

OAK NOTES

NEWSLETTER OF THE RANCHO SANTA ANA BOTANIC GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Shaunna Gygli, Volunteer President

California Current. Fog. Redwoods. California Current. Tongva, Chumash. Plank boats. Connect the dots you say. Here goes.

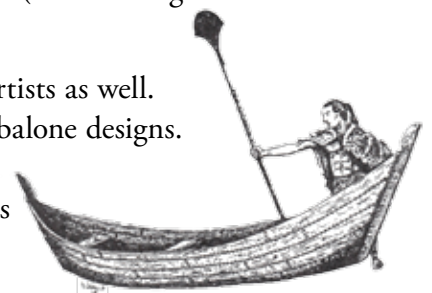
The **California Current** is a Pacific Ocean current that moves south along the western coast beginning off British Columbia and ending off southern Baja California.

This movement of northern waters southward makes the coastal waters cooler than other coastal waters of comparable latitude. Additionally, prevailing winds cause extensive upwelling of colder water. The moisture-laden air over this cold current condenses into thick **fog** along the coast.

What do **redwoods** love? Right. Fog. Winter storms washed redwoods into rivers and finally into the sea (before California rivers were so extensively dammed). Because the **California Current** moves in a southerly direction, it brought these trees to the southern coast and the southern islands.

The **Tongva** and the **Chumash** used this driftwood to make remarkable **plank boats**. What made them so remarkable were their ingenious construction, utility and beauty. They were made of planks—boards! How did they make boards without a saw? Elkhorn wedges were pounded into the logs to split them lengthwise. No nails. The planks were glued together with a mixture of asphaltum and pine pitch called yop. Each plank was drilled to make holes. The planks were then sewn together with cordage made from hemp. The boards were sanded with sandstone and further smoothed with sharkskin. More of the tar and pine was worked into the seams to make the boat (*ti'at* in Tongva and *tomal* in Chumash) watertight.

The boat builders were not only craftsmen but artists as well. The boat was made more beautiful with inlaid abalone designs. Some were also painted. The *ti'at* or *tomal* was usually piloted by six to eight men on their knees



using a double paddle. They hunted, fished and established trade.

Cindi Alvitre, a Tongva descendant and UCLA doctoral candidate, had a dream (an actual asleep dream). In her dream it became clear that she should build a ti'at. In the late 1980s she co-founded the Ti'at Society to build a plank boat of her ancestors, and in 1995 Moomat Ahiko (Breath of the Sea) was launched, the first Tongva boat in nearly 200 years. This beautiful boat has been on display around the southland, including Catalina, Long Beach and San Dimas. It is sometimes seen racing Chumash Tomals and even outriggers from Hawaii. Cindi is often a paddler.



**OUR WORLD
GONE WILD**
Lucinda McDade,
RSABG Interim
Executive Director

The Wild Pace of Spring

What a spring we are having! Beginning with all of the “When They Were Wild” events, both at The Huntington and here...continuing through Spring Open House and Member Appreciation Day, Wildflower Show weekend, Gateways to the Communities opening, dedication of the blue palm grove to the memory of our colleague and friend Jaime Romero...we have hardly had a tranquil moment to enjoy the Garden ourselves.

Somewhat remarkably, The Huntington seems to have been able to pull off the events there without relying on RSABG volunteers, but the events here really could not have taken place without the hard work of knowledgeable, ever reliable and often flexible volunteers! I know that I sound like a broken record in saying this, but we really could not do it without you.

I hope that all of you have had a chance to walk the new loop trail in the communities area of the Garden, and have found and enjoyed some of those newly revealed special places that I mentioned in a recent “Oak Notes” article. Please return frequently! We

will be gradually releasing the rest of the brochures (one of which was available for you at the opening). I just helped to edit the text for the ethnobotany and kids’ scavenger hunt brochures and will be excited to see them in final form. We really want to get your feedback on these brochures as well as on the signs that are already installed. Take along your favorite kids of all ages to explore the area with you and test-drive the interpretive materials.

