



# the BULLETIN

*A quarterly publication of the Arboretum Associates*

Fall 2010 Vol.34, No.3

## *Dried Flower and Succulent Wreath Sale*

Beautiful dish gardens planted in individually crafted hyper tufa pots are the newest items in this year's great sale, November 20 and 21st. Volunteers made and decorated the unique, lightweight, well-drained pots with shells and designs and then planted them up with colorful succulents. The spiral aloe, which we had featured years ago will return to the sale this year (pictured this page) as well as some Tillandsias and Sarracenias. Of course, we will have dried flower wreaths with exotic and traditional materials to suit different tastes. Living wreaths planted with succulents tend to last for three years if kept away from the brightest sun, though we have heard of wreaths going much longer than that. Placing a dry or succulent wreath near a doorway is a welcoming sign for a Thanksgiving celebration. Other dried arrangements make lovely indoor decorations for the harvest season and beyond.

The sale, in its 26th year, is almost entirely a volunteer effort to help the Arboretum's education, conservation, research, and horticulture programs. Most of the profits go directly to fund students working their way through college while learning about horticulture at the Arboretum. Funds also pay for training UCSC interns.

It is amazing to see the transformation of the Horticulture Building from classroom to stylish boutique. The volunteer's creativity is evident and may inspire you to buy plants or dried flowers to make your own creations.

This year we will have beautiful carnivorous plants called Sarracenias. To care for them, keep them in a well-drained, moist and acidic potting mix. It is best to water them with rainwater or distilled water.

In keeping with the theme of having weird plants, we will also have a selection of the kinds of bromeliads sometimes called

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## *Central California Coast Native Plant Conservation and Horticulture Lecture Series Kicks off with Maritime Chaparral Presentation, Nov.15*

Growing rare or unusual plant in a public garden setting is one way to get people to think about plant habitat issues. Talking about them and showing pictures is another. With donor funds we are embarking on a Native Plant Conservation and Horticulture Lecture Series starting this fall.

Mike Vasey, current PhD candidate, manzanita expert and the former mayor of Pacifica, will be the first speaker in the series with a talk titled, "Ecology and Conservation of Maritime Chaparral in the Central West Region of California." Arboretum Director Brett Hall will bring potted manzanitas to the talk also, and there will be discussion about growing the different manzanitas in addition to the fascinating information about their ecology and conservation. If you think, "If you've seen one manzanita, you've seen them all," this may be the talk for you.

Mike Vasey has taught conservation biology at San Francisco State University for many years and during that time he collaborated with Tom Parker and Jon Keeley in studies involving the ecology and systematic biology of *Arctostaphylos* (manzanitas). These studies have culminated in two new treatments for *Arctostaphylos*, one in the Flora of North America (Volume 8), and the second in the 2nd Edition of the Jepson Manual, which will be coming out soon. This knowledge of manzanitas in part motivated Mike to focus research on the ecology and conservation of maritime chaparral along California's central coast where manzanitas reach their highest level of diversity. This research has served as the centerpiece of his PhD dissertation project in the Environmental Studies Department at UC Santa Cruz. Nearing the end of

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*Aloe polyphylla*, 'the spiral aloe'

## Volunteer Training Classes begin Wednesday January 12, 2011

The Arboretum will hold its annual Volunteer training classes beginning on January 12th from 9:30-12:00 noon and will continue every Wednesday morning for 6 weeks. New Arboretum Associates members are especially encouraged to attend. The classes provide an introduction to the Arboretum, who we are and what we do. Arboretum staff present slide shows and walking tours through the gardens and collections. It's a wonderful opportunity to see what goes on behind the scenes. The classes provide participants with an introduction to horticulture, gardening, plant conservation, propagation and basic botany. They are a great way to meet new people, find out about the many volunteer opportunities at the Arboretum and get involved. One focus of this year's classes will be to train volunteers who want to interface with our visitors as tour leaders, greeters, and do outreach to the public.

Our annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon is on the final day of the class series, Wednesday Feb 16th from 12 noon to 2pm. Our continuing volunteers provide a fine potluck feast for our newer volunteers. Staff thanks both groups by providing desserts. For this event, we ask that you RSVP to (831) 427-2998 by February 4th.

