

Volunteer Opportunities

LASCA'S Field Leader Program

Field trips to the Arboretum are a popular event with school children from all over Los Angeles County and surrounding communities. These trips are made possible by an enthusiastic group of volunteers, trained to guide groups of school children, third through sixth grades, on one and one-half hour walking tours of the Arboretum. The new curriculum material to be developed for the classes is titled "Man and His Environment. It will combine the information from the "Plants and Man" and "California History" field trips. As the material includes both history and natural science, it should be interesting to a wide range of third to sixth grade students. A volunteer committee will be working on the content of this new tour through the summer in preparation for the field leader training classes in the Fall.

During a school tour, students experience Early California History by visiting the historical sites of the Arboretum. These include the Wickiups, Hugo Reid Adobe, Queen Anne Cottage and the Coach Barn. The curriculum emphasizes historical changes in land use and the lifestyles of early Californians.

During school tours, Field Leaders present examples of the educational and scientific aspects of the Arboretum. Children learn about the relationships between different plants and their native environments by visiting the Garden For All Seasons, the Tropical Greenhouse and the Water Conservation Garden. Methods of scientific research — use of controls, measurement, and record keeping — are learned in the Air Pollution Control Greenhouses. Favorite places for studying plant and animal interrelationships, adaptations and the recycling of oxygen, carbon dioxide and nitrogen are the Upper Lagoon (pond ecology), Meadowbrook and Tallac Knoll areas.

The Field Leaders review the material presented by questioning the students. Teachers are supplied with follow-up materials and samples of native plants



Field leader Maris Grannell shares his enthusiasm for the Arboretum with a group of students.

used by the Indians and/or plant parts (leaves, fruit, pods and seeds) specifically collected on the tour for use in the classroom. Hundreds of thank-you letters are received. Most mention the peafowl, ducks, the Queen Anne cottage, and the hope that they can bring their families to the Arboretum to share their experiences.

Individuals who are interested in becoming part of the Arboretum's educational experience, including prospective Field Leaders, are invited to attend two Volunteer Orientation Sessions, September 13 and 15, 1988. Following the introductory sessions, ten Field Leader training classes will be held Tuesdays and Thursdays, September 27 through November 3. Training will emphasize touring techniques and introducing the Arboretum as an outdoor laboratory, plant and tree museum, an historical preserve, and bird sanctuary. Field leaders volunteer one day a week from 9:45 a.m. to noon, November thru the end of school in June. Please call the Foundation Office for further information, 818 447-8207.

Volunteers Make a Difference... Baldwin Bonanza a Great Success

Our special thanks go to that fearless leader Thomas "Mac" McDuffie, Baldwin Bonanza Chairman, who led his team of volunteers through the successful 18th Annual Baldwin Bonanza Plant Sale. The volunteers' donation of hundreds of hours is a very valuable gift to the Foundation.

Save The Date

Friday evening, September 30
The California Arboretum Foundation and the Junior League of Pasadena will co-sponsor a delightful party for their members in the Arboretum's Sunset Home Demonstration Gardens. The Cookbook Marketing Committee will proudly present the League's new cookbook, *California Heritage Continues*. Refreshments for the evening will be prepared from recipes featured in the new cookbook. Look for your invitation in the mail!



1988. "Volunteer opportunities." *News* 1988:summer, 11.

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Los Angeles Arboretum

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