

## Quail Tracks

Volume 20, No. 1

Newsletter for Foundation Members

January, February, March 2009

230 Quail Gardens Drive Encinitas CA 92023-0005

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## QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS PHONE EXTENSIONS

www.qbgardens.org 760-436-3036 (phone) • 760-632-0917 (fax) Monday through Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM

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## Funding Secured for First Phase

Julian Duval, President/CEO



With a \$500,000 grant from the Leichtag Family Foundation, Quail Botanical Gardens has exceeded the original campaign goal for first phase of \$3.5 million by \$200,000. In honor of this gift, the tree house, which is the center piece in the Hamilton Children's Garden, will be called "Toni's Tree House," named after Toni Leichtag, wife of philanthropist Lee Leichtag.

Jim Farley, President/CEO of the Leichtag Family Foundation, shared this response with the announcement of the grant. "Seize the opportunity! In the middle of the most challenging economic environment in modern history, your (QBG) team has exceeded its goal—a dollar figure designed to put the Hamilton Children's Garden in business and on the map with its first phase. With our grant, you can now look beyond, to the completion of a project that will realize the full potential of a profoundly important regional resource, an asset that will be a legacy for generations to come. Let's get this project completed! I am convinced that if we can encourage the funding and completion of your project we will be poised to do things that will transform the public garden movement as we know it. With our grant you have arrived at the end of the beginning. Bravo!"

With economic news as dismal as it has been, the success of this effort to raise funds is all the more remarkable. It points to the powerful belief and conviction Jim Farley expresses about this work. Clearly, Jim is not alone as so many other people feel likewise about the Gardens and the importance of providing children with real opportunities to connect with nature.

It was 15 years ago this past October that Quail Botanical Gardens became self-supporting. While it was very challenging financially,



Fine grading of the slopes near the Tropical Surround and the Mountain Stream areas began in late October.



planting pockets.



there were people then (and before) who believed in the value of making a success of that new beginning. There is no doubt that the current success of the expansion derives from the good work of many who, over the years, have contributed not only funds but also work and intelligence to make the Gardens something of value.

One person who was and is the spark in all these areas is Frances Hamilton White. The Children's Garden appropriately carries her name, for it was Frances who, from the very beginning, knew that making the Gardens pertinent to children was the key to the Gardens' future as well as to the future of every child we could reach.

It is appropriate that we take a moment to savor this success; but as Jim urges, we will continue efforts at getting additional funding. There are many more wonderful naming opportunities with which to recognize major donations, and also commemorative tiles for donors to consider. We will seize the opportunity to refine the exciting concepts for Phase Two and quickly move these into place. Although the moment to savor must be brief-there is much work to be done before the anticipated June opening of the Hamilton Children's Garden-it gives me great pleasure to address our membership with this good news and to express my sincerest appreciation for your support. Please do join me in enjoying this moment as we have all made it possible.



Herb Festival, Spring Plant Sale, and Tomatomania<sup>©</sup>

March 21 & 22 • 9 AM - 5 PM

For this year's Herb Festival we are flying in from Maine Jane Taylor, founding curator of the Michigan 4-H Children's Garden (which has been called "the most creative half-acre in America") and adjunct faculty member in the Department of Horticulture at Michigan State University. Jane is nationally known for her work with children's gardens and also herbs—she, and husband Lee, received the Nancy Putnam Howard Award from the Herb Society of America for Excellence in Horticulture in

2000. She was also co-founder of the Michigan Herb Associates in 1986. Jane has created wonderful gardens with herbs appealing to both children and adults.

For us, Jane will give two presentations: "Creating Magical Spaces," interactive gardens made to inspire, involve, stimulate imagination, engage the senses, and educate; and "Fun Oohh - Aahh Plants!!" featuring plants that dazzle and delight, creating an exciting and fun reaction. Seeds will be given away to help you get started. Please check the website for times.

We will have many other speakers, ongoing for two full days. In conjunction with the San Diego Science Festival, some speakers will emphasize science in relation to herbs. For example, chemist and aspiring chef Mary Dralle will talk about "The Chemistry of Eggs Florentine and Rosemary Potatoes," and herbalist Charlotte Tenney will speak on "The Science of Herbs." We will also have someone from the Scripps Center of Integrative Medicine who will address pain management.

