

Quail Tracks

Volume 15, No.3 Newsletter for Foundation Members July, August, September 2004

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A note to our members ~

• Check inside for our new *QuailCash* program, where you can earn rewards by introducing new friends to the gardens.

• We are getting the equipment together and planning to start doing more outreach programs like schools and street fairs, and we are looking for a core of volunteers to help. Please let me or Mary Lou know if you would like to volunteer for these fun and beneficial events.

If you have any comments or additions to the newsletter, please email cjones91@cox.net.

Many thanks, Cynthia Jones

Marketing Communications Manager

Seeds of Wonder Celebrates One Year

By Julian Duval

A year ago this past April we opened the *Seeds of Wonder* children's garden. Designed as a sample and experimental version of the future *San Diego Children's Garden at Quail Botanical Gardens,* we had three goals in mind. First, we wanted to test concepts and learn about the management of a garden designed specifically for children that would be important in preparing for the larger garden. Second, we felt we could provide children and their families an opportunity to enjoy and share important experiences now while we raise funds over the next several years for the larger garden. Finally, we felt it would serve as a model for fundraising. Donors needed for the *San Diego Children's Garden* could observe first-hand the magic that happens when children are provided with the opportunity to interact with a garden environment designed specifically for them.

We clearly have learned a lot during this first year. We did expect it to be popular, but if anything it has exceeded our expectations. It is wonderful to report that children, who these days have access to every form of entertainment, are still absolutely enthralled with making discoveries and playing in an environment that is made of living things. Reality beats "virtual reality" hands down. As young minds are developing their interests, time spent in *Seeds of Wonder* will clearly influence attitudes toward nature and all other living things. We had braced ourselves for substantial wear and maintenance needs but

except for the occasional mud-pie extravaganza clean up, children have been very respectful of the plantings and other elements. Some of the learning that takes place there likely helps children to be more respectful of this special place.

Another pleasing discovery is how *Seeds of Wonder* has attracted volunteers. Adults easily



The New World Desert Garden Additions

This summer brings a cast of new plants to the *New World Desert Garden*.

Along the western edge are several masses of Owl's-Eye Pincushion *Mammilaria parkinsonii*. These wonderful small cacti form pincushion-like clumps, which as they grow create fascinating owl's-eye patterns with their unique clumping combinations. The cacti have white hairs and spines that give the plants a whitish cast, which contrasts well with the darker greens of neighboring agaves and other plants.

Thanks to a donation from Western Cactus Nursery, another new addition has the amusing name of giant chin cactus *Gymnocalcium saglionis*. You have to see this cactus to understand how it gets its name.

A new Echeveria rock garden by the Visitor Center designed by Bill Teague features these succulents that are popular along the coast. Echeverias have fleshy leaves that are arranged in tidy rosettes. They come in a wide variety of sizes, textures and often pastel colors. A host of new perennial flowers adds summer color to the garden, including chocolate flower, prairie zinnia, and penstemons. These were donated by Mountain States Wholesale Nursery of Phoenix, Arizona along with a collection of unusual agaves and other succulents.

This summer is a great time to visit Quail's newest flora.



Photo by Cynthia Jones

Dee Jackson and Jenica Faye stop for a moment to enjoy the New World Desert Garden newcomers.

Tree School

Laura Gonzales is convinced that Quail Botanical Gardens inspires art. As a recent winner of the Rancho Santa Fe Library's Poetry Contest, Laura credits QBG as being one of her favorite sites in all of North County.

In March, Laura brought her Junior Girl Scout Troop here to work on their Outdoor Creativity patch. After a fascinating tour led by docent Kay Worley, the girls sketched and wrote poetry in the gardens. Many were surprised by what a variety of settings there are at QBG. "I like the waterfalls...they are pretty and I like the sound they make," Laura remarked. "And the bamboos are really cool 'cause they're green and white and swirly," she added.

Laura Gonzales is a fourth grader at Diegueno Country School and is also the niece of QBGs' wedding coordinator Carla Henry. Laura's winning poem was written shortly after the visit to Quail as part of a class writing assignment. All entries were judged by library staff and several teen volunteers. For her prize, she received a Barnes & Noble gift certificate and a bookmark and pencil set.

Tree School, by Laura Gonzales

They start as seeds learning to grow The teacher does not make them sit in rows.