What I would like to do in my column this month is to make sure that all of us appreciate how this year’s Wildflower Show was different from past versions of the event. For the first time, the areas at which we collected for the show this year are sites at that Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden has longer-term research projects. The master’s degree thesis project of now Ph.D. student Sarah De Groot was a study to document the flora of the Whipple Mountains of far eastern California (the ‘nose’ that pushes into Arizona as the border follows the Colorado River), and we continue to seek to increase our knowledge of that area, which had seen little collection activity before De Groot’s work. She and Seeds of Success Coordinator April Garbat collected there, *both* making specimens that will turn into permanent vouchers in the RSABG Herbarium *and* setting aside flowers to share with the RSABG community at the Wildflower Show. As we joked over the three days of the event, every cloud that passed over Claremont without dropping rain showered on the Whipples. I hope that many of you got to appreciate that remarkable diversity, including the belly plants or “dinkophytes” (as Steve Boyd, former RSABG herbarium curator, called them) that only appear in any numbers in years of good rainfall.

RSABG staff and students are likewise involved in documenting the plants of the odd “Pebble Plains” in the San Bernardino Mountains and of Bighorn Mountain Reserve on the northeast flank of that mountain range. Again, teams from Research and Horticulture visited these sites, making vouchers of plants in flower and also setting aside flowers to bring back to share with you and other Garden visitors. The fact that permanent voucher specimens, replete with data regarding the location and description of the plant, were made means that

the Wildflower Show will permanently contribute to advancing knowledge of California native plants even as it provided enjoyment for so many.

Owing to lackluster winter rains, this was not an especially good year for wildflowers, and so we also shared with you a number of special plants from the grounds here. We featured the California Channel Islands collection of plants and also the somewhat whimsical “chaff garden.” I hope you know what the chaff garden is! Many people who did not, now do (at least those who took a moment to read the sign or ask questions). We set up several specially designed demonstration stations as well, including one devoted to the remarkable floral diversity in the buttercup family and one devoted to weeds (not only do weeds have flowers too, but it is also part of our educational mission to help people learn to recognize them and to understand the problems that they can cause).

As importantly as all of the above, graduate student Jessica Orozco was a presence in the Wildflower Show for most of the weekend and on into Monday. She was there to answer questions, to explain and demonstrate what it means that we made herbarium specimens of the same species that were brought in for display, and to generally make the show as interactive and educational as visitors wished.

Reflecting our commitment to think and act as “one Garden,” we installed signs letting Wildflower Show visitors know of plants on display that were also available for sale at the Grow Native Nursery (and sales were high over the weekend: lots of water-wise and beautiful plants went to take their places in home gardens). We also made the connection to the research projects underway at the selected three sites by having a student or staff member present a short illustrated talk about one of the three areas on each of the days. These were highly interactive, with visitors often staying on to learn more from the researcher.

In sum, we know that it is a work in progress, but we hope that the more that you understand about the changes that were made, the more you will share our enthusiasm for the show! Feedback please!

I had hoped to have space to write about the Butterfly Pavilion (opening May 11) as well. I will have to save the details for later, but let me just say:

because we display native butterflies, we also display their native host plants for both caterpillars (leaves) and adults (flowers). The butterflies also get to do that special thing that living creatures alone do: they reproduce so that the pavilion soon comes to include eggs through larval stages through pupae through adults and back to eggs. All of this means that the RSABG Butterfly Pavilion is educational in ways that make me personally very proud (oh and it is gorgeous and entertaining as well!). I hope that you will visit early and often as the season progresses!

Our season of events continues with more on the horizon: Mothers’ Day brunch and lunch; ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new facilities at Grow Native Nursery in the Veterans Garden, May 18. It will be a special day (I hope that many of you went on the volunteer fieldtrip there in April). Garden Groove coming quickly after that.

Lastly, let me share with you that we are going to run a bit of an experiment in August. Would you like to be able to visit the Garden a bit later in the evening on hot summer days? How about taking your walk a bit earlier than 8 a.m. on occasion? Stay tuned for details on our experiment with expanded hours.

My best to each of you and thanks for all that you do!



NOTES FROM TIFFANY

**Tiffany Chandler,
Manager of
Volunteer Programs**

Ready or not, here we go again...the Butterfly Pavilion opens Saturday, May 11.

Volunteers, we could really use your help on our flight crew! We are still in need of volunteers who can commit to weekly shifts throughout the Butterfly Pavilion season (May 11 through July 28, 2013). There are two three-hour volunteer shifts daily: 9:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. and 12:30 p.m. until 3:30 p.m.

If you would be able to commit to a specific day and time each week, please let me know. We **greatly** appreciate this commitment. The Butterfly

Pavilion has become one of our family favorites and is drawing wonderful crowds to the Garden.