—Helen Englesberg

## Dr. Jean Langenheim's Autobiography. Book Review

".....Riveting...The best history of plant ecology I've ever read. Clearly written, basically chronological autobiography focusing on the science but punctuated with periodic explication of history of a concept over decades—very artfully balanced, does just what she says—sets the story in the societal and scientific context of the times. AND—begins with a timeline doing the same!!"

Juliana Mulroy  
Associate Professor of Biology  
Denison University

"Anyone who reads this rich and wonderfully interesting memoir will be inspired by what Jean Langenheim has accomplished scientifically and personally during her long and distinguished career at the interface of multiple scientific fields. This is more than a personal memoir by a leading scientist. It is a deeply insightful reflection on how major scientific disciplines have developed over the past half century and how the culture of scientific research itself has changed."

John Thompson  
Distinguished Professor of Ecology and Evolution, University of California, Santa Cruz  
<http://press.ucsc.edu/text.asp?pid=3771>

As a former student, I was anxious to read "The Odyssey of a Woman Field Scientist: A Story of Passion, Persistence, and Patience," a book written by my former professor and friend of the Arboretum, Dr. Jean Langenheim. At times it focuses on her friendships, what was going on in ecology and at other times it was like "woman ecologist lives like Indiana Jones." From the one class I had from Jean, I remember a few adventure stories, but as I learned more about the book, I realized how much determination was sometimes required just to survive getting back from her fieldwork!

A characteristic of great scientists is that they can do the tedious, little, and sometimes dirty work, of science, but still keep in their mind the big picture. Jean has an unusual feature for an autobiography, a timeline in the first 15 pages of her life, noting historic events, women's status and milestones in ecology plotted over time. So while she is telling the story of her life, she continually puts in context what it was like for a woman working to have a career in ecology when the odds were stacked against her.

Despite having reason to be bitter about the obstacles thrown in front of her, she has a surprisingly upbeat take on the whole subject. She had a pragmatic approach to pushing for more opportunities for women, whether incremental or on a broader scale. She goes from helping Catholic teachers obtain permission to leave school for a few hours for once in a lifetime nearby field trips to quietly inspiring women scientists in a number of countries around the world where opportunities for women were scarce to say the least. She points out that she too was inspired by other women scientists around the world.

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Please send requests or questions to:  
Bulletin Editor  
UCSC Arboretum  
1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064  
email: [smccabe@ucsc.edu](mailto:smccabe@ucsc.edu)

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Arboretum Phone: (831) 427-2998  
Arboretum Fax: (831) 427-1524  
Norrie's Gifts: (831) 423-4977  
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<http://www.library.ucscarboretum.org/openbibliopac/index.php>

### CORRECTIONS

In the previous issue at the bottom of page one, we mistakenly listed the wrong last name for a volunteer. It should have read "Barb Cordes and Claire Sommargren..."

## Book Review... (cont'd - p. 2)

Her pioneering cross-disciplinary research was ahead of its time. She had an interest in geology, though she was not allowed to major in it. By combining interests in geology and botany and later combining interests in ecology and chemistry, she led the way in interdisciplinary research. I thought because I recognized the names of botanists it would only be of interest to botanists, but as I read on I saw it had far broader appeal.

One thing that comes through strongly is her ability to make and keep friends. She writes of many surrogate families, such as the community of former students she has. Those friends included Ann Thimann and her famous botanist husband, who was one of three Arboretum founders, Dr. Kenneth Thimann. Some of you will also recognize Arboretum supporters Jean and Dr. Harry Beevers. The memorial stairs between the horticulture buildings are the Thimann Stairs and there is a memorial Jean Beevers Path at the Arboretum also.

With fondness she recalls, many hospitable families around the world when conditions were tough. It is a testament to her that over and over people were generous and helpful. Students were lucky to work with her in the field. Many devoted students came to honor Jean at the book signing party we helped throw for her at the Arboretum when her seminal book on resins was produced. There were many birthday parties and Christmas celebrations where her surrogate families would gather together for reunions.