Mother, Mother, I think I know! If trees go to school, they learn to grow, Higher and higher with every reach Then one day, maybe they will teach.



Seeds of Wonder Turns One

(continued from front page)



Photo by Cynthia Jones

One of the many volunteers who enjoy awakening an interest in nature among children.

relate to how important providing an environment like this is for children, and many want to help. For example, Kathy Campbell took the QBG Docent class specifically because she heard we would be building a children's garden. Kathy, who has volunteered many hundreds of hours and now holds the title Seeds of Wonder Coordinator, has created a whole menu of programs that take place in this garden and have spilled over into other areas as well. These activities are extremely popular and have helped make Seeds of Wonder very dynamic, attracting more repeat visitors than any other area of the Gardens. This interest in return visits has also been a wonderful generator of new QBG memberships, which is at an all-time high, with family memberships the most common category.

We could not let the first anniversary of Seeds of Wonder pass by without a celebration and a very special gift arrived just in time. Linda and Paul Addison, QBG members who previously donated the copper roofing which allowed us to plant a living roof over the potting shed, offered to donate a child-friendly sculpture in memory of their daughter Suzanne for the garden as well. They commissioned Leucadia artist Ann Paul Barca, who is renowned for her sculpture of animal figures, to produce a bronze of a life-size giant tortoise. It took almost one year to complete this work from its inception to its unveiling at the first birthday celebration, which was clearly a highlight of the event. The tortoise has proven to be a hit with visitors of all ages; it's hard to resist having a seat on this fellow's back. It is a beautiful addition to *Seeds of Wonder* and a significant piece of art for QBG. We thank Linda and Paul for this special and much appreciated gift.

Seeds of Wonder has been a resounding success from the day it opened, and while we did not originally consider it to be a permanent exhibit, its popularity and the lessons we have learned has caused us to change our minds. We expect it to remain the secondary garden for children even after the San Diego Children's Garden is opened on the Gardens' newly acquired land near our new entrance.

Almost one month after Seeds of Wonder opened in April 2003, we achieved the most significant milestone on the way to creating a children's garden six times the size, which will be named the San Diego Children's Garden at Quail Botanical Gardens. We had spent almost three years working with the city of Encinitas, and on May 16 last year we signed a 55-year term lease for approximately 4.5 acres of cityowned land located adjacent to the existing northeastern corner of QBG. The Gardens' master plan calls for an entire new entrance complex on this site which will be anchored in the SDCG at QBG. Directly north of that will be the new home of the San Dieguito Historical Society.

The QBG master plan also provides space for relocating the *Children's Discovery Museum of North County* onto this site, and immediately across Quail Gardens Drive land has been acquired by the Encinitas Union School District for an elementary school. The combination of these elements will make for a focus on children's education and development unique in our nation and possibly the world.

Since signing the lease, we have been working with city engineers to prepare for importing soil onto the site and grading. Meanwhile, the QBG trustees and development professionals have been laying the groundwork for a capital campaign; building on the strengths of having acquired the land and of course the momentum started with Seeds of Wonder.



Seeds of Wonder

Summer Activities for Young Children

Ongoing programs

Tales and Tunes

Tuesdays*, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Children and their parents participate in stories, songs and hands-on preschool activities. *Free admission on the first Tuesday of each month.* We meet indoors on rainy days.

Discovery Day Every Wednesday, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Children and parents explore *Seeds of Wonder* with a *Wonder Gardener* (volunteer) to discover the secrets of nature hidden in our garden. There will be stories and other activities. Not held on rainy days.



Garden Day

Every Thursday, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM Children pot plants and participate in other hands-on activities. Sometimes there will be story-telling. Not held on rainy days.



*Except the first Tuesday of every month. Due to the crowds, we can no longer provide activities.

Special Events

Red, White and Blue Parade Saturday, July 3 10:00 AM

Children, parents, and spectators of all ages are invited to join our parade around the Gardens, as we march to the music of John Phillip Sousa. Bring decorated strollers and wagons (no bikes), and wear red, white and blue clothing. Meet in the lawn area. Every child will receive a small American flag. Free with garden admission. Bubbles and plant potting in *Seeds of Wonder* from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, following the parade.

Grandparents' Day Sunday, September 12 1:00 – 4:00 PM

Young children and their grandparents will participate in an afternoon of play, arts and crafts, puppet stories, and music activities. They will prepare and eat a snack together, and children will make a special keepsake card for their grandparents. Free with garden admission. Details will be announced later.



