for the growth of plants from different parts of the world. The Orchid Houses are now kept locked. The flowering orchid display is now being maintained in the new work room between the Orchid Greenhouses and in one of the glass cases in the Rotunda.

Descanso Gardens' Events

Descanso Gardens features a Rose Prunning Demonstration on Saturday, January 21, at 1:30 PM. Admission is free. Also, there will be free cuttings of old fashioned roses given away.

The peak bloom of the Camellia Season will be in February and March. Most of them will be seen between February 15 and March 15. Hundreds of thousands will be in bloom.

Camera Club

The Department's Camera Club was initiated last month when a dozen shutter bugs met in a Hollywood Studio. The next meeting will be held on January 26 at 8:00 PM in the Seminar room at the Arboretum. A program consisting of a Disney film and a panel discussion are now in the planning stage.

All members of the Department, their friends and families, are invited. The Club is for beginners, so please join in if you have an interest in photography.

Black Swans

One mated pair of black swans was donated to the Arboretum on January 9, 1961, by the Hollywood Turf Club who were also the donaters of the last pair -- one of whom died. These swans can now be seen in the Arboretum lake.

Reminder

All employees are required to notify the office when they change their address.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FOLLOWING DECEMBER & JANUARY BIRTHDAYS:

Jack Fawcett	William D. Hawkinson	Paul Dennison
George Reuter	Wallace H. McCauley	Robert Flack
Harold Martinez	Karl Roth	Asa Crapo
Harold McCandless	Robert Casas	John F. Parke
Frank Perdomo	Tino Herrera	Joseph Lerchenmuller
Paul Mellott	Norman Isbell	Lloyd M. Anderson

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Employee Doings

A warm welcome is extended to Berlvin Ausbrooks, John Baumgardt, Steven Gregg, and Andrew Spradley at Descanso Gardens and to Ernest Amabisca, Anthony Laurie, Madeline Moore, and Lee H. Wakeman at the Arboretum. Mr. Wakeman, the new Senior Administrative Assistant will be replacing Rich Watson who has left us to take a position of Assistant City Manager with the City of Monterey in Northern California. Goodbye and good luck, Rich!! Welcome, Lee!!

Rex Beer has transferred from Descanso Gardens to Los Angeles County Park Department, and Doyle Smith to Los Angeles County Mechanical Department. However, Doyle will be continuing working for us on a temporary basis. Don Graf, who recently transferred to the Forestry and Fire Warden, has decided to return and is now working at Descanso Gardens as Senior Information Aid.

NEW ARRIVALS!!! Carol Hewitson a new grandson - Robert, and Francis Ching a new son - Byron. CONGRATULATIONS!!

Glenn Hiatt took a beautiful picture of a Costa Rican jungle waterfall during his latest plant hunt. Gerry Patten prepared a working drawing of it so that it could be reproduced at the World Flower and Garden Show, billed for the Pan Pacific Auditorium, February 24, through March 5th.

Descanso Garden's Events

March 2nd, Native Plant Lecture at 8:00 PM in the Garden House with Woodbridge E. Metcalf speaking on "Trees of California;" March 11th and 12th, the 7th Annual Camellia Festival; March 18th and 19th, the Daffodil Show.

Also, Descanso Gardens has an exhibit in the Garden House during the month of February that is well worth seeing. The sand paintings by David Villasenor provide a rare treat for Southern Californians. Mr. Villasenor, who teaches Indian lore to Navajos, Hopis, and Zunis, uses only natural sands which he has collected throughout the Southwest for his paintings and as an added attraction the camellias are in bloom!

Arboretum News

If you don't know what all the uproar is about in front of the Arboretum, take a look at the bulletin board on the Gatehouse to see the elaborate plans for our new entry way being donated by the Arboretum Foundation, Inc. Grading work is now underway, so watch out for the bulldozers and heavy equipment.

There will soon be a new procedure regarding overtime which will permit records to be kept on all overtime performed so that you won't loose out on earned overtime. Of course all overtime should be kept to a minimum, but when it is necessary it can be recorded and employees will be notified semi-annually of the amounts that have accrued. See your supervisors in the near future for additional information

Within the next month or so, DELASCAN will initiate a series of articles titled "Know Your Department." In this series, an attempt will be made to briefly describe the organization and functions of each division and give a thumb nail sketch of your Division Heads and Administrators. Watch for it!

New DELASCA Committee

Our recent election of DELASCA Committee members has resulted in the election of Gerry Patten, Frank Simerly, Joe Lerchenmuller, Jess Tomory, Jerry Schlegel from the Arboretum and from Descanso Gardens, Dorothy Pool and Mark Anthony. The old members are retiring now and know that the incoming members will receive as much fine cooperation from the staff as they did.

Gardening in Children's Education Section

The Children's Garden class spent the last two Saturday mornings harvesting vegetables and transplanting chard, parsley, and herbs to home gardens already established. Many parents came in to watch and help while the fifteen children bunched and washed their produce.

Harvesting began at holiday time when quantities of radishes, lettuce, chard and kohlrabi were taken home. During these last days the children proudly departed with: 49 bunches beet greens, 60 bunches chard, 89 kohlrabi, 15 pot of crocus, 15 pot of daffodils, 10 Chinese cabbage, 25 heads green cabbage, 13 small cauliflower, 100 bunches of radishes, and 180 beautiful heads of lettuce,

Every student now has a garden plot at home and interested parents. Quite an accomplishment for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders in 18 weeks time!

Camera Club

The Camera Club, started primarily for employees of the Arboretum and Descanso Gardens, is still without an official name. In spite of this handicap, an enthusiastic meeting was held in the Seminar Room the last Thursday in January. Denis Kucera showed many slides, taken on his unusual trips throughout the southwest, many of which presented a wide range of technical problems. Denis was really "on the projector" in helping all present to take better pictures. Next meeting will be held February 23, 8:00 PM in the Seminar Room. All are asked to bring five of their best pictures for critical discussion. The meeting place is spacious and it is hoped that it will be filled with employees eager to follow this interesting hobby.

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D E L A S C A N

March 10, 1961 3-8-61

E X T R A

Descanso Gardens has passed its 3 years probationary period and is now officially a part of the Arboretum! This action was approved by the Board of Supervisors at their February 28th meeting. At that time, Supervisor Dorn paid the Staff of Descanso a nice compliment. He stated in substance that since the management of Descanso had been placed under the Arboretum, attendance had increased tremendously. He termed Descanso's operation as a "fine success" and was happy that it had been transferred. He further stated, "I wish to commend you publicly for an outstanding job. I hear nothing but great compliments for your operation". These are kind words indeed from so distinguished a person and apparently Descanso Gardens is no longer just a step child of the County!

Employee Eavesdropings

Saxton has transferred from the Arboretum to Parks and Recreation in the Palmdale area - Goodbye and Good Luck.

Kathy Moreno (Woods) will be leaving us in May to devote all of her time to her family which incidentally is expected to increase this summer.

Rich Watson is now the proud father of a new baby boy named Robert. Who was born on February 17th. Congratulations Rich! Nice!

Margaret Van Frank has been off due to illness since the 23rd of February, a week of which was spent in the hospital. We all wish Margaret a speedy recovery! We understand she is now feeling better.

Arboretum Articles

Attendance has climbed phenomenally during 1961. January attendance was 32,281, and February 43,955. Only two months in 1960 showed more than 40,000 visitors - they were March and October when we held our flower shows. We expect approximately 400,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1961 -A New Record!

Our newly acquired black swans are nesting. With some luck and nature's assistance, we will see cygnets on the lake in a few weeks. The male swan is particularly aggressive in defense of his family, so treat him with respect.

The new entryway project is coming along well with all storm drains and grading nearing completion. The center fountain will be completed first, with the larger pool, the smaller reflecting pool, and the wall being held up for additional funds.

Girls Day in Government will be observed on March 14th this year and the Arboretum will host some charming young high school girl. The program will include an introduction to the Board of Supervisors, a trip through the Arboretum grounds and finally a luncheon in the cafeteria of the Hall of Administration.

Descanso Discourse

The month of March at Descanso Gardens means a month of beauty, many activities, and large attendance.

Our first activity this month took place the evening of March 2nd, when Dr. Metcalf spoke on native trees to a group of about 100. This was the third lecture in a series of four on Native Plants. On Arbor Day, March 7th, we had a large attendance of about 7-8 hundred which consisted mainly of youth groups.

Of course, we are looking foreward to the 11th and 12th when our annual Camellia festival will be held. We anticipate an attendance of 25,000 over the weekend. The following weekend (the 18th & 19th) the "daffidoodle" show is scheduled. Be sure to plan to bring your family and friends to the March "Festival of Flowers".

Education Sections

Arbor Day is the only National Holiday that looks to the future instead of the past. Both the Arboretum and Descanso Gardens were proud to present programs hosted by the Boy Scouts of the San Gabriel Valley Council.

The Scouts presented a Sequoia gigantea to Descanso for the ceremony and the N ative Plant Committee gave a Sequoia sempervirens. Both were planted in the Native Plant Garden.

Scouts also gave and planted three Eucalyptus forrestiana in the Arboretum's Australian Garden.

445 boys and girls attended the Descanso ceremony and 1088 were present at the Arboretum. In all 1533 junior citizens honored Arbor Day, Plant-a-Tree Week and Conservation Week.

2,000 Evergreen Ash seedlings were presented to the children with a folder of instructions, as well as copies of a colorful booklet entitled "Trees".

The Children's Education Section thanks every section for their wholehearted support that made Arbor Day a big success for the Department.

Some of the staff members have been participating on local Radio and Television programs. Mark Anthony, Don Woolley, Tom Parker, and Dr. L.B. Martin were a part of 10 two minute lectures on gardening subjects given on Channel 9 from February 20th through March 3rd. I hope some of you were able to listen in.

(cont'd)

Education Sections

Keep up the good work Staff!

The Spring adult education program consisting of twelve courses is now in session. The Fall and Spring semesters have had a registration of approximately 500 at the Arboretum and 350 at Descanso Gardens.

Dr. Stewart and Dr. L.B. Martin were recently given membership in the Southern California Turfgrass Council. This Council is responsible for guiding the turfgrass industry in the southland, publishing a quarterly information bulletin and conducting an annual Turfgrass Conference. The last conference was held at the Arboretum with an attendance of over 400.

Foundation Findings

The Foundation has recently received funds from Mrs. Harry J. Bauer for the first of a series of pools for the entrance redevelopment. Through the influence of the Bauers, Mr. Millard Sheets, widely known artist and designer, is collaborating with Mr. Huntsman-Trout in the execution of this project. Mr. Sheets will select the marble to be used while in Italy, thus assuring quality and uniformity of color. We hope that in the near future we can announce additional gifts enabling further development of the entrance-way project.

