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Facility Improvements:

1. New Tram – A new tram was purchased through Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation for The Arboretum. This clean, quiet vehicle can move 40 people per tour and is easily accessible to two wheelchairs at once. Regular tram tours now occur in our ever-changing 127 acres of gardens and unique plant collections.
2. Shade Structures – Most visitors do not realize that plants are grown or purchased for The Arboretum grounds on a regular basis. These new plants are established first in behind-the-scenes growing areas. With the support of Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation deferred maintenance funds, The Arboretum had two major shade structures (each approximately 40' x 100') completely renovated. These areas will help us add to every plant collection in The Arboretum for years to come.
3. The Baldwin Lake Study – With the support of HSBC Bank, The Arboretum was able to complete a study of the geology and ground water movement of Baldwin Lake. This study has helped fulfill a Master's Degree requirement for a working geologist while providing us with the background information for a robust lake renovation and management plan. A good study with good science will help us improve the aquatic ecology and banks of Baldwin Lake over the next few years.
4. Water-free Urinals – Practicing what we preach is critical, so The Arboretum took a big step in water conservation. We installed 15 water-free urinals in the restrooms throughout The Arboretum. Each urinal uses innovative design to remove urine without flushing the bowl with water, each saving up to 40,000 gallons of water per year!
5. Reverse Osmosis & Mist System at Begonia Greenhouse – Reverse osmosis is a process which removes minerals from water. This is important to some specialty plants such as Nepenthes species, a group of carnivorous plants from Southeast Asia. These insect digesters require pure water and high humidity, so this water will be delivered with a high-pressure, superfine misting system in the Begonia Greenhouse. With the help of Los Angeles County plumbers and electricians, as well as Mee Fog Systems, a new reverse osmosis and misting system has been installed. In the near future, this will be known as the Carnivorous Plants Greenhouse.

Overall Accomplishments:

1. LA Garden Show 2007 – This annual show experienced explosive growth in 2007 with over 10,000 visitors, 60 vendors, and 11 designer gardens. Monrovia Growers, our presenting sponsor, provided beautiful plants and helped build visibility. Sanford Wines and Vineyards supported the designer preview party, providing wine-tasting throughout the weekend. Garden Design Magazine brought national visibility to the LA Garden Show as a media sponsor. Estate Gardens by ValleyCrest was a garden sponsor and creators of one of the fabulous garden designs. Chats, workshops, unique plants and garden items created magic for this weekend.
2. Plant Conservation Fund – For the first time in its 60-year history, The Arboretum has a dedicated fund to support plant and habitat conservation activities in California and around the globe. From research in the Spiny Forests of Madagascar, to growing and reintroducing food plants for rare California butterflies, your support of the Plant Conservation Fund makes a difference.
3. Hiring of New Staff – Important positions at The Arboretum were filled with wonderful new staff, including: our Plant Nursery Worker, Senior Tour Guide, Herb Garden Curator, and numerous internships. Each additional staff member brings specific skills and knowledge that will improve maintenance, programming, and the overall visitor experience. One of our goals is to increase our staff, strategically, over the next several years.
4. California Philharmonic – Festival on the Green celebrated it's 10th season at The Arboretum. Maestro Victor Vener enthralled over 35,000 during the 7 concerts this season with his own style and combinations of music from classical to modern. The Los Angeles Arboretum Foundation is proud and pleased with this partnership of fine music in our beautiful gardens.
5. The Arboretum Library – moved one step closer to becoming a circulating library during FY 2006-07. With the support of the Good Family Foundation, the Library started converting the card catalog to electronic bibliographic records. This anticipates an online catalog accessible through the internet coming in FY 2007-2008 and circulation privileges for Arboretum Foundation members.



2000. "Facility improvements." *Annual Report : the Arboretum 2006-2007*, 4.

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Missouri Botanical Garden, Peter H. Raven Library

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