We are very excited about our recent acquisition of an Ellison Die Cut Machine, and we need more of the dies, which are inserted into the machine to produce the shapes. Please contact Kathy Campbell in *Seeds of Wonder* if you are interested in adding to our die collection.

Magic Wand Summer Camps

Week long camps for children ages 3-6, making special creations, playacting and taking guided nature walks through the Gardens. Call for prices.

July 10-16 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM July 19-23 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

\$1 Off Admission

Good for a \$1 discount on up to four admissions to the Children's Discovery Museum of North San Diego County 2787 State Street, Carlsbad, 760-720-0737 Quail Botanical Gardens partnership coupon



Quail Botanical Gardens Summer Classes

Class sizes are limited. Registration and prepayment are required. Most classes are held in the Ecke Building. Call 760-436-3036 x206 for details, or visit www.qbgardens.com.

Special Classes

Pine Needle Basket Classes

Learn the art of making enchanting pine needle baskets. Fee includes materials. Aug. 9 1:00-5:00 PM Sept. 13 1:00-5:00 PM *Instr: Sharol Clay* Cost: M: \$35 NM: \$45

Self-Care for the Gardener

Learn to move more comfortably and easily while gardening using *Feldenkrais awareness movement lessons* designed for the gardener. July 28 9:30-11:00 AM *Instr: Sue Turcotte* Cost: M: \$10 NM: \$15

Hen Basket

Learn how to make a traditional Appalachian basket, using natural materials found at the Gardens. Aug. 16 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM *Instr: Carol Lang* Cost: M: \$40 NM: \$50

Seaweed Basket Class

The instructor will take you through an adventure as you create this charming treasure from the sea. All materials included. July 25 1:00-4:00 PM Aug. 22 1:00-4:00 PM Sept. 26 1:00-4:00 PM *Instr: Sharol Clay* Cost: M: \$35 NM: \$45

Gourd Art Class

Learn to clean, cut, pyro-engrave, paint and embellish your own one-of-a-kind gourd. July 9 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM *Instr: Carol Lang* Cost: M: \$50 NM: \$60

> M = Members NM = Nonmembers

Ongoing programs

Bird Watching 8:00 AM first Monday

Compost Mini-Seminar 11:00 AM first Saturday

<u>Group Tours</u> 10:00 AM every Saturday

Make-a-Note Card

9:30 AM -12:00 PM first Sunday Learn to make your own note cards from leaf printing. Call for additional information.

Three-Ring Basket

Experienced or novice students will enjoy using interesting materials to accent this unusual basket. All materials included. Sept. 10 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM *Instr: Carol Lang* Cost: M: \$50 NM: \$60

Mural How To's

A seminar for novices, artists and designers, this class explores mural techniques, planning and integrating with your decor. Brings photos or sketches of your wall and decor and lunch. Sept. 25 9:00 AM -1:00 PM *Instr: Linda Luisi* Cost: M: \$45 NM: \$55

Have an idea for a class or want to teach one? Please contact Mary Lou Kelly at 760-436-3036 x203, or mlkelly@qbgardens.com

Quail Botanical Gardens Summer Events

Call 760-436-3036 x206 for details, or visit www.qbgardens.com.

Events for July, August, September

Summer Concert Series July 11 + 25, August 8 + 22

QBG's summer concert series is an annually anticipated event. The coolness of the garden on a summer's evening combined with good food, music and company makes for wonderful summer memories.

Once again Joyce Wilder, QBG's dedicated talent agent, has pulled together an outstanding line up. To get an idea of the mucisians style, if you're not familiar, check out the links to many of their web sites off www.qbgardens.org.

Tickets are now available and are priced at \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers. This includes a buffet dinner, dessert and coffee. A nohost beer and wine bar will be available. Seating is provided; no coolers, please.

July 11- Holly Hofmann and John Pisano

This world-class jazz quartet, with renowed flautist, *Holly Hofmann*, and *John Pisano*, formally recognized as one of the nation's finest guitarists. Featuring Brazillian and American Songbook jazz.

July 25 - Gary LeFebvre Trio

Modern Jazz with the Gary LeFebvre Trio, featuring LeFebvre on sax, Tommy Gannon on keyboard and Glen Fisher on bass. These legendary jazz men have an incredible sound and have all played with the greats.