The Foundation sponsored the Arboretum's entry in the World Flower and Garden Show at Pan Pacific Auditorium and was delighted to learn that the display received an award.

The next Foundation sponsored lecture will be held March 24th in the Lecture Hall at 8:00 P.M. Mr. John Catlin will provide an illustrated lecture and demonstration on the art of Bonzai. The Foundation extends a most cordial welcome to the staff to attend. While the fee is $1.00 to the general public, we would welcome staff members to attend at 50¢ each.

Thanks to the staff for their wonderful cooperation in making our membership tours and lectures so successful. Without such fine help from everyone, these projects would not be possible. Your efforts in our behalf are sincerely appreciated!

Camera Club Clippings

At Camera Club meeting, February 23rd, each member brought five of his best pictures, in color or black and white. Frank Simerly presided although Mrs. Simerly "stole the show" with her superb chocolate chip drop cookies, as refreshments. The next meeting is planned for Saturday, March 25th and as a field trip. The doleful lack of rain calls for some ambitious scouting for wildflowers which is the proposed objective of the trip. First reports show Death Valley (too distant) in full bloom, Joshua Tree National Monument and Twenty Nine Palms offer bladderpod, daisies and a scattering of belly plants. Club members will be receiving, sorting and reporting possibilities which will be posted on the bulletin boards in time to arrange for the 25th. Watch for it!

Library Listings

A list of all new material received in the library is on the desk in the reading room. All are welcome to use it to keep posted.

New members of the staff may like to know they are eligible to take books over-night under existing rules.

Important items received recently:

Vines, Robert A.: TREES, SHRUBS AND WOODY VINES OF THE SOUTHWEST
Kearney and Peebles: ARIZONA FLORA
Garner: THE GRAFTERS HANDBOOK
Watson: THERAPY THROUGH HORTICULTURE

World Flower and Garden Show

The exhibit consisted of an eighteen foot high tropical waterfall, set off by massive, large, tropical specimen plants. This necessitated construction of an artificial "Mountain" made of plaster. Jess Tomory, Carl Roth, and John Valadez built the massive scaffold structure, and the four pools. Marty Martinez Joe Erby, Bud Hallberg, Frank Perdomo and Rito Cervantes moved boxed Ficus elastica, and a dozen large Strelitzia nicolai in barrels and placed many other plants into position for best effect. A dead 20 ft. Oak was cut down from Tallac Knoll and served as a Bromeliad tree on which were tied 76 Bromeliads and Orchids. Billy Hawk used a borrowed fork lift to maneuver six tons of feather rock into position and then climbed the Bromeliad tree to add more plants. Don Woolley and Glenn Hiatt watched the whole proceedings with admiration for the skill of design and knack for beauty demonstrated by these seasoned Arboretum flower show exhibit creators. Only a Boa constrictor or Fir de Lance could have made this display look more like the real thing. Gerry Patten's rendering of this waterfall inspired the success it attained!

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4-7-61

D E L A S C A N

April 10, 1961

EXTRA!!

Dedication of Hugo Reid Adobe

The dedication ceremony for the Hugo Reid Adobe will be held May 5th. This day is locally called "Cinco de Mayo" and represents Mexican Independence Day. The Adobe is an excellent example of a country home in the 'Hide and Tallow Era,' of early California. In 1839, when this building was first erected, it was considered an appropriate place for Hugo Reid and his beautiful Indian wife, Donna Victoria, to entertain notables of the day.

During changing ownerships from the time of Hugo Reid to E. J. "Lucky" Baldwin, additions and remodelings altered the original adobe Considerably. The restoration of the Adobe as it was first built required extensive research in the form of archeological excavations to determine the exact location. Also, it was necessary to comb available archives to obtain details of the house, as well as to determine the arrangements of cooking and eating facilities in the enclosed courtyard.

The State of California undertook the restoration, using adobe bricks made at the site. Then, Gregor Norman-Wilcox of the Los Angeles County Museum examined every item of furniture to determine its authenticity before furnishing the Adobe. The Colonial Dames, as well as many other individuals, contributed some of their choicest antiques. Furniture that was unobtainable, such as beds, etc., were reproduced in the state prison work shops.

Some of the old Missions - San Fernando, La Purissima, and San Juan Batista- were visited to obtain plants to duplicate the original plantings made by Hugo Reid. An original Camphor and Pomegranate still stand. A wild rose of Reid's time was propagated from an old rose trunk. Other roses planted are: Gold of Ophir, Rainbow, and Rose of Castile with its marvelous fragrance. All of these were listed by Hugo Reid in his carefully kept diary. The courtyard garden also contains sweet marjoram, tansy, lavender, rue, lemon verbena, and many vegetables as well. An orchard and vineyard adorn the surrounding grounds as do wildflowers of many varieties located to the front and side of the Adobe lending authenticity to the setting.

Employee Eavesdroppings

Tranquility is the keynote of the Simerly household since Frank's wife, Pam, returned March 30th from her brief trip to England. She brought Frank a beautiful antique chess set which Frank proceeded to bring to work. Anyone for chess??

Mrs. Turner has once more chaperoned movie activities here. On March 30th the Hugo Reid Adobe was used in making a scene for the "Sea Hunt", a T-V series, starring Lloyd Bridges. On March 31st the Pontiac people used Tallac Knoll as a site. To use Dennis Kucera's words, "Pontiacs were screaming up the steep grades of Tallac Knoll at ten miles an hour."

John Threlkeld moved on March 31st from the grounds at Descanso Gardens into a new home he purchased in Sunland on Jimenez Drive. Best wishes, John!!

WELCOME BACK, Bobby Vargas, after your prolonged sick spell.

Arboretum Articles

The South Coast Botanic Gardens came into its own. On Arpil 8 a planting ceremony was held and included the presentation of the Colors, invocation and introduction of honored guests representing the Board of Supervisors, the Sanitation Districts, and the California Association of Nurserymen. Don Woolley presided as host. Much work went into planting the slopes alongside Rolling Hills Road.

Glenn Hiatt is our nominee for the Badge of Optimism. He related the following, "The County construction work for the entranceway project is expected to be finished by May 1st. Two new roads will then be ready for tram tours which will enable us to serve the public better. Shortly after May 1st, construction will begin on the Gateway Pool. This pool is a series of 4 pools. These will be in direct line with the present fence which will be eliminated when the pools are finished. The pools will be 118 feet by 45 feet including water jets, and flanked at either end with a 15 foot high marble wall. Lawn will be planted temporarily in the large sunken area between Baldwin Avenue and Gateway pool." Thank you, Glenn, for this excellent report. NOTE: A water-color sketch of the new entranceway is on view in the Administration Building.

The Iris Show, April 22 and 23; the Orchid Show, April 29 and 30, and the Spring Flower Show, May 6 and 7, guarantee intense activity and a high attendance toward the end of this month and the beginning of next month.

The Information Section wishes to acknowledge receipt from the Arboretum Foundation, Inc., of a new jeep and a rebuilt tram car.

Descanso Discourse

Please furnish your correspondent, Donald Graff, with news that he can submit for this column. Thanks!!

Foundation Findings

The Foundation office would like to express appreciation to the Staff for the help given us, particularly to make the Bonzai Lecture March 24, and our regular Members' Tour April 3, so successful. Both events went very well, indeed.

Additional vending machines are to be installed soon to provide ice cream, milk and cigarettes. If these machines prove satisfactory, and do not cause difficulty for the staff to maintain, they will be allowed to remain. It is hoped they will prove a convenience to both our people and to the public as well.

Funds for construction of the gateway pool, part of the Entrance redevelopment, have been received by the Foundation and construction will begin when the current project of grading and paving is completed, which we've been informed should be by May.

Education Editings

Something new has been added! A Greenhouse Pilot course has just been concluded and a new Greenhouse class is now registered. Junior High and High School students from Monrovia, Duarte, Arcadia, and Glendora have taken this opportunity to put school courses on Plant Science or Botany to practical and recreational use. They meet for an hour and a half for 10 weeks. In this brief time these young people have rewarding experiences with many methods of propagation. The current class will contribute a considerable amount of greenhouse work for our younger classes. The Pilot group left with several choice plants for house and yard and an attractive table planter as well.

The current Garden class is now midway through and they are harvesting excellent radish and lettuce crops. They are so good, in fact, that parents are now dropping in to see what's next!

On St. Patrick's Day we nearly sounded the "Alert" when five redheads were found swimming in the Upper Lagoon.

The orioles are back and are sipping syrup from our hummer feeders.

Camera and Travel Club Clippings

On the last Thursday of April (April 28) there will be a Camera Club meeting which will be held in the Seminar Room at 8:00 PM. Mrs. Simerly will show color slides taken on her recent trip to England. Mr. Halverson will give a "chalk talk" on picture composition. We would like to urge all employees to reserve this evening and to bring their family and friends to attend regardless of their immediate interest in photography. The films of England will be of great interest to all. Refreshments will be served.

Library Listings

The Theodore Payne Foundation's collection of paintings of California native plants will be on display at the Los Angeles County Museum until May 14. They are the work of Jane Pinheiro and should prove interesting to all nature lovers.

New book available in the Library:

American Association of Museums; Directory of Museums in United States and Canada.

Hayes: Methods of Plant Breeding

Miller: Fundamentals of Soil Science

Blood Bank

DO YOU KNOW THAT: All County employees and their immediate family are eligible for blood and blood derivatives when need arises! This applies to members, whether or not they have contributed to the County Blood Bank. Jerry Schlegel was the only member of our staff who contributed at the last Blood Bank in Arcadia. Our record is not good, so let us all get behind this Great Cause and do our part. Many cannot give so it behooves all who can, to give and as often as they can. You will hear more about this program, but in the meantime keep in mind that the next date in Arcadia for Blood Donations will be May 15th. Descanso will soon hear about a Mobile Blood Bank Unit in their neighborhood.

Social Committee

Chairman, F. Simerly; Vice-chairman, M. Anthony; Corres-sec. F. Raitt, and Treas. Jerry Schelgel.

5-10-61

D E L A S C A N

May 10, 1961

Please Note!

You will notice that in your pay envelope this month is an Employee Information Sheet. Please fill it out and return it to the Business Office by Friday, the 12th. This sheet will become a part of your permanent personnel record. Anytime in the future that you have occasion to fill out an application for a higher level position you may consult this sheet. Please fill the sheet out Completely!! Thank you.

