

WITH DALE WITT Senior Gardener

Dale Witt's baby sitter studied landscape gardening and his great-great-grandfather was Senior Gardener for the famed and prestigious Annandale Country Club in Pasadena.

Dale, Senior Gardener at The Arboretum, also toured every possible garden during his teen years. "I knew at an early age that I wanted to become a



horticulturist in a public garden that emphasized appealing and educational landscape displays. My position here far exceeds my boyhood dreams," said Dale in a recent interview.

Dale, a 1979 graduate of Cal Poly Pomona, with a degree in Landscape Architecture, was drawn away from his architecture and drafting courses when he realized the importance of making outdoor spaces to illustrate how plants can be used in unusual and creative ways.

Following another dream, Dale spent the summer of 1984 in England as a student at Cambridge University. His studies covered landscape and garden history from 1600 to 1900.

Dale began his work at The Arboretum in 1987, and assumed the responsibilities of his current position in 1990. He was recently honored for his Outstanding Contributions to The Arboretum.

"There are too many reasons why it is important to me to be here to relate," said Dale, "but one is definitely that I appreciate the opportunities to see various projects through to maturity. The Tropical Forest, opening on Friday, June 30, is a good example." 🌿

WITH OTTO AND JEANNINE KIERTZNER, Baldwin Bonanza Plant Sale Co-Chairs

Co-chairs of the 25th Anniversary of the Baldwin Bonanza Plant Sale, Otto and Jeannine are pleased at the amount of support given to the event by the community and by the more than 150 volunteers who worked our plant sale weekend.

Volunteers for just one year, they have observed that The Arboretum is now more beautiful than ever before. As long time supporters of The Arboretum, the Kiertznrs and their two boys, Mark and Eric, have spent many enjoyable days visiting the grounds.

Wanting to volunteer more in the community, the Kiertznrs were enthusiastic when they learned from a friend at church about the volunteer opportunities at The Arboretum. "We have enjoyed The Arboretum for many years. After learning



about the volunteer program, Otto and I enrolled in the volunteer training course," said Jeannine Kiertzner. Currently, Otto and Jeannine are working as both docents and as history preservationists.

The two met while Jeannine was attending Mark Keppel High School in Alhambra and were introduced by Otto's brother, who was a choir member with Jeannine. Otto had already graduated from high school and was attending John Muir Junior College. They dated for three years before they were married in 1950.

Grandparents to grandson, Alden, the Kiertznrs look forward to sharing the beauty of The Arboretum with him. 🌿

WITH PAMELA HAMES, President of Los Voluntarios

Armed with an abundance of energy and enthusiasm, Pamela Hames welcomes the challenges that accompany her new role as



President of Los Voluntarios.

"One of my goals as President will be to keep communication between the California Arboretum Foundation and Los Voluntarios open," says Pam. "so we can continue to work together to achieve our common goals."

Prior to becoming a volunteer, Pam spent many years as an educator, specializing in working with students with special learning needs. Her love of children, gardening and the need to educate is evident when she tours school children at The Arboretum. "Although children always marvel at the sight of a peacock," says Pam "they become even more enthralled with the knowledge of where vegetables come from, how they grow and the steps of pollination."

A volunteer for The Arboretum since 1991, Pam has served on several committees: Historical, Queen Anne Flower Arranging and Building Preservation, Plant Information and Field Leader Committees. For the past two years, Pam has served as First Vice President of Los Vols.

Pam and Foster, her husband of 45 years, and also a volunteer at The Arboretum, share a love of plants and gardening. They also enjoy hiking, swimming and traveling. Currently, they are both preparing for their month long trip to Austria at the end of August. 🌿



1995. "Behind the scenes: with Otto and Jeannine Kiertzner, Baldwin Bonanza plant sale co-chairs." *Arboretum News* 1995:summer, 3.

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