August 8 - Peter Sprague

Local legend Peter Sprague will bring his eclectic brand of jazz along with five of his closest colleagues to the Gardens. Playing locally and globally since the early seventies, Sprague and his group always soothe and delight.

August 22 - King Biscuit

With a rich harmonica tone and style all his own, Ken Schoppmeyer, leader of King Biscuit, has paid his dues playing blues in San Diego and across the nation, opening for legends such as B.B. King, Ray Charles, Muddy Waters and Paul Butterfield.





Second Annual Wild Bogs and Leaping Frogs July 23-25

This unique event is a combination of wetland-themed art works and a carnivorous plant experience, featuring mini garden environments, or *bogs*. Through art, science, lectures and displays, the community can discover the animal and plant species of wetland habitats, locally and around the world, with a special emphasis on the many amazing species of carnivorous plants and amphibians.

Lunch on the Fly by Julia Gray

- Artists Reception, Friday evening July 23
- Children's Day, Saturday July 24
- Lecture Day, Sunday July 25

Art will be on display and for sale throughout the weekend. See www.qbgardens.com for details.

Bamboo Sale September 11 11 AM - 3 PM

Over 100 varieties of rare and unusual bamboo for sale. Plants may be viewed from 9 to 10:30 AM. Rare bamboo auction is 10:30 AM. Sale opens to the general public at 11 AM.

QBG's Annual Gala Club Q - The Quintessential Garden Experience September 18 5:30 - 9:30 PM

Make sure to attend the most magical of QBG events—the Annual Gala. This year honoring local garden clubs and specifically the inspired enthusiasm of Agatha Youngblood and Adrienne Greene. Details on following page.

Club Q Arrives—QBG's Annual Fundraiser September 18

Club Q – the Quintessential Garden Experience, Saturday, September 18 from 5:30 to 9:30 PM, marks QBG's fifth annual Gala and our biggest annual fundraiser.

What makes the Gala so special?

It's unique (just one time, just one place), it's exclusive (invited guests only), it provides support for Quail Botanical Gardens, it is breathtakingly beautiful, and it honors those special contributors to the glory of gardens in our community.

In case you haven't attended, the Annual Gala at Quail Botanical Gardens is a spectacular, glowing garden party where guests explore the grounds at sunset, sampling wines and gourmet cuisine from strategically placed culinary islands. Following hors d'oeuvres, photos, and magical fun in the new Seeds of Wonder Children's Garden, guests will stroll along the trail through the intimate walled garden of the historic Larabee House, the old-fashioned herb garden, and the exotic and lovely bamboo garden beyond. At each stop, lively musicians entertain guests-imagine perhaps a jazz combo in the walled garden, acoustic guitar along Banana Boulevard, a reggae band at the cabaña, or a flute trio in the bamboo grove. At dusk, the action moves to the big tent where guests relax over dessert and a program honoring the recipient of Quail Gardens' annual Paul Ecke, Jr. Award of Excellence. A fast-moving live auction caps the evening.

This year's Award of Excellence will be shared by two of San Diego's queens of exquisite gardens, Adrienne Green and Agatha Youngblood. It recognizes their immeasurable contributions to the growth and success of garden clubs in San Diego County. The Gala also salutes the regions Garden Clubs for all they do to nuture the passion of gardening.



Why become a sponsor?

In addition to special recognition benefits, sponsorship gives you an opportunity to partner with Quail Gardens to pay public tribute to two individuals who have made tremendous contributions to our community.

And because the Gala is the Gardens' biggest annual fundraising event, your largely tax-deductible supports the growth and expansion of Quail's unique blend of programs and facilities that now serve more than 100,000 visitors each year. As a nonprofit organization, Quail Botanical Gardens depends upon donations and memberships to maintain the gardens and further its mission.

For sponsorship information, please contact Diane Baxter at Quail Botanical Gardens: 760-436-3036, ext. 216, or email dbaxter@qbgardens.org.

Even if you choose to not participate as a sponsor, don't miss the years' best garden party. We encourage you to attend by purchasing tickets when you receive your invitation in the mail this August.





Water Wisdom for 2004

How do we conserve water while maintaining attractive landscapes?

