

PUBLIC SERVICES DIVISION

shaw Blvd. So after 10 years of having to use the back door we will finally have a "front" through which to enter.

Along with a few days of rain, spring is progressing normally. Over 160 trees were given to local schools for Arbor Day. There was good attendance at our first Sunday garden walk and lecture. Our masses of groundcovers are blooming profusely, although the flowering fruit trees are past their peak. Several unusual birds were sighted in March including a rare eastern visitor, a swamp sparrow. A green-tailed towhee, normally found at high elevations, is spending the winter here. We had a brief visit from a bird not seen in many years, the roadrunner. A bird of open spaces, it was seen here when the garden was much younger, but hasn't been reported for over 5 years.

RESEARCH DIVISION

Ken Montgomery and Lee Enari are currently assisting the L.A. County Regional Planning Commission in implementing plans for the proposed Mulholland Scenic Corridor. The corridor, which will extend along Mulholland Drive and Mulholland Highway for approximately 50 miles from the Hollywood Freeway on the east to the Pacific Coast Highway on the west, represents a unique open-space area at close hand to the citizens of Los Angeles. The scenic and recreational potential of the area is enormous. The technical information and recommendations that we are providing concern the native plants and ecology of the area, importance of the roots of chaparral shrubs in soil erosion control, measures to take to protect the natural vegetation, and plants to use for landscaping within the corridor. The first part of the work has been completed. Two other parts are due later this month.

We wish to welcome our new permanent tour guide, Marianne Sioles, who is replacing Ray Robinson. Marianne attended El Camino College in Torrance and holds a B.A. in biology from Cal State Northridge. Marianne, who lives with her husband in Woodland Hills, is a house plant enthusiast, a biological illustrator who does pen and ink drawings for biology work, and is a certified scuba diver.

In spite of miserable, cold, rainy weather the 5th annual Baldwin Bonanza was a great success. Including the preview on Saturday night 13,036 people attended (only about 800 less than last year).



1975. "Research division." *Newsletter Arboreta and Botanic Gardens*
1975:Apr.10, 2.

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