

OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER

OCTOBER

Now is the month for the raging showoff of the world of blooming Trees.

Chorisia speciosa, also known as a Floss-silk tree, is a spiny-trunked native of South America that covers itself in orchid-like pink blooms. The Arboretum has introduced four varieties: Arcadia, LASCA Beauty, Los Angeles Beautiful and September Splendour.

All four can be seen planted in the lawn west of Ayres Hall. Their bloom periods continue in succession from August through the end of fall.

After heading north past the Garden for All Seasons, maintained by Los Voluntarios and always brilliantly alive with color, visit the Tropical Greenhouse. The house is dazzlingly alive with colorful and exotic orchids such as the chain-like *Dendrobium coddianum*.

Located further north, the Australian section is home to the highly ornamental Red-cap gum (*Eucalyptus erythrocorys*) whose yellow, filamentous blooms open pompom-like amidst its branches.

Strolling in the crisp autumn air on the road northwest of the Tropical Forest, you'll see *Erythrina crista-galli* sporting lively crimson blooms.

Traveling further south, just before you reach the

waterfall, you'll notice the Flamegold tree (*Koelreuteria elegans*). Look up and see its papery, pink pods gracing the canopy of the tree like notes on a symphony score.

Finally, hike up to the top of Tallac Knoll and find Angel's trumpet (*Brugmansia*) attempting to play that symphony with white, yellow, and pink trumpets.

NOVEMBER

The paintbrush of Autumn now begins to swipe randomly at many of the Arboretum's trees.

Maidenhair tree (*Ginkgo biloba*),
Chinese tallow tree

(*Sapium sebiferum*),
Sweet gum (*Liquidambar*) and others

become warm and glowing strokes on the Arboretum canvas.

Senna racemosa blooms with profuse displays of yellow flowers on the southwest portion of Tallac Knoll.

Also on top of the knoll, bushy *Montanoa*, a Mexican member of the daisy family, tries to divert attention from the still blooming Angel's trumpets close by. Planted in various locations around the Arboretum, White floss-silk trees (*Chorisia insignis*) are in bloom. They are white twins to the pink *Chorisia*.

And, finally, November is the month when Paper whites (*Narcissus*) start to bloom in profusion throughout the Arboretum.

by Frank McDonough



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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE AT THE GIFT SHOP

The Arboretum Gift Shop staff and volunteers invite all Arboretum members to a Holiday Open House on Sunday, December 10 from 5:00PM to 7:00PM at the Gift Shop. Our Open House will coincide with the day the Queen Anne Cottage is open as well!

Many unique and special Christmas items will be on display. And, our own handcrafted holiday trees with miniature ornaments will be a sight to behold. This year's emphasis is on nature theme décor: in glass, wood, paper and hand-carved looking resin figures.

There will be plenty of delicious cookies and treats, hot cider and coffee. Holiday music will also enhance our festive atmosphere. Enjoy a browse around the decorated surroundings while you shop for a gift or two.

Mark your calendar so you don't miss our celebration. Hope to see you then.

Marc Hall
Gift Shop Manager





Hall, Mark. 2000. "Holiday open house at the gift shop." *News from the Arboretum of Los Angeles County* 2000:Oct.-Nov., 6.

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