NUMBER 94 | SPRING 2016



Look for black-chinned hummingbirds (male pictured here) in your garden. They migrate through California from March to early fall.

Spring PLANT SALES

9 AM - 1 PM Arboretum Teaching Nursery Garrod Drive, UC Davis arboretum.ucdavis.edu

PUBLIC SALES

Saturday, April 2 Saturday, April 23

CLEARANCE SALE Saturday, May 14

Members always save 10% on every purchase!

Not a member? Call ahead or join at the door!

UCDAVIS



LIFE AFTER LAWN HUMMINGBIRDS IN YOUR GARDEN

Ellen Zagory, Director of Horticulture

Despite being the tiniest birds in the world, hummingbirds pack a lot of attitude. Feisty and noisy, these sparkling garden denizens are beautiful and entertaining. Our local year-round resident is the Anna's hummingbird, a medium-sized hummingbird with an iridescent rosy-pink color on the neck and head (in males) that flashes brightly when exposed to sunlight at the right angle. Energetic and fast-moving, they can fly backwards, hover in place and fly upside down! Their wings beat on average seventy times per second; they fly at twenty-five to thirty miles per hour; and they dive even faster. All this activity means a typical hummingbird needs to eat a lot, seven times an hour. They are also smart about what they eat and when — they remember which plants give nectar, when they last drank from a flower, and how long that particular flower takes to refill its nectar. With all that showmanship, it's no wonder hummingbirds are popular guests in any garden.

Like most animals, the way to a hummingbird's heart is through its stomach! Encourage hummingbirds to visit your garden by selecting plants that will provide them with energy. That means nectar-filled flowers with little to no fragrance. These birds, like many, have a poor olfactory sense — the flowers that attract them tend to produce lots of thin, easy-to-drink nectar, but have little aroma. Flowers that hummingbirds pollinate tend to be tubular and hang down, making it hard for most insects to land in them while still being accessible to creatures capable of hovering in the air.



Hummingbirds like red flowers, but really they just want nectar. Plants like Bee's bliss purple sage will add variety to your hummingbird garden with its low-growing silvery leaves and purple flowers that bloom in spring.

Hummingbirds drink from forked tongues that open up in the flower, trap the nectar, then pump it into their mouths through two grooves. While they frequently visit red flowers, hummingbirds will visit all sizes, colors and shapes of flowers wherever they can get nectar, but hummingbirds do not survive on nectar alone. They'll pick small insects from flowers, from the air, off leaves, or even off spider webs, sometimes along with the spiders themselves.

To get started on your hummingbird garden, plant a variety of species that bloom in sequence over the course of the year. It is also important to select plants that grow different heights and widths so these territorial birds can find a variety of locations to perch and place their nests. (Learn more about specific plants on page 3.) Planting willow, or other species whose seeds possess silken fibers, will be useful to hummingbirds for building nests. Also, remember that cats might predate upon the young birds or discourage nesting, so keep your cat indoors if possible or provide high branches where these birds can escape if needed.

NEW LEARNING LANDSCAPE HELP US BUILD A NEW HUMMINGBIRD GARDEN

Suzanne Ullensvang, Resource Development Manager

WE HAVE AN EXCITING NEW PROJECT IN THE WORKS: a Hummingbird Garden! The new garden will showcase plants that attract hummingbirds and demonstrate ideas home gardeners can use to create habitat for hummingbirds and other wildlife.

The Hummingbird Garden will be a centerpiece of new developments at the west end of the Arboretum, just north of the Arboretum Teaching Nursery. Phase One of the Hummingbird Garden project will include a semi-circular garden bed bordering an events lawn next to the new Veterinary Medicine Student Services and Administration Building (currently under construction). Phase One will be completed in fall 2016 in time for the dedication of the new building. Phase Two of the Hummingbird Garden project will follow with additional garden beds nearby.

