

GATHERINGS



VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2011

Volunteers In The Garden

PROFESSOR JOHN MEUNIER

**FORMER ASU DEAN OF COLLEGE OF
ARCHITECTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN**

PRESENTS

"Making Desert Cities"

MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2011

DORRANCE HALL

9:30 a.m. - Social Hour

10 a.m. - Business Meeting

10:15 a.m. - Program

Potluck lunch following program



PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

I have said before that one of the best things management did for volunteers was to purchase a volunteer management system. Ours is called Volgistics. Okay, the program really benefits our staff because it makes it easier for them to keep track of us. If they're happy, I'm happy.

Since the conversion to the new software, staff has been able to "clean up" records. Volunteers who hadn't recorded hours in over a year were contacted to find out their volunteer intentions. Records were checked to be sure that all VIGs met the requirements for being a Volunteer in the Garden. Staff can now track on line the hours of current volunteers. The results of all this housekeeping are pretty interesting.

Whenever I was asked about it, I would say that DBG proudly has 1,200 volunteers. Well, I'm going to have to change that boast! In the time between October 2009 and September 2010, 795 volunteers recorded hours. This number does not include Community Volunteers, who generally just work one event. Okay, it's not 1,200, but it's still a BIG number! And it is really interesting to see where in the Garden these 795 volunteers are working.

When we say that volunteers are everywhere in the Garden, we mean it! No matter which direction you go there is a volunteer performing a task in that department! I can get a lot of mileage with a boast like that.

I'd like to share with you the number of volunteers recording hours by categories.

October 2009 – September 2010

Note: many volunteers work/record hours in more than one area:

Business/Facilities/Garden Shop:

Business office – 27

Call center – 4

Facilities – 6

Garden Shop – 21

Education:

Ask a Gardener – 37

Docent - 167

Garden Outreach – 52

Flashlight Tours – 117

Instructor Aide – 100

Kids Camp/Youth Programs – 45

Kids Corner – 29

Seedlings – 18

Volunteer Garden Educators – 20

Envoy (Membership Sales) – 72

Horticulture:

Hort Aides – 100

Plant Hotline – 8

Propagation – 19

VIG Leadership – 57

DBG Board/Board Committees – 53

Research:

Herbarium – 24

Library – 7

Mapping/ Collections – 6

Research & Field Work – 10

Seed Room – 13

Voucher Program – 9

Special Events – 434

Butterflies – 208

Special Projects – 132

Volunteer U Training – 424

Pretty impressive, isn't it? And yet, maybe not so surprising. As I have also said before but will gladly say again, the Desert Botanical Garden is a world class institution with world class volunteers. If you don't believe me, just look at the numbers!

DAWN GOLDMAN

PRESIDENT, VOLUNTEERS IN THE GARDEN

P.S. Don't forget the potluck lunch after the January VIG meeting!

VOLUNTEERS IN THE GARDEN

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

DAWN GOLDMAN

VICE PRESIDENT

MIKE GILMAN

SECRETARY

MARILYN WOLFE

TREASURER

JUDY THOMPSON

A monthly newsletter for and by the
Volunteers of the Desert Botanical Garden

EDITOR/LAYOUT

NANCY WALKER

PROOFING EDITOR

ELAINE GRUBER

STAFF LIAISON

PAM LEVIN

“Through the Eyes of a Child”



Wednesday herbarium mounters who cut out the 144 butterflies that were used in the “pavilion” and then helped paint and glitter them.

SHANNON WHEELER, Early Childhood Programs Manager, who with two small children, rode the float along the parade route, creating the scene of the Desert Educator sharing her message.

A handful of volunteers, working since August, built a float for the Fiesta of Lights Electric Light Parade. This year’s parade theme was Through the Eyes of a Child, a theme that was a perfect match to our Mission Statement. Duplicating the wonder that our Desert Educators share with children, the float was a glimmering, shimmering, fluttering mosaic of our Garden’s treasures. It brought forth delight, glee and a lot of smiles.

I’m proud to say, that for the second time, the Desert Botanical Garden Float was awarded First Place in the Non-Profit Category. How excited were we!