Quail Botanical Gardens faces the same challenges as the region's other residents, so it's only appropriate that QBG's 2004 garden enhancement initiative focuses on water-wise gardening. The first element is beginning to take shape as the former *California Demonstration Garden* is metamorphosing into *California Gardenscapes: Native Plants for Water-wise Landscapes.*

With a grant from the Stanley Smith Horticultural Trust, QBG will upgrade and improve interpretive signage highlighting the value of California native plants in local landscapes. With a grant from San Diego County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price's discretionary funds, a broader focus on water-wise landscaping that extends beyond the original California Demonstration Garden into the new acreage will be made possible.

In *California Gardenscapes*, we offer examples of water-wise Mediterranean style gardens that can serve as models for homes and businesses. Many of the plants featured in this area will be California natives and their related cultivars. Although the garden is currently at the far northeast corner of QBG, the approved master plan will move the QBG's main entrance to new acreage at the northeast corner, adjacent to the old *California Demonstration Garden*. The City of Encinitas has approved QBG's long-term lease of the land for creating the Gardens' new entrance and the new *San Diego Children's Garden*. Thus, *California Gardenscapes* will eventually become the new main entrance area.

Mediterranean and other xeric gardens are increasing in popularity in Southern California for their aesthetic and horticultural values. They not only inspired great artists, but they are well suited to our region's climate and water regimen as they use far less water than traditional lawns and flowerbeds. Enhancements to the *California Demonstration Garden*, coupled with development of extensive Mediterranean-style gardens near the planned new entrance of QBG will draw more visitors and hopefully encourage them to use ideas presented there to plan their own water-wise gardens. The Mediterranean display gardens will

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include topper mulches, water-conserving irrigation systems, and climate-appropriate plant choices that conserve water while creating beautiful spaces for enjoying nature. The development of these gardens is timely and appropriate and will form part of a visitors' initial and signature impression of Quail Botanical Gardens, as well as help visitors appreciate the wide variety of plants that thrive in San Diego and delight garden enthusiasts throughout the year.

Our water-wise improvements run deep

Quail Botanical Gardens has a long and rich history in San Diego County that is part of its heritage and appeal. Unfortunately, irrigation systems of that vintage are not so appealing, so we plan to upgrade irrigation systems in several of the older parts of the Gardens to take advantage of water-efficient technologies that are now available. Using recycled water and waterwise irrigation techniques will conserve both water and money while supporting QBG's environmental mission and providing visitors with good examples for local landscapes. These improvements to the irrigation systems will keep Quail Botanical Gardens healthy year-round, while conserving significant amounts of waterthe natural resource most critical for the region's continued growth.

With the project partially funded and underway, and we are now looking to our members and friends to help us complete it.

We encourage you all to make a donation to the 2004 Water-Wise Garden Initiative by using the envelope included in this issue of Quail Tracks. All contributions are appreciated, and gifts valuing over \$1,000 (including in-kind donations) will be recognized on a sign in the new *California Gardenscape*.

Why we need your support

QBG operational costs are funded primarily by earned income from admission fees, program fees, memberships, facility rentals, and gift shop sales. Capital improvements or major new displays require additional funds from grants and donations. We think you'll agree that the 2004 water-wise garden enhancements will benefit the Gardens, the community, and visitors for many years to come. Please help us make them a reality.

- Diane Baxter, Director of Development

Pass the Word and Reap the Rewards Introducing Quail Botanical Gardens' new QuailCash Program

Our members are our strongest advocates. Your enthusiasm is often what brings people to QBG for the first time. Your sharing this precious green oasis in the heart of Encinitas with others and convincing them to join helps create a legacy for future generations.

To reward you for your loyalty and enthusiasm, we have developed the *QuailCash* program, designed to pay you a dividend for every new membership you recruit.

Between July and December 2004, you will receive a \$5 gift certificate to the QBG Gift Shop for every new membership you send our way. Just make sure the new members write your name and phone number on their membership application. Keep a few membership applications on hand (with your information already filled out) to give to your friends. You can print applications from our website at www.qbgardens.org, pick them up during your next visit to the Gardens, or request one by calling me at 760-436-3036, ext. 217 or via e-mail at kbraemer@qbgardens.com.

It isn't hard to convince others why they should join—just bring them along on your next visit to the Gardens. Member benefits include 362 days of free admission; two guest passes (\$16 value); discounts on summer concerts, the holiday Garden of Lights, and many more programs, plus the joy of contributing to QBG's mission.

