



# GARDEN VIEWS

A Master Gardener Newsletter



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March 2004

## Who was Liberty Hyde Bailey?

By Jeri Kuoppamaki, MG

Horticulturist, botanist, explorer, researcher, philosopher, poet, writer, and editor, Liberty Hyde Bailey was also known as the “Father of American Horticulture.” Born in 1858 in South Haven, Michigan, Bailey developed an interest in plants and animals at a young age, and continued with a lifelong passion for plant sciences until his death at age 96. His life was one of incredible achievements, and he left a remarkable legacy that continues to benefit gardeners and horticulturists to this day. childhood hero and became Gray’s herbarium assistant in 1883. Toward the end of Bailey’s two-year Harvard appointment, Michigan Agricultural College offered him the Chair of the

As a young child, Bailey helped his mother in her flower garden and his father in the family orchard developing a keen interest in horticulture. By age 10, he became a skilled grafter and was paid by neighbors to graft trees in their orchards. He even had an apple tree that he had grafted 40 varieties of apples onto. At age 14, Bailey was pouring over publications such as, *Field, Forest, and Garden Botany*, written by renowned Harvard botanist, Asa Gray. He started his own herbarium and was encouraged and taught to practice scientific observation and by his teacher, Julia Field. In addition, a visiting botanist, Lucy Millington, stimulated his interest in botany through her lectures and botanical excursions.

In 1877, Bailey became a student at Michigan Agricultural College (now Michigan State University in East Lansing). He was employed as a research assistant by his horticulture professor, William Beal, and was later recommended by Beal when Asa Gray of Harvard was looking for a promising assistant. Bailey was thrilled to have the opportunity to work with his childhood hero and became Gray’s

herbarium assistant in 1883. Toward the end of Bailey’s two-year Harvard appointment, Michigan Agricultural College offered him the Chair of the Horticulture and Landscape Gardening Department, which he gladly accepted. He was eager to combine the fields of botany and horticulture, and break down the barriers separating them. Bailey instilled a scientific dimension into horticulture by incorporating laboratory work, field trips, and experiments that supplemented the standard lectures. These practices have since become the norm for most horticultural programs in colleges.

In 1888, Bailey left to take a position at Cornell University where he pursued his vision for an ideal horticultural program and established several new departments in the university’s College of Agriculture. These included plant physiology, plant pathology, entomology, and landscape architecture. He also established a fine botanical garden and arboretum at the university and planned to bring all the farmlands, forests, orchards, and gardens at Cornell into one comprehensive enterprise. This became known as Cornell Plantations, and visitors come from everywhere to see it.

(Bailey continued on page 3)

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## Lotusland—A Living Museum of Gardens

By Pat Romberg, MG

The Ganna Walska Lotusland Foundation manages an estate in Santa Barbara that it describes as a living museum of gardens. A walking tour of the many gardens requires stamina, but after you arrive at this unusual collection of gardens, you really don't want to leave without seeing it all.

The area was originally a nursery established by R. Kinton Stevens, a pioneer nurseryman. He planted many exotic trees, palms, and subtropical plants. His plantings of Indian lotus was one of the first grown in America in the early 1890s. At that time, the place was named Tanglewood.

Peter Riedel, an important influence in early Santa Barbara horticulture, designed the gardens. The main residence, designed by Reginald Johnson in 1919, was remodeled by George Washington Smith, who added a swimming pool, bath house, and pink perimeter wall. The Spanish-style home was renamed Cuesto Lindo and became a popular private garden tour destination in the early 1900s.