Employee Eavesdroppings

Congratulations to Rito Cervantes who was appointed to Tree Trimmer. Welcome to Robert Irwin who has come to us as Tree Laborer. "Goodbye and goodluck" to Frank McCall who is leaving Descanso Gardens.

We were all saddened to hear of the passing of Joe Lerchenmuller's wife. Our deepest sympathy to you, Joe.

Joe would like to thank all of those who expressed their sympathy and thoughtfulness.

Kathy Moreno is staying on until the end of May, for which the Information Aids are truly thankful. Kathy was quoted as saying, "We would like to have a girl, but boys are born in the family." How about twins, Kathy?"

Arboretum Articles

Three BIG shows on three successive weekends was a real man-sized venture. Not only the three big shows, but the added ceremony of Dedication of the Hugo Reid Adobe on May 5, needed and received the full cooperation of the entire staff. We wish to express our thanks for the excellent teamwork shown by everyone. We can't rest on our laurels, however, because we have the County Art Exhibit to run from June 3rd through the 11th, and the American Society of Landscape Architects Exhibit to get ready by June 17th and extending through the 25th. During this period the school year ends, and it will mean an additional workload for the Children's Education Department.

During the time the show activity was going on, the parking lots were paved and the "striping" completed; Gerry Patten, Ed Pugh, and Jerry Gause cut signs and splashed paint in a heroic manner - all of which helped expedite movement of the crowds. Even so, the Information Aid Department had to resort to many impromptu revisions for tram tours because of road conditions within the Arboretum.

While the Iris Show list of prizes awarded did not show names of any of the employees, the Orchid Show awards showed Joe Lerchenmuller getting a first for a Paphiopedilum albion FCC.RHS., a second for a Miltonia (Solfatari x Woodlands "Ebony") and a third for a Paphiopedilum Bell Ringer "Chimes" AM.Ads. Also, Glenn Hiatt entered a flower arrangement in a class "for men only" and received a blue ribbon. Congratulations to both of you! Unfortunately, we did not have available the list of prize winners in the Spring Flower Show at the time we went to press. If there were any outstanding awards given employees, we will include their names in the next DELASCAN.

Unfortunately all of the black swans' brood have disappeared - probably the prey of predatory animals. Better luck next time, papa and mama swan!

For those of you who are interested in the culture and growing of cymbidium orchids, we have available in the business office a fact sheet written by Glenn Hiatt. Come in and pick up your copy!

Descanso Discourse

The first of May finds Descanso Gardens on the move. The Administration Offices have bee relocated in the house formerly occupied by John Threlkeld. The new offices are large and roomy and "just what we have needed for years" says all the staff. The old office is to be removed some time in the future to make way for the Japanese Tea House and other attractive gardens. Don Graf is also unpacking after selling his home in Covina and moving into the upper roost of the Hospitality House.

There are several features that make a trip to Descanso well worthwhile. They include the Beautiful Rhododendrons which are at their very best now. The roses and Iris are also in full bloom.

Foundation Findings

The Foundation held its Annual Membership Meeting on Friday, May 5th at 3:00 PM at the Hugo Reid Adobe. It was well attended and the Members were most complimentary in their comments on the Hugo Reid in its completion.

Mrs. Murray, personally and for the Foundation, wishes to sincerely thank all the members of the Staff who so kindly assisted in making this Annual Meeting a successful one. Their cooperation was deeply appreciated.

All members of the Staff are cordially invited to attend the last Members' Lecture on Friday, May 26th, 8:00 PM in the Lecture Hall. The program is on South Africa and a most interesting evening is anticipated. See Mrs. Murray for further details.

Education Editings

Without advance notice, the Exploring Nature Class accepted an invitation to enter arrangements in the Junior Section of the Flower Show. They had ten minutes instruction and forty-five minutes to create and actually enter their best efforts. They did it, every one! What a Class! What a Day! What Fun! Four received Honorable Mention and the youngest a Third Award!!

The Garden Class is at the peak. Last Saturday 23 large kohlrabi and 31 bunches of chard went home along with 35 bunches of red and icicle radishes and 47 gorgeous heads of lettuce.

The 30" corn is tasseling out and gourds, Indian corn, and Marigolds are being planted to grow through the summer.

The Children's Museum has a new display featuring an observation hive of honey bees - thanks to Dr. Munro.

Camera Club Clippings

The Camera Club met the night of the Orchid Show preview and had a wonderful time. Pamela Simerly(s pictures were a delight to everyone. Somw were outstandingly beautiful, and others were interesting in a documentary sense. She certainly sold Frank's ability as a teacher, because "I had never operated a camera until he showed me how the night before I got on the Plane." We thought this plug for Frank's ability might induce some of you timid souls to come to the next Camera Club meeting. A field trip is being planned for the revived ghost town of Calico - one group to go Saturday, May 27th, and another to go Memorial Day, May 30th. Please contact Frank for information about car pools, pot-luck picnic lunches, etc.

Social Committee Soundings

Your Social Committee is actively seeking a location for the annual Staff and Family picnic to be held sometime in July. However, the Committee is asking your help in finding a suitable location. The Cal-Poly campus is no longer available to us for picnicing purposes. Please tell a Social Committee member your suggestion.

The ideal location is one which could be reserved in advance, would have swimming facilities, a playground area, cooking facilities for 150 - 200, picnic tables, etc; all of this at a reasonable cost. The time is short - so - your suggestions - please.

LHW:mvf

Special Notices

On June 12th there will be a general Staff meeting to be held in the Lecture Hall at 3:00 PM. Dr. David Moore will show slides and discuss interesting facts about plant life in Chile. See you all there!!!

Effective July 1, 1961 the Salary Ordinance was amemded as it regards Improvement Needed ratings on Employee Evaluation Reports. It now reads as follows:

"A person for whom an unsatisfactory or improvement needed performance evaluation has been filed with the Civil Service Commission shall not be granted a step advancement in the position held when such rating was given until a competent or better rating is filed."

Should you have questions regarding this matter please contact your Senior Administrative Assistant, Mr. Wakeman.

There have been two major changes in Civil Service policy regarding qualifications for taking promotional exams and for bulleting opportunities:

1. Employment bulletins have been changed to show all promotional opportunities in alphabetical order by title rather than by positions with a given department.

2. Civil Service will now accept applications from all employees who have promotional rights and who will meet training and experience requirements within six months of the last day for filing. Names of persons who successfully pass the examinations will be certified for appointment at the time they meet the requirements.

Employee Eavesdroppings

Kathy Moreno received a beautiful baby blanket and overnight case at a party given for her on May 26th. She would like to express her thanks!! The cake was very delicious, also!!!!

The peacocks screamed in protest on June 2nd when Kathy Moreno left the Arboretum. She and her husband plan on living in the area so maybe after a few weeks we can see the New Addition. We all appreciated Kathy staying on as long as she did.

Rumor has it that John Mellott had a winning ticket on a sweepstake horse. John wouldn't disclose the amount but it's probably in Four Figures.

Our deepest sympathy to Tino Herrera on the loss of his son.

Arboretum Articles

One Sunday in May a man excitedly phoned the Arboretum telling us that a rabid coyote was wandering down Hugo Reid Avenue and was headed for the Arboretum! A phone call to the Arcadia police brought them out and scared the coyote into a good hiding place. The following week, Jack Fawcett just happened to have his shot gun loaded with buckshot, and the coyote's tale was told. Jack contends it wasn't rabid - just dumb enough to parade around in broad daylight.

All staff members are requested to keep a sharp lookout for vandalism. One of the Hugo Reid Adobe's doors was damaged, possibly from some unchaperoned young person.

On May 22nd, Frank Simerly and Don Graf took turns hosting an Arboretum display in the mall at the Pasadena City Hall for Pasadena's State and County Day.

Dr. Louis Martin was very pleased with the excellent turnout of approximately 300 persons for the Turfgrass Conference on May 25.

The Los Angeles County Employee's Art Club have an exhibit running from June 3rd through June 11th. Did you see Karl Heusenstamm's "wire" sculptoring?

June 17 is the beginning of the American Society of Landscape Architects' display and lectures.

Doleing out mosquito fish has been made easier by the recent installation of a tropical fish tank in the Gatehouse, where our temporary supply is kept pending distribution.

The Youth Education Program gets underway this month like a four-masted schooner under full sail. Please give Gertrude Woods the right-of-way when you see her approaching - she will be concentrating on her crash programs.

Descanso Discourse

For the benefit of the Empl oyees at Descanso Gardens, arrangements have been made with the Arboretum Library to send a monthly supply of Horticultural magazines and publications that are of interest to everyone. These magazines are located at the Gatehouse. Please check with Frances Raitt regarding checking them out.

Camera Club Clippins

The next meeting of the Camera Club will be held June 29, at 8:00 PM, in the Seminar Room. There should be some excellent slides to show as the result of the field trip to Calico over the Memorial Day weekend. Now that the vacation periods

are approaching, be certain to attend the Camera Club meetings to get the most out of your camera for your trips.

Social Committee Soundings

The Social Committee has made arrangements for the Staff Picnic for Sunday, July 9th. It will be held in Granada Park in Alhambra from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Food, Fun and Sports keynote the affair. Your committee representative will be making a survey soon to see who is planning to go. Your cooperation will be appreciated.

Foundation Findings

The last lecture of the series sponsored by California Arboretum Foundation, Inc. was held May 26th and proved to be one of the most interesting of the entire series. Mr. Stuart Wheeler presented an evening of colored slides he had taken on a recent extensive trip through Central Africa. This was a most informative presentation. Plans are being made for sponsorship of a new series of lectures for the 1961-62 season.

Funds have been received for the construction of the Gateway Pool and work progresses on this as well as the Bauer Pool.

Mrs. William Warren Orcutt has donated to the Foundation, for display at the Hugo Reid Adobe, articles of historical importance, including a large baptismal font which had been uncovered by Mr. Orcutt in his geological explorations in Santa Barbara County. This is an unusually fine example of early stone work. The font will be on display in the Hugo Reid court yard.

The work of rehabilitating one of the old trams is nearly complete. Material is on hand for the top and will be installed shortly.

Education Editings

The five Professional Gardener School students are engaged in "on-the-job" training during the month of May at: Osti's Landscape Nursery, Sierra Madre; J. Harold Mitchell Company, San Gabriel; Baxendale Nursery, San Gabriel; Perry's Plants, Montebello and Mordigan's Nursery, San Fernando.

Any member of the staff is always welcome to submit articles for Lasca Leaves, the quarterly publication of the California Arboretum Foundation, Inc. Dr. Louis Martin, Editor, will be glad to assist authors in preparing their material for publication.