They say it takes a village to raise a child; that’s also true of building a float. The VIGs wish to extend their deepest thanks to those who helped us achieve success:

TEEN Volunteers who built our papier mâché cactus beds.

Mountain States Nursery, Bart Worthington, general manager, for the donation of the perfect sized Desert Museum Palo Brea tree used in the center of succulent gallery.

CHRIS MCCABE, Director of Facilities and his staff, who not only bought us a much needed tire but also put up with our taking over the maintenance yard.

Horticulture staff who supplied us with the fabulous plant specimens that adorned the float, especially Starr Urbatsch, hort propagator, who was so patient with us!



STEVE MICHON, IT Manager, who helped create the musical sound track that enhanced the float.

And finally to the Float People (you know who you are!) who worked with passion, diligence and enthusiasm. You have brought an honor to the Garden that makes us all swell with pride. Thank you for being so willing to share your talents and vision for a wonderful cause.

And you know...it’s never too early to start thinking about next year!

DAWN GOLDMAN
PRESIDENT, VOLUNTEERS IN THE GARDEN

MIKE GILMAN NOMINATED VIG PRESIDENT 2010-2011

MIKE GILMAN, current VIG Vice-President, has been nominated by the VIG Nominating Committee as President of the Volunteers In the Garden for the year 2011-2012. As stated in our by-laws, the president is to be elected at the February VIG meeting. Once elected, the future president first serves for two months as President-Elect prior to taking office as President after the April VIG meeting. This gives the President-Elect time to select new committee chairs that will serve starting in April. The VIG vice-president, secretary, and treasurer will be elected at the April VIG meeting. For all elections, nominations from the floor may be made by submitting in writing to the president the name of a nominee with the endorsement of five (5) VIG members and the written consent of the nominee to serve.

RON LIEBERSON
NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR



Mike Gilman. Photo by Gene Almendinger.

IN HIS OWN WORDS.....

I am a Massachusetts native, but I fell in love with Arizona when I first visited in 1956. I was on a bicycle at the time, and I was smitten by the desert, the desert plants, the dry heat, and

the wide open beautiful blue sky. Between 1956 and 1992, I traveled to Arizona many times. I married my college sweetheart, Debbie Stern, in 1960, and we went to medical school together. We also went together for postgraduate medical training and service time. We settled in Western Massachusetts where we both practiced medicine in Springfield, MA for twenty-one years. We raised four children, including twins, and when the twins graduated college, the "spirit of the West and Arizona" beckoned. I retired from my ophthalmology practice because of deafness, and we moved to Phoenix in 1992. I came to the DBG as a Volunteer in 2001.

My interest in plants and biology dates back to my childhood. As a youngster I spent much time with my dad and uncle tending the flower and vegetable gardens, a berry patch, a fruit orchard, and greenhouse on my grandparent's property. The DBG was naturally the place for me to use my endless energy. Since VIG training, I have been a Tuesday Docent; done many private (Ambassador) tours; acted as Day Co-Captain for the Tuesday Docents; served as chairman of the VIG Continuing Education Committee; performed photographic assignments; chaired the Committee for the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the VIG; served on the Wayfinding Committee to develop new signs for the DBG; participated on the Audio Wand Committee; and served on the Cabinet for the Tending the Garden Capital Campaign. I have been Vice-President of the VIG the past two years and am currently serving on a task force for developing classrooms/lecture facilities for the Strategic Plan. MARILYN SHOMER and I have recently formed a committee regarding how to deal with the impaired visitor. I have never had so much fun as I've had doing all these things.

SUBMITTED TO RON LIEBERSON
NOMINATING COMMITTEE CHAIR

A cruise from hell? Not quite.

I am happy to be back at my usual *Envoy* role on Wednesday mornings after the "cruise" my wife, Bobbie, and I took starting Nov. 7 on the Carnival Splendor. I'm sure you all read about it in the newspapers.

