

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN DOCENT/VOLUNTEER MONTHLY MEETING
December 7, 2011
MINUTES

10:04 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Door Prizes won by Wendy Graham and Bobby Hinostro.

Minutes of the November 2, 2011 meeting were approved by consent.

Chair Report and Announcements

- ✧ Congratulations to all the November Milestone Docents and Volunteers.
- ✧ Remember to submit your volunteer hours by the end of December. It is very important to ensure that you are a Docent in good standing and it also helps SDBG when applying for grants.
- ✧ Please support the Docent Society by purchasing tickets for the Plant Raffle and/or by making a donation – the coffee jar is usually on the refreshments table. Your contributions are needed to meet our expenses such as plants for the raffle, door prizes, snacks and paper goods.
- ✧ SDBG Volunteer shirts and other apparel are available at our new Lands' End e-store located at http://ces.landsend.com/san_diego_botanic_garden. Or Call 800-587-1521 to place an order. There is also a link to this site on the docent website. Thanks to Sue Papreck for setting this up for us.
- ✧ Beginning in 2012, SDBG book club – Botanic Book Buddies, will meet at noon on the 2nd Wednesday of every even month starting February 8, 2012 in the Lawn House. Our first book selection is "Flower Confidential: The Good, the Bad and the Beautiful" by Amy Stewart. All docents, volunteers and staff welcome. Brown bag lunch & book discussion.
- ✧ The next Volunteer Orientation will be on Saturday, January 28 @ 9:30 am in the Ecke Building.
- ✧ The upcoming program in January will feature Jason Kubrock on Pruning.

Coordinator & Committee Reports

- ✧ Linda Stewart introduced new docent Nancy McMahon. Congratulations Nancy. The new series of Docent Training Classes begins on Thursday, February 9, 2012.
- ✧ Trip Trio - Sign up today – space is limited to 30 people, for a trip on Friday, January 27, 2012 to Tom Bartol's lab at the Salk Institute, followed by lunch at the Salk Cafeteria and a tour of the Estancia resort's grounds and gardens. Cost \$7, plus lunch. Meet at SDBG @ 9:15 am.
- ✧ The tour guides meeting will be held on Thursday, December 8, at 10 am with a luncheon at Kitty Sparrow's home.

Volunteer of the Month – Ron McAfee, presented by Steve Rose.

Plant of the Month – *Erica canaliculata* (Christmas Heather), also known as Cape Heather and Scotch Heather. Native to South Africa, grows 3 – 6' tall. A good cut flower. In bloom now. Can be seen outside the Ecke Building.

SDBG Staff Reports

- ✧ Julian Duvall wished everyone Happy Holidays. The military have been strong supporters of the Gardens this year and tonight SDBG will be welcoming about 400 Marines who will have exclusive use of the Garden of Lights.
- ✧ Pat Hammer expressed her thanks to all who bring their special talents to the Gardens. Volunteering here is a great way for young people to learn how to give back to their community. Carla Henry, in Admissions, will be retiring at the end of December. Others staffing the Admissions Booth may not recognize you, so be prepared to stop and identify yourself.
- ✧ Paula Isley announced a half price deal on gift memberships. These will be issued in the form of a gift certificate – single; \$25 , family; \$37.50. These are available from the membership office. Membership starts when the certificate is redeemed. Gift certificates can be used to renew a membership. Single guest passes may also be purchased from Michael Wolfington.
- ✧ Diana Goforth announced a new Santa – Barry Martin. Those who have volunteered to help with the Garden of Lights Festival will receive email instructions about their duties. Those without email will get a phone call. The botanical illustrations on display in the Ecke Building are original hand colored book plates and are for sale. The Bromeliad Bash was an awesome event – thanks especially to Robert Kopfstein and Andy Siekkinen.
- ✧ Tracie Barham thanked all who helped put on a nice Benefactors' Dinner. Union Bank has renewed its corporate partnership with SDBG for \$10,000 and the French/Masserini Fund at Wells Fargo Bank has given a grant of \$5,000 towards the Welcome Center. The honoree for the 2012 Gala will be Janet Kister, a former SDBG Trustee, who is known for her work in agriculture and the nursery business. The Gala will be held on September 8, 2012.

Other Business

- ✧ Rosemary Stafford reminded volunteers to make sure that they signed in at today's meeting.
- ✧ Andy Siekkinen thanked many staff and volunteers who helped with the Bromeliad Bash.
- ✧ Ken Nicodm reported that 348 jars of jams and jellies were made and sold at the Fall Plant Sale which raised \$1445. There were 23 varieties to choose from. He thanked Robert Kopfstein and Leslie Duvall for their help.

The meeting adjourned at 10:49 am.

Sign up for volunteer opportunities and Potluck.

Sarah Clayton
Secretary