The Hummingbird Garden project is made possible through a combination of campus and community support. For the community support side, we'll be participating in the region-wide Big Day of Giving on Tuesday, May 3; this year our focus is on raising money to support the Hummingbird Garden project. Our goal is to raise \$30,000 for the Hummingbird Garden in one day from community donors. You can help by making a gift online on May 3 during Big Day of Giving.

Community donations will be used to fund the garden's plants and irrigation system and create the plant labels that are a key part of the Hummingbird Garden's education focus. Community support will also help fund undergraduate student interns working with our expert horticultural staff to design, plant and establish the Hummingbird Garden.

This collaboration of the community, campus and students in creating new projects is a hallmark of the Arboretum and Public Garden's focus on partnerships both on and beyond campus. Arboretum and Public Garden staff members have been working extensively with the School of Veterinary Medicine to collaboratively co-create the vision for the new learning landscapes at the west end of the Arboretum, including the Hummingbird Garden.



HUMMINGBIRDS IN YOUR GARDEN Sunday, April 17, 1 pm Arboretum Teaching Nursery

To learn more about creating backyard habitat for hummingbirds, attend this free public program where Dr. Lisa Tell, avian disease veterinarian, professor and director of the Hummingbird Health and Conservation Program at the School of Veterinary Medicine, will briefly discuss her current research, and, along with Mary Patterson, a long-time Arboretum community volunteer and expert gardener, share tips for creating a backyard habitat for hummingbirds.

With nearly 15% of hummingbird species considered vulnerable to extinction, the research that she and her team conducts focuses on establishing the scientific data necessary to help sustain healthy hummingbird populations. As one of the few hummingbird master banders who lives and bands in California, Dr. Tell oversees four hummingbird banding stations around the state, including one along Putah Creek in Solano County.

Community support of our new hummingbird garden (see article on this page) will help share the importance of hummingbirds as part of a healthy ecosystem.

rufous hummingbird

MAY 3

Your gift will help create our new HUMMINGBIRD GARDEN!

- 1. Visit arboretum.ucdavis.edu on May 3.
- 2. Select the BIG Day of Giving button.

HEART IS

3. Make a secure online gift starting at \$25.

24 HOURS TO GIVE WHERE YOUR

Sponsored by the The Sacramento Region Community Foundation

LIFE AFTER LAWN NATURE'S HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS

Ellen Zagory, Director of Public Horticulture

Create a year-round feeding frenzy with these popular hummingbird plants. (Also see Bee's bliss on page 1.)

California fuchsia (*Epilobium canum*) with bright orange-red flowers are magnets for hummingbirds in spring, summer and fall. It needs little water once established and should be cut to the ground in winter for a perennial display.

In late winter and early spring (in part shade), look to the dark-pink clusters on the *Ribes malvaceum* 'Montara Rose' and *Grevillea thelemanniana* 'Gilded Dragon', an Australian native with silvery leaves, to provide nectar to our shiny friends.

Another dependable flower is the red autumn sage. Our favorite is *Salvia* × *jamensis* 'Scott's Red', a heavy and early bloomer, dependable in demonstration beds as well as throughout many Arboretum collections.



Epilobium canum subsp. Iatifolium 'Everett's Choice'



THANKS TO AN ENDOWMENT created by Shirley Maus longtime Arboretum supporter and volunteer — you will notice a renewal of our California Foothills Collection.

Shirley's ancestors resided in the foothills region of California since about the time California became a state in 1850. One side of her family lived north of the Consumnes River in the El Dorado area, the other side came from south of the river in Amador. With that history, it's easy to understand why Shirley has always taken a particular interest in this collection.

"As a child, I loved visiting my great grandparent's ranch where there were so many oaks on all the hills," recalls Maus. "The California Foothills Collection reminds me of my childhood memories in Amador and all the gorgeous black oaks we admired and explored beneath."

