

San Diego Botanic Garden Docent/Volunteer Monthly Meeting
May 4, 2011
Minutes

9:32 a.m. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance.

Plant Raffle Table presented by Caitlin Levy.

Door Prize Drawing won by Sandy Shapiro.

Minutes of April 6 Meeting approved.

Chair Report and Announcements

- ^ All new volunteers were welcomed and everyone was reminded to silence their cell phones.
- ^ The next meeting of the San Diego County Fair Garden Exhibit Committee will be held on Wednesday, May 11 @ 8:45 in the Ecke Building. Attend that meeting if you are interested in helping. Also toys are needed – bring those in this week.
- ^ Effective June 7 Cheryl Mergenthaler will be the Docent Hours Recorder and Linda Stewart will become the Docent Training Coordinator.
- ^ The next Docent Training class will be on Wednesday, May 11 @ 9:30 a.m. - Robert Kopfstein and Jason Kubrock on Palms, Cycads and Rainforest.
- ^ Thanks to Anne Spindel and those who stepped up to help with hospitality and brought food items. Payment for refreshments comes out of our Docents' Society fund so please purchase raffle tickets or drop money in the donation can.
- ^ Next month's program: Potluck – Meeting starts @ 10:00 a.m.
- ^ Weekend Admissions – if you are signed up to help in the next couple of months please check the list and verify your time slots.

Coordinator & Committee Reports

- ^ Garden Beautification Sally Sandler stated that all the Saturdays for working parties in May are filled. Check the website to see whose, when. Team captains are needed for the Mexican Garden, Topiaries, and to water the pots in the Herb Garden. Contact Sally or Peter Jones if interested. Jean Jung thanked those who helped in the Lawn Garden last Saturday and said that she could do with more helpers on Wednesdays and most Fridays. Please contact her if interested.
- ^ Tour Guides – To celebrate all the wonderful work that has been done this year there will be a meeting at Mary Friestedt's house on Thursday, May 12 @ 10:00 a.m.
- ^ Trips - Carol Eblen thanked Bette Childs and Liz Woodward for their garden tours last month. Sign up today for the Thursday, June 2 trip to Cassie Dubourdieu's garden with a visit to Plant Play Nursery and lunch at Bobbi's Hideaway. Carpools leave SDBG @ 9:20 a.m.

Volunteer of the Month - Anne Spindel presented Bobbi Hirschhoff.

Plant of the Month - Dave Ehrlinger presented the Australian Flame Tree (*Brachychiton acerifolia*), located by the Lawn House, which is just starting to bloom.

SDBG Staff Reports

- ^ Julian Duval announced that SDBG will be participating in the national Blue Star Museums program May through Labor Day which allows free admission to active military personnel and their families. Frances Hamilton White will be paying their admissions. She and Julian recently toured the Gardens and she wanted the Docents and Volunteers to know how much she appreciates the Gardens. These days Julian routinely hears "these Gardens have never looked better".
- ^ Pat Hammer encouraged everyone to sign up now for great opportunities to volunteer at the County Fair. John Becker is just back from rehab. Please sign the card in the office letting him know how much we miss him and that we are thinking of him all the time. Heather Main is replacing Becky as the Marketing/PR person. Anyone able to help with Admissions or Membership on Friday, May 6 when up to 3,000 people are expected to take advantage of free admissions for National Public Gardens Day should contact Pat or Paula Isley. Contact Joyce Wilder if you are interested in James Hubbel's open house scheduled for Fathers' Day. Sandy Shapiro is being honored in May as Volunteer of the Year for San Diego County by RSVP.

- ^ Diana Goforth stated that the Stone Brewing Company would be a new vendor at the Chocolate Festival. Pick up a flyer for details about the entertainment for the Thursday Family Fun Nights over the summer months. New sculptures are being installed this week – SDBG gets 20% of any sold. James Hubbel will officially open the exhibit on June 13. Tour Guides will have a special meeting prior to that.
- ^ Sherri Johnson encouraged everyone to buy a ticket to the Encinitas Rotary Wine Festival which will be held in the HCG on Saturday, June 4, 5 – 8 p.m. SDBG is one of the beneficiaries of this event. Plans for the Gala are well underway. Talk to Sherri if you would like to join the committee or do something the week of. Fran Hinostro asked, on behalf of the Auction Committee, that graduating classes from former years of the Docent Training Program get together and organize a basket. If you have any item that may be auctioned please contact Fran or Sherri.
- ^ Suzanne Brueckner thanked everyone who helped with the two Easter events, especially Stacy Gaudet and her daughter. Clean toilet paper rolls – no paper left attached, are needed for ongoing projects in Seeds of Wonder.
- ^ Linda Davis requested help with Ladybug Day, Saturday, May 21 and the Fairy Festival, Saturday, June 18. Sign up today.

Other Business

If you have a snippet or story that shows how or why the Gardens are important, what they mean to you or how they inspire you please write or email Julian, Pat, Kitty, Liz or Sarah.

Sandy Shapiro raised \$300 for the Docents' Society from the sale of daylillies last month.

Ken and Jean Nikodym are still accepting donations of fruit and sugar and thank those who have donated small jars.

Sign up if you are interested in being on the Fall Plant Sale Committee.

The meeting closed at 10:35 a.m.

Plant Raffle

10:45 to 11:00 a.m. - refreshments, sign up for volunteer opportunities.

11:00 a.m. - "Great Pacific Garbage Patch" by Celia Kiewit.

Respectfully submitted

Sarah Clayton