

the urban horticulturist.

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What's New Around OH: Staff, Faculty Changes

By Don Schultz

This year has brought staff and instructor changes to the OH Department.

Patty Tackett, a graduate of the OH Department and a 16-year employee of the Cuyamaca grounds department, recently joined the staff as senior OH technician. Patty brings a wealth of experience in the landscape field, both as a grounds worker and as a contractor with her own landscape company.

Patty has been a teaching assistant for several OH classes. For many years, she has also helped with the annual Spring Garden Festival and other OH Department events. She shares her enthusiasm and a love of the program, along with her extensive knowledge of horticulture. We are happy to welcome Patty to our team!



John Thomas, supervisor of OH facilities, and Patty Tackett, senior OH technician, catch a bit of shade recently at the Cuyamaca College Nursery. Photo by Don Schultz

In May, Senior OH Technician **John Thomas** received a promotion to a supervisory level position within the department. John now heads

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The Urban Horticulturist Is Online

Get the Urban Horticulturist delivered directly to your "in" box! If you don't already receive our online version, signup is easy: Go to www.cuyamaca.edu/ohweb and click on the "Newsletter" link, or find us on Facebook.

Sustainable Topics Turn to Turf

On March 6, 2014, the Sustainable Landscape Seminar will be returning to a theme of days past that is reminiscent of the years we hosted the Turf Seminar. As sustainable landscaping has become popular lately, the turf and golf industry has made many adjustments to make their industry more sustainable.

Registration for the seminar will begin in December. Visit our website then for details.



Featured speakers will be Dr. Joe Vargas, Plant Pathology professor, Michigan State University; Luke Yoder, head groundskeeper, Petco Park; Greg Lyman, Environmental

Programs director, Golf Course Superintendents Association of America; Kimberly Gard, Syngenta Corp.; and Nancy Wickus and Kara Roskop-Waters, County of San Diego Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures.

“The Rice Family Foundation internship has allowed me to work as nursery production assistant manager in the Cuyamaca College Nursery this year, which is a learning experience every day.”

Jennifer Urbina



Rice Family Foundation intern Jennifer Urbina. Photo by Don Schultz

Love of Plants, Tea a Winning Combo for Rice Intern Jennifer Urbina

By Jennifer Urbina

I was born and raised in Los Angeles, moved to Colorado, and now I've made my way to San Diego after finding out about the Ornamental Horticulture program at Cuyamaca College. To be honest, I never thought I would end up studying horticulture. I went from completing my general class requirements for biology at Santa Monica College near L.A., with a very repetitive daily schedule, to enjoying a slower paced life in sunny San Diego. My first semester in this program was so engaging, educational, inspirational, fun, and above all, hands on! I immediately felt good vibrations from everyone. The opportunities in the program are endless, and this is only the start for me.

The Rice Family Foundation internship has allowed me to work as nursery production assistant manager in the Cuyamaca College Nursery this year, which is a learning experience every day. Not only do I propagate plants, I acquire skills to help my understanding of nursery production—for both business and pleasure. Additionally, having worked for two other local nurseries, my passion for plants has blossomed.

Along with a deep passion for everything plants, I've also been an avid musician. I must admit, my studies in flute performance for various classical ensembles in years past involved a hectic schedule that never allowed me to expand my love for tea and herbs; however, that has changed now and I am more focused on school. I've also had the pleasure of managing a Chinese-owned tea house in Santa Monica for almost two years. During that time, my passion for tea and herbs inspired me to one day operate my own tea house. I gained so much knowledge that it transformed me into a tea connoisseur. I am traveling to Japan this fall for an internship, living at Kyoto Obubu Tea Farms for two months!

For anyone who thinks it's too late for a career change, you have not experienced the OH Department yet. I encourage anyone interested in horticulture to take a tour of the department. Meanwhile, keep your calendars open because next year I plan to host a tea ceremony/class in our Japanese garden next to the nursery greenhouse!

