China 2005

Beijing and Back

Twenty-one individuals visited China this past May in a tour organized by Quarryhill board members Helen Breck and Donna Bowman. A fundraiser for Quarryhill Botanical Garden, the tour was lead by Stanford Emeritus Professor of Chinese History Lyman Van Slyke, also a Quarryhill board member.

It began in Beijing with visits to many sites including the Forbidden City, Ming Tombs and the Great Wall. From there they flew to Xian to view the remarkable Terra Cotta Warriors and continued on to the high country of Lijiang where the Yangtze River makes a big bend around the Jade Snow Mountains in Northwest Yunnan. Quarryhill seed collecting expeditions have twice visited this region of China because of it’s remarkably rich flora.

After viewing the Tiger Leaping Gorge the group continued on to the Tibetan town of Zhongdian, now known as Shangri-La, with its dramatic scenery and Buddhist monasteries.

A boat cruise through the legendary gorges of the Yangtze River and visits to famous gardens in Suzhou and Shanghai concluded the unforgettable eighteen day journey.

Careful attention to detail both before and during the trip by organizer Eli Haizlip of Bamboo Tours in San Francisco, made the journey comfortable, and his and Lyman’s expertise and personal insights, including their fluency in Mandarin, made this a memorable and enjoyable time for all.

Docents in Print

Three Long-time Docents are Local Garden Authors

Did you know that three of Quarryhill’s volunteers have authored books and articles on plants and gardening? The trio were also Quarryhill’s very first tour docents, beginning with Barbara Barton in June of 1994, followed shortly thereafter by Rosemary McCreary and Janet Sanchez. Enthusiastic gardeners, all three have also completed the Master Gardeners program.

Barbara Barton’s first book, Gardening by Mail published in 1986, has gone (Continued on page 4)
Blooming In the Garden

This is the time of the year in which Quarryhill’s vast collection of lilies are in full bloom. Originating from the 1987 expedition to Honshu, Japan, the giant *Lilium auratum* stands over five feet high with ten inch black-speckled white and yellow blooms. Above the lake at Quarryhill a field of bright orange *Lilium leichtlinii var. maximowiczii*, collected on both the 1987 and 1989 trips to Japan, blows gently in the wind. The stark white *Lilium sargentiae*, first collected on the 1991 trip to Sichuan, China, has a touch of yellow in its throat and perfumes the garden with its deep aroma. The lily collection at Quarryhill begins blooming mid-May and continues through to late August. If you would like to read more about the Lilies of Quarryhill, visit the article at Quarryhill’s website [http://www.quarryhillbg.org/Articles.htm](http://www.quarryhillbg.org/Articles.htm).

Other blooms to note in the garden this time of year are the *Millettia dielsiana var. dielsiana* and the *Osbeckia crinita*. The *Millettia dielsiana var. dielsiana* was collected in 1991 from Sichuan, China. The pink and yellow flower grows on a lush green vine creeping up and over the arbor at the entrance to the garden. The *Osbeckia crinita* was collected in 1990 from Yunnan, China. The deep purple flower with whispy bright-yellow stamens is covering the ground under the 50 foot Chinaberry tree above the ponds at Quarryhill.

The Schimas in the garden are set to bloom and will open up any day now. Collected in 1991 from Sichuan, China, the *Schima wallichii* is loaded with flower buds. In the North Slope and Fragrant Valley areas of the garden, *Schima argentea*, collected from Sichuan, China in 1992, is ready to bloom. You can read more about Schimas at Quarryhill in the most recent *Pacific Horticulture* magazine.
Ikebana at Quarryhill

Introducing Sogetsu Ikebana Master Soho Sakai

Quarryhill is proud to bring to the Sonoma Valley the ancient 'Japanese Art of Flower Arrangement', *Ikebana*. Ikebana is more than merely flower arrangement. It includes the use of various plant materials such as seed pods, moss, leaves, branches, withered leaves, buds and even fruits. The idea is to bring indoors the natural world as a whole. The use of asymmetrical forms, empty space, and the harmony between plant materials, the container, and the overall space work together to make this ancient Japanese practice unique.

The fundamental idea is to bring together the three elements of Heaven, Earth and Humankind in a balanced form through the use of plant material.

Come and join Quarryhill Botanical Garden to learn the ancient art of Ikebana at 10:00 on Sunday, October 23rd. Quarryhill is pleased to present Soho Sakai, Sogetsu Ikebana Master, to lead this event. A native of Japan, Soho began practicing this ancient Japanese art in 1957, in Kumamoto Japan. She has received several honors for her work in Japan and in the US. She has taught in the Bay Area since 1974 and is presently teaching Ikebana at several community centers and also demonstrates for several garden clubs.

Soho Sakai will be using materials from Quarryhill for her demonstration. With the combination of diverse and beautiful flora of Asia at Quarryhill and a great artist of Ikebana, we are sure this will be an enjoyable and artistic experience for you!

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*If you have two pennies, spend one on a loaf and one on a flower. The bread will give you life, the flower a reason for living.*

-CHINESE PROVERB

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**REGISTER NOW**

Ikebana Flower Arranging

With Sogetsu Ikebana Master Soho Sakai

Sunday
October 23
10:00 am
$25.00 per person
10% discount for members!