If you are unable to commit to a weekly schedule, please consider being a Butterfly Pavilion substitute. Substitutes fill in when there is an open shift. It is likely there will be several open shifts each week.

The key role of a butterfly keeper on the flight crew is as follows:

- Greet and welcome guests.
- Collect tickets at the entrance and occasionally collect a \$2 fee if tickets weren't purchased in advance at the kiosk.
- Make sure foot traffic through the pavilion flows in one direction.
- Help monitor the number of visitors in the exhibit at one time.
- Help keep the curtain doors closed.

Save the Date! The annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner is Wednesday, June 26, 5 p.m. This is a special evening to thank each of you for all you do for RSABG. The newest RSABG volunteers, the Class of 2013, will be introduced and welcomed to the organization. We will also be honoring volunteers who have reached 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 milestone years of volunteer service to Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. We look forward to seeing you all there!

Thank you for all you do for RSABG!



**VISITOR
SERVICES**
Eric Garton,
Director of Visitor Services

An exciting, jam-packed spring season rolls into summer!

While we're bracing for the dry, warm and beautiful season ahead, California butterflies are ready to shine! Monarch caterpillars are munching on

milkweed, pipevine swallowtail caterpillars are devouring dutchmen's pipe, adult butterflies are nectaring on abundant wildflowers and camouflaged chrysalises are soon to emerge. This year marks the fourth season of the Butterfly Pavilion. It opens Saturday, May 11 and will be open daily 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. through Sunday, July 28.

Thanks to your commitment and dedication, we are able to provide an engaging educational and memorable experience for thousands of family visitors who pass through the pavilion doors. If you're not already signed up for a shift, consider joining the butterfly pavilion flight crew.

Unsure of your qualifications to be on the flight crew? Don't be! If you enjoy being outside, greeting guests and sharing the wonders of the Garden with others, you're perfect for this position.

To improve your butterfly-IQ, pavilion coordinator "Butterfly Bill" Gendron has revised and created additional training materials for all butterfly keepers. Great materials include a "Butterfly 101" training guide, roles and responsibilities of keepers and color photos of common butterfly species and their interesting natural histories, including what host plants they require to thrive and reproduce. Check out these resources to bone up on your butterfly knowledge. Our goal is to make you feel comfortable about the experience you're sharing by providing accurate, meaningful and relative information that Garden guests can understand—with the ultimate goal that they may carry the message of stewardship and habitat gardening to their friends and communities.

So how do you get involved? Check the hallway bulletin boards for signup opportunities, or contact volunteer manager Tiffany Chandler directly at tchandler@rsabg.org or 909- 625-8767 ext 256. For other butterfly-related questions email butterflypavilion@rsabg.org.

Thank you for your continuing support of Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden!



**TOURING
PROGRAMS**
Judy Hayami,
Touring Programs Manager

What a fast-paced, tour-packed, fantastic April we had. But wait, there's more! Take a look at the busy tour calendar for May.

Our list of potential tour guides looks long and promising, but the list of phone calls it takes to fill the positions is longer. This should not be the case. We're counting on you to lead tours on the days and times you checked off on the touring preference questionnaire.

Nature interpreters, please check the tour calendar and ask for details if you need them. Respond promptly to calls or emails from your team captain and monthly organizer. Team members, be here for your team or find a substitute. Substitutes, be available when someone calls for help. Sign-up tour leaders, sign up for those days you are available. There are more than 12 sign-up tour opportunities in May.

It has come to my attention that there are a few nature interpreters on the current roster who have led zero to three tours since September 2012. You come to review sessions, you come for orientations, but you do not come to lead tours. Why? Please let me know.

Thank you for the time you give to support school tours and programs, special family events and Garden activities. Please make it a habit to report your hours regularly. You and I may know how often you are out there on the trails, but make your contribution official by turning in timecards or sending an email to Tiffany.

The new format of the Wildflower Show seemed to be well received by volunteers, staff and visitors. Special thanks to former volunteer Loretta Warmbrunn, the artist who painted the watercolor murals more than 20 years ago, and to Terry Givens for his assistance installing the murals in the East Classroom. I truly appreciate all the volunteer help with the show from set-up to bottle washing.

Team captains and touring committee members meet on Monday, May 20, following enrichment.

See you soon and often!