Jennifer Urbina, a Rice Family Foundation intern, will return from Japan in November.



OH alumna Sara Bendrick wields a jackhammer on the job as host of the DIY network series “I Hate My Yard.”

OH Alum Takes Skills to TV Series

Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District Sara Bendrick, the star of “I Hate My Yard” on the DIY network, began her career as a landscape architect by taking classes in ornamental horticulture at Cuyamaca College. She calls now-retired Brad Monroe, formerly head of the department, one of her mentors.

“The community college gave me a great experience and the time to explore courses,” Bendrick said. “It was affordable and I took classes I was interested in.”

After taking courses at Cuyamaca and Grossmont colleges, Bendrick transferred to California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo and earned a bachelor’s degree in landscape architecture. She has worked as a professional landscape designer for large commercial projects and private residents, and launched her own business, Sarita Landscape Design, in 2012.

She was selected to host “I Hate My Yard” following a nationwide talent search by the DIY network. A promo for the show states that the host “whips unruly outdoor spaces into shape—no matter how bad—with economical, yet clever, landscape designs.”

“I haven’t seen any other schools with what Cuyamaca’s horticulture department has, hands-on experience and it’s quite an awesome program,” Bendrick said. “It was a foundation that allowed me to explore career opportunities.”

The Urban Horticulturist is published twice a year by the Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture Department and the Cuyamaca College Botanical Society. It has a circulation of more than 9,000 industry members and horticulturists in Southern California and the United States. Correspondence regarding this publication should be addressed to:

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Sara Bendrick

Students in the
Ornamental
Horticulture
Program are
automatically
members of CCBS.
Get involved today!
For more
information, call
OH Program
Coordinator
Dan Schultz at
(619) 660-4023.

CCBS President David Boggs, center, is surrounded by members of the CCBS board for 2013-14 at the group's annual retreat in June in Idyllwild, Calif. They are, clockwise from left, J.T. Tomaschke, Mike Thompson, Abby Migala, Kjersti Hoyer, Monica Bockman and Jennifer Urbina.
Photo by Don Schultz



CCBS Corner: For 37th President, It All Started With a Fig Tree

By David Boggs

My horticultural journey began when I was child, helping my grandmother in her garden, where she raised all manner of plants, including orchids, bromeliads, and irises. I probably got in the way more often than not, but those uncounted hours spent with her planted a seed that took years to germinate.

Fast forward almost 20 years, when my grandmother took ill and was no longer able to garden. That is where the fig tree comes in. She had lamented for years that my grandfather had chopped down her prized fig. So for Christmas, I bought her a fig tree and took care of it for her. From there, the seed of inspiration from years ago finally sprouted, and my passion for horticulture grew by leaps and bounds.

Several years later I came to realize that my hobby was meant to be my career, so I started taking horticulture classes at Cuyamaca College. Now, 1½ years later, I am the 37th president of the Cuyamaca College Botanical Society. The Ornamental Horticulture Department has given me so much in the short time I have been here, and through the CCBS it is my desire to give back.

The CCBS board and I have set two main goals for the coming year. First is to improve communication with the students of the OH Department, keeping them abreast of all the events and services out there to further their education and careers. To accomplish this, we

plan to utilize a combination of email, class announcements, social media, and the class bulletin boards that were revamped last year. Our second goal is to provide more services to OH students, in addition to scholarships. Some ideas that were discussed are inviting industry leaders to provide career guidance to our students, and hosting guest speakers on topics that are not covered in depth in the OH curriculum. Be on the lookout for these events!

These goals would not be possible if not for the amazing group of students we have on our board this year. We all spent a weekend together in Idyllwild this past summer planning the coming year's events and getting to know one another. Every one of these students is creative, intelligent, generous, and passionate about horticulture and the OH Department. It is my pleasure to introduce the CCBS Board for 2013-14: J.T. Tomaschke, 1st vice president; Monica Bockman, 2nd vice president; Mike Thompson, secretary; Jennifer Urbina, treasurer; Kjersti Hoyer, activities director; and Abby Migala, assistant to the board.