The California Foothills Collection, located between Mrak Hall Drive bridge and the La Rue Road bridge, is where the largest black oak in the Arboretum resides. The collection is also home to several majestic, 200-year-old valley oaks, pines, *Ceanothus* (California lilac), numerous species of native currants and gooseberries, as well as native grasses used as groundcovers.

This year, funding from the Maus endowment allowed our Learning by Leading students to refresh and restore the collection with new plantings. Next year, it will allow for the creation of a new sign to identify the collection and assist visitors navigating the Arboretum.

Mother of two sons, an active resident at University Retirement Community in Davis, member of the Board of the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden and various committees at the Mondavi Center for Performing Arts, Shirley is hard to pin down, but if you do, please thank her for helping reveal this lesser-known, yet iconic collection for generations to come.

ABOUT ENDOWMENTS. Endowments are a great way to provide ongoing support for our organization. The principal amount Shirley donated will be kept intact while the investment income is used year-to-year to support different projects. In addition to an endowment for our California Foothills Collection, Shirley and her late husband Ronald have also endowed a creative writing contest in memory of their daughter Pamela. If you would like to learn more about endowments, contact Garth Lindley at glindley@ucdavis.edu or (530) 752-8637.

UCDAVIS



ARBORETUM AND PUBLIC GARDEN

SPRING 2016 GATEWAYS EVENTS

plant sales

9 am–1 pm Arboretum Teaching Nursery Garrod Drive, UC Davis arboretum.ucdavis.edu

PUBLIC SALES

Saturday, April 2 Saturday, April 23 Saturday, May 14 (Clearance Sale)

Members always save 10% on every purchase!

Not a member? Call ahead or join at the door!

guided tours

WEDNESDAY WALKS WITH WARREN

All walks begin at 12 pm **April 13, May 11, June 8** West End Gardens, meet at Gazebo

Join Warren Roberts, Superintendent Emeritus of the Arboretum, to discover seasonal color in the UC Davis Arboretum's gardens and plant collections.

HUMMINGBIRDS IN YOUR GARDEN

Sunday, April 17, 1 pm Arboretum Teaching Nursery

Learn from hummingbird and gardening experts how to create a haven for these delightful little birds in your own backyard.

all-ages programs

ANNUAL PICNIC DAY CELEBRATION Saturday, April 16

- Picnic Day Parade float, 10:10 am-noon campus and downtown
- Hands-on activities, 10 am–3 pm Plant and Environmental Sciences Building at the Salad Bowl Garden

Enjoy hands-on activities highlighting the Arboretum and Public Garden's focus on sustainable horticulture.

ARBORETUM PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT April 25 - May 9

Discover the UC Davis Arboretum in a way you never have before! For two weeks, everyone is invited to explore features of the Arboretum in a photo scavenger hunt. Ten spots will be revealed through our Facebook event page on April 25. Participants will have two weeks to upload their photos to that same Facebook event page. The best photos will have an opportunity to win prizes and be exhibited throughout Arboretum social media venues. For more information, "Like" the Arboretum's Facebook page now and check back for more information on April 25.

STARGAZING IN THE WHITE FLOWER GARDEN

Friday, May 6, 9 pm Meet at the Arboretum Gazebo

Need to get away from it all? Join the Arboretum Ambassadors and the UC Davis Astronomy Club for a free night of stargazing! Bring the whole family. Not only will this special night mark a new moon, it will also be the peak of the Eta Aquarids meteor shower, which can produce up to 30 meteors an hour! Please bring a flashlight, blankets, warm clothes, and snacks! Warm beverages will be provided.

WILD FAMILY DAY

Sunday, May 22, noon-3 pm Arboretum GATEway Garden (behind Davis Commons Shopping Center)

Join Wild Campus—a UC Davis student organization dedicated to the conservation of local flora and fauna—in partnership with the Arboretum and Public Garden for our 5th annual Wild Family Day. Enjoy fun games and activities for all ages as well as educational displays and live animals! For more details, email: wildcampus411@gmail.com.