This summer the Junior Nature Museum will be open to the public as well as for special groups. Sully and Jess have just completed a major improvement there by removal of one partition. New plant displays from our greenhouse are going in soon including sensitive plants and a large bog terrarium of insectivorous plants.

Last week Harold and Rudy brought in a fine specimen of a Map Turtle caught between lagoons. It measures well over a foot "when he sticks his neck out." The carapace is marked with bright swirls of yellow and it is presently residing in the bath tub when not used by a class!

A pair of California Quail have discovered the feeding tray. Two pair of brilliant orioles compete for the hummer feeders and collect larva from our vegetable gardens. The Young flickers are now out of their nest.

At Descanso Gardens a fine tool shed for the Garden for Handicapped Children has been donated and installed by the Harvey Nichols Construction Company of Los Angeles. This came to us through Mr. Leroy Pool, the company's estimator. The children have their first seeds in and are about to declare war against the ground squirrels.

Registrations are rolling in fast for summer sessions at both Descanso Gardens and here. There is still time for your children to join the fun, however!

An interesting job application was heard and relates as follows:

"I and my girl friend, are nine years old and we want to work at the Arboretum this summer. "What would you like to do?" "Take care of the burro!"

Library Listings

Just to set the record straight: the Library is open to the staff whenever a librarian is there. If books are to be returned when the library is closed, will the borrower please put them in the basket marked "Library" on Marg's counter in the Administration Building.

The public is welcome in the library after 9:00 AM and until 5:00 PM.

Among our recent acquisitions:

Cold Tolerance Report by Nancy Knox
California Spring Wildflowers by Philip Munz
Diseases and Pests of Ornamental Plants by Pirone and others
Beetles of the United States by Arnett

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6-20-61

INVITATION

TO: All Staff members and their families

Fun, games and goodies will be the order of the day for our staff picnic.

DATE: July 9

TIME: 1:00 to 7:00 P. M.

PLACE: Farnsworth Park, Altadena

DIRECTIONS:

Take any of the main east-west thoroughfares into Pasadena and turn north on Lake Avenue. Farnsworth Park will be on your left in the 3300 block which is almost at the end of Lake Avenue.

Bobby Vargas will again organize games and have prizes for the young people. There will be soft ball and other sporting events for all who wish to join in although there will not be any swimming this year.

Dinner will be served at 4:00 P. M. and will consist of steaks, corn on the cob, and the trimmings. Bring your own silverware.

Get in touch with Frank Simerly or Mark Anthony if you haven't already indicated your intention to go to the picnic.

2-7-61

D E L A S C A N

July 10, 1961

A. I. D.

August has been designated as AID month throughout the County. At this time, all employees who now belong to AID and have designated a particular charity must re-designate if they wish to continue their prior designation to a specific charity. If no designation is made, all contributions will be distributed equally to all charities participating in the AID program.

As of last February we had reached 72% membership and we are striving for 100% membership by August 31, 1961. Let me tell you a little about AID and the reason most of us belong to it. Associated-In-Group Donors (A.I.D.) is an association of givers established to provide a channel for the most efficient distribution of your charity dollars. AID works as your personal donor service and gives you the chance to make a simple monthly payroll deduction which is then divided between all of your favorite charities. Some of these are: American Cancer Society, Red Cross, Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation, City of Hope, Crippled Children's Society, United Cerebral Palsy Association, Community Chest, YMCA and the Hospital Charity Fund. AID uses the most efficient and economical methods in distributing your donations thus increasing the effectiveness of your gift. AID's cost of operating is only 4.1% compared with 20% or more in most other charitable drives. You may make a payroll deduction to AID for 1/4, 1/3, or 1/2% of your salary. Remember, the support of all County employees is welcomed and needed, but the decision to join is yours and yours alone! Will you join us?

Changing Times

Beginning July 1, 1961 our Department was reorganized from four to five divisions. The Research and Education Division was divided, forming a Research Division and an Education Division.

The Education Division supervisor is Dr. Louis B. Martin, Chief, Arboretum Education. The sections of this Division are: Education (including Children's and Adult for the Arboretum and Descanso Gardens), Staff Artist and Historical. Frank Simerly, Head, Arboretum Information will supervise the Information Sections of the Arboretum and Descanso Gardens. The Associate Curator, a new position, is in charge of the Historical Section.

The Research Division has no new additional sections and is still supervised by the Director. The Orchid Section has been moved to the Arboretum Development Division and the section's name changed to the Tropical Plant Section.

The Administrative Service Division is now responsible for all guard services at the Arboretum.

Descanso Gardens Division, under Mr. Threlkeld and the Arboretum Development Division, under Mr. Spalding, remain unchanged except as mentioned above.

Employee Eavesdroppings

'Goodbye and good luck' to Rex Beer who is now officially at Parks and Recreation and to David Donahoo who has gone to Rancho Los Amigos.

A welcome back to John Provine, Don Kelly, and Lawrence Smith who are again working with us during the summer.

Welcome aboard to Lorene Johnson, who came to us from Civil Service and is our new receptionist at the Arboretum; to Rollo Schnotmier, a new Park Maintenance Man Helper at Descanso and to Nathaniel Jackson, an Equipment Maintenance Man at Descanso.

Congratulations on your promotions:

Jerry Schlegel to Arboretum Gardener at Descanso.
John Parke now a permanent Park Maintenance Man Helper at the Arboretum.
Garner Engel to Senior Gardener at Descanso.
Dr. Louis B. Martin to Chief, Arboretum Education at the Arboretum.

Library Listings

Our most outstanding acquisition this month is:

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GARDENS, by Victoria Padilla.

To those who are interested in the 1961 USDA Yearbook, the subject is SEEDS, and it has gone to press. Newspaper publicity hints of a possible short supply. The copy for the library has been ordered.

Arboretum Articles

HAPPY NEW YEAR, everyone! Once more the Los Angeles County Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens starts out with a clean slate, and each individual makes a firm resolve he will not be caught in that budget squeeze next June.

Sorry we cannot report on the number of strained ligaments, nor on the prizes won at yesterday's picnic but our DEADLINE was July 7th.

How many of you take time to look around the Arboretum? The African Section is particularly fine with the Dais cotinifolia (the Pompon Tree) in full bloom along with hybrid Gazanias, Lily of the Nile and Crinum Lilies. Fuchsias on the north side of Tallac Knoll and Hemerocallis, or Day Lilies, in the Display Garden are also unusually fine.

The new patio recently installed is called the Easy Maintenance Garden and is located in the Demonstration Home Gardens. There are also many new and interesting panels of fencing and sculptureboard.

Dr. Alex Munro's beehive is an ingenious and educational masterpiece and is located in the rotunda of the Administration Building.

Our Saturday movies are well worth viewing. Why burn up all that gasoline when you can see "Utah - the Rainbow Land" July 15, showing the State's resources, attractions and industries; or you can spend July 22 with the "Forest Service Engineer" to see men who share with rangers the managing, protecting, and developing of resources and the designing and constructing of roads; July 29, you will be comfortably air-cooled on a trip to "Washington and Its Natural Resources" while seeing its food and raw material, supply sources and sea food processing. Show hours in July are 10:00 AM, 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM. These are half-hour shows, and all are quite interesting.

The Adult Education Bulletins, showing the schedules beginning in September, are now available.

The Begonia and Shade Plant Show will be held July 29, 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM, and July 30, 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM.

The Gatehouse crew is putting on airs since the painting crew brushed through their area. The Administration Building inside is next!

Descanso Discourse

The deer have been enjoying the tender shoots of erythrina (Coral tree to you non-horticulturist).

The next general staff meeting will be held on July 20th from 1:00 PM until 2:00 PM. Norwood Gresham, research director of Bandini Fertilizer Company will speak on fertilizers - kinds and uses.

Foundation Findings

Elsie Murray of the Foundation conducted a ceramic class for the young teen-agers of the Childrens' Education. Gertrude Woods and Marge Naramore were delighted with the interest and talent of these young citizens. Talent has no age - even Dr. Lou Martin got some red clay on his elbows creating a masterpiece!

Riders of the second Tram will soon be able to avoid sunstroke. A cover is being fabricated for the Tram and we hope that it will be installed for the comfort of our visitors.

Education Editing

Junior Landscaping Class with Tom Parker and Denis Kucera is planning the landscaping of the entire Children's Education area. Professional gardeners are expediting by helping with the preliminary work.

Social Committee Soundings

The Committee would like to thank all of you who so graciously gave your time to make our Annual Picnic a huge success. A good time was had by all!!

We are now looking forward to our next social gathering to be held at Christmas time!

Camera Club Clippings

The Camera Club meeting in July will be postponed to August - too many vacationers!

D E L A S C A N

August 10, 1961

A.I.D.

It still isn't too late to sign up for AID. For those at the Arboretum, please see Jess Tomory, Margaret Van Frank or Lee Wakeman; at Descanso see Don Graf or Garner Engēl. For those of you who are now AID members, remember that August is redesignation month! See your AID representative for information.

Employee Eavesdroppings

We would all like to wish Dr. Stewart and his wife, Maria, a fond Bon Voyage as they start the first lap of their sponsored (U. S. South African Leader Exchange Program) trip to Africa on August 11th. They will be gone for approximately four months. Happy landing!!

We are fortunate to have two additions to our staff. Mr. R. LeRoy Burkett, a Park Maintenance Man Helper, A/N, will work at our new South Coast Botanic Garden development. Maida Boyle, our new Associate Curator, has her office in the south tack room of the Coach Barn. She will be responsible for the Historical Area. A warm welcome is extended to both of you!

Library Listings

The Library reports that the 1961 USDA Yearbook of Agriculture, entitled SEEDS has arrived and is on the shelf with our other new books.

We are the happy recipients of a complete file of the periodical LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE.

A new publication on the plants of Argentina will interest all. There are many pictures, but the text is in Spanish.

From the Gatehouse

The Begonia and Shade Plant Show recorded an attendance of 750 on the 29th, 2,889 on the 30th. The best plant of show was a B. velloziana entered by Mabel Corwin and one of the most unusual plants entered was Tillandsia inflata.

The next flower show will be the annual Fall Flower Show which will be held on November 3, 4, and 5.

Arboretum attendance for the month of July was 43,745 which is a 24% increase over July 1960. The fiscal year ending June 30, 1961 showed a recorded attendance of 420,406 - an increase of 15% over 1960.

Watch for the article in the September Sunset Magazine that features our Tropical plantings on Tallac Knoll. Also, be sure to see the fuchsia collection now in flower on the Knoll just above the Herb garden. There are several hundred Crape Myrtles beginning to flower north of the Demonstration Gardens.