On a final note, please join me in thanking last year's CCBS board, including our 36th president, Mario Ezequiel Magallanes, for their service. Many do not know this, but Zeek took on the role of CCBS president while planning a wedding and starting a new job! We all appreciate Zeek's work, and wish him well on his journey to become a landscape architect.

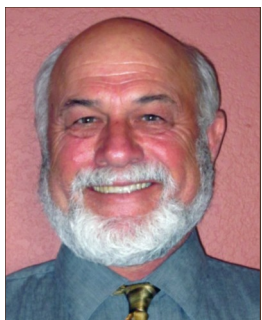
David Boggs is the 37th president of the Cuyamaca College Botanical Society.

Department Changes

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operations of the eight-acre OH facility, reflecting how his duties and responsibilities have grown over the six years since he has been a full-time employee. Congratulations, John!

After 18 years of teaching OH 260 – Arboriculture, **Dan Simpson** is hanging up his chain saw. Dan, who teaches two other OH classes, has been instrumental in establishing the arboriculture class and making it one of the department’s more popular classes. He started the Urban Forest Field Day in 1994, which we know today as the Spring Garden Festival. Dan, who has worked at the San Diego Zoo for 45 years, was recently awarded the 4th Annual Bob Bichowsky Memorial Service Award by the Professional Tree Care Association of San Diego County for his service and dedication to the field of arboriculture. Dan will continue to teach OH 275 – Diagnosing Horticultural Problems, and OH 262 – Arboriculture: Palms and Related Plants.



Dan Simpson

Leah Rottke, our most active adjunct instructor, will add OH 260 – Arboriculture to her class list beginning in Spring 2014. Leah is a certified arborist and has worked in the industry for many years.

Patrick Crais, who joined in the Spring 2013 semester to teach OH 278 – Business Management for Ornamental Horticulture, has added OH 250 – Landscape Water Management to his Cuyamaca workload. This class is a perfect fit for Patrick, who is the CEO of Blue Watchdog Conservation Inc., a water management company.

Linda Whitney, newly graduated with distinction from UCLA Extension’s graduate Landscape Architecture program, is now teaching OH 255 – Sustainable Urban Landscape Principles and Practices, in addition to OH 170 – Plant Materials: Trees and Shrubs.

Landscape architect **Karen Sumek** will teach OH 173 – Intermediate Landscape Design in the Spring 2014 semester. Karen will continue to teach our OH 200 and OH 201 landscape CAD classes, as she has for several years.

Don Schultz is program coordinator for the Ornamental Horticulture Department.

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Tiffany Faulstich

OH Welcomes New Instructor As Member of Part-Time Staff

The Ornamental Horticulture Department is happy to welcome Tiffany Faulstich to the part-time faculty staff.

Tiffany was recently an Ornamental Horticulture instructor at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Tiffany has a bachelor’s degree in OH and brings with her experience as a landscape contractor. Early this year she moved to San Diego with her family, and we are glad to have her join us. She is teaching OH 120 – Fundamentals of Ornamental Horticulture.

Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture 2013-14 Interns

A Big Thanks To Our Intern Sponsors

Rice Family
Foundation

Mission Hills
Garden Club

Southern California
Plumeria Society

California Rare Fruit
Growers, San Diego
Chapter

Rice Family Foundation

Joanne Brannigan, Retail Nursery Assistant Manager

Andrew Lau, Retail Nursery Manager

Arron Robinson, Nursery Production Manager

Ryan Sanchez, Nursery Production Assistant

Jeff Sers, Nursery Production Assistant

Amanda Tarantino, Pollard Grove Manager

Jennifer Urbina, Nursery Production Assistant Manager

Mission Hills Garden Club

Tyler Hajosy, Arborist

Southern California Plumeria Society

Corey Hansen, Plumeria Production Manager

California Rare Fruit Growers, San Diego Chapter

David Boggs, Fruit Orchard Manager

Other Internships

Barbara Bender, Office Assistant

Joanne Brannigan, Farmers Market

Drew Cole, Landscape Technician

Troy Gray, Floral Field Manager

Stephanie Land, Retail Nursery Associate

Pam Lawless, Office Assistant

Danielle Moher, Retail Nursery Associate

Nick Sousa, Irrigator

Alan Stuart, Retail Nursery Associate

Todd Wilbur, Landscape Technician



Interns along with student volunteers work together to propagate plants that will eventually be sold at the Cuyamaca College Nursery. Photo by Don Schultz

Cuyamaca College Ornamental Horticulture Spring 2014 Class Schedule

Number	Course Name	Instructor	Day	Time
102	Xeriscape: Water Conservation in the Landscape	Rottke	Wed	1 to 2:50 p.m.
114	Floral Design I	Citrowske	Mon	4 to 9:40 p.m.
117	Wedding Design I	Citrowske	Tue	4 to 8:50 p.m.
120	Fundamentals of Ornamental Horticulture	Faulstich	Thur	12 to 4:50 p.m.
120	Fundamentals of Ornamental Horticulture Saturdays 2/8, 3/1, 3/15, 3/29, 4/12, 5/10, 5/24	Schultz	Tue Sat	7 to 8:50 p.m. 8 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.
121	Plant Propagation	Palafax	Thur	12 to 4:50 p.m.
130	Plant Pest Control	Schultz	Wed	11 a.m. to 3:50 p.m.
140	Soils Saturdays 2/1, 2/22, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/26, 5/17	Kotnik	Mon Sat	7:10 to 9:10 p.m. 8 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.
170	Plant Materials: Trees and Shrubs	Whitney	Wed	4 to 6:50 p.m.
172	Introduction to Landscape Design	Holliday	Mon	4 to 9:40 p.m.
173	Intermediate Landscape Design	Sumek	Thur	4 to 8:50 p.m.
174	Turf and Ground Cover Management Saturdays 2/8, 3/1, 3/15, 3/29, 4/12, 5/10, 5/24	Spardy	Mon Sat	5 to 7 p.m. 8 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.
180	Plant Materials: Annuals and Perennials	Rottke	Wed	4 to 6:50 p.m.
200	Introduction to Computer-Aided Landscape Design	Sumek	Fri	12 to 4:50 p.m.
220	Landscape Construction: Concrete and Masonry Saturdays 2/8, 3/1, 3/15, 3/29, 4/12, 5/10, 5/24	Staff	Tue Sat	5 to 6:50 p.m. 8 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.
221	Landscape Construction: Irrigation and Carpentry Saturdays 2/1, 2/22, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/26, 5/17	Tverberg	Wed Sat	7 to 8:50 p.m. 8 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.
222	Japanese Garden Design and Construction Saturdays 2/1, 2/22, 3/22, 4/5, 4/26	Siers	Sat	8 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.
235	Principles of Landscape Irrigation	Monroe	Tue	5 to 8:50 p.m.
260	Arboriculture Saturdays 2/1, 2/22, 3/8, 3/22, 4/5, 4/26, 5/17	Rottke	Thur Sat	5 to 6:50 p.m. 8 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.
276	Horticultural Equipment Repair and Maintenance	Love	Thur	5 to 9:50 p.m.
290	Cooperative Work Experience Education	Palafax		Hours to be arranged

Spring classes begin January 27, 2014.

**For additional information, please call (619) 660-4023 or apply and register online
at the Cuyamaca College website, www.cuyamaca.edu.**

Schedule of Events

New Student Orientation, 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2014, Room M-111, Cuyamaca College

Sustainable Turf & Landscape Seminar, Thursday, March 6, 2014, Cuyamaca College

21st Annual Spring Garden Festival, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 3, 2014, Cuyamaca College

33rd Annual Scholarship and Awards Dinner, Thursday, May 15, 2014, University of San Diego