We will look for your name on your friends' membership applications and thank you for your extra support. As one of our more than 2,400 current members, you are vital to the Gardens' success. When you introduce your friends to North County's best kept secret, we all win.

P.S. If you renewed your membership recently, you may have noticed the new membership cards and guest passes. We have volunteer Tom Farley to thank for them, who created the computer program for printing the cards directly from our database. Volunteers Linda Edington and Alexandra Zingg (who previously handwrote all our membership cards) will continue to help our membership program in many ways. We thank these volunteers for their dedicated work.

- Karin Braemer, Membership Manager



Nils Lunnerdahl, courtesy of Friedl Lunnerdahl

Dear Friends, Cherished Memories — In Memoriam

This past spring, QBG lost two cherished friends who were very important in the Gardens' development.

Nils Lunnerdahl, who died in April, served as a docent and a trustee. He created the plant mapping system upon which we still depend, and designed and installed the *Landscape for Fire Safety* garden. An accomplished artist, Nils created interpretive signs and brochures to help further our educational mission, including the bird identification sign under the cork oaks.

Nils was born in Sweden, met his wife Friedl, a nurse, in Germany and moved to Encinitas in the 1960's, where he was a wellliked and respected flower grower. During retirement, Nils was active as a volunteer fireman and designed a Firescape Garden exhibit for the Elfin Forest fire station. He is survived by his dear wife Friedl, a daughter, and three grandchildren.

James W. Wylie died June 2. Jim joined QBG in 1995 and became a Benefactor in 1997. Jim Wylie was more than just a member of QBG. First as a trustee, and later as an honorary trustee, he attended nearly every board meeting through the end of his life. Jim was an avid supporter of the new Children's Garden projects —both *Seeds of Wonder* (the preview garden that opened April 5, 2003) and the larger San Diego Children's Garden that is part of the QBG master plan for the future. He enthusiastically supported the Gardens, introduced many of his friends to us, and participated in nearly every major milestone event since 1995.

Both Nils Lunnerdahl and James Wylie will be deeply missed and long remembered.



Volunteer and Docent News

April Docent of the Month Phyllis Flechsig

Phyllis got involved with QBG in the late

1960's, shortly after she moved to Encinitas, by helping with plant sales. She became good friends with three women who were quite important in starting the QBG



Foundation:

Photo by Norma McAfee

Mildred MacPherson, Arch Owen, and Julia von Pressig. She has fond memories of traveling with them around the county to look at plants being offered as donations for the gardens.

Phyllis was one of the first tour guides at QBG. She remembers that training was minimal; "mostly self-taught, not like the training docents get today." In the late sixties she became interested in succulents and participated in the local Cactus & Succulent Societies. She was so successful at growing succulents from seed that she started a mail-order business, shipping them all over the country.

Eventually she stopped succulent mail sales so that she and her now-deseased husband Art could spend more time traveling. They both enjoyed snorkeling and they made many trips to the Caribbean, Mexico and Central America. Phyllis still enjoys traveling and joined us recently on the QBG trip to Baja.

Phyllis still loves to grow plants; on top of her own business (she sells mainly through the local cactus and succulent societies) she is in charge of succulent propagation at QBG. You can purchase her handiwork at the QBG Nursery next to the Gift Shop. Many thanks, Phyllis, for all you have contributed to the Gardens over the last three-plus decades.

Articles by Leslie Duval

May Docent of the Month Elizabeth Stanley

Beneath her gentile, elegant yet modest exterior, Elizabeth Stanley is brimming with southern hospitality. Her beautiful face, soft southern drawl, and the twinkle in her eyes often make our visitors feel right at home. Elizabeth's soft-spoken nature might be mistaken for shyness, but she is not shy, just humble about her accomplishments (unfortunately for our readers she *is* camera shy).

Elizabeth was born in Charlotte, N.C. and grew up in Alabama. She came to California 40 years ago and worked for 25 years as a graphic designer in Solar Turbines' Publications Department. She loves animals and enjoys volunteering at Helen Woodward Animal Shelter; she has also been a story-time volunteer at the Rancho Santa Fe Library. She was drawn to Quail Botanical Gardens because it reminded her of her grandmother's garden in Alabama where she spent time helping as a child.