VOLUNTEER ENRICHMENT
Donna Bedell, Laura Burt, Wes Marquis

**Nature Interpreter Tour
for Non-Nature Interpreters
May 20, 2013, 12 p.m.**

Have you ever wondered what happens on RSABG tours led by nature interpreters? You may have seen tables set up around the Garden with displays of mysterious objects or observed groups of children gathered near the admission kiosk waiting for their tour to begin.

On May 20, you will have an opportunity to learn what happens on these tours. Six nature interpreters will demonstrate some of the hands-on activities used during the tours as well as conduct mini-tours for us in the Garden.

RSABG nature interpreters conduct one- and two-hour tours for school groups, as well as for children and adults representing a wide variety of interests such as scout troops, garden groups, and even the Red Hat Society! The two-hour tours with activity stations include A Bird's Life: Adaptation and Survival Strategies of Birds; Native Partners: California Plants and California Indians; and Web of Life: Study of Ecological Relationships and Diversity of Life. On one-hour tours, without activity stations, children or adults are led on walking tours of the Garden. These include A Sensational Walk and A Sense of California.

If you're a new volunteer at RSABG, this is a great opportunity to find out more about these tours, and you may find that you're interested in becoming a nature interpreter. For all volunteers, this program will help us describe tours to visitors at the Garden, and especially to teachers or groups who may be interested.

Please join us at noon in the East Classroom on Monday, May 20. (Note: This is a week earlier than our usual meeting time). Feel free to bring your lunch. Tea, coffee, and cookies will be available.

VOLUNTEER BOARD NOMINEES

The Volunteer Organization Nominating Committee (Carol Lerew, Ernie Pianalto, Lee Boss) submits the following slate of Board of Directors officer nominees for the 2013-2014 service year. They are:

Shaunna Gygli, President
Janice Tsuma, Vice President
Lee Waggener, Secretary
David Gish, Treasurer

The slate of candidates has been approved by the Volunteer Organization Board of Directors and will be presented to the Annual Membership meeting on June 14 for approval. Following the vote of approval the new officers will begin their terms at close of the annual meeting.

VOLUNTEER FIELD TRIP FRONTIER PROJECT: THE GREEN FRONTIER Krista, Volunteer Field Trip Coordinator Wednesday, May 15, 2013

What will our green future look like? Depends on the location, for sure, and the Frontier Project may give you some ideas. It's the first project of its kind in Southern California: a one-acre site that includes a 14,000 square foot sustainable resource center, demonstration gardens and onsite water retention system. Every aspect of the Frontier Project encourages interaction and educates visitors about sustainable building practices.

Visiting the Frontier Project is a fun way to explore how to live more sustainably while lowering your monthly water and energy bills.

We'll take a guided tour, stroll through the gardens; relax in the living room; view the demonstration kitchen; check out the green roof and conference rooms; and learn how you can implement various elements into your home or business.

The facility also features a resource library and touchable building materials to assist

visitors who are thinking about re-modeling or building a sustainable home or business.

Optional vegan lunch afterward at The Lovin' Hut in nearby Upland. Sustainably scrumptious!

Volunteers, friends, family, staff and students are encouraged to come!

Date: Wednesday, May 15

Meet: at RSABG 11:30 a.m. to carpool, or meet us at Frontier Project 12 p.m.

Tour start time: 1 p.m. Lasts 1 hour.

Destination: The Frontier Project, 10435 Ashford St., Rancho Cucamonga, 91730

Driving time: Approx 20 minutes from RSABG

Distance: Local (9 miles from RSABG)

Transportation: Casual carpools

Directions: www.mapquest.com/mq/9-qVO2XIycHIRjZswsBpt8

For a sneak peek, visit their Web site: www.frontierproject.com.

The RSABG volunteer field trips aim to expand your botanic, sustainable and cultural knowledge through guided adventures at local and regional resources. Get to know the places, plants and people that make the Los Angeles region such an amazing, diverse place.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Amy Baumann

Volunteer Potluck Luncheon

Friday, June 14, 11:30 a.m.

Please join us for the Volunteer Luncheon on Friday, June 14. This will be a traditional potluck luncheon with appetizers served at 11:30 a.m. You are welcome to bring any of your favorite dishes to contribute to the meal.

Sign-up sheets will be posted in the volunteer room and in the hall by the volunteer board. If you cannot stop by the Garden to sign up we would still love to see you at the luncheon. Any appetizer, salad, main dish or dessert would be a welcome contribution.