There will also be guided tours of the Herb Garden, the Herb Festival Marketplace, the A-Z of Herbs Information Booth, ongoing music, delicious and healthy food, and some great activities for children (see page 12). The QBG Spring Plant Sale will be in full force with many vendors and, back by popular demand, is Tomatomania<sup>®</sup> with lectures and plenty of heirloom tomato seedlings.

## **EcoDesign Fair Premiers in the Gardens**

March 21 & 22 • 9 AM - 5 PM

Running in conjunction with the Herb Festival, Spring Plant Sale, and Tomatomania©, the EcoDesign Fair will add a spectacular dimension to a now epic annual event. The EcoDesign Fair brings together a unique blend of local designers creating eco-friendly products for a one-



of-a-kind marketplace event never before seen in San Diego's North County. Local designers bringing new earth-friendly sustainable goods to the market will showcase green home décor, furnishings, accessories, clothing, and jewelry. Participating companies include Wabisabi Green, Athens Design, Micha Design, Gwendolyn Emmaline's, Pumpkin Pie Originals, At Home on Main Street, Dear Cora, Skoy Enterprises, +E, and many more.

Be sure to visit our website for a \$2 off coupon and more details as we get closer to these exciting events on March 21 & 22.

Cost: Included in admission to the Gardens. Members pay no admission.

## Gourd and Basket Weekend in the Gardens

May 2 and 3

It's not too early to sign up for classes at this event presented by the Misti Washington Gourd & Basket Guild. They fill up fast. To download a registration form got to www.baskets-gourds.com. For more information call Carol Lang at 760/431-1645 or email her at caldesigns@roadrunner.com.



# Beaded Gourd, Marla Helton

## Gift Shop

#### Open 10 AM - 4 PM DAILY

A favorite book now in the Gift Shop is *Insects and Gardens: In Pursuit of a Garden Ecology* by Eric Grissell with photos by Carl Goodpasture. This introduction to the biology and ecology of insects commonly found in North American gardens also instructs on the principles of ecologically-sound gardening. The enlarged photos of bugs are accompanied by an explanation of what they do for your garden.

While you are at the Gift Shop be sure to notice the new large banners we have at the entrance of each restroom. One features *Hakea laurina*, sea urchin or pincushion tree, the other an agave relative, *Furcraea selloa* var. Marginata.





## **Library Notes**

QBG's Annual Fall Plant Sale includes a book sale. There has always been an emphasis on horticultural subjects, but the San Diego Bookman, Irwin Herman, has transformed the sale from interesting to extraordinary. He sets aside horticulture books all year long for our sale. Last year, he expanded his selection to include cook books—this year he gave us 46 linear feet of cook books. Thanks to the 30 boxes of books from QBG members along with 50 boxes from the Bookman graciously delivered by John Becker, our sale was able to raise over \$800 this year.

Some recent additions to the library include *Origin and Relationships of the California Flora* by Peter Raven, *California's Changing Landscapes* by Michael Barbour, *Palms for Southern California* by Geoff Stein, *Trees of Southern Africa* by Keith Palgrave, and *The Backyard Birdsong Guide* by Donald Kroodsma.

The library is open 11 am – 3 pm Wednesday and Saturday or by appointment. Call 760/436–3036 x210. Library motto: Books can help you plant ideas.



Irwin Herman

## **QBG** Going Green

In our continuing effort to become "Green Business Certified," Quail Botanical Gardens has replaced all fluorescent light tubes in the Ecke Building and Larabee House with lower watt tubes that use less energy but give off the same amount of light.



## Remembering Friends

**E**DNA PULVER, a dear friend of Quail Botanical Gardens, passed away on Coctober 24, 2008 at age 97. She was a long-time supporter of the Gardens who in the mid-1990s contributed to such projects as the remodeling of the Ecke Building, underwrote the Hubbell sculpture in the Bamboo Garden, and was one of the first members to join the Benefactor Society. This photo was taken during her April 2006 visit to the Gardens. She was excited to learn about our Hamilton Children's Garden project, which she supported with a generous contribution late last year. Edna, who has provided for the Gardens in her estate plans, would have loved to watch children playfully learn and discover in our new Children's Garden when it opens in the summer of 2009.