Quarryhill Botanical Garden
PO Box 232
Glen Ellen, CA 95442

☐ YES! Please enroll me in the October 23, 2005 Ikebana Flower Arranging Workshop at Quarryhill Botanical Garden.

Name: ____________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________
City, State and Zip: ______________________________________
Phone: ____________________________  Please return by 10/1/05 with
Number Attending: ____________  Check or Money Order to
Amount Enclosed: ____________  Quarryhill Botanical Garden
Docents in Print cont.

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through five editions and won three prestigious awards including Garden Book of the Year by the Garden Writers of America. Her next book, Taylor’s Guide to Specialty Nurseries, was published in 1993. An avid Giants baseball fan, Barbara lives in Sebastopol and is also a member of the Board of Directors of Quarryhill.

For a number of years Janet Sanchez wrote feature articles and a regular column for Horticulture Magazine, including the April 1998 article “Where East Meets West” about Quarryhill. She also authored Perennials for Sunset Books, co-authored several other Sunset Books, and worked as a Senior Editor on the Sunset Western Garden Book.

Rosemary McCreary is beginning her seventh year writing “Homegrown,” a weekly garden column in the Santa Rosa Press Democrat. She has authored seven books, most recently Tabletop Gardens, published in 2002. Her other books are: Houseplants, for Sunset Books; Container Gardens, Water Gardens, and Lawns & Gardens for a Time-Life series; and Taylor’s 50 Best Trees and Taylor’s 50 Best Shrubs. She has also co-authored and contributed to several other books. Still active with the Master Gardeners program, Rosemary has also written the pamphlets “More Hints for Composting,” “Putting Worms to Work and Keeping Them Happy,” and “Recycling Tips for Gardeners.”

Determined to learn about Quarryhill’s unique history and its vast collection of plants, all three were frequent visitors in the “early days” studying on their own in the garden and enjoying occasional lunches with Quarryhill founder Jane Davenport Jansen.

Many of their publications are available at www.amazon.com or www.barnesandnoble.com. To learn more about becoming a docent or volunteer at Quarryhill, contact Jesika at (707) 996-3166.

Employee Profile

Garden Supervisor Salvador Calderon

Garden supervisor Salvador Calderon has been with Quarryhill longer than any other employee. In May of 1987, Sal was hired by garden founder Jane Jansen to assist Roger Warner with the initial installation of the garden’s infrastructure. Since that time, Sal has been involved with every facet of the garden’s creation and upkeep, from its complex irrigation system, to the planting and care of the plant material, to leading the crew in the maintaining of plants, facilities and the entire Quarryhill property. Building rock walls, installing and repairing irrigation pipes and valves, cultivating and maintaining plant material, and a multitude of other occupations have been under Sal’s supervision for almost 20 years.

In addition, Sal has developed a formidable knowledge of Asian plants over the years. His broad experience in cultivating and identifying the wide array of species in the garden has afforded him impressive horticultural expertise.

Quarryhill is proud to feature Salvador for this issue of the newsletter in appreciation of his many years of service and dedication to the garden, and for his ability to juggle the many responsibilities he has successfully shouldered during his long and invaluable tenure at the garden.
Quarryhill was fortunate to have Dr. Peter H. Raven visit with his wife Pat last February. Dr. Raven, the Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, is one of the world’s leading botanists and has been declared a “Hero for the Planet” by *Time* magazine because of his efforts around the world to preserve endangered species and promote conservation. He is co-chair of the *Flora of China* project, an English-language revision of the *Flora Republicae Popularis Sinicae*, and a member of Quarryhill’s Advisory Committee. Recipient of numerous prizes and awards, he is also chair of the National Geographic Society’s Committee for Research and Exploration. A long-time friend of Quarryhill, his visits are always enlightening and inspirational for the staff and the Board of Directors.

Tim Boland, Director of the Polly Hill Arboretum on Martha’s Vineyard, visited in April with his daughter Clare. Polly Hill Arboretum and Quarryhill have many similarities in that both were started by energetic and determined women. Both gardens are also quite young, of similar size, and with similar staff. While here, Tim gave a well-researched presentation on *Stewartia*, a genus of very attractive trees in the Theaceae family native to East Asia and the Eastern United States. Tim will be joining us this September on our expedition to Northern Japan.

Conifer expert Professor David J. de Laubenfels stopped in for a visit with his wife Janet in June. Professor Emeritus at Syracuse University, he was touring the west coast to see conifers in the wild and at botanic gardens and arboreta. He is especially interested in the genus *Cupressus*, a group he believes is in need of much taxonomic revision. Although he has studied conifers from around the world, most of his work has occurred in the Philippines, New Caledonia, Venezuela, Peru and Madagascar.
Many Thanks to the Following Members:

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- Barbara Barton
- Johnson S. Bogart
- Richard & Donna Bowman
- Helen & Beau Breck
- Sharon Christoph
  & Christopher Davidson
- Richard & Dana Dirickson
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