ARBORETUM IMPROVEMENTS PHASE ONE OF WATERWAY RENOVATIONS BEGINS THIS SUMMER

Katie Hetrick, Director of Marketing and Communications

What we call the Arboretum Waterway is actually a large pond that is dammed on both ends. This nutrient-rich pond – home to both our campus's recycled water and excess stormwater runoff – is loved for its seasonal beauty even in spite of the conditions that sometimes encourage unsightly duckweed and algae growth. To improve the overall aesthetics of this iconic part of our campus environment and combat the rapid growth of both these naturally occurring, water-loving organisms, we need to improve the water's flow. With that said, we are excited to announce that this summer, phase one of our Waterway improvement project is scheduled to begin!

Phase one, of what we believe will be a total of four phases, begins at the far east end of the Waterway, and ends near Wyatt Deck. In order to create flow in this part of the Waterway, we will introduce small elevation changes via weirs – barriers across water that alter its flow characteristics. Picture a series of large, natural steps with water cascading down; the highest weir in this phase will be installed near the east end of the Waterway. A large pump will recirculate the water from Spafford Lake back to the east end to continue the circulation.

In July, this project kicks off with the creation of a small dam near Wyatt Deck to separate the water in the phase one area from the rest of the Waterway. The aquatic wildlife (turtles, fish, etc.) will be moved to Lake Spafford before the construction starts. Then, the east end will be drained, given time to dry out, and dredged to remove excess sediment. The elevation changes necessary for the weirs to function properly will be engineered, the weirs construct-

BUGTOPIA: DISCOVER THE WONDERS OF INSECTS Sunday, May 15, 1-3 pm

Arboretum Gazebo

Learn about the hidden insect wonders of the Arboretum from the UC Davis Entomology Club members and GATEways Outreach Program Volunteers. Find out more about the UC Davis Arboretum, insect names, trapping methods, and ecology.

music & wellness

FOLK MUSIC JAM SESSIONS Fridays, April 8 & 22; May 6 & 20; June 3 & 17, Noon-1 pm Wyatt Deck

Folk musicians are invited to bring their acoustic instruments, and play, together, informally, over ... the lunch hour. All skill levels are welcome, and listeners are invited.

arts and letters

BIRDSTRIKE! IMPROV COMEDY THEATRE Saturday April 23, 6-7 pm

Wyatt Deck (Rain location Env. Hort. 146)

Enjoy a thirty minute comedy show followed by a brief workshop on improv basics. Come ready to laugh and participate! This event will contain mature content (not appropriate for children) and lots of humor. Sponsored by the Arboretum Ambassadors.

AN UNTITLED PROJECT INVOLVING BODIES, DIRT & SPACE

Performed in various locations throughout the Arboretum by Margaret Laurena Kemp, performance artist & visiting professor in UC Davis Theatre & Dance. Directed by Lisa Quoresimo, Ph.D. candidate in performance studies. Learn more on our website.

Where Does the Bue Sky Start? Saturday, May 7, 1-4 pm Shields Oak Grove

Margaret literally digs deep, calling forth Margaret Garner and numerous other ancestors, interrogating layers of place, identity and authorship.

Ghosting Saturday, May 7, 5:30-7:30 pm Begins at Arboretum GATEway Garden then travels west through the Arboretum

A ritual dance in which a ghost returns, its rest having been disturbed by layers of individual

Make, Take, Break Sunday, May 8, 2:45-5 pm East of the Arboretum Gazebo

and institutional inhumanities.

Women from the community of Davis share their personal journeys through life's rules (made, taken, and/or broken) through dance and spoken word.

5TH ANNUAL FAREWELL READING OF THE CREATIVE WRITING MASTERS PROGRAM

Wednesday, June 8, 7 pm *Wyatt Deck*

The UC Davis Creative Writing MA program and the Arboretum present the 5th annual student reading on Wyatt Deck. Graduating writers will read selections from their work.