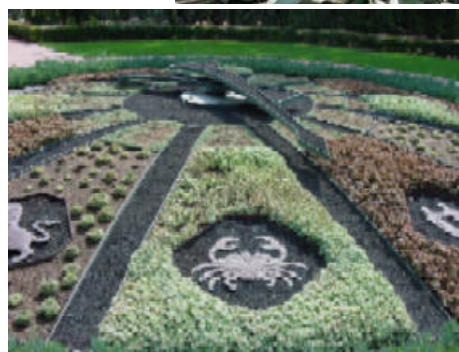
A Polish operatic diva, Madame Ganna Walska, purchased the 37-acre estate toward the end of her career in 1941. She renamed it Lotusland and focused on the gardens until her death at age 97 in 1984. Her theatrical flair is evident everywhere. She experimented with unusual combinations and introduced rare specimens. More than 2,000 species of tropical and subtropical Mediterranean-climate plants fill the garden with spines, whorls, hairy tufts, and fanciful forms.

The gardens became Mme. Walska's spiritual refuge, and she employed the most prominent landscape architects to assist her. After her death, Lotusland became a non-profit educational institution. The trustees of the foundation and a professional staff assisted by trained volunteers operate the extensive estate.

The classic features—an outdoor theatre, topiary garden, horticultural clock, Neptune fountain, formal portiere, and hedges remain much as in Mme. Walska's time. The botanical collections of aloes, bromeliads, cacti, succulents, cycads, ferns, and palms are continually improved and increased. The cycad collection, in particular, is one of the most extensive and complete collections of rare cycads in the world and is an interesting story in itself.

Lotusland is open for docent-led, two-hour walking tours from mid-February through mid-November. We found the docents informative and were able to visualize Mme. Walska giving concerts in the outdoor theatre. The large lotus plantings are spectacular when in bloom.

Reservations are required, and there is an admission fee. Lotusland, 695 Ashley Road, Santa Barbara, 805.969.3767, [www.lotusland.org](http://www.lotusland.org).



(Bailey continued from page 1)

Bailey made many important contributions to horticulture in the research he did. He was the first American to study the use of artificial light on plants and subsequent greenhouse lighting. This research led to the widely adopted practice of using efficient high-intensity lamps in commercial horticulture and floriculture. He was able to establish the improved growth of plants with supplemental light and the effects of reductions in light for purposes of initiating blooming in some plants. This research led to the commercial application of electric lighting for certain horticultural crops.

Over the span of his lifetime, Bailey assembled a private herbarium and library of some 125,000 plant specimens and nearly 3,000 volumes. This collection formed the nucleus of Cornell's Bailey Hortorium. It was unique at the time not only because of its extensive nature, but also because it focused on preserved specimens of cultivated plants, as opposed to wild plants.

In addition to teaching, research, and administrative duties, Bailey was also an excellent writer. His writings were clear, focused, and based on his refined knowledge of the combined botanical and horticultural sciences and his keen observational abilities. Bailey wrote more than 63 books including six encyclopedias and directories. His *The Cyclopaedia of American Horticulture* and *Hortus* are perhaps the most enduring testaments of his ability as an editor, writer, and scientist. These groundbreaking references set a precedent for similar encyclopedic works we use today. Even though there is much outdated botanical nomenclature in his references, they are still considered invaluable resources, and people researching heirloom plants and historic gardens will find them excellent references.

Bailey's speaking skills made him an effective spokesman for horticulture. His teaching abilities helped entice many students to become renowned horticulturists, botanists, and landscape architects. The successful horticulture and landscape architecture programs he developed at Michigan and Cornell were probably instrumental in the creation of similar programs at other colleges. The integration of science and horticulture was perhaps Bailey's greatest achievement.

Bailey was the founder and president of the Botanical Society of America and the American Society for Horticultural Science. He also was an important participant in the American Horticultural Council, which eventually merged with the American Horticultural Society. His colleagues recognized his lifetime of achievements with many awards and honors. Bailey once said, "The measure of life is in the daily living of it and the acceptance of it for all it is worth, or, at least, for all you can make of it. And you can make much of it."

Adapted from *Father of American Horticulture*, by Eric Hsu, *The American Gardener*.