Lunch will be followed by the quarterly business meeting of the Volunteer Organization. The luncheon will be held at the Lantz Outdoor Classroom. The tram and Fayemobile will shuttle from the admission

kiosk starting at 10:45 a.m. and will return guests following the business meeting. This is a wonderful opportunity to see the beautiful Garden, enjoy great food, visit with friends and meet new volunteers.

We hope to see you there!



STAFF BIO
Phil Majors: RSABG
Information
Systems Manager

You may ask “where does this guy come from”? Let me introduce myself. My name is Phil Majors, information systems manager at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. I was born and raised in Southern California, the oldest of nine siblings (You know that first born thing—lol (laugh out loud)). I am married to Shelley; we have a daughter and two sons and live in Rancho Cucamonga. Things that I like to do: camping, going to the beach, reading, old cars, gardening, baseball games and volunteering at my church.

A little about my professional background: my first time working with computer systems was in 1985 at Gemco Stores installing, training and supporting point-of-sale systems. I never guessed that today you would be scanning your items to purchase and checking yourself out! Then I went to Fedco Stores, supporting point-of-sale systems, taking on more responsibility over the years and running a computer data center. I also ran the computer data center at Rose Hills Memorial Park, where I quickly found out why they needed computer systems. I operated my own consulting firm, helping small to mid-size companies. These days everyone needs a computer to do something.

What do I like about working at the Garden? Where else can you go to work, have great views, wonderful people and read about the past, see the current and be excited about the future? I love to help people solve problems and am constantly learning new skills. I am looking forward to working with or meeting you.



BIRD OF THE MONTH
Gloria Slosberg

House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*)
AKA Linnnet)

Identifying Characteristics: Length 6 inches, wingspan 9.5 inches, weight 0.74 ounce.

Year-round residents at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, house finches are relatively long tailed with rounded heads and short beaks. The upper part of their bill (culmen) is curved. Females are drab overall with faintly patterned gray brown on head and pale grayish blurry streaks below. They can be mistaken for sparrows. The front of the male’s head and bib are orange red; his back is brownish with indistinct streaks. In breeding plumage, the male color is brilliant especially in sunlight. Male and female sing a sweet warble with variations.

House finches can be seen flying in small flocks on treetops or bushes as well as foraging on the ground. They feed on seeds, fruit and insects and are easily attracted to backyard feeders. Exceptions to their gregarious behavior occur in spring when they pair off for nesting.



PLANT OF THE MONTH BABY BLUE EYES

Cliff Hutson, Nature Interpreter

As wildflower season rolls around, I am reminded of that proverbial box of chocolates wherein you are never sure exactly what you are going to get. However, a recurring denizen of Fay's Wildflower Meadow is baby blue eyes (*Nemophila menziesii*) of the borage or waterleaf family Boraginaceae (as listed on Jepson eFlora).

The bowl-shaped 1/2 to 1 1/2 inch flowers are pale or clear blue and grow singly on slender stalks near the ends of slender, branched stems that reach six to ten inches tall.

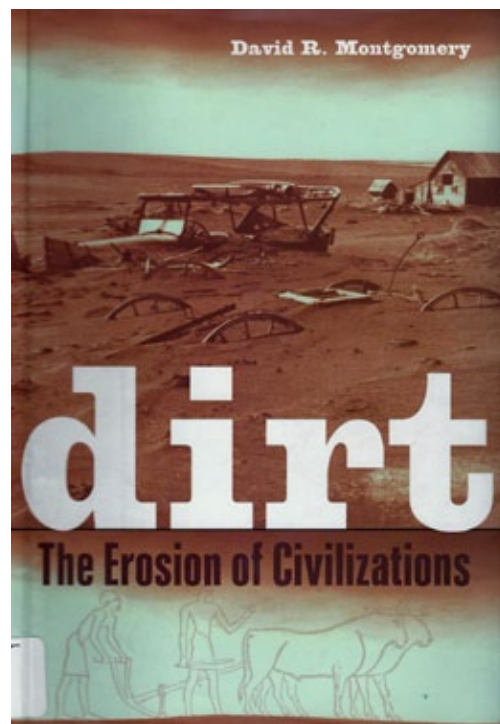
N. menziesii grows throughout California, from central Oregon into Baja, at heights from sea level up to almost 6,500 feet. It grows in many types of habitat, even though *Nemophila* means "woodland-loving." It comes from the Latin word *nemus*, which means "grove" and the Greek word *philos*, which means "loving." It blooms freely in gardens. As an annual, the seeds should be broadcast in fall or early spring, in sun or partial shade. It can reseed itself, but your mileage may vary.