SUMMER OF HEROES Ages 8-12 Session 1 July 11–22, 9 am-3 pm Session 2 July 25–Aug 5, 9 am-3 pm Shields Oak Grove

Campers will take on some of the greatest heroes in Shakespeare & beyond: Henry V, Joan of Arc, Romeo, Juliet, Imogen, and Cyrano de Bergerac! Through theater games and acting workshops campers will explore how these classic characters changed their worlds by fighting for what is right.

In the epic final show, campers perform these heroic journeys accompanied by original music, fun dances, and dynamic sword-fights!

TEEN CAMP Ages 13-18 July 25-Aug 5, 9 am-3 pm Shields Oak Grove (July 25-29) Location TBA (August 1-5)

This camp is designed for teenagers wanting to sharpen their acting skills. Campers will also explore heroism with the awesome characters listed above. Camp content will include stage combat, acting workshops, movement techniques, improvisation training, and more. Teens won't want to miss this opportunity to take their love of theater to the next level!

More Information

Options for early drop-off and late pick-up (campers ages 8-12 only). For more details and online enrollment, visit www.shakespearedavis. com, email Camp Coordinator Ian Hopps: ian@ shakespearedavis.org or call 530-802-CAMP.



ed, the waterway banks strengthened, and then finished with newly planted wetland vegetation.

But wait! There's more! In conjunction with the Waterway improvements, starting later this summer, we will also be renovating the pathway on the south side of this area to meet ADA requirements and improve its quality. Look for the brick pathway that begins in the Arboretum GATEway Garden to extend all the way to the T. Elliot Weier Redwood Grove.

Both the weirs and new paths are currently scheduled for completion by the end of this calendar year. This phase of the Waterway project is made possible through deferred maintenance funds from campus. To stay informed about this project and its progress, as well as future phases of the Arboretum's Waterway improvement project, please be sure you are signed up to receive The Leaflet, the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden's e-newsletter. Visit the Arboretum's website at arboretum.ucdavis.edu to learn more.





















SNAPSHOTS

WINTER GATEWAYS EVENTS AND MORE!

Your membership in and gifts to the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden help fund these and other educational programs for our community. Thank you!

1 & 2. At the end of January, volunteers helped harvest over a ton of vegetables for the Yolo County Food Bank. This event would not have been possible were it not for the tireless efforts of Learning by Leading co-coordinator Carli Hambley (center of photo 2) along with recent graduate Hanna Morris (not pictured), whose work in support of those in need laid the groundwork for many more gleaning events like this in the future.

3. Arboretum GATEway Outreach intern Liz Fundora assists attendees at UC Davis' Biodiversity Museum Day in basic plant identification.

4. Christina Elms, Learning by Leading nursery propagation student intern, shows off the tables of plants she has grown in support of our upcoming spring plant sale season.

5. In February, our Arboretum GATEways Outreach interns hosted an open mic night on Wyatt Deck. Ten talented participants, from a range of artistic backgrounds, performed for a large audience under the stars.

6 & 7. For this year's "Storytime Through the Seasons: Climbing the Ginkgo Tree," our Arboretum Ambassadors invited the public to learn about the nature and culture of Asia. The event included a spectacular performance by UC Davis students in the Golden Turtle Lion Dance Association.

8. Ryan Deering, GATEways Horticulturist (seen right) takes Dr. Eric Conn, namesake of the Eric E. Conn Acacia Grove, on a tour of his eponymous collection. Late February and early March are excellent times to visit this collection and experience these trees at the height of their bloom.

9. For the ninth year in a row, Antonio Flores, East Bay Regional Parks docent, teaches a large class how to make their own elderberry flute just as native Californians have done for centuries.

10. Attendees at the Arboretum GATEways Outreach team's "Relaxation Day" participated in yoga, guided meditation, and other activities known to decrease stress.

11. Stacey Parker, GATEways horticulturist (plaid shirt), teaches our newest group of volunteer recruits the basics of weed identification.



