

# Matthaei classes examine world

The University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens' adult education courses offer a variety of subjects.

Members of the Friends of the Botanical Gardens receive 10 percent off any adult education class. Call (313) 998-7061 for information.

Scheduled classes and instructors are:

■ **Dazzle with Perennials**, Annie Hannan, 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays, Oct. 16 and 23, \$30 per person. Find out what's hot and what's not in perennial plantings. Discover which colors and textures are best in both shade and sun for your garden. Emphasis will be on easy-to-use taxonomic characters. Your plant repertoire and your ability to use your new knowledge should increase significantly.

■ **Weird and Useful**, David Michener, 7:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17, \$30 per person. Evolutionary novelties and economically useful products as demonstrated by plants in the Matthaei Botanical Gardens Conservatory are the focus of this class. Now that lights have been installed, the class can explore the conservatory and its wide range of plants after dark. Wear comfortable shoes. Enrollment is limited to 15 due to path widths.

■ **Wetlands**, Brian Klatt, 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, Oct. 17 and 24, and 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, Oct. 19 and 26, \$55 per person. "What is a wetland and why do we care for them?" will provide focus for this course. The class will examine how scientists and government regulators define wetlands and how those definitions differ from the public's concept of wetlands. The class will look at how wetlands differ from one another with respect to their water regimes and consequent plant communities, and what qualities ("functions") of wetlands lend to their importance. Field trips will be made to a number of local wetlands, so be prepared to get wet — and yes, the class will teach you to walk on water, honest!

■ **Mosses**, Barbara Madsen, 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 22 and 29, and 1-5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26. Mosses and liverworts are abundant and important, but often unappreciated, features of many habitats. Become more familiar with

their unusual life cycle, their amazing diversity, their ecological importance, and the uses to which people have put them. During the field trip, the class will search out and collect mosses and liverworts in some of their native habitat. During the second class, a closer look will be taken at what has been collected, and the class will learn the process of identifying these subtle plants. Bring a hand lens (10X or greater); prepare to get your feet wet.

■ **Landscape Design**, Kenneth Rapp, 6:30-9 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24, and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, \$45 per person. Become familiar with basic design principles, such as unity, variety, mass, void and balance. Participants will learn how to inventory existing features of a personal landscape, determine what the landscape should do, develop a workable program and base map, and decide what is needed to get started. Feedback from the instructor and other participants will mold, develop and expand creative design ideas that you can apply to your own situation.

■ **Field Journal I**, Michael Kielb, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26, \$35 per person. Spend a day in the field collecting written, sketched or painted images for use in natural history study. Bring a field journal and appropriate writing, drawing or painting materials to class. Learn about collecting a wide variety of visual material for use at home in constructing either accurate written studies or art work based on your field experience. Bring a sack lunch to class.

■ **Heirloom Plants**, Janna Field, 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays, Oct. 29 and Nov. 5, \$30 per person. Discover why there is such a renewed interest in heirloom vegetables and flowers, which are the old-time, open-pollinated varieties. Learn the tricks of growing these hardy plants that have been painstakingly preserved by families and organizations, discover where to obtain quality seeds of interesting plants, and how to participate in the Seed Saver's Exchange. Information gathered this fall will ensure that next year's garden will be a productive, old-fashioned delight.

## New-series explores 'Art of Living with Nature'

The University of Michigan Matthaei Botanical Gardens will present the first in a series of lectures and luncheons entitled "The Art of Living with Nature" beginning noon to 2 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 17.


Guests will enjoy an authentic English midday meal and a lecture presented by David Michener, assistant curator of the Botanical Gardens. Michener will present an in-depth look at "Quintessential England: Country Houses and Gardens." The lecture will

draw upon his recent role in the UM Museum of Art's 1996 International Travel Program.

Tickets for the lecture and luncheon are \$25 per person. Tables will seat eight. Reservations are required by Friday, Oct. 11. Call (313) 998-7061.

The Matthaei Botanical Gardens are at 1800 N. Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor. Take US-23 north to Geddos Road. Head east on Geddes to Dixboro Road. Turn left onto Dixboro and go 2-1/2 miles north.

**Adopt-a-pet**



**Sammy:** This 1-year-old male Terrier mix is happy, playful and loves to go on walks. He knows some tricks and has some basic training. He is great with other dogs and cats and good with children and older people, too. Sammy (No. R68635) and other pets are available at the Michigan Humane Society Rochester Hills shelter, 3600 Auburn Road (810)852-7420. October is Adopt-a-Dog Month.

## New rose society meets tonight

The Roses-West Rose Society offers an invitation to charter membership 7:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, at the Novi Community Center.

The center is at 45175 W. 10 Mile, just west of Novi Road and the I-696 Exit. Call (313) 534-5588 or (313) 532-8875 for more information.

At the meeting, society goals will be discussed, visitors will be enlightened about the American Rose Society and a brief program on "Winter Protection" will be presented by Jim Hill. Hill is editor of the "Roselore" newsletter of the Detroit Rose Society, a consulting rosarian, past president of the premier Detroit Rose Society and a top exhibitor.

Handouts and a social hour will be featured. Top national members Bunny

Skran and Loretta LoVasseur will give a brief program.

Become a charter member under a two-month open charter enrollment. Membership will be \$20 for couples, \$15 for singles and \$10 for seniors and age 16 and under.

Features include affiliation with the American Rose Society, meetings 7:30-9:30 p.m. the first Thursday of each month, great programs and speakers, a spring rose show (and a fall rose show planned for the future), clinics, garden tours, a potluck picnic, a Christmas dinner, a social hour with home-baked pastries, fruit, coffee and tea, and a monthly newsletter.

Michener's slide-illustrated lecture will be a visual treat, blending both the beautiful and unusual and exploring the English art of living with nature. Michener will focus on the history and development of the English country house and garden from the Renaissance to the present day. Among the gardens highlighted will be several designed by famous turn-of-the-century garden designer Gertrude Jekyll.

In addition to being a botanist, Michener is a highly sought-after speaker

and has given numerous presentations. He has visited more than 50 private gardens in Great Britain and has visited the United Kingdom six times.

Movable Feast will cater the luncheon and guests will enjoy an authentic Ploughman's Lunch, which includes an assortment of traditional English cheeses, Branston Chutney, fresh breads, soup and salad and tea and sherry trifle.