It was an experience we will never forget, but it was not at all like the papers and news programs reported. We awoke the first morning out of Long Beach on the 3370 guest cruise headed for the Mexican Riviera for a week of fun. At 7:00 a.m. on Monday we awoke to a shuddering and grinding noise which we felt because we were on the second deck at the aft of the ship. This soon stopped, and we were shortly advised to leave our rooms in the aft of the ship due to smoke in the passageways, We were all sent to the top decks until the smoke cleared. We were advised that there was no need to go to life boat stations.

The staff kept us well informed. The announcements were always made by the cruise director who was really good and never lost his sense of humor. He really kept us calm and was always very upbeat. They really could not have kept us any better informed.

Essentially we were adrift for 30 hours drifting about 60 miles out to sea before one tug from Mexico started pulling us back. It took nearly three days to get back to San Diego which was the nearest port. We were also joined by a Coast Guard Ship from the US and one from Mexico as well as the Aircraft Carrier USS Ronald Reagan which stayed with us the entire time.

There was an electrical fire in the main engine room and the crew could not get either main engine to run. We were dead in the water. We had emergency lights throughout the ship but no water at first and the toilets didn't work. Our toilet did begin working after two days as did all the others, but meantime we could use public restrooms. The whole crew did everything to calm us and assure us we were in no danger. And they worked very hard; for instance using a chain gang style hand-to-hand passing of all the food from the "0" deck up to the 9th deck

where most of the food was served. Yes, there were long lines but we always had plenty of good food, just no hot food. A huge variety of fresh fruits and vegetables was always available. And we got plenty of exercise climbing up to the top decks many times a day since there were no elevators working.

There was no panic. Fellow passengers were very friendly. We were part of a group of 150 magicians on board and many of us spent lots of time entertaining guests on the decks. The ship did everything to help make us comfortable. We didn't see any upset people.

And we did not eat Spam and Pop Tarts as the news would have you believe! We were supplied with 60 pallets of food and supplies brought to the ship by helicopters from the Reagan although we were limited by what they had on board. Apparently some news media spotted those items cited but they never got to the passengers!

We arrived in San Diego on Thursday morning, November 11 and were off the ship by noon. Carnival put us up at the beautiful Marriott Marina Hotel and we arrived back home Friday afternoon.

GEORGE NASH
ENVOY AND INSTRUCTOR AIDE



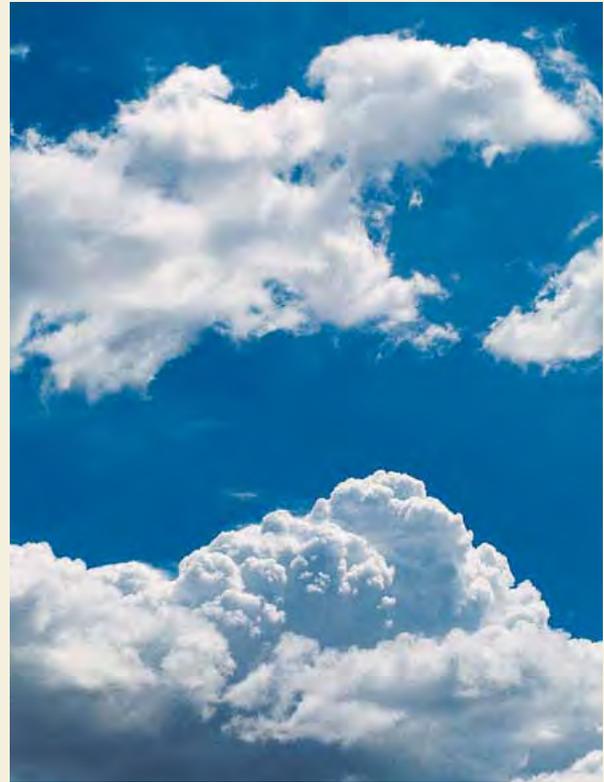
The Garden Corner

MEMORIES OF GARDENS PAST

Several years ago I participated in a one-day workshop entitled "Writing about Gardens". As one of the class exercises the instructor, Mary Irish, asked us to write about a memory from the garden or yard where we grew up. When we finished, she asked us to write about a more recent visit to the same yard. One woman in the class said she had grown up in a small apartment in a large, eastern European city and had no yard to remember. Under Mary's gentle guidance, she wrote about memories of her mother's treasured houseplants in their tiny flat. Here are my memories from the near north side of Chicago.