There were adventures, snakes, literally being blown off the road by the wind in her VW, and those plane flights. In spite of many "adventures" and privations she was remarkably chipper in recalling the hardships.

My experiences as her student consisted unfortunately of just of one undergraduate class. After finishing climbing Half Dome and making it to the restaurant two minutes before closing time for an excellent meal, my next goal in life was to make it to Langenheim and Thimann's first class of "Plants and Human Affairs." I had talked my way into the class without having the chemistry and introductory biology prerequisites, but Dr. Thimann warned me I had to be there the first day so he wouldn't rescind his offer to let me in. It was an odyssey of walking, hitchhiking, bus rides, a ride from my parents, a borrowed car and driving faster than I probably should have over highway 17, but I made it to the first class with little time to spare. It was well worth it as their approach to making botany relevant to the public has served me well over the years. It was a class whose material I made use of in the National Park Service, teaching at San Francisco State and UCSC, and in my work at the Arboretum. When I took the class, their book was in chapter form in the library reserves. I bought the textbook after it was finished a few years after I took the class and I still bring it down from my shelf periodically: Langenheim and Thimann, "Botany: Plant Biology and Its Relation to Human Affairs."

In her frequent travels she managed to have an impact on others as well. She easily became long time friends with and understood people from other cultures. A former student, and later colleague, wrote this:

"I liked very much your life metaphor about weaving threads in your life tapestry. It was delightful to read how those threads were constructed and woven. Your life has been very rich, impacting and inspiring many people with your thoughts and action."

*Francisco Espinosa-Garcia  
Professor, National University of Mexico Center for Ecosystem Research  
Morelia, Mexico*

She was certainly deeply involved in scientific pursuits and the accolades for her research accomplishments were significant and numerous, but I was impressed by a small piece in the early part of the book. In one of her early cross-cultural experiences, Jean describes certain Eskimo dances where the "Emphasis in these dances was upon expression of feeling, focusing upon happy events in life and the importance of sharing and generosity." That also describes what I read in the book and have seen in person as to how she teaches, mentors, and how she lives her life.

*– Stephen McCabe*

Buy the book for \$25 at Norrie's Gift Shop, while you are doing your holiday shopping. Thanks to the generosity of the author, for any of the books sold at the Arboretum, all \$25 will go directly to the Arboretum.

## New Board Voted in at Annual Meeting

We again thank all of those who have served for us and welcome the new Board. At our annual Arbeque, Outgoing President, Matthew Thompson and nominating committee Chair, John Bost, thanked the other outgoing members of the board for their valued service. John then presented the slate of new officers and Board Members to an enthusiastic crowd. There is a more complete run down on the web page, but here are the highlights. The new president is Ross Johnston, co-founder of Seagard Technologies.

Additional Arboretum Associates Officers are Mike Gerhold, Vice President; Damon Gonzales, Treasurer; and Paula Cole, Recording Secretary. The other Board members are Lynn Roberts, Tom Karwin, Lincoln Taiz, Michael Vasey, Bruce Lyon, Matt Ritter, Vicki Garside, Joshua Weinberg, and Steve Hosmer.

Ex-Officio, and thus non-voting members, are Ray Collett, Director Emeritus; Matthew Thompson, Past President; Herbie Lee, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs; and Brett Hall, Director. Alison Galloway has been promoted to the number two position on campus as Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor (EVC). She has appointed Herbie Lee, a professor in mathematics, as her replacement as Vice Provost of Academic Affairs. He came and met many of you at the Arbeque. We congratulate all of the above and welcome all of the new and returning faces.

## Arboretum Staff and Students Successfully Propagate Manzanita that is on the Brink of Extinction

A manzanita that once was lost has now been found, was found, but now it's hidden. In 1947, the last known San Francisco manzanita, (a.k.a. *Arctostaphylos franciscana*) growing in the Laurel Hill Cemetery was lost to development. The Cemetery itself is also gone. Prior to the manzanita's demise, cuttings were taken by James Roof, Director at Tilden Botanic Garden, and plants were grown in several botanic gardens, including eventually at the UCSC Arboretum.