Elizabeth was in the Docent Class of 1998, the last class that Dorcas Utter taught. "She is a lovely person and was a wonderful teacher," commented Elizabeth. While Elizabeth feels that her time spent as a docent at QBG has been good for her personally, it's been even better for the Gardens. From the beginning she worked in admissions, the library, the Orchid Fair, and other special events. She really likes helping with the special events (she enjoys it too much to call it work). "I like the energy and activity," she added.

Unfortunately for us, Elizabeth is moving to Florida soon to be closer to her family. She regrets she will miss this year's Orchid Fair. Thank you for all you have done here at QBG, Elizabeth, we'll all miss you very much.





Volunteer and Docent News

June Docent of the Month Jessica McGee

Jessica grew up in suburban San Diego after being born in Prairie Grove, Arkansas. She moved to San Francisco in the mid-1960's with a friend and "enjoyed an alternative lifestyle there for quite a few years" (sounds like fun). She went on to work for Pacific Bell, American Bell, and then AT&T until she retired in 1998 (sounds like work).

Jessica has always been interested in plants and also in historic landmark preservation. She's had large gardens in San Francisco and in Orlando, Florida where she moved in 1996. While in Florida she was treasurer of the Central Florida Hibiscus Society and board member of the Orlando Landmark Defense.

After retirement, she moved back to San Diego and bought a house in Normal Heights, where she is now a board member of her neighborhood committee. She is also treasurer and Garden Restoration Committee Chair for SOHO, an historic preservation group.



Photo by Leslie Duval

Shortly after moving back she saw an ad in the Union-Tribune about the Quail Gardens docent class. She visited QBG, signed up for the 1999 class and has enjoyed volunteering in the gift shop, plant sales area, propagation, library, concerts, and just about every special event we have ever since. She was also the Docent Coordinator for three years, and became a master gardener in 2001. Jessica is also great fun to travel with, as you can see by her photo taken on the QBG Baja Trip last March.

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"I love the special world that envelopes me when I'm at Quail—the sights, sounds and scents are pure pleasure. My favorite thing to do in the gardens is to sit anywhere within them and simply breathe in the atmosphere," Jessica says. She's right, QBG is a fantastic urban retreat (as stated in our Mission), a place where you can breath and appreciate life's pure pleasure. Thanks, Jessica, for all you do to help the Gardens.

The JOY of Membership

ive your loved ones the wonderful benefits of membership in Quail Botanical Gardens. Members enjoy free admission to QBG, invitations to special events, discounts on gift shop purchases and programs for all ages, first pick at the annual Plant Sale, and a whole year of garden discovery.

To purchase a gift membership, please call Karin Braemer at 760-436-3036 x217, or visit our web site at **www.qbgardens.com**.

Quail Staff

Bernice Applebaum Sergio Bautista Diane Baxter Leslie Bertolino Karin Braemer Roberta Cohen Julian Duval Dave Ehrlinger Jose Flores Carla Henry Visitor Services Gardener 2 Director of Development Bookkeeper Membership Manager Education Specialist Executive Director Director of Horticulture Gardener/Weekend Mgr. Wedding Coordinator

Cynthia Jones

Mary Lou Kelly

Jason Kubrock Jean Nordstrom Wayne Nuzzolo

Bill Teague Sue Zesky Marketing Communications Manager Operations Mgr./Dir. of Education Gardener/Weekend Mgr. Gardener 1 Education Program Coordinator Hort. Resource Specialist Administrative Assistant



Second Annual Family Chocolate Festival is Quail's Biggest Day Ever

On May 8, Quail Botanical Gardens hosted its second annual Family Chocolate Festival, and by all accounts it was a huge success. Not only were there significantly more vendors and activities than the previous year, but with over 2,100 guests it was the largest event ever held at the Gardens to date.

Among the many prestigious chocolatiers on hand were Chuao, Chi Chocolat, Guanni Chocolate and Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, as well as gift and garden art booths. Chocolate was not the only food on hand: Big Jim's Barbeque and Oggis Pizza also pleased crowds.



Bubble play is always a popular pastime.

Children had plenty of activities to keep them busy including face painting, constructing newspaper hats and paper Japenese windsocks, making hand-print cards for Mom's special day, planting seedlings and, of course, bubble blowing. Entertainment delighted both the young and young at heart. Joel Ward performed magic and amazed his audience in the Walled Garden, while the Butterworth Dance Troupe danced on the lawn. Dr. Jan Gasco presented an informative slide show on the cultural history of chocolate and cacao in Meso-America.

