

chairman with the late Susanna Dakin of the Historical Committee of the California Arboretum Foundation. She played a key role in obtaining funds for the restoration of the Queen Anne Cottage, the Coach Barn, Boat House, and Hugo Reid Adobe, and over the years has contributed directly and indirectly to many of the most prized furnishings in the Cottage. An original member of the Arboretum's Board of Councilors, a member of the Foundation's Board of Trustees since 1955, and a member of the Board of Governors for twenty years, she retains, as a confirmed history buff, her interest in and support of the objectives of the Committee. It is a particular pleasure to report the honor given her by the Club.

DEPARTMENT AWARD

THE NATIONAL Association of Counties has presented an Achievement Award to this Department for its public service programs. Supervisor James Hayes accepted the award on behalf of the Department at the NACO convention in Hawaii last July. In the case study required of all award applicants, the Department based its presentation on its underlying philosophy, "The Arboretum is for People," and translated into practice by programs geared to serving the day-to-day needs and interests of the public. Examples cited were the Arbor Day program, which in reaching a thousand schools throughout Los Angeles County provided nearly a half million students with classroom study materials that would bring them a deeper understanding of their natural environment and the need for conservation; the annual Spring Extravaganza (horticultural field trips), which attracted 25,000 people on a single weekend who saw displays and demonstrations on just about every horticultural topic; Sunday lectures and walks, a pro-

gram that brings in-depth examination of plant collections to visitors and practical guidelines for home gardeners; a horticultural information service that answers hundreds of inquiries each week; and a series of booklets and bulletins dealing with such public-interest topics as brushfire control, poisonous plants, fungus disease, and insecticides. The award, in the form of an attractive plaque, was one of twelve won by Los Angeles County in the annual competition sponsored by NACO.

CHRISTMAS DISPLAYS

THIS YEAR, Christmas displays at the Arboretum are centered in the Queen Anne Cottage and the rotunda at the entrance. The Cottage has traditionally been decorated in typical turn-of-the-century style and will be again this year, making use, as always, of as much living plant material as possible. In the rotunda, visitors will see a poinsettia tree made up of about fifty individual plants—a project they may wish to duplicate at home—hanging baskets of Christmas foliage, and floral arrangements using flowers available from Southern California gardens at this time of the year. One of the display cases in the rotunda will contain toys and postcards from the first decades of the century, the other a display of traditional wreaths.

From December 21 through the 27th at South Coast (except Christmas day), an "Open House and Christmas Exhibit" is scheduled at the building variously known as the Club House or Information Center. In any case, with the new administrative complex practically finished, this will be the last year that that building will be so used. At this writing, plans are for traditional displays utilizing, insofar as possible, cuttings from the garden's pinetum and other Christmas-plant sections.



1975. "Christmas displays." *Lasca leaves* 25, 94.

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