N. menziesii has a couple of varieties that are often offered for sale. There is *N. menziesii* atomaria, which

has white flowers with black dots. A very different take is the cultivar 'Penny Black', which, as the name implies, is very dark if not actually black.

As I write this, Grow Native Nursery Claremont has a container holding a lovely mixture of all these on display.

Some references, like my 1979 field guide, list the family as waterleaf family (Hydrophyllaceae). But recent studies, as I understand it, have relegated the family to the subfamily Hydrophylloideae of the borage family (Boraginaceae). It seems that the jury is still out on this, and Jepson Herbarium apparently split the difference by adding "or waterleaf" to its citation.



BOOK OF THE MONTH

Jim and Kathleen Ritchie

"Dirt: The Erosion of Civilizations" by David R. Montgomery

Reviews that say it all:

"In our cyber-charged age, it's easy to forget that all six billion of us stand on the thin skin of the earth. Humanity is agriculture and agriculture is soil, just as it has been for 10,000 years. David Montgomery — a competent digger of dirt and engaging storyteller — shows how a close

look at the soil can reveal a surprising amount about who we are and where we are headed.”

— Richard Manning, author of “Against the Grain: How Agriculture Has Hijacked Civilization”

“The relationship between soils and societies has been crucial for humankind for 10,000 years. David Montgomery brings a geomorphologist’s eye and a world-historical vision to the subject, showing why it demands our attention. Historians, archaeologists, soil scientists, and environmental scientists will all be grateful for Montgomery’s synoptic approach, and all readers will welcome his lively prose.”

— J.R. McNeill, author of “Something New Under the Sun: An Environmental History of the Twentieth-Century World”

We are adding the following books to the Library for your summer reading:

“Reason for Hope: A Spiritual Journey”

by Jane Goodall with Phillip Berman

“Dye Plants and Dyeing”

by John and Margaret Cannon

“The Scented Garden” by Rosemary Verey



CRITTER IN THE GARDEN DEADLY MARATHON: THE DESERT TORTOISE Carol Lerew, Nature Interpreter

In folklore the tortoise’s slow and steady pace wins the race against the hare. Reality is a different story, for one of its kind, the desert tortoise, is running neck and neck against extinction. Will it ultimately survive the destruction of its habitat, infectious diseases, and various predators?

Gopherus agassizii is found in the Mojave and Colorado deserts. The other species, *Gopherus morafkai* occurs east of the Colorado River in Arizona as well as in northern Mexico. Terrestrial, with a domed horn-brown shell and round, stumpy, elephant-like legs, the desert tortoise can live about 30 to 50 years. Its front limbs are flattened for digging and are heavily scaled; toes are webless. The head is a reddish tan, small and rounded with black scales. It grows slowly, often taking 16 years or longer to mature and may attain a length of 10 to 14 inches, with males a little larger than females.

Desert tortoises dig burrows in washes, canyon bottoms and oases surrounded by creosote, thorn scrub, and cacti. Most of their lives are spent in burrows which they often share with other reptiles, mammals, birds and invertebrates. They feed on grasses and other vegetable matter in the morning and late afternoon. Hibernation period runs roughly from November to February-April.

When two males meet, they bob their heads rapidly, rushing toward each other—one trying to overturn the other. Mating occurs in the spring and fall. Later, the females will lay a clutch of four to eight hard-shelled eggs that resemble the size and shape of ping pong balls. The eggs will hatch in August or September.

Because desert tortoises are listed as an endangered species, certain areas in the Mojave and Colorado deserts have been set aside as refuges. Scientists hope such protective measures will help the population to rebound. State laws have made it a crime to collect one from the wild or to engage in any activity destructive of its habitat.

Although none of these gentle creatures resides at RSABG, at least one RSABG volunteers has a pet desert tortoise. Several organizations in Southern California are dedicated to the rescue, adoption and care of turtles and tortoises. If you are interested in knowing more, please go to www.sdturtle.org.



Garden Vista

May 5

A Garden Party Like No Other!

**You are cordially invited to Garden Vista:
Cultivating our Future Path**

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden on

Sunday, May 5, 2013 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$40 for RSABG members, and \$50 for the public.

