

# NEWSLETTER



ARBORETA & BOTANIC GARDENS

*prepared by the public services division*

May 10, 1972

## ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

The entire staff, meaning all three facilities, is invited for another rousing skating party at the Fiesta Roller Rink in San Gabriel the night of Monday, May 15th. The cost will be \$1.40 per person. We will have the rink exclusively from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Reservations must be made by Friday, May 12th at 5:00 p.m.

## PUBLIC SERVICES DIVISION

The long-awaited bicycle racks have arrived and will be installed shortly in the entrance area. The racks will accommodate 15 bikes with a locking ring for each.

The recent as-needed-tour-guide examination conducted here produced a number of promising candidates. Three will be hired from the new list.

Six tape recorders have been donated to the Arboretum by the Santa Anita Highlands Garden Club for use initially by blind visitors to the Braille Terrace and the historical area. Through the use of pre-recorded tapes the visitors can listen to an informative narration as they make their way through these areas without needing a trained guide. The recorders will be available at the gatehouse.

## ARBORETUM DIVISION

Three new kiosks, a gift from Sunset Magazine, have been installed in the Demonstration Home Gardens. Kay Bemis is doing a great job maintaining them under John Provine's supervision. You will also find new furniture to complement our gardens.

Two employees resigned last month. One is Bruce Jennings who is going into insurance sales. His leaving results in a vacancy at Lux Arboretum for

the position of Assistant Arboretum Gardener which has been posted. (Descanso also has an opening) The other employee is Gary Helm who has moved to Oregon. We wish them both good luck.

A word of warning to all dog owners - Keep them on leashes at the beach! Chris Van Wagner received a \$40.00 ticket for not having Olie "physically restrained." Very costly!

## RESEARCH DIVISION

Our research in air pollution here at the Arboretum is aimed at emphasizing the importance of vegetation to environmental improvement.

Recently Pasadena Beautiful recognized the potential and is now conducting a campaign to plant 20,000 trees in the Pasadena area. They have requested George Hanson and Linda Thorne to furnish data on the amount of pollution these proposed trees would remove from the air. On the basis of their calculations derived from laboratory experimentation, the trees, if planted at random within the city, would absorb about 90 lbs. of ozone out of a total of several tons existing in the air on a smoggy day. (This, however, does not include other pollutants, such as PAN, Co, floride, and lead. Eventually foliage is able to absorb these pollutants too). If the trees were planted so as to provide a continuous canopy over a relatively large area, a 30% reduction in the ozone level could be expected within the protected area. This could reduce the ozone concentration from 0.35 ppm (the school-alert level) to a more tolerable 0.25ppm, beneath the canopy of leaves. There is no doubt that more trees will help this situation. Trees should be required in all parking lots, of which we have plenty in the L. A. area.

## DESCANSO GARDENS DIVISION

The camellias have finished blooming but there is still a myriad of color among the bedding plants





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