## Volunteer and Docent News

### October Volunteer of the Month: STEVE ROSE

Steve Rose grew up in the Bronx, NYC in a neighborhood with lots of apartment buildings and no gardens. He pursued chemistry and biochemistry, earning a PhD from the University of Chicago, followed by a Post Doc at UCLA. Steve directed Research and Development at Abbott Laboratories in Chicago and GenProbe in San Diego. Steve, and his wife of 35 years, Sharon, are often seen working in the Bamboo Garden where he is co-captain for Garden Beautification. He works many special events—Gala, Fall Plant Sale, Orchid Fair—and Garden of Lights where he dons that special red suit and works with his elf, Sharon. They have two children, a daughter and son. Steve began volunteering in 2000 and later became a docent in



2007. He splits his time between Quail Botanical Gardens and Torrey Pines State Reserve. As co-chair of the Del Mar TV Producers group, the first video he produced for public access TV was titled "Volunteer Opportunities in San Diego County—Quail Botanical Gardens" starring Julian Duval. Steve says that it is a delight to spend time at a gem of a garden and just plain fun to work with the dedicated staff and volunteers. He is such a mainstay that it would be hard to imagine the Gardens without his guiding light.

## November Volunteer of the Month: DAVID AND PAT HOSAKA

David and Pat Hosaka, both Southern California natives, have lived in Encinitas for more than 30 years. David applied his graphic design degree from San Diego State to circuit design, working on applications in the medical, military, industrial, and video gaming industries. Pat, with a Masters in Social Work, also from San Diego State, worked in the field of child protective services and adoptions for more than 30 years. David and Pat have four children and two grandchildren. Recently retired, they took up volunteer



activities at QBG. David works in garden maintenance, weeding and planting throughout the gardens. Pat propagates plants for sale in the nursery. Both work special events like the Orchid Fair, Plant Sales, and Garden of Lights. They enjoy working outside with other volunteers and employees of QBG. They like meeting visitors from all over the world and explaining the wonders of the Gardens. David says they are lucky to be retired and in good health; we benefit from this good fortune every day. Thank you both for all of your efforts.

### December Volunteer of the Month: LYNN BRYANT

Lynn Bryant earned a BFA in art education from the University of Texas. She taught art in the elementary schools in Austin for 25 years where she was recognized for her multicultural programs for underprivileged students. She also taught art in the Carlsbad School District and at the Cannon Art Gallery. Lynn and her husband John recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary. Part of their retirement plan was to move to San Diego County. They moved to Carlsbad four years ago. Many family vacations were spent in San Diego, and they feel fortunate to live here year round. Lynn took her docent training in 2004. She is part of



two succulent teams that make succulent cups and wreaths to sell in the nursery. She likes to volunteer for special events doing nature crafts with children. Most of Lynn's time is now spent caring for her two darling grandchildren, baby Ariana and two-year-old Mariano, who has been coming to QBG regularly since he was four months old. Lynn feels so lucky to be able to volunteer at the Gardens, a beautiful place for her grandchildren to grow up.

## Garden Beautification

Does your busy work life make you a weekend gardener? Then get ready for some good news! Now you can "get your hands in the dirt" at Quail Botanical Gardens on weekends, too. Beginning in January, garden beautification team captains will be available on the first, second, and last Saturdays of each month to coordinate your efforts and share the magic. (This is in addition to gardening opportunities already under way on weekdays.) And if Saturday is not your thing, join Staff Gardener Jeremy Spath on any Sunday during regular garden hours. There is always a lot to do, and you are guaranteed a good time.

Pictured here, left to right, are docents Sharon Clay Rose, who supervises volunteers on the last Saturday of the month in California Gardenscapes; Peter Jones, supervising on the first Saturday in any areas that need help; and Sally Sandler, supervising on the second Saturday in the Herb Garden. All their meetings begin at 9:00 a.m., and you need only to have completed a Volunteer Application available at the Admissions Booth to pitch in and make a difference. (Note: Volunteers must be 14 years of age or older.) Help is also needed in the Subtropical Fruit Garden to assist members of the San Diego and North County Chapters of the California Rare Fruit Growers. They meet the second Saturday morning of each month.

For questions about Saturday gardening, contact Sally Sandler, Coordinator of Garden Beautification Teams, at 858/481–3442, or check at the Admissions Booth to see which area is being worked that day. To work with Jeremy Spath, ask the person in the Admissions Booth to call him on the radio for his location. And for information about the Subtropical Fruit Garden, contact June Andersen at 760/729–3501. See you in the Gardens!