One of the favorite features of this year's Family Chocolate Festival were the free gift bags given out to the first 500 guests. The bags included Ghirardelli chocolates and seed packets of the new chocolate colored bell pepper from Ball Seed Co.



Magician Joel Ward confounds visitors of all ages in the Walled Garden.

Quail Botanical Gardens would like to thank the many people who volunteered and contributed to the resounding success of the Family Chocolate Festival, but we are especially grateful to volunteers Sue Papreck and Kathy Campbell and staff members Carla Henry and Sue Zesky for their long hours and tremendous dedication.

- Amy Opel

Many thanks to our donors for contributing to the lovely Make-a-Wish Easter Event.

Albertson's Carl's Jr. Germain Packaging Henry's Marketplace Long's San Dieguito Women's Club Smart & Final Trader Joe's Von's VG Donuts and Bakery

> Photo by Claire Ehrlinger

Photos by Cynthia Iones





OBG Happenings



Beautiful day for the Herb Festival.

Samia Rose topiary booth.



Pacific Events put on a spectacular bash for Hewlett Packard to introduce its new digital camera to analysts. See more color photos on the web site.



QBG's Baja tour group posing with an ancient olive tree near a beautiful mission in the mountains outside of Loreto, Mexico.







Despite the drizzle, the Sixth Annual Insect Festival was a hit with all ages. From left to right: - Friendly hedgehog from the Children's Zoo - Floral mantis, from Krazy 8's Invertebrates

Photo by Cynthia Jones

QBG takes top honors at the San Diego Fair: • Paul Ecke Sr. Award for best Overall Landscape Exhibit

• Edwin Frazee Award for Best Use of Floral Color Many thanks to Bill Teague and Katie Pelisek for their beautiful design and execution, and Proven Winners and Garden Glories for the wonderful plant donations.



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Meet the Landays - QBG's Daily Visitors

Ruth and Robert Landay are known to many as "the couple that comes every day." For the past few years, you may have seen them on their daily walk through the Gardens, no matter the weather. They recently celebrated their 87th and 88th birthdays and when asked about special plans on these days, their answer was "We came to the Gardens."

Both were born in New York City where they met, got married, and had their first child. Robert's job as electrical engineer brought them to Oxnard, California in 1952. They purchased an acre of land 45 years ago in Encinitas and had a home designed and built. It features a lot of glass to view the many trees and native vegetation surrounding it.

We wanted to know why members like the Landays enjoy visiting QBG almost every day of the year. Robert says it is the pleasure of walking and developing knowledge and love of plants by observing. They were first introduced to QBG in the late 1950's by Paul Ecke Sr. Back then, they came for occasional visits and walked through the Gardens with a map in an effort to study plants and their names. Now they just enjoy the beauty of nature and learn by asking staff questions. Ruth says she discovers something new every day, a flower that comes into bloom, and "coming every day assures that you are right there just when it happens." She enjoys the songs of the many birds, and walking through the Gardens "nourishes my spirit."

What is most extraordinary about the Gardens? QBG's diversity, they both agree. Quail contains many sides of nature with very different exhibits, hills, and winding, partly unpaved paths. Their favorite area is the *Cal Demo* display (soon to become *California Gardenscapes*) in the northeast corner of the grounds, which to them best represents Californian nature. They regularly stop by at the visitor center to chat and to purchase something to take home. They love the spicy smell of Californian native plants and plant them around their home.

On July 9, Ruth and Robert will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary. Will they be doing something special, like visiting Quail Botanical Gardens? We hope we see them strolling along or perhaps enjoying a quiet moment on one of the benches.

- Karin Braemer, Membership Manager

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Planned giving is the cornerstone of QBG's history, and the key to its future. Because of this, QBG recognizes during their lifetimes those people whose generous gifts from their estates will help the Gardens develop its endowment for the future. The **Arbor Vitae Guild** was established to honor the Gardens' many friends in the community who have indicated that they have included the Gardens in their wills or trusts. Bequests of all sizes are welcome, for they ensure QBG's vitality for the benefit of future generations. We invite you to help build a future for your children here at Quail Botanical Gardens by joining the **Arbor Vitae Guild**.

For further information, please call Diane Baxter, Director of Development, Quail Botanical Gardens, 760-436-3036 x216.

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