



A NEW GENERATION OF TREES

The grand vistas at the Arboretum look a little different since the worst windstorm in decades ripped through the garden on December 1st. Where tree canopies once created vast pools of shade, sunlight now bathes the areas—almost as if Mother Nature is putting a spotlight on all the empty spaces where trees and plants once thrived.

"The tragedy was the wind," observed Timothy Phillips, the Arboretum's Superintendent. "The winds have come and gone."

A silver lining can be found in all of this. "We can envision the Arboretum of the future," CEO Richard Schulhof said. "Now is the time to enhance the beauty of our gardens and provide great new moments of learning and discovery."

The single largest planting campaign in the Arboretum's history

is needed to restore the garden. The winds destroyed 326 trees and damaged more than 700 other specimens, which now need restorative pruning. "We have found that there is a lot of variation as far as what has survived and what hasn't survived," said James E. Henrich, Curator of Living Collections at the Arboretum. "It's definitely not a case of the exotics being the weaker species."

The 10-acre Australian section was hardest hit with 40 trees lost. The Prehistoric Forest, fig collection and Grace Kallam Perennial Garden all sustained considerable damage. A 140-year-old blue gum eucalyptus, one of three in the historic area, is gone. The Engelmann oaks, however, survived with relatively little damage.

While palm fronds and other tree and plant debris rained down into the lake and areas around the historic structures, the Queen Anne Cottage,

Hugo Reid Adobe, kiys and Santa Anita Depot all came through unscathed by the winds. Only the Coach Barn lost a few roof shingles, according to Mitchell Hearn Bishop, Curator of Historical Collections at the Arboretum.

Thanks to workers from multiple public agencies, as well as dedicated Arboretum staff and volunteers, the grounds reopened to visitors by late December. The Gift Shop, Arboretum Library and Peacock Café remained open during the cleanup.

"We are deeply grateful to the many members and friends of the Arboretum who, within days after the storm, began contributing toward planting the next generation of trees and plants that will ensure a magnificent Arboretum for years to come," said CEO Schulhof. "We invite the entire community to participate by making a gift to the Arboretum Tree Fund." 🌱



Clockwise from top left: Less than 24 hours after the windstorm, the Arboretum staff was assessing the damage and starting the cleanup.

Top: Jill Morganelli, left, and Celina Nacpil.

Taking a break: David Okihara, Joe Valenzuela, Theresa Richau, Glenn Klevdal, Angela Carranza, Irma Reddig and Rafael Cano Jr.

Below left: Volunteers Nicholas Coughlin, Bette Shotwell and Marsha Keene were among the many volunteers who helped to clear the grounds so the Arboretum could reopen.

TREE FUND

If you would like to contribute to the Arboretum Tree Fund, visit www.arboretum.org and click "Support," or mail a check payable to the Los Angeles Arboretum Foundation. Please add "Tree Fund" on your donation. Thank you!

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