Then

It seemed huge. We grew up playing hide and seek behind the bushes, exercising our hamsters in the grass, and imagining ourselves as Indians canoeing across the lawn in over-turned wooden benches. The flowers were relegated to two narrow strips along the garage and the neighbor's chain-link fence. My dad tended them dutifully but without any apparent enthusiasm. The bulbs spent winters in the basement. I spent the remainder of one summer restricted to the back yard, punishment for pretending that a large magnet was a racing car and making repeated laps around a neighbor's once shiny new car. I would lie on the grass, trying to imagine animal shapes in the clouds; I remember that the blades of grass in the backyard would make the back of my neck itch. My summer evening memories were of relatives visiting, meat grilled over charcoal, family slide shows projected against the house, jars full of lightning bugs, and long waits for meteor showers that often disappointed.



Now

I returned 9 years ago in early September the week before 9/11 for my sister Joni's wedding and to see the old house again. The yard seemed, of course, much smaller, the bushes were gone and, thanks to my sister's efforts, the flowerbeds had made welcome advances on to the lawn. An inviting trellis entwined with clematis vines greeted me when I entered from the alley. The day after the wedding we sat on the lawn, drank beer, re-told family stories and laughed. I leaned back, searching in vain for animals in a cloudless sky. My neck began to itch.

TOM GATZ

THE GARDEN CORNER



BENEFICIAL BUGS - GREEN LACEWINGS



Beneficial insects will be attracted to your garden by a number of plants. Fennel, calendula, dill, coriander, cosmos, anise, caraway, chervil, cilantro, parsley and Queen Anne's lace are all considered to be plants that will attract ladybugs and lacewings.

Green lacewings are found in most environments throughout North America and can survive mild winters. Some species of green lacewing adults are predators, but most feed only on honeydew, nectar and pollen. Their offspring, or lacewing larvae, are the real predators.

Adult females lay up to 300 tiny, oblong eggs on silken stalks attached to plant tissues. Varying with the species, the eggs are laid singly or in clusters, each on an individual stalk or hair-like filament. The eggs hatch about four days after being laid and tiny larvae emerge. These are known as "aphid lion" because of their voracious appetites. The larvae are pale with dark markings and look like tiny alligators. Their bodies are flattened, 3 -20 mm long, tapered at the tail, with distinct legs and prominent mandibles or pincers, with which they aggressively attack their prey. The aphid lion injects a paralyzing venom into its victim and then draws out the body fluids.

A lacewing larva preys upon a wide variety of small, soft bodied pests including aphids, mealybugs, psyllids, cottony cushion scale, thrips, mites, whiteflies, small caterpillars, leafhoppers and also insect eggs. It remains in the larval stage for 2 - 3 weeks and will eat up to 200 pests each week. After this, pupation occurs, a cocoon is formed and 5 days later an adult lacewing emerges. There are about 5 or 6 overlapping generations each season.

However, if there is insufficient food (pests), the lacewings will relocate once they are winged and there will be reduced numbers of eggs laid on your plants in subsequent generations.

Lacewings are shipped in the egg stage. Release rates vary due to a number of factors, but a general guideline is 1000 eggs per 2500 square feet. Also, since the larvae feed for two to three weeks, a second release at this time might be necessary. Similar to the situation with ladybugs, ants will protect the pest victims, so try to control ants prior to release.

BOB BUCHWALD
VOLUNTEER

HALEE LYNCH!



The Development Department is proud of colleague and Membership Manager, HALEE LYNCH, who graduated on December 1st from the Professional Mentor Program offered by the Greater

Arizona Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP).

We like to say that Halee was the class "Valedictorian" because she was described by many as the class "star." Halee has been asked to submit an article about her membership acquisition project for the AFP chapter newsletter, and also the national publication, "Advancing Philanthropy." She was selected to speak on behalf of her colleagues at the graduation program, along with her mentor, Gail Baker, Associate Director of Philanthropy with The Nature Conservancy.