Nadine and John Starr were recently honored as "Volunteers of the Year" at the North County Philanthropy Council. They have been actively involved in Quail Botanical Gardens for more than 26 years. While Nadine spends her time working in the Gift shop, serving food to the plant sale volunteers, decorating for events, and being involved in all

sorts of activities, John has spent his time working in the Gardens. For many years, he was known as the official stump remover. (Two years ago, after celebrating his 90th birthday, the horticulture staff relieved him of that duty much to John's dismay.) It is impossible to list all they have done to enrich the Gardens. Their support has been limitless and they are always first in line to do more. QBG has been blessed to have 26 years of dedication from the Starrs.



### **Volunteer Orientation**

Saturday • January 24 • 9:30 - 12 NOON

As a non-profit organization, Quail Botanical Gardens depends upon volunteer support. If you are interested in an exciting and rewarding place to contribute time, please join us on January 24. Volunteer opportunities and a short tour of the Gardens will be part of the presentation. To RSVP, please call Kelly at 760/436–3036 x206.

## **Docent Training Classes**

Quail Botanical Gardens is offering a six-class series to train volunteers interested in becoming docents. Each three-hour class in the series is self-contained, thus you may begin with any class, but must attend all six to complete docent training. Topics include Botany Boot Camp and Herbs; Deserts and Succulents; Tropical Rain Forests, Palms, and Cycads; California Natives and Firescapes; Mediterranean Climates; and Subtropical Fruit and Bamboo. For more information, call Kelly at 760/436–3036 x206.

### Docent Meetings— Everyone Welcome

#### First Wednesday of the Month

Arrive at 11 am for the program

**January:** Thomas Stephan is a San Diego native, a certified arborist, and a master falconer. He has installed over 11,000 barn owl nesting boxes in California. He will bring live raptors.

**February:** Usha Zellmer, a Montessori and yoga teacher of Indian heritage, will share her rich gardening experience and knowledge of Eastern herbs and spices.

**March:** Patrick Anderson, owner of a spectacularly designed garden in Fallbrook, will be speaking on gardening with succulents.

Hope Wine; White Wedding Day Events Floral



Gala 2008 Chair René van Rems and Leslie and Julian Duval



**Silent Auction Display** 



**Authentic Flavors Catering; Organic Elements Floral** 



## Gala 2008

Gala in the Gardens is our biggest fundraiser of the year, as well as one of the most enjoyable party experiences in all of San Diego County. Our 2008 Gala, presented by Supervisor Pam Slater-Price and the County of San Diego, did not disappoint. Over \$185,000 was raised to benefit Quail Botanical Gardens' exhibits and programs.

Gala Chairperson René van Rems welcomed over 530 guests into the Open Air Pavilion (our parking lot, magically transformed) with champagne and smiles. The Gardens was aglow in beauty—food, floral, people, auction items, wine raffle, lights, and music. Saturday, September 13th was a glorious evening, and the Gardens never looked so spectacular. Our guests are still talking about the uniqueness of this fundraiser where mingling with friends and exploring the different areas of the Gardens takes precedent over formal sit-down dining. With 24 different restaurants, caterers, and specialty drink providers stationed throughout the Gardens, our guests enjoyed an array of tasty tidbits. From sushi near the Rain Forest to duck tacos in the Walled Garden to an amazing display of desserts later in the evening, the party's savory fare was superb. Pair the delights of the palate with six musical groups and 16 professional florists showcasing their individual talents at each food station, and it is no wonder the party gets top honors for its unique beauty and flair.

The evening's program showcased the presentation of the Paul Ecke, Jr. Award of Excellence to local Garden enthusiast and past Quail Botanical Gardens' Trustee, Susi Torre-Bueno. Susi's remarkably poignant acceptance speech beautifully connected her personal ambitions and the future growth of Quail Botanical Gardens. The evening's program also included a successful live auction led by professional auctioneer Richard Houk and a silent auction with over 180 items—many floral and fauna related. The earth-friendly party theme, Plant It Forward, was incorporated in many ways, from eco-friendly party ware to donations of left-over food to our local Community Resource Center. The theme enabled the Gardens to "plant forward" our fund-raising and friend-raising efforts to benefit our local and global communities.

Quail Botanical Gardens is so thankful for the many donors who contributed to the success of our evening and to the future of the Gardens in general. We especially thank our Presenting Sponsor, Supervisor Pam Slater-Price and the County of San Diego, and our Conservatory Champion Sponsor, Olive Hill Greenhouses, for their support. All sponsors, restaurants, and florists are listed here and on our website. We encourage you to patronize their businesses.