Flower Show School, Course III will begin September 18 for all those interested.

Saturday films will be shown in the Lecture Hall at our new hours of 11:00AM, 1:30PM and 2:30PM during the rest of the summer. Get a xopy of our calendar of coming events for a complete list of films to be shown during August and September.

Descanso Discourse

Mr. John Threlkeld, Superintendent, announced at the Staff meeting on July 20th he was leaving Descanso sometime in October to accept a position outside County service. Good luck, John, but we hate to see you go!

Foundation Findings

The Foundation has been given an opportunity to distribute "Southern California Gardens", an illustrated history by Victoria Padilla. This is a very fine book profusely illustrated which we are sure will be of interest to all. The Foundation office has them in stock and orders can be filled immediately.

The Foundation office has arranged to print and distribute an Informal folder that can also be adapted for Christmas cards. The cover illustration is a reproduction of Gerry Patton's fine drawing of the Hugo Reid Adobe. These can be ordered from the Foundation office and are priced at $1.50 for ten folders and envelopes or $12.50 per hundred. Those interested should place their orders as soon as possible.

Education Editings

Summer sessions ended July 28 with emphatic satisfaction expressed by lots of children and a good many parents. Ninty-four students, ranging in age from 7 - 17, registered in the 6 Descanso Classes, and 205 for the 15 classes at the Arboretum.

Elsie Murray gave her time, skills and kiln for the ceramic group. Fringe benefits were top notch experience and inspiration to our regular staff. Thank you, Elsie!

Tom Parker gave 8 hours classroom instruction and a lot of ideas to the Junior Landscapers.

Two Junior Garden Club "Bulbettes", - Rae Richardson and Sally Sherman - taught a fine Flower Arranging class ending with a flower show flourish.

Additional help was given us by Mrs. Hovanitz who took on a large part of our registration work load.

Elizabeth Parker gave 162 hours of time for photography and dark room work for documentary pictures and recording summer activities.

In all 11 people volunteered 276 hours at the Arboretum and 15 adults and students gave 87 hours of much needed help at Descanso. A big "THANK YOU" to all.

Special thanks to all the other Arboretum and Descanso departments for the endless requests granted, help given and all-out cooperation with the Junior Education.

We are looking forward to a couple deep breaths before the Fall program begins September 16th, but first we rearrange the turtles, fish, succulents, beetles, cement, files, frogs, seeds, FILES, toads, rocks, lizards, mosaics, FILES, sand, butterfiles, cuttings, snakes, pumpkins, FILES, clay and gourds! ANY VOLUNTEERS???????

Social Committee Soundings

Dr. Stewart and his wife were wished a 'Bon Voyage' at a surprise buffet given for them on August 8, 1961. Decorations (courtesy G. Woods and M. Naramore) consisted of clever African animal heads such as: lions, elephants, Stuffed African animal heads were secured by G. Hiatt; arrangements and planning executed by F. Simerly; food purchasing by N. Talmon and B. McKeen. Many volunteer helpers made serving a pleasant task.

Dr. Stewart would like to thank all who participated in preparation of the buffet,and also all those who came to make their going away "something long to be remembered".

Lee would like to add his thanks for a job well done!

Camera Club Clippings

The Arboretum Camera Club will meet on August 31 at 8:OOPM in the Arboretum Seminar room. Members will show pictures taken on their field trip to Calico and of fireworks taken on the 4th of July. Please come and bring your friends!!

LHW:mvf

9-7-61

D E L A S C A N September 8, 1961

Employee Eavedroppings

September is the month to say farewell to Robert Whitsell, Information Aid, who goes to the Citrus Experimental Station at Riverside as Agricultural Technician; to Louis Holman, Custodian, who goes to Building Service Department in the Civic Center; to John Threlkeld, Superintendent at Descanso Gardens, who is leaving us for private enterprise; to Deborah Imhof, Typist-Clerk as-needed, in the Library; and finally to those staunch men who have helped us on our as-needed basis during the summer - Donald Kelly, Ray Hilton, and John Provine at the Arboretum, and Laurence Smith at Descanso. Our Best Wishes to you!!!

Welcome aboard to Raymond L. Daniels, our new Custodian, who will be working Friday through Tuesday keeping our buildings in excellent shape along with our other fine custodial crew.

A 'little stranger' arrived at Kathy Moreno's home; a son was born on August 5th. Congratulations, Kathy and Gene!

Wedding bells rang for the daughters of Joyce Day and Margaret Van Frank on August 18th and August 20th respectively. Gerry Gause, Information Aid, also took the walk down the aisle on August 19th. Congratulations and best wishes for much happiness in the future to all of you!

Arboretum Articles

September is also Back to School month with our Extended Day Classes, and our Professional Gardener's School commencing during this month. The Los Angeles County Fair opens, Cassia carnaval is in full bloom, and Christmas shopping just around the corner.

The September issue of the Sunset Magazine has a wonderful article on Tallac Knoll as well as two other articles on the Arboretum. The entire gardening section is well worth reading for hints about your 1962 garden. If you don't subscribe to the magazine, pick it up at the news stand, by all means!

After publicity appeared in some of the local papers about Dr. Munro's bee display, the rotunda of the Administration Building has been crowded with visitors, especially on week ends. Maybe this publicity explains the broad grin on Dr. Munro's face these past few days.

The movie schedule for September beginning on the 9th is "Beauty and the Bride", and gives interesting facts about wax and takes you on a tour through Frank Lloyd Wright's fabulous building for the Johnson Wax Company; September 16th, "Three Brothers", showing ancient traditions of Indonesia, and the story of three men raising standards of living by developing careers in petroleum, agriculture and education; September 23, "The Chocolate Tree", picturing growth of, and harvest from, cacao trees in Brazil to the making of cocoa and chocolate; September 30th, "The Fossil Story", or the science of deciphering age-old clues that lived hundreds of millions of yearsago, and also "Smokejumpers", showing airborne firefighters, their training and a dramatic forest fire prevention message. As the public develops the habit of Saturday movies, our attendance is increasing quite satisfactorily.

Descanso Discourse

A surprise party was given John Threlkeld on the evening of August 31. Chicken was the feature on the menu. Mr. Threlkeld seemed pleased with the Camellia bush and the Shaefer pen desk set from the personnel.

Five weekends of free educational motion pictures are scheduled for late summer and early fall viewing at Descanso Gardens, for the public and employees. The movies will be shown in the Hospitality House at 2:00 and 3:00PM on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, and at dusk on Saturday evenings on the lawn near the Garden House.

Dates and Titles: September 2, 3, and 4 "Idaho and its Natural Resourses". September 9, 10 "Oregon and its Natural Resources", and "Realm of the Wild". September 16, 17 "Nevada and its Natural Resources", and "Hawaii". September 23, 24, "Fury of the Winds". September 30, October 1, "Points East", and "A Fortune in Two Old Trunks".

Plan to attend as we are certain you will enjoy these showings!

Library Listings

A new book on Argentine flora has been received in the Library. The author is Lorenzo R. Parodi.

MYSTERY: How does the public know that there is a cold drinking water fountain in the library, out of sight, around the corner??

MORE

Foundation Findings

The marble facing for the Gateway Pool has arrived from Italy and we expect installation work to begin within the next week or ten days. This is a very happy event as it will make possible complete construction of the pool within the next month or two.

A new book on the history of horticulture in Southern California, written by Victoria Padilla, has just been published. This is one of the most interesting and informative books to come along in many a moon and should be of interest to all those with gardening interests. The Southern California Horticultural Institute, joint sponsors of the book, have generously allowed the Foundation to offer the book to Arboretum staff members at the same reduced price as Foundation members, namely, $8.50 plus tax.

Elsie Murray, Assistant Secretary of the Foundation was on a week's vacation. She is now knee-deep in completing plans for the fall activities of the Foundation. The Lecture and Tour series proved so successful that they will be offered again this year. Staff members are always most welcome, so plan to attend some or all of the evening lectures.

Education Editings

Any children in your family? Registration for Youth Education classes is now open offering courses for youngsters 7-15 years of age. Classes begin September 16. Courses offered are:

Greenhouse Gardening (Junior High grades) students experiment with and propagate choice indoor and out door plant materials.

Exploring Nature (grades 3-4) offers outdoor opportunities in the Arboretum to study plant and animal life. There are indoor workshop projects resulting from Arboretum walks.

Indoor Gardens (grade 2) will have personal experience watching and growing plants. Make an indoor garden - plant a tree seed - where and how do plants come?

Gardening (outdoor - grades 4-6) each student has a 50 sq. ft. garden plot to learn how to plant vegetables and flowers - their care - cultivation, weeding, and watering. A good harvest goes home with each student.

Holiday Plant Crafts - three classes will open in November for grades 3-8. These workshops will make Christmas decorations for the home, tree ornaments, and Holiday flower arrangements. Register now!

Any employees interested should write for complete information, schedule and registration forms to: Los Angeles State and County Arboretum, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia. Classes will have limited enrollment.

Do you know insect nets go fishing? An Arboretum visitor leaned over the lake at the boat house and out of his shirt pocket fell his -- teeth. Our Jack fished the teeth out of 4 ft. of water and a "grinning" visitor thanked all.

Arcadia Historical Society

Two paintings of early day Arcadia railroad scenes, and various other mementoes of pioneer railroading in Southern California, are among the items now on display in the rotunda of the Administration Building. The exhibit features paintings by Mrs. Edna B. Lenz. The OLD SANTA ANITA RAILWAY STATION and the FIRST LOCOMOTIVE used by the Santa Fe Railroad. The Santa Anita station was built by the railroad at the insistence of "Lucky" Baldwin who refused to allow the train to steam through his property unless the railroad agreed to make stops on his ground.

The balance of the exhibit covers equipment used by railway men at that early period of railroading in California; in particular two telegraph keys, one being the first of its kind c 1888 used for the first through-service to Chicago, etc. There are also old railroad passes loaned by Bob Melbo of Arcadia from those collected by Mr. W. H. McCarr dating from c 1888 through 1959. This exhibit was made possible through the energy and interest of Mr. Bruce R. Wetmore.

Camera Club Clippings

At the meeting of the Arboretum Camera Club, August 31, the election of officers resulted in the following slate: Frank Simerly, President; E. Barnett, Vice-President; Gerry Patton, Secretary-Treasurer; and Swithin Chandler, Sergeant-at-Arms.