Liberty Hyde Bailey

## Old Roses Shall Rise Again

By Cindy McCabe, MG

We know roses of antiquity primarily through early written accounts and illustrations. Dutch painters found roses to be perfect subjects for their still-life paintings. Unfortunately, artists often embellished rose colors to appeal to the tastes of their rich patrons.

During the late Renaissance, books printed with moveable type became more commonly available. John Gerard's *Herball*, also called *Generall Historie of Plantes*, was first published in 1597. Though it contained the first comprehensive listing of roses, *Herball* was wildly inaccurate. John Parkinson, who served as apothecary to King James I, described 29 roses in his 1629 treatise, *Paradisi in Sole Paradisus Terrestris*. In 1795, the first monograph of roses was published. Its author, Mary Lawrance, engraved images of about 90 roses. The title of her work was *A Collection of Roses from Nature*.

(Roses continued on page 5)

**MOVING?**

Please let us know when you change your address or phone number. Contact **Buck Hemenway**, Membership Coordinator, at a meeting or call him at (909) 360-8802. He will make sure the information gets changed on the membership roster so you will not miss out on newsletters and phone calls. Thanks!

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**Garden Views**

The *Garden Views* newsletter is published monthly, September through June, by the U. C. Master Gardeners, Cooperative Extension, University of California, Riverside County. All reporters are Master Gardeners or Master Gardeners-in-training.

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**Sounding Off...**



*We like to get mail, and it doesn't matter if it's email or USPS mail. Let us know what's on your mind. If one of our stories prompts you to share something please do. If you'd like other MGs opinions, just ask. We'd like to make this section of the newsletter your place to sound off with whatever's on your mind. Write or email to Nancy Sappington, 66780 Yucca Drive, Desert Hot Springs, CA 92240, [nsappington@esri.com](mailto:nsappington@esri.com).*

Dear Editor:

Re: Fruits and Nuts by Cindy McCabe, MG; February *Garden Views*

Although Cindy mentions the apple varieties 'Anna' and 'Golden Dorsett' in her article, she does not list them as being available locally, which they definitely are. Some people may shy away from them because they have not tasted them, but I find them consistent (not alternate year) heavy croppers. Cindy also does not mention Asian pears. I have had consistent results with 'Twentieth Century,' and it is rather nice to grow a fruit which never gets cheap in the supermarket! A variety of peach, which I bought locally, though I have not checked this year, is 'Floridaprince.' Some people have commented that they think its flavor is bland, but whether because a tree-ripened fruit is *always* superior to a store-bought one, or whether because it fruits very early (I already have little fruits on my tree), I always anticipate it eagerly.

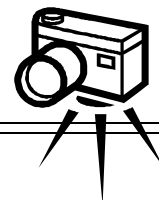
**Alison Shilling**

**Shutterbugs Take Note -**

The April *Garden Views* will feature an excellent article on photography basics to help us capture our gardens and favorite nature places at their best.

The MG Calendar Committee will be asking us to submit our best shots for publication in the 2006 MG Calendar that is now in the planning stages.

Contact Calendar Committee Chair Mike Urquhart, 909-769-8363, to submit photos for consideration.




## Tree Training Attracts MGs

By Alison Shilling, MG

On February 19, six Master Gardeners from Riverside County attended an eight-hour training workshop in San Diego on Landscape Trees. It is expected that we will “devote a suggested 10 hours of volunteer service on a public outreach effort on trees,” although the training was presumably also intended to hone our skills in other Master Gardener activities, such as on the phone, at information tables, or with Victoria Avenue Forever.

There were six presentations, of varied level of detail and usefulness. Although I sympathize with one speaker who said that she was not sure of our level of expertise, I feel that she should have assumed that at least we remembered our basic MG training and were also somewhat predisposed to like trees already, so we did not need to see pretty pictures of *Jacaranda*, *Plumeria*, or *Chorisia*! On the other hand, for me two other speakers hit the right level—one who gave an extremely detailed and valuable analysis of root functions, formation and problems, and another who analyzed pruning techniques. Another, who talked on diseases of trees, tried to give a great deal of detail on a broad and academic topic, with the result that I found it difficult to digest, even with a fairly good background already.

