

San Diego Botanic Garden Docent/Volunteer Monthly Meeting

April 4, 2012

Minutes

9:30 a.m. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Plant Raffle Table - presented by Liz Rozycki. A Garden Workshop on Integrated Pest Management will be held on Saturday, April 28, 9AM to 10AM meet at Lawn House. This is a walking tour.

Door Prize Drawing – A gift certificate for gloves from Grangettos won by Mary Roush.

The Minutes of March 7, 2012 Meeting were approved as posted online.

Chair Report and Announcements

- April Docent Milestones – Kenneth Howard, Nick Ruddick and Kitty Sparrow were awarded 4 guest tickets each having reached the 90 Hour Milestone. Volunteer Mary Cozza was recognized for reaching the 200 Hour Milestone in 2011 and received 2 guest tickets plus a \$10 gift certificate.
- The next Volunteer Orientation will be on Friday, April 27 9:30AM to noon.
- Cheryl Mergenthaler [merghome@aol.com] needs an assistant to help with recording hours at the monthly meetings. Contact her directly if interested.
- Copies of the new directory were distributed. Many thanks to Directory Coordinator Emy Meiorin for all her hard working putting this document together.
- Thanks to Webmaster Nick Ruddick Webmaster for work on new website www.sdbgdocents.org
- Thanks to Sandy Shapiro for the Daylily Sale that brought in \$240 for the Docent Society.
- Spring Party with Bunny needs one person to supervise plant potting 9:30AM to 1:00 PM on 4/7; sign up at table or email Suzanne Brueckner at SOW@SDBGarden.org.
- Botanic Book Buddies - Wednesday, April 11 at noon in the Lawn House. "Second Nature" by Michael Pollan; bring brown bag lunch. Upcoming: 6/13 "The Fruit Hunters" by Adam Leith Gollner.
- Upcoming program in May: Oriental Herbs for Healing presented by two medical doctors.

Coordinator & Committee Reports

- Docent Training. Linda Stewart introduced new docent Maxine Hesse and presented her with her pin.
- Trips – the next trip is on Monday, April 16 @ 9:45 am Torrey Pines State Park led by Sharon & Steve Rose; meet at SDBG to carpool at 9:15. Lunch at Alborz Restaurant on Del Mar Heights Rd. On Thursday, June 21 bus trip to LA Arboretum 8AM-2PM, cost is \$30 with payment due by June 6. There is room on the bus for 45 people. Check the Docent website for details.
- Tour Guides – The next Meeting is on Thursday, April 12, @ 10AM in the Larabee House. Not to be missed, Jason Kubrock leading a Palm Canyon tour – everyone welcome. Next month Docents in Training will give their presentations.
- Garden Beautification – Sally Sandler reported that the Saturday groups are just fantastic. Only the Bamboo team will be meeting this coming weekend.
- Welcome Center - Barb Farley – needs some more volunteers to sign up for May and June. There is ample training available for those who have not volunteered at the Welcome Center before.

Docent of the Month – Sarah Clayton presented by Linda Stewart.

Plant of the Month – Dave Ehrlinger brought a couple of boughs from the *Fremontodendron* (Flannel Bush), currently in flower. One of these can be seen high up on the hillside in the HCG above the tree house.

Plant Raffle – drawing.

SDBG Staff Reports

- Julian Duval – reported that the Baja trip was fantastic. Loren Batchman, known to many at SDBG, who was closely associated with the Orchid Fair, passed away recently. It was disappointing that the weather for the Herb Festival was so bad but people showed up anyway. The Ecke building was packed on both days when Rosemary Creasy gave her talks. Thanks to all who volunteered at this event. The large crowds for Rosemary's presentations underscore the need for a larger indoor space for meetings and presentations. The County planners visited recently. It is hoped that they will quickly give their approval so that plans can go ahead to create an outdoor classroom in the Children's Hamilton Garden begin the upgrades to the Gift Shop. Last week 12 people who knew the Larabees were invited

to a luncheon at SDBG. This was a real treat for Sally Sandler and Julian who learned how much these individuals revered the Larabees who provided financial assistance and opportunities to various groups of young people.

- Linda Davis – Volunteer opportunities in Admissions and also to sell tickets on Ladybug Day – Saturday, April 21. Also at the Fairy Festival on Saturday, June 23.

- Diana Goforth – Thanks to all who showed up for the Herb Festival especially the cart drivers and new staff member, Michelle Kinney – this was her first event! There are still books by Rosemary Creasy for sale as well as plant signs – 6 for \$5. The current Sculpture in the Garden exhibits will be leaving the Gardens on April 16. It is still not too late to purchase one. The new show will commence July 9. The Asian Arts Festival is coming up later this month – lots of great activities so please encourage people to attend. The Chocolate Festival takes place in May – our tastiest fundraiser. Sign up today. Details of all the upcoming classes are listed on the back of the Agenda. Thank you for your continued support.

- Tracie Barham – The next Gala committee meeting is to be held on Tuesday, May 1 at 6pm in the Ecke Building. We are looking for people to join this committee. A chairperson for the auction is needed, a marketing coordinator to work alongside the cuisine vendors and a volunteer coordinator to work with each sub committee. Janet Kister, former Garden trustee, will be honored at the Gala which takes place on Saturday, September 8 in the Hamilton Children's Garden - a more intimate party in a smaller space this year. Interviews to replace Sherri Johnson are being conducted. The Encinitas Rotary Wine Festival will be held in the HCG on Saturday, June 2. Please support this event. The membership team did a fantastic job at the Herb Festival and brought in over 40 new memberships.

Other Business

- 4/21 Encinitas Garden Festival info at encinitasgardenfestival.org
- 5/12-13 San Dieguito Art Guild Art & Garden Tour

Program “Soils and Compost” by Sharon May

DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Meeting adjourned at 10:40 am.

Respectfully submitted
Sarah Clayton