Roger Burns entertained the group by showing slides of Canada, which were taken the first part of August. The September meeting, to be held September 28th, will feature open competition, with members and friends bringing either slides or black and white prints. The prints will be judged separately. If you had heard the merry "razzing" Roger endured for his one man show, you would realize we are all amateurs. Bring in your work and have an evening of fun and relaxation in this interesting hobby.

* * * * * * * *

LW:mvf

Employee Eaves droppings

A warm welcome to Mr. Paul Hernandez who will be working as a Park Maintenance Man Helper - As Needed at Descanso Gardens.

Our congratulations to Jerry Schlegel who took unto himself a beautiful bride on September 23, at the Chapel of Roses in Pasadena. He and his wife will make their new home in Montrose.

A new baby girl was born on July 25 to Mr. and Mrs. Fernando Ramirez.

Please be certain to tell your reporter about important events so they can be inserted in your Newsletter.

Library Listings

Did you know the Library has a file of Commercial Nursery Catalogs which we endeavor to keep up to date? Not only is this for nurseries in California, but for the United States and many foreign countries too.

Arboretum Articles

Las artistas Landmark Exhibit is now showing in the Coach Barn. These skilled artists have done outstanding work, technically as well as historically. Do try to get over there before the closing date of October 15.

Maida Boyle has done a heroic job "riding herd" in the Historical Area. Even so, she will no doubt think Jack Fawcett is positively the handsomest man on earth when he returns from his vacation.

Poncho is back, and we hope it will be many a long moon before he has to go to the veterinarian again to get over the colic. Poncho's Place is now bedecked with signs, "DO NOT PET OR FEED THE BURRO".

We hope many of the employees will have entries in the Fall Flower Show which is slated for November 3, 4, and 5. If we recall properly, Joe Lerchenmuller gathered several ribbons last year.

The famous Arboretum Bird Walks begin November 5 at 7:00 AM. This year, again under the sponsorship of the Pasadena Audubon Society, the bird walks will be conducted on the first Sunday of every month until further notice. The walks will be from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM, starting at the Gatehouse, followed by an hour of lecture with slides in the Lecture Hall. However, because of the Fall Flower Show, the lecture part will be given starting December 3.

Descanso Discourse

We would like to give a great big "thanks" to Francis Raitt who is pinch-hitting as correspondent for Descanso while Don Graf is on vacation. She pointed out in a letter to your Editor that there is never any gossop at the Gardens and then went on to tell about all the juicy tidbits as follows:

The Nigth Lighting Show is quite a work of art and should be a must for ALL County employees. One of our dear boys - Johnny Scurlock spent days putting in an exhibit and it is well worth the time to come see the talent we have employed here. The Show is open every night from 7 to 10 PM, through October 15.

Sponsor of the event, designed to provide lighting ideas to home owners, is the Descanso Gardens Guild, Inc., a non-profit organization. The Descanso Gardens Guild has installed a centralized system of lighting which permits individual control of each of the exhibits located around the perimeter of the Descanso lawn.

One of the features is a demonstration of low voltage lighting methods. Overhead heating is provided by modern electrical devices hanging from branches of the oak trees along the pathways.

On October 18, a new series of Native Plant Lectures start at 8 PM. Dr. Harold E. Pearson, Chief Chemist of the Metropolitan Water District will speak on "Use of Colorado River Water in our Southern California Gardens".

Another attraction which has caused a great deal of comment is HOMER. Although I do think the boys are wrong on the sex - it should be Hortense which means Lady of the Garden and is a Muscovy Duck. She wags her tail just like a dog whenever you go near her. She is friendly with all and everyone is in love with her!

Foundation Findings

The informal folders made from Gerry Patton's lovely sketch of the Hugo Reid Adobe are now in stock at the Foundation office and are priced at $1.50 per package of 10. They are also available for use as Christmas cards with nominal imprinting charges. Orders are being received at the Foundation office for them, and if imprinting is desired, orders should be placed immediately.

Ten staff members are participating in a ceramic class being conducted in the Children's Education Building on Tuesday evenings. While equipment and facilities are somewhat limited - the fun is not, and we expect to complete the sessions with a better understanding of the craft, as well as some useful and interesting ceramic pieces. Remember, the definition of a psycho ceramic is a "cracked pot"!

Gertrude's Gabbings

A fine nine by twelve foot greenhouse has been given for Descanso Children's Education and is now being readied for use. New soil bins are under construction and water lines are being brought in to the enlarged and improved garden plot. Thanks to all the staff helping get ready for the Fall Program beginning in November.

Dorothy Pool will return from leave October 23. Welcome back, Dorothy!

Norm Isbell is now on the Youth Education staff at the Arboretum where classes are filled and under way.

Saturday the 18 children of the Gardening class had a great and glorious Planting Day, bringing lunches and staying on until 2:30. All the seeds and transplants are in. All ducks, chickens, rabbits and peacocks; please stay out!

Fall is here. Gourds and pumpkins are ripe. Juncos, Whitecrowned Sparrows and Waxwings are back again. Possum and Racoon tracks heading toward the jungle or maybe the persimmon trees.

Social Committee Soundings

Save December 23 for the Christmas Party: It's enough to scare the whoozits out of anyone to mention Christmas this early, but we would like to get our invitation in first so you will reserve the date. More news on exact time and location in the next Newsletter.

Camera Club Clippings

The Camera Club, which holds its meetings the last Thursday of each month, got off to a wonderful start. The BIG NIGHT of open competition had arrived! The judges, who wish to remain anonymous, went into a huddle, while slides of unusual beauty and technique were shown. Even though Frank Simerly was believed to have put attar of roses in the air cooling system when he showed his flower pictures (they were THAT good!), the judges came up with identical scores for two first place slides. A flip of a coin had to be used, and Jack Harriman was declared the winner with a slide of the castle in Disneyland. Next meeting of the Club will be October 26 at 8:00 PM, and, with Dr. Martin's permission, IN THE SEMINAR ROOM. Jerry Gause has arranged for Ronald Jones, of the Forestry Department, to show his amazing slides of smokejumpers in training, jumping, and fighting fires. Jerry said there are some gorgeous shots taken while floating down in a parachute. Some people will just do anything to get different photographic shots! Anyway,lets have a real big turnout for Mr. Jones.

Historical Happenings

In late September the Arboretum Historical area was visited by Clifford P. Monahan, Director of the John Brown House (a 1786 structure) and the Rhode Island Historical Society. Photographs and data taken on the Historical site will be part of Dr. and Mrs. Monahan's report to their Board of the pleasurable visit experienced here.

The Historical area and the Arboretum are cooperating with Hinshaw's of Arcadia in a community project from Oct. 16 though 28, entitled "Early Days in our Valley". Period 1850 through 1910. A small exhibit will also be set up in the Coach Barn.

Oct. 30 through Nov. 15 will see the Historical area collaborating with the larger L. A. County Museum Show - "1900 - 1960 in our County" in which all sections of the Arboretum will take part with a small representative historical exhibit in the Coach Barn.

Tips on Safety

Remember, when you as an employee suffer an industrial accident and must be off work as a result, the first 7 days (including Saturdays and Sundays) are charged to your sick leave benefits. All succeeding days are paid for by the State Compensation Insurance Fund. If you require hospitalization State Compensation pays for for all days off. If there are any questions regarding this matter or other matters regarding Safety or employee benefits please see Mr. Wakeman, Senior Administrative Assistant.

D E L A S C A N November 10, 1961

Employee Eavesdroppings

Congratulations to Mark Anthony who was appointed the new Superintendent of Descanso Gardens on November 1, 1961.

Welcome aboard the jeep train to our new temporary Arboretum Information Aid, Bill Dickey.

This reporter will probably lose his job if he isn't more careful in reporting promotions, to wit. Mr. Glenn Hiatt has been promoted to the new position of Assistant Director and has been doing a fine job in Dr. Stewart's absence. Congratulations, Glenn.

Tom Parker had to undergo a bit of surgery, while the Fall Flower Show was going on. Too bad you had to miss it, Tom, and we are all plugging for your early return.

Arboretum Articles

Take a trip around the Arboretum to see the Floss Silk Trees now popping out with their glorious pink lily-like blossoms. Recently, when Frank Halvorsen took a group of honor students around the Arboretum, a young lad recently returned from Mexico, told him that some Mexicans liked to chew on both the roots and seed of the young Floss Silk Tree. Frank turned this information over to Art Lanz, our pharmaceutical genius, who will investigate this scientific possibility. Our question to Frank is ---- why?

Work is progressing on the new entranceway to the Arboretum - the latest phase being the building of a retaining wall along the sides of the future tropical water lily pool.

The Flower Show, held on November 3, 4, and 5, was attended by 13,110 visitors.

If you see Joe Lerchenmuller going around with blue and red ribbons pinned in his hair, play along with him. His orchid winners in the show were superb, and he justly deserves the prizes. Congratulations, Joe. Frank Halvorsen had three bonsai entered in the Flower Show, one of which, the Ombu, Phytolacca dioicca, from Argentina, excited interest. Frank had displayed a part of a branch from a tree grown from the same seed pod to show the amazing possibilities of the bonsai art.

Descanso Discourse

A heartywelcome back to Dorothy Pool who has been absent due to illness. She will start the Fall Children's classes very soon.

All Arboretum employees are invited to come see and enter a display in our Annual Christmas Decorations Show which will be held December 2 through 10, from 10:00 AM to 4:15 PM in the Hospitality House.

Many of the migratory birds which visit Southern California each fall and winter may be seen at Descanso during semi-monthly bird walks to be conducted by the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society. Open to all bird lovers(which may or may not include employees), the walks will start from the Gate House on each second and fourth Sunday at 8:00 AM, cN November 12 and 26. A new bird check list will be provided all participants. Among the many species to be seen during the walks will be: Ruby Crowned Kinglet; Gambel's White Crowned Sparrow; Audubon's Warbler; and the Varied Thrush. If you are interested come join the 'Bird Watchers'.

Education Editings

Three new classes on Holiday Plant Craft began this week at the Arboretum. Another Holiday class of 16 students and a Boy Scout Nature course for 18 students were launched at Descanso. Christmas is coming fast!

The Descanso Gardening class begins Saturday and has many new advantages, including better soil, larger plots, a longer season and a fine new sprinkling system. All this and a new greenhouse, too! The sprinklers were made possible through an anonymous gift to Youth Education.

The Arboretum class on Greenhouse Propagation won a "Special Award" ribbon for

their group exhibit of planters at the Fall Flower Show. Students propagated all the plant material shown.

The Lasca Gardening Class, in its' seventh week, is truly "sold". Overheard last Saturday from Plot N-2- "I'd rather be here than Disneyland, even!" The first radishes were harvested 4 weeks after planting so we are still ahead of the grasshoppers!