The materials in the handbook were likewise very varied. Included, but with no label to identify it, was a diagram-by-diagram summary of one speaker's talk on “Selecting a Healthy Tree.” Neither he nor any other speaker referred to the paperwork at all, although the “Diseases” talk would have been made simpler if the speaker had used the ‘Pest Notes’ provided. If the “Selection of Tree Species” speaker had used the list in the back of the handbook, she might have realized there were more than six or seven trees to discuss.

In spite of the above criticisms, this was time well spent. It was very useful to spend a day considering just ornamental trees, and the materials provide extra food for thought. It would be beneficial to Riverside MGs if we ordered a supply of the pamphlets to hand out to our members if not to the public. Investing in some of the flyers, such as the series of some twenty brochures from the International Society for Arboriculture, the Pest Notes mentioned above, and the handsome leaflets by the Cooperative Extension including “Trees Under Power Lines” and “Trees for Saving Energy” would be money well spent. 

(Roses continued from page 3)

Between 1817 and 1824 Pierre-Joseph Redouté printed a serialized list of roses called *Les Roses*. His patron was none other than Mlle. Josephine Bonaparte. *Les Roses* expanded the register of cultivated roses to a total of approximately 170. After Napoleon's defeat, the Bourbon King Louis-Phillipe retained Redouté as the court flower-painter.

In 1848, nurseryman William Paul described 1,500 roses for sale in his book or catalog, *The Rose Garden*. Though his work was periodically updated, by the 10th edition (in 1910) there were fewer than 90 of the Old Roses enumerated by Paul.

It took 60 years for Old Roses to fall precipitously from favor. The hybrid teas, polyanthas (forerunners of modern miniatures), and floribundas came into fashion for much of the first half of the 20th century.

Those who love to study and preserve historically important roses joined forces to locate and perpetuate Old Garden Roses that were disappearing rapidly. During the last two decades, these “grandes dames of the rose world” have gained support from growers. Hybridizers like David Austin and the French firms of Meilland and Guillot have satisfied gardeners with new shrubs that are replete with crosses of Old Garden Roses, known as OGRs. I know. I speak for lovers of rose history when I say, “Long live the Old Garden Rose!”



## China—The Mother of Gardens

By Cindy McCabe, MG

The 18th and 19th centuries comprised an era of exploration, particularly into Asia. Though most patrons of expeditions were primarily interested in acquiring gold and spices, new plants began to filter into the economy. Europeans discovered that China had an ample supply of horticultural wonders. The Chinese safeguarded these treasures and confined items to be traded to Europeans solely to “factories” or warehouses and wharves. While waiting for their exotic cargo, European merchants explored local garden nurseries. It's believed that only about one out of a thousand plants survived the long trip by sea. One of the solutions for sustaining viable specimens was off-loading and growing the living cargo at various ports-of-call. Special gardens for that purpose were established along the trade routes.

(China continued on page 7)

***Ceanothus*—California Lilac**

By Donna Claypool, MG

*Ceanothus*, California lilac, is a beautiful native Californian plant and glorious when it blooms in early spring. The blossoms of the different varieties range from pale to dark blue and from white to lavender to purple. Nearly all are evergreen and become inconspicuous background plants when out of bloom. By planting different species, the flowering season can be extended from late winter to late spring.

*Ceanothus* is a member of the buckthorn family of shrubs and trees along with jujube and *Rhamnus*. According to Bob Perry in *Landscape Plants for Western Regions*, there are two main groups of *Ceanothus*—*Euceanothus* and *Cerastes*. *Euceanothus* grows along the coast and in areas with milder temperatures. Varieties in this group grow to a larger size with larger leaves that are alternate. Plants in the *Cerastes* group can take more heat and stress from drought. They have smaller, mounding forms with leaves that are opposite on the stem. *Ceanothus* hybridizes easily between groups and we have many varieties to choose from.

