

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN DOCENT/VOLUNTEER MONTHLY MEETING
SEPTEMBER 5, 2012
MINUTES

9:31 a.m. - Call to Order and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Plant raffle table. Tickets – 5 for \$3, sold until the Plant of the Month presentation.

Ed Beimel won the **Door Prize Drawing**.

The **Minutes** of the August 1, 2012 Meeting were approved.

CHAIR REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ✧ Awards for those reaching the 90, 200 and 400 hour Milestones (as detailed on the back of the Agenda) were distributed.
- ✧ On behalf of all who attended the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on August 24, Liz Woodward thanked the staff for hosting a lovely event.
- ✧ Peter Jones and Steve Rose were recognized for their 5 years of service as Docents. Unfortunately they did not get recognition at the dinner. The Docent Society's records are incomplete and things do get overlooked so please be sure to let the Board know if something or someone is missed/overlooked. Email a Board member if there is a problem.
- ✧ The next meeting of Botanic Book Buddies will be on October 10 at noon when we will be discussing "All my Edens" by Pat Welsh. Bring a bag lunch. Meet in the Lawn House. Check the Docent website for future selections.
- ✧ Stop by the Gift Shop and check out all the great new merchandise – such as the apron made by Terry Armstrong (one of the items on the raffle table today).
- ✧ The upcoming program for October is 'Favorite Garden Plants' presented by Docents and Volunteers. Anyone who has not previously participated is encouraged to do so by sending a list (by September 21) to Liz Woodward. She will find the appropriate photos to be used and put them together as a Powerpoint presentation.
- ✧ Eight more people are needed for help with the Gala. Please sign up today.
- ✧ The next Volunteer Orientation will take place on Thursday, October 25 from 9:30 – noon.

COORDINATOR & COMMITTEE REPORTS

- ✧ Linda Stewart introduced new Docent Faith Meakin. Docent training classes begin on Thursday, September 6 @ 9:30 a.m. Bring a sack lunch. Anyone is invited to attend any of the classes at any time, just be sure to check the main SDBG website for the dates and schedule.
- ✧ Save the date – November 13. Evon Mackinnon and the trip trio have arranged for us to visit two great gardens in Poway. There will be a sign-up sheet next month.
- ✧ Anne Spindel announced that at the next Tour Guides Meeting on September 13, at 10 a.m., Docents and Volunteers will be going through the revamped Native Plants/Native People area of the Gardens and taking a thorough look at all the new signs and improvements.
- ✧ Peter Jones acknowledged that it has been five years since Sally Sandler started the Garden Beautification Program, noted how much it had grown during that time and requested a round of applause to recognize all Sally's efforts in making it such a huge success. Peter thanked all who had showed up to work in the Hamilton Children's

Garden and also in the Bamboo area over two very hot weekends. Seeds of Wonder is currently without a Team Captain. Please contact Peter or Sally if you would be interested in taking this on – you do not have to commit to the entire area but could adopt a section and just try it for a week or two. Check the Docents' website for working parties in Garden Beautification on Saturdays through the rest of this month. Encourage family and friends to consider attending the next volunteer orientation on Thursday, October 25.

- ✧ The next, and last, Fall Plant Sale meeting is on September 12, at 10:00. Hands on assistance is needed in propagation over the next few weeks to transplant plugs – starter plants, and get them into saleable condition. Sign up today and we will email you when we receive the plants and need your help. Keep a look out for suitable Botanic Attic items and also take some of the gorgeous bookmarks advertizing and detailing the upcoming sale and distribute them at your local library, and to others in your community. Callers should pick up their packets today and there are sign up sheets for drivers. We are also looking for people to provide lunches for the volunteers and staff on the Monday through Thursday prior to the sale – between 25 and 50 people on any given day. The costs of providing food may be written off as a donation. After October 1 books may be dropped for the Book Sale and there is a sign up sheet today for those willing to help with the organization. A sign-up sheet is being passed around. Donations of pies, cakes, cookies and bars are needed for the Bakery Shoppe and should be dropped off on Friday evening, Saturday or Sunday morning. Anyone willing to do some canning should contact Stacy – we still need jams and jellies.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH – Lan Lin was introduced by Roberta Dotson.

PLANT(S) OF THE MONTH - *Bromeliads* – Dave Ehrlinger presented the whole family which comprises 3 – 4,000 species and hybrids. They are a very diverse group and there are lots of them blooming in the garden right now. Check out the SDBG website which features the plant of the month.

SDBG STAFF REPORTS

- ✧ Julian Duval said that everyone had a great time at the volunteer recognition dinner and thanked Michael Wolfington for making all the arrangements. The Gala takes place this Saturday and there are still volunteer opportunities. Please sign up and be a part of the biggest fundraiser of the year. We have a record number of sponsors this year. Janet Kister is the honoree and she has been instrumental in helping to get so much wonderful support. Thanks for all the extra help in HCG recently. Seeds of Wonder is now nine years old and was originally created to give SDBG the experience of developing a children's garden and was intended only to be temporary. But it is here to stay and at the Gala we are hoping to raise \$25,000 to be used to upgrade it. Sam, the Galapagos tortoise, is now safely housed on the grounds at SDBG but is currently off exhibit. Probably, eventually, he will end up in a permanent home in the HCG.
- ✧ Pat Hammer stated that she had received a great response to her email requesting that people register with RSVP. She also requested that everyone take the time to watch the short video about the AED's. Three have been donated and are located in the Ecke Building, Seeds of Wonder and in the HCG. Michael is to be thanked for

obtaining the new chairs in the Ecke Building. Pat introduced Sam Beukema who will be taking over from Diana Goforth as Education and Events Coordinator when Diana retires in October.

- ✧ Diana Goforth expressed her thanks for all the help with Garden Expressions. It was very hot that weekend but we made it work. Thanks also for all the help with the Family Fun Nights on Thursdays. The Orchid Fair is coming up soon. Please sign up. The paintings on the wall are all for sale and very reasonably priced – buy one! Check out the classes listed on the back of the Agenda.

OTHER BUSINESS

- ✧ October 6, San Diego Master Gardener Fall Seminar – go to www.mastergardenersd.org for more information.

PROGRAM - “Plant Bulbs in Fall for Spring Blooms” by Pat Welsh.

The meeting adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Sarah Clayton