

**San Diego Botanic Garden Docent/Volunteer Monthly Meeting**  
**August 3, 2011**  
Minutes

9:30 a.m. Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance.  
Plant Raffle Table presented by Kaitlin Levy.  
Door Prize Drawing.  
Minutes of the June 1, 2011 meeting were approved.

**Chair Report and Announcements**

- ✧ Garden workshop @ Hamilton Picnic Grounds – 8/13 @ 9 a.m.
- ✧ Succulent Sale @SDBG Gift Shop 8/1 – 8/15.
- ✧ New volunteers welcomed.
- ✧ Recognition of July & August Docent Milestones – see back of Agenda.
- ✧ Propagation needs help – Wednesdays 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. See Mayo Stiegler.
- ✧ Directory updates – email Emy Meiorin – [emeiorin@pacbell.net](mailto:emeiorin@pacbell.net) with changes. An update will be available at the Oct. meeting. The new directory will be published in April, 2012.
- ✧ Nick Ruddick is forming a committee to maintain the Docent website. It will meet quarterly. Sign up today or email Nick if interested.
- ✧ September program - Plants for Privacy with Eric Gronborg.

**COORDINATOR AND COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- ✧ Opportunities to work in Garden Beautification throughout the month on Saturdays. See Docent website for details. New Team Captains – Lynne McCall in SOW and Bobbi Hinostro in Mexican Garden. Attend the Garden Workshop on 8/13 in the HCG – great refresher course – lots of helpful info.
- ✧ Next Tour Guides meeting 8/11 @ 10:a.m. Anne Spindel on her trip to the Amazon. Everyone welcome.
- ✧ Docent Training classes begin 9/15 – encourage new volunteers to sign up for this. Like to be a mentor to a DIT – sign up.
- ✧ Trip Trio - Monday, 8/15 9:30 a.m. Depart SDBG. Laird Plumleigh Garden and Barrels & Branches. \$10 fee.
- ✧ Garden Expressions – 8/20 – 8/21. Help needed. Please sign up.
- ✧ Gala in the Garden – 9/10. Lots of help and creativity needed before, during and after this event. Please sign up, lots of great volunteer opportunities.
- ✧ Gala Silent Auction – Use your creativity to come up with ideas and talents to make items that you can donate.
- ✧ Admissions – a fine job has been done by all those who have worked weekends this year. Thank you. Beginning in September things will be run differently with an information table and just one volunteer shift from 10 – 2. It will be busy – plenty to do!

- ✧ Fall Plant Sale – 10/14 – 10/16. Committee meeting 8/10 @ 10 a.m. T - shirts on sale \$10 each. Start saving pots & garden related items for the Botanic Attic. Jane Hunt is the volunteer coordinator for this event. New docents mark your calendars – help needed. 20 hours volunteer time will be needed to be issued with a bracelet & shop early @2:30 on the Friday afternoon.
- ✧ Upcoming Programs – September - Plants for Privacy, Erik Gronborg. October – Go To Plant – contact Liz Woodward if you have a suggestion. November – Christmas Tree Ornaments, Mary Roper. Garden of Lights Fundraiser – start collecting anything natural and weird – seed pods, palm sticks etc. December – Potluck. January – Pruning, Jason Kubrock.

**VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH** - Anne Spindel recognized Sue Ruddick for July and Joyce Sapp recognized Paula Eoff for August.

**PLANT OF THE MONTH** – Red-Flowering Gum (*Corymbia ficifolia*/*Eucalyptus ficifolia*) Dave Ehrlinger brought samples of these trees that are in flower along Quail Gardens Drive. They were planted by the Larabees in the 40s & 50s. Considered one of the most outstanding flowering trees in the world – we also have three others in the “top 10” - Jacaranda, Australian Flame Tree and the African Tulip Tree.

### **SDBG STAFF REPORTS**

- ✧ Julian Duval – A trip to Baja California is planned – starts March 1, 2012. Anne Spindel, Dave Ehrlinger and Julian will be going to Israel in September, visiting the Jerusalem Botanic Garden and looking for inspiration for an eastern Mediterranean Garden. On Saturday, October 1 the city of Encinitas will be celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an incorporated city. There will be a Lima Bean cook-off and SDBG will have free admission that day. The Orchid Fair will also take place over that weekend.
- ✧ Pat Hammer – Kindly RSVP to the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. We are trying to get a new booth with a computer etc. as part of the new admissions program and welcome center. Please work with the staff to help make this happen. Two 15 minute parking places have been designated for membership sign-ups and the first row of parking has been made one way. To comply with insurance requirements new Volunteers and Docents are required to have a background check. Existing Volunteers and Docents will be grandfathered in. Melissa Grove is Diana's new assistant for Events and Operations.
- ✧ Tracie Barham -Approximately \$28K has been raised towards Frances Hamilton White's \$40K challenge grant. Any contribution of any amount or a membership upgrade will be applied to the challenge. The City of Encinitas and the Mizel Family Foundation grant program has awarded a \$3K grant in support of the 2012 Herb Festival. Thanks to our council members. The Thursday Club Juniors is considering a grant in support of repairs and improvements to Seeds of Wonder. Please encourage their support if you are or know a member. 407 adults and 174 children from active duty military families received free admission to the Garden during the month of June through the Blue Star Museums program. That's more than double the amount from June of last

year. Gala sponsorships are at \$71K, our goal is \$80K. Please consider sponsoring and/or sharing the info with your friends. Gala invites have been mailed and are available in the Development office if you'd like to share some with friends. The Early Bird ticket price of \$175 has been extended until August 15<sup>th</sup>, after that tickets are \$200.

- ✧ Paula Isley – Two sign-up sheets to help with membership at upcoming events. Contact Paula directly if interested in becoming an Ambassador for the Garden.
- ✧ Diana Goforth – Keep turning in the colored bottle caps – they are being used for community art projects. Toilet paper rolls go to Susanne Brueckner – used for ongoing art projects in SOW. Highlights of upcoming events include Garden Expressions with this year's Gala honoree – James Hubbel – 8/20 & 8/21. Orchid Fair, October 1 & 2. September 30, members only pre-sale. There will be a workshop for volunteers to serve mulled wine at the Festival of Lights. Check out the upcoming classes being offered.
- ✧ Suzanne Brueckner – Saturday, October 29, 10 a.m. - noon – Fall Festival (crafts and music) and Halloween Parade for children aged 2 – 10. Sign up to help.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

- ✧ Email Sandy Shapiro to purchase composting bin and worm bin. \$20 donation goes to the Docents' Society.
- ✧ Pacific Pollution/Water Conservation Class (Celia Kiewit) @ San Dieguito Adult School, 9/28, 6 – 8 p.m.
- ✧ Master Gardener Orientation – 10/6 [www.mastergardenersandiego.org](http://www.mastergardenersandiego.org)
- ✧ Master Gardeners' Autumn in the Garden Tour & Market – 10/1 tickets on sale \$20/\$25.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted  
Sarah Clayton

**PLANT RAFFLE** – after the close of the business meeting.

**11:00 a.m. Program** – Bonsai presented by Phil Tacktil.