*Ceanothus* needs very good drainage; overwatering will lead to root rot. Always let the soil dry out completely after watering. Plants from coastal regions like slightly acidic, well drained soils and can take small amounts of irrigation. Planted in inland areas, these plants require protection from heat and dryness in the summer. Like all natives, they do best when planted in late fall. Control its size by pruning small branches after it has bloomed or by pinching back new growth at the tips.

*Ceanothus* grows very quickly and usually flowers after two years. It provides an excellent habitat for wildlife and improves soil fertility by fixing nitrogen. One disadvantage of *Ceanothus* is that it is a short-lived perennial. Most varieties will live from five to 10 years and provide quick coverage while giving slower growing plants time to mature.

I went to *Growing California Native Plants* by Marjorie G. Schmidt for information on propagation: Most species of *Ceanothus* have hard seed coats, making pretreatment necessary. Immersing the seed in hot water, followed by cold stratification usually brings prompt germination. A few seeds will eventually germinate if planted in flats of coarse soil and left to the elements over the winter season. Treated seed is planted in a mixture of

equal parts of coarse sand, loam, and peat moss. After the second or third pair of leaves form, plants may be shifted to 3-inch pots, held until a good mass of roots have formed, and then put into gallon cans. Plants will be ready for planting in one and a half to two years, and most begin to bloom during their third year of growth.

Take cuttings from mid-spring until December. Dip 3 to 5 inch cuttings into a rooting hormone and put them in flats of sharp sand. Keep them in a sheltered place, covered with plastic until rooting occurs. Bottom heat ensures to greatest percentage of rooting. Practically all of the creeping species root naturally when in contact with moist soil, or they may be layered.


Native Americans had many uses for *Ceanothus*. They gathered the seeds for food, used the flowers for soap, smoked the leaves, used the bark and roots for an astringent and tonic, and made a red dye from the roots. Many varieties do well in Riverside. This is just a brief sampling.

*Ceanothus* 'Concha'—to 6½ feet high with tight, round clusters; dark-blue flowers from February to April; sun; water-tolerant; rapid growing and vigorous; free-flowering; good background plant. *Ceanothus* 'Joyce Coulter'—to 12 inches high with a 10-foot spread; dark blue flowers in March through summer; sun; water tolerant; vigorous; spreading; dark, ridged leaves.

*Ceanothus* 'Ray Hartman'—to 10-18 feet high; compound clusters of bluebird blue flowers from March through April; sun; semi-dry; adaptable; free flowering; large, dark green leaves; specimen.

*Ceanothus* 'Sierra Blue'—10-12 feet tall by 8-10 feet wide with bright medium-blue 6-8 inch spike-like clusters; glossy, medium green 1½ inch leaves; fast grower; weedy for first few years.

*Ceanothus* 'Wheeler Canyon'—5-6 feet high with 1-2 inch long clusters of deep blue flowers in early spring; deep green foliage; good for slopes or as accent; light shade in inland areas; periodic deep watering.


*Ceanothus griseus* var. *horizontalis* and cultivar 'Carmel Creeper'—3-10 feet high with dense panicles of violet-blue flowers from March through May; sun to high shade; semi-dry; adaptable; widely spreading; broad, dark green leaves; used as filler or specimen. 

China continued from page 5

Although the first China Roses did not appear in European gardens until the 18th and 19th centuries, they had most certainly been cultivated for hundreds of years in their homeland. Tea Roses were also shipped to Europe in the early 19th century. The Tea class refers to the fact that the East Indies Trading Companies brought these new roses from China along with high-quality grades of tea leaves. There is actually no trace of tea scent in this rose class, according to the experts.