Esteemed as one of the best comprehensive training programs in the non-profit fundraising field, the Professional Mentor Program is a unique eight-month curriculum designed to guide professionals early in their fundraising careers (1-5 years) through a structured curriculum, enabling them to master and move beyond the basics.

Halee is the third member of the Garden's development office to graduate from this rigorous program in the past five years. Please join us in congratulating Halee!

BEVERLY DUZIK
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

SCHOOL TOURS: "A MAGNIFICENT DAY!"

The Sonoran Desert Adventure program sees thousands of students from schools across Arizona and beyond each season. This year our team of Garden Educators is exceptional! How do I know this? The students said so themselves.

Raven from Ironwood Elementary wrote to us after she visited the Garden on a guided tour with her 2nd grade class. "We had a super time. You guys at the Botanical Garden are very kind. One day I want to be just like you." There is also 2nd grader Sophia who said, "Everything was so awesome. I hope to see you again. It was a magnificent day."

It's always a pleasure to hear from our students after they visit the Garden, and it reinforces our aim of bringing quality science and nature based programs to the youth of Arizona in a fun and memorable way.



Students head up the trail. Photo by Dick Trelease.

Educators. Each comes with a diverse background including high school teacher, retired military, vice president of information systems and so on.

The school tour program is dependent on our volunteers as well as staff Garden Educators to ensure the program's success and to make the school tour experience "magnificent!"

SHAWN MCCROHAN
SONORAN DESERT ADVENTURE COORDINATOR



Students investigate. Photo by Dick Trelease.



November 12, 2010

Dear Botanical Gardens,
Thank you for letting all of the 2nd graders come. It was a blast! Those concrete seats were cool. That was the first time I have been to Botanical Gardens. Those plants are beautiful. That cactus was huge. I hope we get to come there next year. I also hope I see a cactus wren some day. Our state cactus grows huge. Those butterflies were so graceful. I almost got a butterfly on me! It could of got on my shoe. But thank you for letting us come.

Sincerely,
Jordyn

Jordyn thanks us for letting him come to the Garden.
Thank you, Jordyn.

One of the things that make our Garden Educators so special is their commitment to education. This season we have nine regular volunteer Garden

HORT AIDE CUTTINGS

A brand new year has begun and we have so many exciting events before us! Before I launch into all of that, I would like to recognize the Hort Aides who worked on the DBG float last month. As many of you already know, our float won first place in the non-profit category and the following dedicated individuals spent countless hours perfecting our award-winning float. A huge thank you goes to all of those who spent countless hours. Great job!

We work with the Horticulture staff every week but often don't know much about them personally. I thought that, beginning this month, I would feature a different Horticulture staff person, posing the same questions to each of them so we can get to know them a little better.

The first person featured is CATHY BABCOCK, Assistant Director of Horticulture. Cathy was born in Biloxi, Mississippi and the family moved to Arizona from Dayton, Ohio in 1959, when she was seven years old. Her father retired from the United States Air Force and secured a job in Phoenix at, what was then, Sperry and as Cathy said, "I was seven – I had to come with him." Cathy told me she was always trying to grow houseplants but the house was too dark and that is where her interest in horticulture began. She went to California in 1985 and became enamored of succulents but when she got home, she could not find any literature on anything she had bought. Two years later, she enrolled in ASU and obtained a degree in Urban Horticulture in 1989. Cathy's favorite classes at university were Cactus and Succulents and Arizona Flora, both taught by Dr. Donald Pinkava. Cathy's favorite plant is the Genus Aloe.