We would also like to thank all of our volunteers—such success would not be realized without the tireless, behind-thescenes work of our volunteers!

Be sure to mark your calendars and plan to stroll through the Gardens at twilight again next year at our 10th Anniversary Gala in the Gardens scheduled for Saturday, September 12, 2009.

For additional Gala information, please contact Cheryl Mergenthaler at 760/436–3036 x218 or cmergenthaler@qbgardens.org. Event photography by www.eosphoto.com.

### Many Thanks to our 2008 Gala Sponsors

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Sue and Tony Godfrey of Olive Hill Greenhouses; Conservatory Champion Sponsors



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## Winter Classes

#### **IKEBANA**

Session I: Tuesday • Jan. 6, 13, 20, AND 27, 10 AM – 12 PM

Session II: Tuesday • Feb. 3, 10, 17, AND 24, 10 AM – 12 PM

Session III: Tuesday • Mar. 10, 17, 24, AND 31, 10 AM – 12 PM

Learn the art of Ikebana, or "fresh flower arrangement," from Rumi Rice. She is a Sogetsu School teacher, one of the leading Ikebana schools in Japan.

Cost per session: Members \$80, non-members \$100 (plus \$30 materials fee) Registration required. Call 760/ 436–3036 x206 or visit qbardens.org



#### THE ART OF BONSAI: SIMPLIFIED, ENJOYABLE, AND ACHIEVABLE

Thursday • Jan. 15, 22, AND 29 • 7 – 9 PM Saturday • Jan. 30 • 9 AM – 12 NOON

If you "had one and it died!" you are among the majority of admirers of bonsai. Phil Tacktill, a master of bonsai for over 50 years, will guide you through the basics to create your own. His tried and true methods give one a comprehensive overview of the mechanical, horticultural, and design aspects of creating bonsai for indoor and outdoor environments. The course is recommended for all levels of bonsai enthusiasts.

Cost: Members \$80, non-members \$100 Registration required. Call 760/  $436\!-\!3036~x206$  or visit qbardens.org

#### ASIAN FLAVOR AND FLOWERS Sunday • Jan. 18 • 2 – 4 pm

Join floral artist David Root for "Sushi"—some you'll eat and some you'll make out of flowers. Then create an arrangement in the Asian tradition, simple and elegant, to take home. David will critique your design at the end of the class if you so desire. All floral materials will be provided. Bring a floral knife, clippers, wire cutters, and scissors.

Cost: Members \$55, non-members \$60 (includes all floral materials)
Registration required. Call 760/ 436–3036 x206 or visit qbardens.org



#### GOURD ART

Friday • Jan. 30 • 10 AM – 3 PM

Learn how to choose, clean, and cut your gourd

from fiber artist Carol Lang. Then express yourselfindyeing, painting, pyroengraving (wood burning), and embellishing your one-of-a-kind gourd. A demonstration of the use of basket weaving techniques for decorating gourds will be included.

Cost: Members \$50, non-members \$60 (plus \$15 materials fee) Registration required. Call 760/ 436–3036 x206 or visit qbardens.org

#### CREATE A VEGETABLE GARDEN WITH AN EYE ON THE WATER METER

Friday • Feb. 6 • 10 AM - 12 NOON

Learn the basics of starting an organic vegetable garden and how to prepare the soil for moisture retention, irrigate for efficient watering, and mulching to prevent water loss. Includes demonstration on capturing rain water off our roofs. Taught by Diane Hollister, a Master Gardener and Composter with a certificate in Ecological Horticulture.

Cost: Members \$25, non-members \$30 Registration required. Call 760/  $436-3036\ x206$  or visit qbardens.org

#### Watercolor Workshop with Helen Shafe Garcia

Sunday • Feb. 8 • 9:30 AM - 4:30 PM

Helen will teach you a contemporary approach to watercolor focusing on garden botanical elements. The class will spend a portion of the time painting in the Gardens. A materials list will be supplied upon registration.

Cost: Members \$65, non-members \$75 Registration required. Call 760/ 436–3036 x206 or visit qbardens.org

#### A CHOCOLATE VALENTINE

Tuesday • Feb. 10 • 7 - 9 рм

Learn how to make Dark Chocolate Dipped Strawberries, Champagne Truffles, Chambord Tiles, and Vanilla Bean White Chocolate Medallions, all perfect gifts for your Valentine. This class is hands-on and taught by Amanda Ehrlich of Sinful Creations.