A summer volunteer reported to us on Tuesday, that she, as a schoolroom parent-helper had introduced in a Pasadena school room our ideas on studying the grass family, terminating the study with a Shoji Screen. It was so well considered by teachers and pupils as well as parents that our volunteer has been asked to bring more such ideas. This is the pay-off for all the work that goes into this program - to make the greater community conscious of the Arboretum as a resource center, and to give children the fun of knowing and working with plants.

Social Committee Soundings

Last month, we casually mentioned the Christmas Party for the 23rd of December. Now, we mention it again nervously, because next month is approaching with leaps and bounds, and your reservations have to be in early!!! Frank Simerly has become positively "predacious" (a hybrid, developed by crossing predatory and precocious) in his determination to sell all his tickets. Just $1.50 per employee, $3.00 per employee couple, and extra guests $5.00 each. For those of you who remember last year's party there is no reminder necessary. This is definitely the social event of the year!!

Camera Club Clippings

The next meeting of the Camera Club will be in the Garden House at Descanso Gardens on November 30. Barney Barnett will show how to do portraits as well as full length studies. Bring your loaded cameras. Loaded with what, Frank?

The October meeting was well attended, and the pictures Ronald Jones showed of smoke jumpers were terrific. Thanks to Jerry Gause for arranging a very interesting evening.

Historical Happenings

The Queen Anne Cottage has finally had the floor of the veranda redone. This is happy news for Maida Boyle, even though many visitors to the Fall Flower Show were denied an opportunity to inspect the Cottage properly.

The grand old stage coach is once more back in the Coach Barn after an absence of about two years, to beguile the imaginative visitor with the lavish customs of the 80's and 90's.

Be sure to see the "Flowers in Art through History Show" in the exhibit center of the Coach Barn which opened Friday afternoon, November 3, and will run through November 28. The "Stroll Into Yesterday" honors our bird watchers with a picture story of Audubon and the opening of the Sports Season - Football - 1860's.

Library Listings

Forms have been prepared which will assist in making recommendations for purchases of library books. They are available in the library when desired.

New Acquisitions:

Williams: ORCHID GROWER'S MANUAL (reprint)

1961 INTERNATIONAL CODE OF NOMENCLATURE FOR CULTIVATED PLANTS

Boldingh: FLORA OF THE DUTCH WEST INDIES

New books are on the library counter for your inspection. All acquisitions are listed in a binder on top of the card catalog file in the library.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING DAY TO ALL!!!!!!!! LHW:mvf

11-9-61

MEMO : NOVEMBER 10, 1961

TO : STAFF MEMBERS _ DEPARTMENT OF ARBORETA AND BOTANIC GARDENS.

FROM : GLENN H. HIATT, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

SUBJECT : EXCERPTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FROM DR. AND MRS. STEWART ON THEIR TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA.

Stellenbosch University - Monday, Sept. 3, 1961. Settlers' Day - a holiday here and at home you are celebrating Labor Day, aren't you?

These hospitable people have kept us so tightly scheduled since our arrival at 2 A.M. Thursday in Johannesburg that life has been very interesting but communications have sufferred. We got here from the 1000 mile drive south at 3:30 yesterday afternoon and set out immediately to go 50 miles further to the Caledon Wild Flower Show where they were celebrating their 150th Anniversary. Bill left early this morning with the Government Botanist on a 10-day plant collecting foray up into the Namib and South West Africa where they felt a woman should not go!??! He asked that I drop you this note.

It seems that a cordial gesture which could not help but please both the English and the Boers who share a common interest in gardening would be to present a white jacaranda to the City of Pretoria and to the President's Gardens in Capetown. Probably four good specimens 4 to 5 feet in height should be set aside for this, and Bill suggests they could be prepared for shipment in the same manner that Jack Stumbo was shipping them to Mexico when we saw him at the airport the day we left, probably Pan-American. As you know, Pretoria is world-famous for its street tree planting of blue jacarandas but they do not have the rare white one. We expect to be in Pretoria for the Jacaranda Festival so it seems like a natural! This is indeed a beautiful land and the splendor of the wild flowers is beyond description.

We have both stayed well and are enjoying the experience to the fullest. Just to prove that everything is in the groove -- our trunk sent two months ago still hasn't arrived and these fresh spring days are nippy in our tropical attire. Bill will have to improvise on camping but everyone is very helpful so there will be no problem. Our 1960 V W 2-door sedan looks and acts brand new -- it is a deluxe model much quieter and more comfortable than previous V Ws we have driven. Best greetings to all from the Voortrekking Stewarts.

Stellenbosch - September 18, 1961.

There have been about six weeks of constant travel behind us, all of it most exciting and thrilling. We arrived in Stellenbosh on a Sunday night and early the next morning I left Maria to head up to Southwest Africa for a ten day plant collecting expedition with the Government Botanist. The trip was fascinating in every aspect. We cruised some 500 miles in a landrover through roadless areas of a section of Southwest Africa known as the Richtersveldt. The first two days we were plagued with rain and miserable weather. Camping out was no pleasure. This was particularly true since my camping gear had not arrived in the trunk, as yet, even though the trunk had been shipped some 2½ months previously. On returning from the plant collecting trip, I found the trunk had come in the meantime but by then the need for a bedroll and air mattress was past. This is really only a minor matter, however, air mattresses rather spoil one for sleeping on the ground.

On returning from the Namaqualand area, we had a busy day and a half in Stellenbosch and Capetown checking plane tickets, making plans and meeting Professor Rycroft, Director of Kirstenbosch Botanic Gardens, Dr. Hay, Director of the Cape Province Conservation Dept., and various other people. As it was raining heavily all day last Friday, we drove some 150 miles northwestward where the flowers were more advanced and it was possible to obtain herbarium specimens and some seed collecting. We spent Saturday night in Planwilliam, a small town about 150 miles northwest of Capetown. Saturday we collected to the east of Planwilliam and Sunday went over to the Atlantic Ocean at a placed called Lamberts Bay. Yesterday afternoon (that is Sunday afternoon) we drove back to the Capetown region. En route we visited the man who was our guide in the Richtersveldt area, a Mr. Scholk Von der Merwe. On his farm we also had some good collecting for various bulbous materials.

We arrived at the hotel where we are now staying about 9:30 last night and worked until 10:30 putting the final plants collected yesterday afternoon in the press.

Today the clouds are hanging around the mountains nearby but the sun breaks through occasionally even though the air is not particularly warm. In the sunshine it is pleasant but in the shade there is a real nip in the air. Spring is just gradually establishing itself here in this part of the mountains. This hotel is known as the Swiss Farm Hotel and is in the Fransch Hoek mountains about 70 miles north of Capetown. The mountains themselves are indescribably beautiful and have wonderful cliffs that remind a person of a combination between the cliffs of Hawaii and the granite faces of our own High Sierras. This morning I am spending at work in the hotel room getting a bit organized on our various programs and schedules for the coming few weeks, but this afternoon we hope to get out and do some more collecting and see some of the area around here. Tomorrow we will go back to Stellenbosch for about a weeks stint then out into the country for several days and return to Capetown. Now to get down to some business.

Regarding the white Jacaranda shipment. I believe you have received various letters of September 5 or 6 regarding this possibility. Things have developed surprisingly fast here in South Africa in regard to it and there is much interest in the possibility of obtaining the white flowering Jacarandas. In fact, arrangements have been made to present them to President Swart of the South African Republic and also the present them to the Mayor of Pretoria at the time of the Jacaranda Festival. Accordingly, will you please ship by air as soon as possible four of the best appearing white Jacaranda trees that we can successfully transplant.

Capetown, South Africa: October 8, 1961 -

The Jacaranda trees arrived in beautiful shape and I got them planted at Kirstenbosch last Thursday. They are now growing in 5 gallon cans and will be sent by rail to Pretoria for the Jacaranda Festival. Thanks again for your prompt attention in sending these, as well as forwarding the cable advising of their arrival. The trees shed most of their leaves as expected but some of the terminals are beginning to put out new leaves already so they should be quite presentable for the occasion. In this regard, I was asked yesterday to suggest some plant that we might like to have as a reciprocal gift from South Africa to the Arboretum. My first inclination was to suggest Disa uniflora. What do you think of this? Do you have any further suggestions?

Grahamstown, South Africa: Oct. 26, 1961 - Here we are in Grahamstown enroute to Johannesburg. Beautiful country and plants. Weather has finally warmed and I hope we have had our last rain. Saw a Podocarpus 150'tall and 8' diameter. Our greetings to all,

12-8-61

D E L A S C A N

December 8, 1961

Special Message

A MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR is extended to all staff members!!

New Policies

1. Audio Visual-Equipment
In order to facilitate the use of Department audio-visual equipment, this equipment is to be checked out through either Frank Halvorsen or Ed Pugh, in the Gatehouse, Monday through Saturday. The equipment should be signed out within 24 hours before use and returned within 24 hours after use. If assistance is required in setting up or putting away any equipment either Frank or Ed will be happy to assist; their work schedule allowing.

2. Grievance Procedure
You will find enclosed in your pay envelope a copy of the new Grievance Procedure. On February 28, 1961 the Board of Supervisors adopted a Basic Principals of Personnel Relations Policy and as part of that policy required all Departments to formulate and post a Grievance Procedure. In instituting this request, it was recognized that during the course of County employment an employee may have questions, problems or even complaints which he feels his supervisors or deparment head should do something about. If no systematic or formal method is provided to examine or resolve his complaints, employee morale would undoubtedly suffer.

It is hoped, therefore, that this Grievance Procedure for our Department will provide an orderly and systematic process for correcting employee complaints or disagreements. The Grievance Procedure is not intended to prevent an employee form solving his problems the way he has in the past, but merely to provide an additional formalized avenue of solution for the employee.

Should you have questions about this new procedure, your personnel officer (Mr. Wakeman) will be glad to answer them for you.

Sheriff's Plea

The Sheriff's Department is sponsoring a program requesting all citizens to "strategically burn a light in their home at night" as a step toward "the repression and prevention of criminal activity during night time hours". Cooperation and participation with this program has been enthusiastically offered by community groups. Sheriff Pitchess would like to urge all County employees to join in this program, and to publicize it to their friends and neighbors.

PLEASE NOTE: The enclosed Blood Bank Survey Card has been prepared to help us organize our Blood Bank Program. Please fill it out completely and return to the Business Office by December 15 so that an accurate record may be kept.

Many are not able to give blood so those who can should. We have had occasion to use blood for several employees and their families in the past. Let us build up a surplus so we will be prepared should need arise.