Tea and China roses added new dimensions to early 19th century rose hybridization. The China roses in particular were both hardy and remontant (repeat blooming). Though Gregor Mendel, founder of the science of genetics, published the rules of genetic inheritance in 1866, his findings were largely ignored at the time. Hybridizers were unaware that the repeat blooming gene was recessive and would not appear in the first generation seedlings. So the first crosses produced vigorous bushes which were named "hybrids" - which referred to sterility in those days.

European roses and China roses were so genetically dissimilar that, in fact, seedlings from the first crosses were unable to sexually reproduce (via pollination). It took nearly 40 years for hybridizers to overcome the sterility barrier and produce another class of roses in the mid-19th century. This new group was given the appellation Hybrid Perpetuals.

Trips to China also yielded the species roses, *Rosa bracteata*, *Rosa multiflora carnea*, and *Rosa Roxburghii Normalis*, among others. When 'Fortune's Double Yellow' and *Rosa Banksiae lutea* ("Lady Bank's" rose) both from China, were introduced, yellow roses became a reality for the Europeans. For centuries, European roses were confined to the hues of pink, red, purple, and white. Without all the exciting genetic possibilities of Tea and China roses, our modern hybrids would indeed seem sterile. 

## Preview of Upcoming Speakers

By **Jeri Kuoppamaki, MG**

**Dr. Mike Henry** will present a class on "Turfgrasses" on March 3. Mike is the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) Environment Horticulture Advisor, and turf and water practices are a specialty of his. He is also the advisor for the UCCE Master Gardener Program and is a familiar and helpful presence for all of us.

Mike earned a BS in Biology from Humboldt State University in northern California. He graduated with a Masters Degree in Horticulture from the University of California at Davis in 1973.

Mike has been associated with the UCCE for more than 27 years. The first 18 years were spent in Orange County, and the last nine years he has worked here in Riverside.

In his capacity at the UCCE, Mike has been active in the research program, specializing in research on turfgrass selection for Southern California and on landscape water use in Riverside, the Coachella Valley, and Orange County.

Another area of Mike's work involves providing education to the horticulture industry in Riverside, and conducting problem-solving education with professionals in landscaping and the horticulture industry. In addition, Mike has recently completed a book on abiotic plant disorders, which is such a popular reference that it has already become the number two publication from the University of California.

His lecture to the MG class will focus on the different types of turfgrass based on the research he has done. He will also talk about irrigation management to give the class a better idea on the water needs of the various turfgrasses grown in the Riverside area.



**Wade Roberts** will present a class on Annuals and Perennials on March 17. Wade, a California native, received his B.S. in Ornamental Horticulture from Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo.

In fall 1966, Wade accepted a position with the Sherman Foundation, which was developing a Botanical Garden and Historical Library in Corona Del Mar, California. He was appointed horticulturist and gardens director shortly thereafter and has been with the Sherman Library and Gardens for more than 37 years. He works closely with the active volunteer association and docent guild, and under his direction, the gardens have become an important horticultural center in California.

Wade is the founding president of the Horticultural Society of Orange County, a member of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, a past member of the UC Irvine Arboretum Board and the Cal Poly University of Horticulture Advisory Board, and served as a Tournament of Roses Judge in 1989.

**Jose Aguiar** will provide a primer on vegetables on April 7. He will review general concepts of backyard vegetable gardening, including fertilizers, watering needs and methods, and dealing with pests.

Jose received his Masters Degree in Vegetable Crops from the UC Davis. Since then, he has been a farm advisor with the UCCE for more than ten years, working primarily in the Coachella Valley. He states that this is a very diverse agricultural area with more than 70,000 acres in production. Most of the crops are

fast-paced, high-dollar crops, and include vegetables such as bell peppers, sweet corn, leaf lettuce, artichokes, and carrots. There are both conventional and organic growers with the majority of the farms run by small farmers with a limited scale of production.

Jose works with everything related to vegetable crops, from planting to marketing. In his spare time, he loves hiking and has a passion for deep-sea fishing particularly tuna and marlin.