Cost: Members \$45, non-members \$50 Registration required. Call 760/ 436-3036 x206 or visit qbgardens.org

#### GARDEN PHOTO WORKSHOP Feb. 21 • 8:30 AM – 2 PM

Join acclaimed nature photographer Bob Bretell as he takes you on a garden photo safari that will teach you how to transform your nature photos to a new level. Learn how to pre-visualize your subject by careful use of light and composition and how to make the most of your camera's features. Class photos will be projected and critiqued by the instructor and the group. Recommended for all levels. Students must have a digital camera and tripod. A list of materials will be provided upon registration.



Cost: Members \$85, non-members \$95 Registration required. Call 760/ 436-3036 x206 or visit qbgardens.org

## BYE BYE GRASS! Part I:Thursday • Mar. 5 • 6:30 – 8:30 PM

Tired of being a slave to your water-thirsty lawn? Join Nan Sterman, gardening expert and author of *California Gardener's Guide Volume II*, to learn how to exterminate your lawn for good. Nan will discuss extermination options, including the pros and cons of chemical and non-chemical methods, and ways to physically remove grass.

#### Part II: Sunday • Mar. 8 • 2 – 4 PM

Your lawn is gone. What do you do next? Nan will discuss evaluating your irrigation system, deciding on the kinds of spaces you need in your garden, and preparing the soil. She will also offer creative ideas for beautiful, low-water plantings. Using Quail Botanical Gardens as an outdoor classroom, Nan will guide you through living examples of water-wise landscapes, show you interesting drought-tolerant ground covers, and introduce you to a variety of hardscape options. Nan is a garden coach and designer.

Cost: Members \$45, non-members \$50. Brought to QBG by the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College.

Registration required by March 2. Call Water Conservation Garden at 619/660-0614 x10

#### SAVE WATER AND MONEY: INCORPORATE NATIVE PLANTS INTO YOUR LANDSCAPE

Thursdays • Mar. 12, 19, AND 26, 7 – 9 PM

**Saturday • Mar. 28 • 9** AM – 12 NOON

With the scarcity of water increasing every year we need to find a way to create beautiful gardens that are sustainable. Nathan Smith, horticulturist and landscape designer, and former curator of the California native plant area at the UC Botanical Garden at Berkeley, will teach you which native plants do well in the garden and how to care for them.

Cost: Members \$80, non-members \$100 Registration required. Call 760/436-3036 x206 or visit qbgardens.org

#### WOOD 'N CLAY

Friday • Mar. 13 • 10 AM - 3 PM

Create an unusual pine needle basket, attached to a ceramic base. All levels welcome. Materials provided by the instructor, fiber artist Carol Lang.

Cost: Members \$50, non-members \$60 (plus \$15 materials fee)
Registration required. Call 760/ 436–3036 x206 or visit qbgardens.org



## FABRIC BASKETS FOR SPRING

Sunday • Mar. 29 • 10 AM - 3 PM

Fabric baskets are easy to make and a clever way to use up scraps of fabric, old clothes, or yarn. Delight your children by turning their outgrown clothing into keepsake baskets. Fabric baskets can also be a very healing project for anyone who has lost a loved one—by making a "memory basket" out of their clothing. Bring scissors and a sack lunch. Taught by Nadine Spier, local fiber artist.

Cost: Members \$40, non-members \$45 (plus \$15 materials fee) Registration required. Call 760/ 436–3036 x206 or visit qbgardens.org

#### SUCCULENT WREATH CLASS

Tuesday • Mar. 31 • 9 AM - 2 PM

Take home a beautiful succulent wreath that you make yourself in this class taught by the QBG wreath team. Bring clippers, water, and a snack, and dress in layers since the class is held outside. Fee includes instructions, materials, and wreath form. This class fills up fast so sign up early.

Cost: Members \$55, non-members \$65 Registration required. Call 760/ 436–3036 x206 or visit qbgardens.org

### Cooking Classes with the Opera Singing Chef, Elizabeth Podsiadlo

#### MAKE AHEAD MEALS

Saturday • Jan. 24 • 1:30 – 4 PM

Learn how to prepare and store three main dishes that are better after freezing: Rosemary Beef Stew served over egg noodles, Shredded Pork Texican Style, and Four-Cheese Macaroni (lite version). Also, Chef Elizabeth will share tips on how to brighten and re-fresh the flavors of frozen foods.