I asked Cathy where she sees the Horticulture Department in five years and she said, "...doubled in size and perceived as the professionals we are and not as another grounds crew. More than half of us have BS or MS degrees, giving us a more scientific background than a grounds crew. Most of us also develop and teach classes for DLS and the calendar, we do public speaking for groups, we write articles for *The Sonoran Quarterly*, other magazines and the *Arizona Republic*. Those who do not have degrees are certified either as arborists, DLS or pesticide handlers. The two collections managers are recognized as the world's resource on their particular collections." Cathy's favorite hobbies are gardening and hiking and if she could travel anywhere in the world, it would be Southern Africa. She has been there a few times already and still has areas she needs to visit to see plants in habitat. She said that, "Africa is simply amazing and seeing my favorite plants in habitat takes my breath away."

CONT. EDUCATION

The February 14, 2011 VIG Monthly meeting will feature ANDREW SALYWON, Ph.D., Assistant Curator of the Herbarium, Desert Botanical Garden. His presentation is entitled "Weeds, Water, and Wildlife: Musings on Sustainable Agriculture in Arizona." He believes "the wise use of water is critical for the state's economic development, and essential to our quality of life. Incorporating new crops and 'ancient' crops into agriculture can serve as a way to not only conserve water, but also to benefit human and environmental health."

Dr. Salywon was born in Tucson, Arizona. He received his B.S from University of Arizona. He received his Ph.D. in plant biology from Arizona State University. His postdoctoral research involved developing new crops for agriculture at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He joined the DBG in 2007.

The February 14 meeting will begin with a social hour at 9:30 a.m., followed by a short business meeting at 10:00 a.m., and the keynote presentation at 10:15 a.m. I look forward to seeing all of you at the meeting to wish you Happy Valentine's Day!

MIKE GILMAN

CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIR

I hope this short interview has helped you get to know Cathy a little better! May you have a wonderful New Year!

DEBBI STEINBERG

HORT AIDE CHAIR

Upcoming events for Hort Aides:

January 13, 10:30 am - Scott McMahon's Peru presentation - Webster Auditorium

January 14, 5:00 pm. - Second Friday, location to be announced (watch board in Hort kitchen)

February 16, 9:00 a.m. - Field Trip to the Nina Mason Pulliam Rio Salado Audubon Center

TEENs & the Fiesta of Lights

The TEENs (Teen Environmentalists Exploring Nature) worked with float committee members to construct three elements of the Garden's float entry into the 24th annual Fiesta of Lights Electric Light Parade. This year's theme was "Through the eyes of a child." Who better to enlist in its creation than teens? The TEENs assembled the papier mâché rock garden for the agaves, the tissue paper flowers for the butterfly pavilion and the child mannequin looking through a set of binoculars. Seventeen TEENs contributed a combined 35 hours towards the design and construction of this project. While TEENs participate in service learning projects throughout the state, it is exciting when they can contribute to projects here in the Garden as well.

When reflecting on this project, TEEN MATT BABASICK said, "The experience was probably one of the most memorable things I have done at the Garden because it was different than anything I had ever done [there]." The lure of power tools and the responsibility to design and build a float element was exactly what some of the TEENs are looking for.



Brothers ALEXANDER and MARCUS SCHALLER, said, "It was interesting having to build a mannequin out of things we found on the grounds. We had to be quite creative." While this experience provided challenges for the TEENs, it also presented a great connection to the VIGs.

Whether it's known or not, VIGs have been mentoring this group of TEENs since its creation in 2006. For most, being a TEEN is about discovering friendships and having a place to excel as active



members of the community. All the while, VIGs and staff are encouraging and shaping our next generation of environmental advocates and interpreters. At the Garden, the TEENs are learning and exploring a variety of areas of study and this experience might even present a future career path.

On December 3rd, everyone's efforts paid off as families and friends throughout the valley visited the official parade float judging at the main staging area in downtown Phoenix. All of the entries were lit up for official review and even Santa was in attendance!



A big THANK YOU from the Education Department goes out to all the VIGs and TEENs that helped make this season's float such an amazing success! We can't wait to see what they can build next year!

JENI TROUTMAN
TEEN COORDINATOR

DOCENT UPDATES

THE LORAX IN THE GARDEN

QUESTION: Why should we include a conservation message as part of our interpretive Garden tours?

Well, maybe you already knew:

90% of mesquite bosques in Arizona have disappeared.