In 2009 a single individual of the San Francisco manzanita was discovered in a median strip of Doyle Drive/Highway 1 in San Francisco south of the Golden Gate Bridge. Mike Vasey (new board member mentioned

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Island Manzanita. *Arctostaphylos insularis* 'Ward'

# calendar of events

## Fall2010/Winter2011

### november

#### COMMUNITY DAY

Tuesday, November 2

1st Tuesday of every month. Free admission to the Arboretum.

#### GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, November 6

1st Saturday of every month. Tour of the Arboretum, free with your admission. Meet at Norrie's Gift Shop at 11am.

#### CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COAST NATIVE PLANT CONSERVATION AND HORTICULTURE LECTURE SERIES

Monday, November 15  
6pm potluck, 7pm talk

First Lecture "Ecology and Conservation of Maritime Chaparral in the Central West Region of California," by Mike Vasey which will have a focus on manzanitas.

#### DRIED FLOWER & SUCCULENT WREATH SALE

Saturday, November 20, 10 am - 4 pm.  
Sunday, November 21, 10 am - 2 pm.

### december

#### GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, December 4

1st Saturday of every month. Tour of the Arboretum, free with admission. Meet at Norrie's Gift Shop at 11:00 am.

#### NORRIE'S GIFT SHOP OPEN HOUSE

Saturday, December 4, 10am - 4pm  
Sunday, December 5, 10am - 4pm

Join our volunteer staff for cookies and cheer. The shop is stocked as never before with gifts of all kinds for gardeners and others with good taste.

#### COMMUNITY DAY

Tuesday, December 7

1st Tuesday of every month. Free admission to the Arboretum.

### january 2011

#### GARDEN TOUR

Saturday, January 1

1st Saturday of every month. Tour of the Arboretum, free with your admission. Meet at Norrie's Gift Shop at 11am.

#### ANNUAL ARBORETUM VOLUNTEER TRAINING CLASSES

Six consecutive Wednesdays:

January 12, 19, 26, and February 2, 9, 16  
Classes meet from 9:30 am to noon

The volunteer training classes are a wonderful way to learn about the Arboretum, its collections, and the variety of opportunities open to volunteers while at the same time expanding your knowledge about plants and gardens.

### may 2011

#### FLOWERS AND MUSIC IN THE GARDEN

May 29, 2011

Jointly sponsored event by the Baroque Festival and the Arboretum. Music in four or five places in the Arboretum gardens.



Hyper tufa pot with Echeveria

**Sale...** (cont'd - p. 1)

"air plants" because of their ability to survive without soil. These bromeliads, which are mainly Tillandsias, just need a spray of water, and the very occasional light fertilizer. Some people just hang them from a wire and water when they remember to. A note on the hyper tufa gardens is that they should be in light shade and watered fairly regularly (maybe twice a week) during the hottest months because they are so well drained.

The *Aloe polyphylla* are cold hardy members of the Aloe group, which survive just fine in the snow on Mt. Hamilton. They are native to the Drakensberg area of southern Africa in areas where there is often some moisture flowing over the edges of cliffs where they live. Because of this habitat we water ours a little more often than other aloes and notice that the ones with a little shade in the summer will look better. They do need great drainage like they have on cliff sides in the wild. Plants at the gift shop will be 25% off for the week-end and you can get a jump on other holiday shopping at Norrie's Gift Shop at the Arboretum.

Caring for the dried flowers is a casual affair even for those with a brown thumb. A couple times a year (or once a year if you pack it away for the summer) you may dust the sturdy ones or run a hair dryer over the fragile ones. Done. Join us the weekend before Thanksgiving for this popular sale. (see calendar for details)

– Stephen McCabe

**Lecture Series...** (cont'd - p. 1)

this dissertation research, Mike will share some of the insights he has gained regarding this topic. Along the way, Mike has been a recent president of the California Botanical Society (CBS), is currently the recording secretary for the CBS Council, is on the editorial advisory board for *Fremontia* (the newsletter of the native plant society), is a past president of the Pacifica Land Trust, and has participated in several years of tidal wetland research in the San Francisco Bay Estuary.