#### **EVERYMAN'S VEGETARIAN**

Saturday • Feb. 7 • 1:30 – 4 PM

Learn how to prepare three spectacular vegetarian dishes that will leave you satisfied: Vegetarian Chili with chunky vegetables and peanuts, Potato Latkes with pear-cherry chutney, and Fettuccini Alfredo with mushrooms and fresh herbs.

#### FRUGAL FEAST

Saturday • Mar. 7 • 1:30 – 4 pm

Luckily, flavorful food does not mean expensive food. Learn how to prepare beef roulade (German in origin), deliciously browned then slow-cooked in a flavorful broth which is made into a gravy. Also, learn how to make the best mashed potatoes and prepare fresh green beans with herbs. A feast-for-four, for under \$22 dollars

Recipes and tastings will be offered for each dish.

Cost per class: Members \$25, non-members \$30 Advance Registration required. Call 760/ 436–3036 x206 or visit qbgardens.org

### Free Workshops

#### COMPOSTING

Saturday • Jan. 24 • 10 AM - 12 NOON

Learn how to compost your food scraps and yard trimmings. Workshop also covers vermicomposting. Compost bins and worm bins for sale afterward.



#### VERMICOMPOSTING

Saturday • Feb. 21 • 10 AM - 12 NOON

Learn how to compost with worms and build your own worm bin.

These workshops are taught by Solana Center Master Composters. Meet at the Compost Demonstration Site near the Children's Garden. To register contact the Solana Center at 760/436-7986 or www.solanacenter.org.

## **Ongoing Programs**

#### DOCENT-LED GUIDED TOURS

Saturdays • 10 AM

New! The tour on the last Saturday of the month features waterwise plants. Yes, we have desert gardens filled with cactus and succulents, but if that isn't your style we have plants from the Mediterranean basin, Cape South Africa, Australia, Chile, plus our own California natives—easy to grow with minimal care. You will see plants at their mature growth and learn how to use them effectively with other plants.

Cost: Free with admission to the Gardens

#### **BOTANICAL ORIGINALS**

**Ist Sunday of each month • 9:30 AM** Gift card-making with natural elements.

Cost: \$20 annual fee

#### **BIRD WATCHING**

Ist Monday of each month • 8 AM

Discover fascinating birds and the unique art of bird watching at Quail Botanical Gardens.

## Special Events For Children

## Hearts, Flowers, and Bugs: A Family Valentine Party

Saturday • Feb. 14 • 10:00 - 11:30 AM

Make valentines, decorate heart-shaped cookies, pot a valentine plant, and play in the garden.

Cost: \$10 per child; regular admission fees apply to accompanying adults. Pre-registration required. Space is limited. Call 760/  $436-3036\,x222$ 



## Herb Festival Children's Activities

Saturday • Mar. 21 • II AM – 2 PM

Join the exciting doings at Quail Botanical Gardens' Herb Festival with the children's activities, "Legends and Literature." There will be story telling and wizardly goings-on in the Herb Garden. For a small fee, children can make their own potpourri pouch of

secret herbal ingredients, learn about the legendary connection between Basil and Basilisks, and create their own basil seed starter pot shaped like a basilisk. We will explore herbal references in children's literature such as the plants mentioned in Peter Rabbit and Harry Potter books. No registration required. For more information on the Herb Festival see page 4.

## Lunch with Bunny

Saturday • Apr. 11 • 9 - 10:30 or 10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

Pre-schoolers and their parents are invited to visit our gentle bunny. The children will make a bunny basket, pot a spring flower, and more. They will also participate in a bunny parade and an egg hunt.

Cost: \$10 per child; regular admission fees apply to accompanying adults. Pre-registration required. Sign up for one time slot. Call 760/436-3036 x222

#### **Birthday Parties in Seeds of Wonder**

Seeds of Wonder is the perfect environment for a nature-based "garden party" for young children. We help plan the activities and set-up for the party. For details call 760/436–3036 x222.

## Artist of the Season: Henri Rousseau's "Jungle Fantasies"

Sunday • February 22 • 2 – 4 PM

Explore the fantasy world of artist Henri Rousseau. We will be looking at the plants of our very own Rainforest "jungle," such as palms, elephant ears, bromeliads, and other epiphytes, and learning about rainforest adaptations. **Children 8 – 15 years old** will then paint their own jungle fantasy picture in the style of Henri Rousseau. We will be painting in the garden. Bring your own smock and wear old clothes. All other supplies will be provided. Parents may wander the Gardens while we are painting.