## MASTER GARDENER CALENDAR

### CLASSES

**March 3, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at EPS, 3117 Durahart - TRAINING CLASS**

*Turfgrasses* Speaker: Mike Henry

**March 17, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at EPS, 3117 Durahart - TRAINING CLASS**

*Annuals and Perennials* Speaker: Wade Roberts

**March 17, 7:00 pm at EPS, 3117 Durahard - VETERANS CLASS**

*To Be Announced*

**March 31, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at EPS, 3117 Durahart - TRAINING CLASS**

*Plant Propagation* Speaker: To be announced

**April 7, 7:00 pm at EPS, 3117 Durahard - TRAINING CLASS**

*Backyard Vegetable Gardening* Speaker: Jose Aguiar

### MEETINGS

**Garden Views Staff Meetings --**

The *Garden Views* staff will meet March 1st at 7:00 pm at .

**October 8, 6:30 pm -- Advisory Board Meeting at Cooperative Extension Office**

The Advisory Board meets once per month, on the second Wednesday. The meetings are held at the UC Cooperative Extension Riverside County Office, 21150 Box Springs Road, Moreno Valley beginning at 6:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

**Phone Squad:** Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Call Phone Squad Coordinator Shelley Wardrop to volunteer, 909-788-8197.

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**MASTER GARDENER CALENDAR**



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**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** Continued

**Saturday, March 6, 8:30 - 12:30 -- Riverside Celebrates Trees!**

The 2004 RCT event will take place at 4680 LaSierra Avenue, Five Points Shopping Center. Master Gardener volunteers are needed to supervise tree planting along Hole and LaSierra or answer gardening-related questions at the Master Gardener information table. Call Yvonne Hemenway at 909-686-1070(days) or 909-360-8802 (eves) for information and to sign up.

**Saturday, March 13, 8:45 -12:30 -- Victoria Avenue Forever**

Spreading mulch at Lewis Garden at Victoria Avenue and Jane Street in Riverside. Contact Lori Yates , 909-687-4362.

**Saturday, April 3 and Sunday, April 4, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm -- Heritage House Plant Sale**

Volunteers needed for the sale and grounds. Call Cindy McCabe 909-737-4224 or Alexis Danieri (landscape committee chair), 909-735-0890.

**Saturday, April 3 (8:00 am to 5:00 pm) and Sunday, April 4, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm -- UCR Botanic Garden Plant Sale**

Volunteers needed for preparation, sale, and Master Gardener info table. Call Steve Morgan, 909-784-6962.

**Saturday, April 24 and Sunday, April 25 -- Riverside Community Flower Show and Garden Tour**

Volunteers are needed to docent at five gardens on both days. Saturday 1:00-3:30 and 3:30-6:00; Sunday 10:00-1:00 and 1:00-4:00. A pre-tour for all docents will take place on April 18 at 9:00 - bring lunch. Call Lois Bennett, 909-784-2428.

## TOURS AND EVENTS

**Saturday, March 6, 8:30 am to noon -- Basic Landscape Design Class**

Sponsored by Rancho California Water District and Metropolitan Water District, RCWD Board Room, 42135 Winchester Road, Temecula. Free to RCWD customers. Call 909-296-6900.

**Saturday, March 20, 8:30 am to noon -- California-Friendly Plants Class**

Sponsored by Rancho California Water District and Metropolitan Water District, RCWD Board Room, 42135 Winchester Road, Temecula. Free to RCWD customers. Call 909-296-6900.

**Saturday, March 27, 2:00 pm -- Wildflowers and Wildfires Lecture**

Sponsored by the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve at the Interpretive Center, Lake Skinner Regional Park, 37701 Warren Road, Winchester, 909-926-4119.

**Wednesday, April 7, 7:00 pm -- Australian Plants for Mediterranean Climate Gardens**

By Rodger Elliot. \$12. Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, 626-821-4623.

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