Monday November 15, 7:00 pm, preceded by 6:00 pm potluck. Arboretum Horticulture Building classroom.

– Stephen McCabe

## Arboretum Staff and Students Successfully Propagate Manzanita... (cont'd - p. 1)



Teddy Dumont, a student worker and recent graduate of UCSC, with the San Francisco manzanita.

on page one) and Tom Parker of San Francisco State University confirmed the identification and provided advice on how to care for the plant. Unfortunately, a huge construction project had already been approved and the single plant was condemned to go. The Arboretum and other gardens and entities took cuttings to try to propagate the plant. Nursery Manager Helen Englesberg, her volunteers and students now have many of the rooted cuttings growing.

With plans in place, Caltrans and others came in the middle of the night, with environmental advisors and heavy machinery and moved the plant to a secret location where it has so far survived the transplanting. The location was chosen to match the characteristics of what was known of the former habitats where the species grew. It is at least possible the species formerly did grow in the area to which it was transplanted. While we lobby for preserving plants in their native habitats as the best preservation schemes, in the cases of the rarest plants, the Arboretum will propagate and preserve those that we can help. We are planning on planting out some of the manzanitas this fall to help keep the species alive. It is satisfying to see the propagation crew's efforts having such success.

– Stephen McCabe

## Ways to Give

### Planned Giving, Ensuring the Future of the Arboretum at UC Santa Cruz

Planned Giving is a great way to make a charitable contribution and improve your current income stream. By integrating a planned gift to the Arboretum into your overall financial, tax, and estate planning, you can realize significant financial gains in the form of a charitable tax deduction AND an income stream for life. In addition, a planned gift made with appreciated property can save you capital gains taxes.

Structuring a planned gift deserves time and careful thought. As you explore the options for planning a gift, we suggest you

consult with your financial advisors such as an estate planning attorney or accountant. We would be happy to assist you in this process and the University has a network of professional advisors that would be happy to serve you. Please also consider allocating a percentage of your gift as unrestricted. These funds enable the Arboretum to take advantage of unanticipated opportunities or respond to emergencies.

In addition to honorary or memorial benches, there are opportunities to name parts of the Arboretum through a planned gift or bequest. Please call or email us if you want more information.

### Types of Planned Gifts

The types of planned gifts include bequests, charitable gift annuities, retirement assets, charitable remainder trusts, life insurance, pooled income funds (PIF), retained life state, and charitable lead trust. Brief descriptions of these options are on the University's planned giving website. The University has professionals who can explain how these types of planned giving can benefit your interests and those of the Arboretum.

– Stephen McCabe (831) 427-2998, [arboretum@ucsc.edu](mailto:arboretum@ucsc.edu)

[ed. The above was adapted from the University's planned giving website.]

## THE ARBORETUM IS STRONGLY ROOTED

### SUPPORT THE EDUCATIONAL, HORTICULTURAL, CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH GOALS OF THE ARBORETUM!

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### Membership Levels

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The *Arboretum* at UC Santa Cruz is a living museum *inspiring* stewardship of the world's biodiversity through research, *education*, and the *conservation* of rare, endangered, and *extraordinary* plants.

*Printed with soy inks on recycled paper*

### ***nursery discount program***

*Arboretum Associates can enjoy 10% discounts on plants (and sometimes on related merchandise) at the following nurseries:*

**Gold Rush Nursery**

3625 N. Main Street, Soquel, CA 95073 • (831) 465-0314

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And, of course,

**Norrie's Gift Shop** at the Arboretum.

*Moving? Please let us know the address of your next garden... Thanks*

The Arboretum is open daily from 9AM-5PM.

Norrie's Gift Shop is open daily 10AM-4PM

The Jean & Bill Lane Library is open Wed-Sun 12PM-3PM.

Visit the Arboretum's website at: [arboretum.ucsc.edu](http://arboretum.ucsc.edu)

For information, or if you have any disability-related needs, call (831) 427-2998 or fax us at (831) 427-1524.

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