"The life you save may be your own."

Employee Eavesdroppings

Be certain to come in and see the festive decorations the office girls have put up in the Administration Building. They all deserve a big "Thanks" for a job well done!

Congratulations to Frank Simerly on his promotion to Assistant Superintendent, Descanso Gardens.

Arboretum Articles

In preparation for two outstanding Christmas programs, Maida Boyle, Lorene Johnson, Bernice McKeen, Elsie Murray, Margery Naramore, and Gertrude Woods are going to indulge in a bit of nostalgia on December 14, in the evening, when they make garlands of popcorn and cranberries. While Maida didn't say so; hot spiced apple cider and cookies would be proper for that job. Then, on December 15, the tree in the Queen Anne Cottage will be trimmed with the help of four honor students in Gertrude's Holiday Plant Craft class. The programs that Maida has planned, represent two eras - Las Posadas, with excellent cooperation of Arcadia schools and churches, starts at 6:45 PM, December 16, in the Hugo Reid Adobe courtyard with authentic decor, etc. On Sunday, December 17, at 3:00 PM. Maida has secured a choir to sing carols for the Victorian type of program at the Queen Anne Cottage.

Also be certain to see the staff artist Art Exhibit located in the Coach Barn through December 15, 1961.

December 19, the Children's Education Buildings will buzz with activity in the making of "mucho decoro" for the BIG Christmas Party. With all this excitement going on, we lean back in our chair, and drawl, "We-all told you-all this would sneak up on you-all with the speed of an express train".

The Australian Firewheel tree (Stenocarpus sinuatis) located at the Arboretum in the Home Demonstration Gardens and in the Historical Section will bloom during December and January.

The bloom period for this ornamental tree varies from year to year. Last year, the same specimens bloomed in August and September.

The Firewheel Tree, whose leaves are reminiscent of an eastern oak, and whose spoked flowers resemble the symbol of the Rotary Club, is planted on special occasions in Centennial Park at Sydney, Australia, by Rotarians. Whenever a prominent Rotarian makes a visit, the Firewheel Tree is planted with his name and date of his visit tagged to the tree.

The tree grows to about 30 feet in height in Southern California. The wood is close-grained, hard and durable, nicely figured, and excellent for indoor decoration and furniture. Be sure to see it!!

Descanso Discourse

Arboretum personnel are urged to visit the Hospitality House at Descanso to see the Third Annual Christmas Decoration Show this weekend. It is one of the most beautiful displays this writer has seen in a long time.

More than 100 professional and amateur decorators have entered exhibits in the Christmas Decoration Show. Be certain to see Bobby Vargas's Christmas tree. The hours of the show will be from 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Saturday and Sunday. The show closes on the 10th of December.

All exhibits are designed with a "do it yourself" theme in mind. Of particular interest are two rooms of beautiful Christmas table settings, both formal and informal.

Also on display are many kinds of decorations that could be used in locations such as mantels and fire places, stairways, and doors as well as on walls. The show covers the entire first floor of the Hospitality House. Tram service is provided from the entrance gate.

The recent rain storm felled an old oak tree in the lawn area and took out a portion of the bridge in Hall-Beckly Canyon. Mark and crew are still "digging out" from the mud deposits left in the streams and pools. Better luck next time!

Foundation Findings

The Foundation wishes everyone a happy Holiday season!

The tops for the rebuilt trams will soon be installed, and we hope to have a top on the new jeep in the near future. We hope the tram operators will be pleased.

We have, after viewing many different transparencies, and deciding on suitable ones for postcards, received delivery of twelve new postcards depicting views of the Arboretum. We've included one of a peacock and one of "Poncho", in addition to new general and horticultural subjects. They are now on sale at the Gatehouse, and we hope they prove popular with the public.

Education Editings

The Youth Education Section wishes everyone of you a Merry Crhistmas complete with gold and silver paint and glitter "N" EVERYTHING!

Our four Holiday Plant Craft classes have loaned their work to be exhibited at the Descanso Christmas Show. The Arboretum students work was first viewed by judges Elsie Murray, Dolores Hubbell and Lou Martin.

The "winners" received a very special invitation for the evening of December 14 when there will be an old fashioned Christmas party at the Education building complete with popcorn and carols. Decorations will be made for the Queen Anne Christmas tree and the next afternoon the children will have the rare opportunity to "really trim the tree in the Cottage." Thank you to Maida Boyle for this taste of a real old time Christmas.

Descanso Garden class has their vegetables in and are waging the "Battle of the Birds". Soon the plants will be large enough to withstand the hungry migrants, we HOPE!

The Greenhouse class closes this week. These boys and girls take with them ten species of plants for house and garden, a terrarium, a planter and we hope, new horticultural interests.

The Winter program will be open for registration by mail on Januray 2. There will be classes for boys and girls, grades 1 - 9. Descanso and LASCA children are especially welcome!

Social Committee Soundings

Only 15 more days to the biggest Christmas Party of the Year!!! Remember, December 23, 1961, Elks Club, Arcadia, starting at 6:00 PM.

Historical Section

What, no news, Maida???!!! Remember, by the FIRST of EACH MONTH!!

Camera Club Clippings

Frank Simerly resigned as president of the Camera Club at the November meeting. He pleaded two nights a week for school and added duties as Assistant Superintendent at Descanso Gardens made it impossible for him to serve the Camera Club properly. "Barney" Barnett, as former vice-president, stepped into the job.

After lengthy pondering, the Camera Club Cuties decided the social whirl of the Holiday Season would be too, too exhausting to have a meeting on December 28. Remarkable foresight, eh, what! Let's hope they have recovered sufficiently to attend a meeting in the Seminar Room on Thursday, January 25, 7:45 PM.

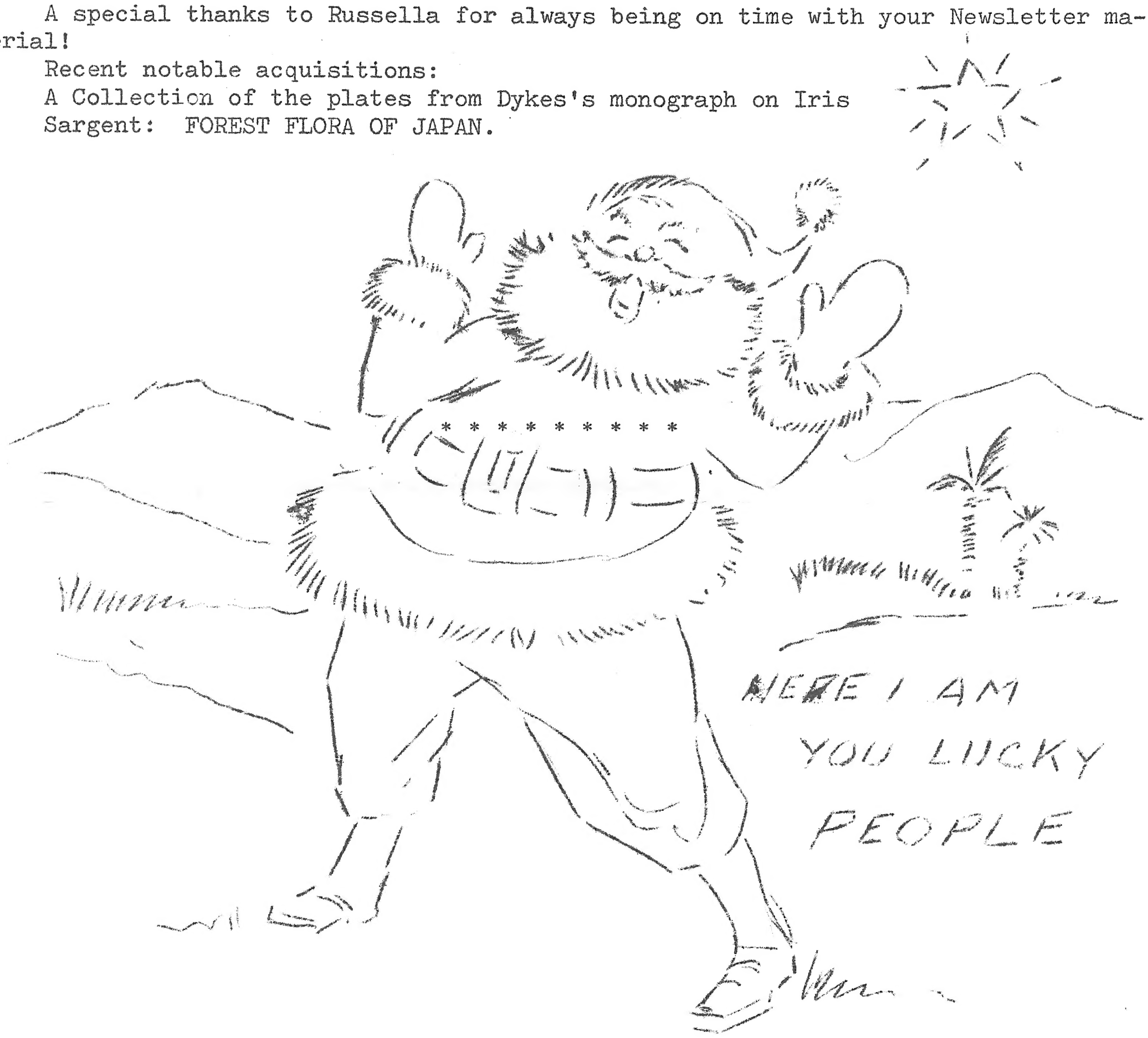
Library Listings

A special thanks to Russella for always being on time with your Newsletter material!

Recent notable acquisitions:

A Collection of the plates from Dykes's monograph on Iris

Sargent: FOREST FLORA OF JAPAN.



LHW:mvf

10-19-61

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M E R R Y C H R I S T M A S

Plan now to join in the fun at our Christmas party!

DATE:	Saturday night, December 23, 1961.
PLACE:	Arcadia Elks' Club, 27 W. Huntington Drive, Arcadia. (Same as last year)
SOCIAL HOUR:	6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. - Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.
DINNER:	7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. - Prime rib with all the trimmings.
DANCING:	8:00 p.m. to midnight.
PRIZES:	Throughout the evening for everyone.
COST:	$1.50 per each staff member; $3.00 per staff member and one guest; additional guests $5.00 each.
RESERVATIONS:	Must be made before December 15. At the Arboretum see Jess Tomory, Joe Lerchenmuller, Gerry Patten, Al Bardelli or Frank Simerly. At Descanso tickets may be purchased from Frances Raitt, Jerry Schlegel or Mark Anthony.

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