

# Gardens will hold two-day plant sales

## Baldwin Bonanza XXI

Robert Smaus, author and award-winning Los Angeles Times garden editor will serve as honorary chairman of the 21st annual Baldwin Bonanza plant sale at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum.

Mr. Smaus will autograph copies of his latest book, "Planning and Planting the Garden," at a preview party on Friday, May 3, at 6:30 p.m.



Photo courtesy of L.A. Times

Robert Smaus

At this time, California Arboretum Foundation members can meet Mr. Smaus. Those members who contribute \$250 or more are invited to a reception at 5:30 p.m. honoring Mr. Smaus. For information about Foundation membership call (818) 447-8207.

The sale is open to the public May 4-5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Traditionally a one-day event, the sale was extended this year to include several garden tours and lectures on Saturday.

"A Springtime Festival of Plants" is the theme of Baldwin Bonanza XXI, where thousands of plants will be on sale. Educational activities this year include frequent guided tours of the Arboretum's water conservation

garden that showcases a landscape of mature water-wise plants like those on sale. Plant experts will also be on hand with advice and answers to gardeners' questions.

Saturday features lectures at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. by Arboretum superintendent John Provine. He will discuss the net bush (*Calothamnus*), a drought-tolerant Australian plant tested and introduced into local nurseries by the Arboretum.

All day Saturday representatives from Monrovia Nursery of Azusa, Magic Growers of Pasadena and Desert to Jungle Nursery of Montebello will also hold informal discussions. Each nursery will focus on the background and cultural needs of the specialty plants they are offering for sale at Baldwin Bonanza.

## Fiesta de Flores

"Fiesta de Flores," the annual fundraiser sponsored by South Coast Botanic Garden, will celebrate spring with music, food and flowers on May 18-19 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Music by the Palos Verdes Symphonic Band will accompany shoppers as they stroll along the garden pathways, deciding on the perfect garden accessory or tool to buy from sales booths.

Because of December frosts and water shortages, the selection of plants will be limited and shoppers are encouraged to come early for the best selections.

Cultivars of rosemary that are not generally available to the public, lily of the Nile (*Agapanthus*), bougainvillea and succulents will be some of the water-wise plants that will be available. Once established, these plants need little water during the summer months.

Clubs like the South Coast African Violet Society, South Coast Bonsai Association and the South Bay Bromeliad Associates will sell their specialty plants and answer questions on plant care.





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