Cost: Members \$20 per child, non-members \$25 per child Advanced registration required. Space is limited. Call 760/436–3036 x206

## **Ongoing Programs**

for Young Children - Free with Garden Admission

(Not available on rainy days)

Occasionally a program may be cancelled without prior notice if a volunteer is not available. Visitors are always welcome to play in the garden, even when a program is cancelled.

#### **TODDLER TALES AND TUNES**

2ND, 3RD, 4TH, & 5TH Tuesdays • 10 AM — 12 NOON

Play in the garden and pot plants to take home. From 10:30 - 11 am, children and caregivers participate in preschool stories and songs.

#### **GARDEN ARTS AND CRAFTS**

Wednesdays • 10 - 11:30 AM

Children may participate in a variety of arts and crafts. There will also be plant potting and other fun activities.

#### PLANTS, WINGS, AND CRAWLY THINGS

Ist, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Thursdays • 10 – 11 AM

Children will discover plants and bugs that live in our garden. Pre-schoolers will participate in special garden-based activities.

#### FRIDAY FUN

2ND Friday • 9 AM - 12 NOON

Children may pot a plant and play in the garden.

## Membership Now Online



Quail Botanical Gardens is pleased to announce that you may now join, renew, or purchase a gift membership online. This is a convenient and secure way for you to support your botanical garden. Also, your prompt renewal will ensure uninterrupted benefits and reduce our administrative costs by eliminating the need for additional reminder letters. That means more of your contribution will directly support garden beautification! We thank you for your support in 2008 and wish you a Happy New Year!

The first happening in the new year will be the Annual Meeting on Saturday, January 10, from 10:00 to 11:15 am. All current members will receive their invitations in the mail in December. Don't miss this opportunity to see the progress we've made on the new Hamilton Children's Garden.

## A Big Thank You to all 2008 Fall Plant Sale Donors

In October, Quail Botanical Gardens held its annual Fall Plant Sale. It is the Gardens' second biggest fundraiser of the year and enjoys an amazing 26 year tradition. The two-day event raised more than \$53,000 to support the Gardens' maintenance and programs. The great success would not have been possible without generous donations from nurseries and individuals.

#### **OUR SINCERE** THANKS TO:

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Quail Botanical Gardens wishes to thank the many volunteers who organized the event and tirelessly worked to make the Fall Plant Sale a huge success. We also thank many other individuals and businesses for their gifts of raffle items, books, jams, and jellies. The Fall Plant Sale would not have been the same without baked goodies prepared by our talented bakers for the traditional bake sale. A heart-felt thanks to everybody!

## Arbor Vitae Guild Members

Planned giving is the cornerstone of Quail Botanical Gardens' history and the key to its future. For this reason, the Gardens recognizes during their lifetimes those people whose generous gifts from their estates will help endow the future of this public garden.

The Arbor Vitae Guild was established to honor the Gardens' friends in the community who have indicated that they have included the Gardens in their wills or trusts. Bequests of all sizes are welcome, as they ensure the Gardens' vitality for the benefit of future generations. We invite you to help build a future for the children in our community by joining Quail Botanical Gardens' Arbor Vitae Guild. Please contact Tracie Barham, Director of Development, at 760/436-3036 x216 for more information.

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Frances Hamilton White Donor Advised Fund at the Rancho Santa Fe Foundation

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Because of the growing success of Benefactor level membership (annual contributions of \$1,000 and more), Quail Botanical Gardens renamed this group the **Benefactor Society** and introduced new levels of giving with their associated benefits. **Benefactor Society** members receive the basic membership benefits plus special invitations, early notice of events and openings, additional guest passes, and much, much more. For information about benefits of joining the **Benefactor Society**, please call our Membership Department at 760/ 436-3036 x217.

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The Larabee Society is a group of generous individuals who make annual membership contributions of \$125 to \$999. We thank our 100 Steward level members for their annual contributions of \$125 and regret that we cannot list them on this page due to limited space.

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## Many Thanks to our Corporate Partners

Attractive benefits are offered to businesses and organizations that support the Gardens with an annual contribution of \$1,000 or greater. Corporate Partners receive recognition on our website and on signage in the Gardens, guest admission tickets, invitations to events, and other benefits depending on the level of support.

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