DONATIONS Nov 2015 - Jan 2016

We extend our sincere gratitude to these donors. To make a tribute gift or other donation online, visit arboretum.ucdavis.edu.

Manuel & Debbie

ENDOWMENT GIFTS

Bret Hewitt & Deborah Pinkerton Ernie & Mary Ann

Lewis GARDEN BENCH DEDICATIONS

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In Memory of Victor Burns Meredith Burns

In Honor of Edward & Viola Fair Pam Fair

In Memory of Karen Sue Khamashta Karen Sue Khamashta

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Nancy Yudin OAK GROVE DEDICATION

Don & Wendy Harper

GROVE TILE DEDICATION In Memory of Karen

Sue Khamashta Karen Sue Khamashta Memorial Fund

Gerald Dickinson

UNRESTRICTED

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Marianne Calhoun Eric Cendejas Kathryn Davis Kelsey Davison Kathy Geurtze Wen Yen Huang Kate Ingram Iulia Nam Erin Rexin

ANNUAL APPEAL THANK YOU

We are grateful to everyone who contributed to the Friends of the UC Davis Arboretum and Public Garden annual appeal. Their gifts are helping to support the environmental student leadership interns who create free public programs for Arboretum visitors. Plus, 10% of each gift is being added to the permanent Friends Endowment Fund for long-term impact. Thank you!

Don & Elizabeth Abbott Margaret C. Adams David & Geraldine Adams June Bauman William Bostock Bill & Florence Breidenbach Marta Marthas & John Brittnacher Karen Broido Jon Ramsey & Melissa Browne Deanne Buchan Allean Burton Jan & Davis Campbell Elizabeth Capell Mark & Marcia Cary Jack & Gale Chapman Becky & Bruce Conrad Dr. Maria Niederberger & Ramon De la Guardia

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We strive to acknowledge your gifts accurately. Please notify us of any corrections.

UC DAVIS ARBORETUM AND PUBLIC GARDEN REVIEW

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Address service requested

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

Although we are still in a drought, we had some very welcome rains in January and March. The winter has now made way again to spring, and I hope you are able to come out and enjoy the flowers showing off their blooms.

I would like to thank everyone who donated to the Friends Annual Appeal this winter (page 7). Your gifts are helping to support our Learning by Leading Program's education and outreach interns who put on many of the fabulous programs you see on our fun-filled spring calendar (pages 4-5) as well as those from the winter (page 6). It is never too late to send in your donation online (go to http://arboretum.ucdavis.edu and click the Annual Appeal button). I also want to thank Shirley Maus for her new endowment to support the California Foothills Collection and other projects in the Arboretum (page 3). Endowments are a fabulous way for people to support the Arboretum now and into the future.

There is another opportunity for people to support our work through the Big Day of Giving on May 3 (page 2). This is our third year participating in this social media-based regional giving event through the Sacramento Region Community Foundation. This year, we are raising funds for a new Hummingbird Garden in partnership with the School of Veterinary Medicine in our Environmental GATEway on the west end of the Arboretum. We encourage you to share this easy, online opportunity to support the new garden with family, friends and neighbors who also enjoy the Arboretum. In addition, you can learn how to plant your own garden to attract hummingbirds (pages 1 and 3).

We are working on another project that we are sure will thrill all our members. This summer, we are beginning a multi-year plan to introduce flow into the Arboretum Waterway to make it much more aesthetically pleasing (pages 4-5). We are very grateful for the campus deferred maintenance funds that are making the first phase of this project possible. It will take us a number of years to complete the entire waterway project, but we're very happy that the first phase is getting started soon.

We hope to see you out in the gardens, at a program, or at one of our upcoming plant sales where we've got an incredible selection of gorgeous, low-water plants for your yard. Enjoy the beautiful spring weather!

Kathleen

FRIENDS OF THE UC DAVIS ARBORETUM AND PUBLIC GARDEN EXECUTIVE BOARD 2015-16

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