



Volunteer Times

Published for the volunteers of the UCI Arboretum

January 2011

FLOWER POWER

Planning the 2011 Plant Sales

By Laura Lyons, Nursery Manager, UCI Arboretum

Happy New Year, everyone! We've barely put away the noisemakers and party hats, and it's time to get cooking for our 2011 plant sales.

2010 ended with a real bang for the Arboretum nursery, as the volunteers who worked the November sale can attest. At over \$2,000, we had our highest grossing Saturday sale EVER! Hopefully, this bodes well for 2011.

Our sale dates for the first half of 2011 appear in the box below. There you'll find a roster of Saturday sales, including our first Saturday Plant Sale of the year (January 22) and major events, including, the Winter Bulb Festival (March 5 & 6), and April Showers of Flowers (April 9), and the Spring Perennial Sale (May 21 & 22).

Focusing on the January 22nd Saturday Plant Sale, being winter, January's a cool month that brings the first wave of bulbs coming into bloom—most notably the Starfish Flower, *Massonia echinata*. This is a curious little plant is a caudiciform with flat leaves that echo a starfish's ground hugging body. Being a caudiciform and echoing a starfish are not all of this South African native's curiosities; its flower brings to mind another

PLANTING DAY

By Laura Lyons, Nursery Manager, UCI Arboretum

"You look so luscious, I'm going to take your picture," I said aloud to the gardens and to myself. We've been so busy doing things around here the last two months, I hardly recognize the Arboretum when I drive in. I kinda miss the sound of crunching of gravel as I round the orchid house, but not the graveled parking lot. And I welcome the scene—new pathways, graded areas, irrigation without me holding a hose with one hand and fighting off bugs with the other, and, as you can see in the photo gallery on page 2, more has been



See Planting on Page 2

marine invertebrate, the Sea Urchin.

Curious or not, the Starfish Flower is very popular with our customers, as are bulbs having an early season bloom, for example, if we're lucky the beautiful Star Flowers (*Iphelion* varieties) will be in bloom. Also, we'll have some nice succulents to offer, most particularly, the unusual Candle Plant (*Senecio articulatus*), and, of course, a variety of spring perennials.

Volunteers are needed for: setup from 7:15 to 9:30, 1st run from 8:30 to noon, and 2nd run from noon to 3:30. Positions available are: cashier, sales, customer take-out, and re-stocker.

To volunteer for the plant sale, please call Laura Lyons at (949) 824-5833 or email ldlyons@uci.edu



2011 Event Schedule

January - June, 2011

Jan. 22	Saturday Plant Sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Feb. 5	New Volunteer Orientation 2 p.m.
Feb. 12	Saturday Plant Sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Mar. 5 & 6	Winter Bulb Festival Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Mar. 19?	Saturday Plant Sale 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Apr. 2?	New Volunteer Orientation
Apr. 9	April Showers of Flowers 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
May 21 & 22	Spring Perennial Sale Saturday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Jun. 11?	June Bloom 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.





Before: Aloe Area

Note the hose, portable sprinklers, and vague edges of the two path routes.



After: Aloe Area

One clearly defined path, underground sprinklers, and more area for planting (see Planting Day on Page 1).



Progress Photo of New Path in California Gardens

Even with gravel, the path edge is vague and almost invites meandering.



New Path in California Gardens

The edging effectively replaces "Stay on the Path" signs while providing aesthetic detail.

January Planting Day

Planting From Page 1
done.

Rather than just seeing the progress in pictures, come see for yourself and to be part of the next step of progress by volunteering to help plant the gazebo area and the California Garden extensions. As I've noted before, all fall the nursery staff have been busy propagating plants. They've assured me, we have a nice selection of plants available. This being southern California, now is the time to plant to be ready for spring and, here at the Arboretum, the onslaught of visitors.

In addition to you and Dr. Bowler's classes (on many days) helping with the planting during our normal

volunteer hours (see Current Volunteer Schedule, page 3), I'm scheduling a Saturday planting day for January 15—there probably will be more. The Arboretum will provide gloves and shovels, or any other needed tools. You just bring your energy!

The January 15th planting day is scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon. Please RSVP if you plan on helping. It helps with planning the workday and making sure we have plenty of tools, etc. on hand.

To RSVP or for more information about this planting day, please call Laura Lyons at (949) 824-5833 or email ldlyons@uci.edu. See you there.



Photos by Laura Lyons

URGENT REQUEST

USED 1-GALLON POTS

Drop off by our garage any time we are open, or outside the front gate when we are closed. Thank you.

IMPORTANT DATES

DATE

January 15

January 22

EVENT

Planting Day

Saturday Plant Sale

TIME

9 a.m. to noon

9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

LOOKING AHEAD

DATE

February 5

February 12

EVENT

New Volunteer Orientation

Saturday Plant Sale

CURRENT VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>DAY AND TIME</u>
Nursery Group	Wednesday 9 a.m. – noon
Orchid Care Group	Wednesday 9 a.m. – noon
SA Bulb Garden	Wednesday 9 a.m. – noon
Perennial Garden	Wednesday 9 a.m. – noon
California Garden	Thursday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Herbarium Group	Thursday 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Friday Club	Friday 9 a.m. – noon
Special Events	See Important Dates

For information on any of these or for general information on volunteering, call Laura Lyons at: 949/824-5833 or e-mail: ldlyons@uci.edu

PLANT SALES

January 22

February 12



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