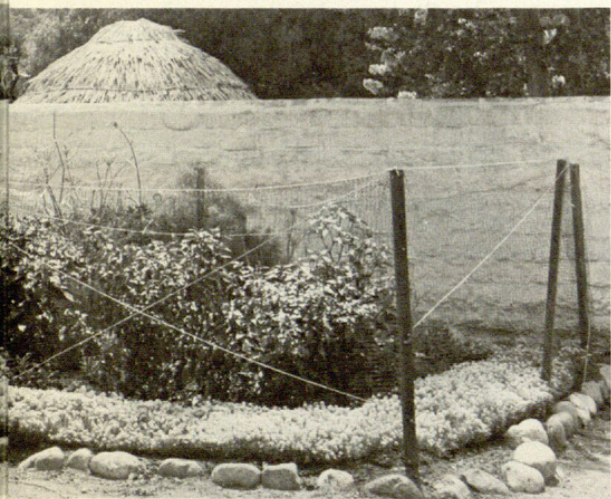




*Director Francis Ching addresses the CCC*



*The vegetable garden (right) in the Adobe patio show the rewards of Las Voluntarias' efforts. Sarah Flores, (below) representing Supervisor Pete Schabarum speaks highly of the Corps.*



## R. KIRK EVANS NAMED FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

THE CALIFORNIA ARBORETUM FOUNDATION named new officers for 1984-85 at a meeting June 19 with R. Kirk Evans unanimously elected president.



LuAnn B. Munns

*R. Kirk Evans*

Mr. Evans, who moved to Arcadia in 1981, was introduced to the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum by former Board of Trustees member, Charles Neuberg.

"When I first heard of the concept of the Arboretum and what it stands for, I decided it is very worthwhile," he said. He joined the Board and later became treasurer.

"I hope to have a good year. We have good committees and good people," he said. During his term Mr. Evans plans to lead the Foundation in expanding the scope of the Arboretum through further development of existing programs and initiation of several new projects. He expects to work on increasing CAF membership and building the endowment fund as well as continuing the education program that was developed last year. New projects that Arboretum visitors can expect to see take shape with the support of the CAF are a new koi pool planned for the Meadowbrook area and a visitors' orientation center near the Rotunda.



Mr. Evans views the gardens from a cosmopolitan perspective developed while he was living in San Francisco, London and Paris with his wife and their five children who range in age from three to 16 years. To accommodate his volunteer work as a Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop #115 and his career as vice president, finance for Gerald J. Sullivan & Associates in Los Angeles, Mr. Evans has begun to schedule committee meetings for the early morning hours.

Other officers elected at the June meeting include: James P. Curry, first vice-president; Frank Regan, second vice president; R. Bruce McCallum, secretary/treasurer.

#### COUNTY AWARD HONORS SOUTH COAST VOLUNTEER

IN THE TWO DECADES that Florence Siudmak has been volunteering at South Coast Botanic Garden, she has never asked for a thank you. Nonetheless, she received a vote of appreciation from all of Los Angeles County on May 11 when the Board of Supervisors chose her as one of 13 outstanding volunteers from more than 65 nominees in 1984. During the Volunteer of the Year Recognition Awards Ceremony, Supervisor Deane Dana presented the Arts, Sciences and Humanities Award to Mrs. Siudmak for her work at South Coast that began when there was still doubt that a botanic garden could be built over a landfill.

Starting as one of a handful of docents at the fledgling garden, Mrs. Siudmak worked in all phases including admissions, tours, gift shop and garden planning. In 1967, she became director of docents. As the Foundation grew, she began to specialize in the education programs.

She organized the "Discovery Walks" and the "Children's Day" events that gave both children and adults the chance to learn firsthand

about their natural surroundings.

In 1974, Mrs. Siudmak started the junior docent program, teaching senior Girl Scouts ecology and botany and methods for passing on that information to young Garden visitors. When the Foundation could no longer afford to sponsor an adult education program, she convinced Harbor Community College to take over.

She now has responsibility for registration, classroom reservations and instructors for classes Harbor sponsors at the Garden. With her urging, the college has expanded the program to include such popular classes as horticulture, plant identification and cultural classes. This summer she also initiated the col-

lege's first summer workshop program for children.

Formerly a member of the Foundation's Board of Trustees, Mrs. Siudmak is now on the Board of Governors for the Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens. She is one of the few original volunteers who continues to support the Garden with her efforts, even after she has gained the thanks and admiration of everyone who appreciates the Garden and its programs.

In 1983, Ruth Mary Larson, another member of the Board of Trustees, received an Outstanding Volunteer Award for her work at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum.



*Florence Siudmak receives plaque from Supervisor Deane Dana as one of only 13 volunteers honored throughout the county.*





1984. "R. Kirk Evans named foundation president." *Garden* 8(5), 3–4.

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