Desert tortoises are disappearing from our desert because of habitat loss.

The water level at Lake Mead on the Colorado River is at its lowest level since Hoover Dam was built in 1935, and dropping every day.

Much of the major damage to the environment is the result of human impacts.

Seems like living things in the desert have adapted to the harsh conditions of the environment. But those living things haven't adapted to the impacts of humans.

In his children's book The Lorax, Dr. Seuss posed a cautionary tale about a damaged environment. At the end, after the environment had been wrecked, the Once-ler, the critter who was responsible for the damage, made the following observation:

"Now all that was left 'neath the bad-smelling sky was my big empty factory...the Lorax...and I."

"'But now,' says the Once-ler,

'Now that you're here,
the word of the Lorax seems perfectly clear.
Unless SOMEONE like you
Cares a whole awful lot,
Nothing is going to get better.
It's not."

Copyright Dr. Seuss Enterprises, 1971

Conservation is one of the four parts of our Garden mission. As docents and volunteers, we have a unique opportunity to help our visitors understand that conservation of things we cherish – whether it's the desert, Monarch butterflies, mesquite trees or the water in Lake Mead - all of these enrich us.

Our conservation message doesn't have to be preachy or "save the world" big. It can be just one small thing: to help remind our visitors that each of us has a personal responsibility – and a personal stake – in conserving where we live. Our gentle reminders to our visitors can make a difference.

We can be the "SOMEONE like you" that the Once-ler said was needed to make things better.

The Lorax will be proud of us.

ARCHER SHELTON AND ANNA COOR
DOCENT CO-CHAIRS

VIG Year End Reminder:

The deadline to turn in your 2010 volunteer hours is January 10th. We will close the "books" for 2010 hours on that date. Be sure to record your Luminaria hours worked so they are included in your 2010 total hours.

Thanks to everyone that has "Gone Green" and quit using paper log sheets.

If you haven't tried logging your hours online --- it's easy, so give it a try.

Just enter this web address: dbg.org/membership-support/volunteering

Scroll down to: **Current volunteer** - Click here to record your hours and for other volunteer-only information.

Your Login Name is your e-mail address (for example -- myaddress@somewhere.com).

Your Password is your Volunteer ID Number (on the back of your volunteer badge).

Happy New Year from Nancy, Pam and Judy

Volunteer DATELINE

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES

Mondays, 8:00 a.m.

Bird walks - Meet at Admissions

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00 p.m.

Yoga classes, Classroom A, Weisz Learning Center

JANUARY

Monday, January 10, 9:30 a.m.

Volunteers in the Garden Meeting, Dorrance Hall

Potluck Lunch following meeting - bring a dish!

Monday, January 10

Deadline for submitting articles for February *Gatherings*

Thursday, January 13, 10:30 .m.

Scott McMahan's Peru presentation, Webster Auditorium

Friday, January 14

Second Friday, location to be announced

(watch board in Hort kitchen)

FEBRUARY

Monday, February 7

Deadline for submitting articles for March *Gatherings*

Monday, February 14, 9:30 a.m.

Volunteers in the Garden Meeting, Dorrance Hall

Wednesday, February 16, 9:00 a.m.

Hort Aide Field Trip to the Nina Mason Pulliam Rio Salado

Audubon Center

MARCH

Monday, March 7

Deadline for submitting articles for April *Gatherings*

Monday, March 14, 9:30 a.m.

Volunteers in the Garden Meeting, Dorrance Hall

SPRING VIG TRIP

May 3 - 5, 2011 are the dates of the Spring VIG Trip. The destination has been chosen...we're going south to Sierra Vista and surrounding areas.

Opportunities abound for hikers, birders, wine lovers, archeology and military history buffs. There will be a BYOB social hour and dinner our first night, giving us an opportunity to get acquainted with fellow travelers. Docent lead tours of some of the interesting sites are planned.

Our lodging is at the Sierra Suites. Mark the dates on your calendars and watch for more details in the next *Gatherings*.

KEITH LONGPRE

VIG SPRING TRIP COMMITTEE CHAIR