With socializing, music, refreshments, a silent auction,
door prizes, behind-the-scenes tours and the opportunity
to learn about future plans for the organization.

RSVP online at www.rsabg.org/garden-vista,

by phone 909-625-8767 ext. 222 or email kchappell@rsabg.org.

MAY 2013 TOUR CALENDAR

Monday, April 1

Nature Interpreter
Calendar May 2013

Wednesday, May 1

10:30 a.m. Tram Tours
1:30 p.m. Sign-Up Tour

Thursday, May 2

9:30 a.m. Native Partners

Friday, May 3

9:30 a.m. A Bird's Life
10 a.m. Tram tour

Saturday, May 4

11 a.m. Wildflower Walks
1 p.m. Wildflower Walks

Sunday, May 5

9 a.m. Sign-Up tour
11 a.m. Wildflower Walks
1 p.m. Sign-Up tour
1 p.m. Wildflower Walks

Monday, May 6

1 p.m. Tram tour

Tuesday, May 7

9:30 a.m. Sensational Walk
10 a.m. Sensational Walk

Wednesday, May 8

9:30 a.m. Self-led Norco
Community College
3:30 p.m. Sign-Up tour

Thursday, May 9

9:30 a.m. Native Partners

Friday, May 10

9:30 a.m. Web of Life

Saturday, May 11

11 a.m. Wildflower Walks
1 p.m. Wildflower Walks

Sunday, May 12

11 a.m. Wildflower Walks
1 p.m. Wildflower Walks

Monday, May 13

9:30 a.m. Tram tour

Tuesday, May 14

9:30 a.m. Sensational Walk
10 a.m. Sense of California

Thursday, May 16

9:30 a.m. Web of Life

Friday, May 17

9:30 a.m. Web of Life

Saturday, May 18

10 a.m. Tram tour
11 a.m. Wildflower Walks
1 p.m. Wildflower Walks

Sunday, May 19

10 a.m. Guided Tram Tour
11 a.m. Wildflower Walks
1 p.m. Wildflower Walks

Monday, May 20

10 a.m. NICE (Nature
Interpreter Continuing Education)
12:30 p.m. "Early
afternoon" arrival – Self-
led & Butterfly Pavilion

Tuesday, May 21

9:30 a.m. Sense of California
& Butterfly Pavilion

Wednesday, May 22

1:30 p.m. Sign-Up Tour
& Butterfly Pavilion

Thursday, May 23

9:30 a.m. Native Partners

Friday, May 24

9:30 a.m. Native Partners

Saturday, May 25

11 a.m. Wildflower Walks
1 p.m. Wildflower Walks

Sunday, May 26

11 a.m. Wildflower Walks
1 p.m. Wildflower Walks

Tuesday, May 28

10 a.m. Sensational Walk

Thursday, May 30

9:30 a.m. Bird's Life

Friday, May 31

9:30 a.m. Native Partners



SAVE THE DATE VOLUNTEER FIELD TRIP

Saturday, June 1, Watch
for details coming soon.

VOLUNTEER BIOGRAPHY

A Little About David and Louise Gish, Oak Notes Contributing Editors

As contributing editors for the “Oak Notes,” David and Louise assist the editor and publisher by proofreading the articles submitted for publication.

An only child, David is a native of Ohio but grew up in several states—Michigan, Illinois, Missouri and Tennessee. His family lived the longest in the Chicago area where he attended college and received a BSEE (bachelor of science in electrical engineering) degree from Illinois Institute of Technology. He began his career at Boeing in Seattle, but most of his career was spent as an engineer and program manager for a small company in Pasadena specializing in magnetic recording devices for classified U.S. government programs.

Louise, also an only child, is a New Yorker who grew up in Minneapolis, where she earned a BA in business from University of

Minnesota before heading west to Los Angeles and a career in advertising. She also was the office manager for the Chino Chamber of Commerce for a number of years.

This year they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. They met up in the air as chance seatmates on a flight to Seattle. (Ah, yes, “Western Airlines—The Only Way to Fly!”) They both love Southern California, their adopted home for more than 50 years, and Upland, for almost 40. They feel fortunate that their daughter lives nearby in Glendale.

They truly love Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, both for itself and for all the wonderful staff and volunteers who make it what it is. They are now in their ninth year as volunteers, both of them in the herbarium; David also assisting Helen Smisko, plant records manager. In addition to their editorial work on “Oak Notes,” the couple also help with special events and do odd jobs around the Garden!

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