

**San Diego Botanic Garden Docent/Volunteer Meeting
August 6, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Liz Rozecki identified the items on the plant raffle table. Early bird and overflow parking door prizes were awarded to members whose numbers were selected by raffle.

The minutes of the previous meeting on June 4, 2014 were approved as listed on the Docent website.

Treasurer's Report

Tandy Pfof reported that the Docent Fund had a balance of \$1832.96 at the beginning of 2014. Raffle ticket profits in June totaled \$61.00 making a total for the year of \$547.12. Refreshment donations were \$3.00 and expenses were \$0.00 for a total of \$3.00.

The ending balance as of June 30, 2014 was \$1,222.56 in the Docent Fund. Distributions from the Docent Fund in recent months have purchased a communications radio, four garden carts, and garden tools for SDBG at a total of \$1,268.65.

Tandy read a letter from SDBG President Julian Duval thanking the Docent Society for the purchase of garden tools. An additional radio for use by tour guides only has been approved.

Tandy also thanked all the staff who worked at the Volunteer Dinner August 1.

Chairperson's Report

Kitty Sparrow thanked all involved in the Volunteer Dinner for their services. She also noted that the venue was an excellent choice.

Kitty announced that the **Docent Executive Board** will meet Wednesday August 20 at 10 am in the Lawn House.

Barbara Farley ask for volunteers to sign up for work in admissions for September.

Coordinator & Committee Reports

Botanic Book Buddies: Barbara Farley announced that Book Buddies will meet Wednesday, August 12 in the Lawn House at 12 noon. The book will be *The Garden of Invention: Luther Burbank and the Business of Breeding Plants* by Jane S. Smith. Everyone is invite to bring a bag lunch and join the discussion.

Trips: Evon MacKinnon announced that the August 12 trip will be to the Living Coast Discovery Center in Chula Vista. Lunch will follow in the Gallery Arena, also in Chula Vista. Please sign up if you wish to come and come if you sign up, as an accurate lunch count is necessary. Car pools will leave SDBG at 9 am.

There will be a trip on September 18 to the home of Loni Brymeuler followed by lunch at Pizza Nova. This tour will begin at 9:45 am.

Tour Guides: Stacy Fattaleh reported that Tour Guides will meet August 14 at the Larabee House at 10am. The speaker for the meeting is Mary Cozza who will discuss bamboo.

Garden Beautification: Peter Jones reminded members that work parties begin at 9 am and end at 12 noon. The August 9 effort will be in the Subtropical Fruit Garden. August 30 will be in the Herb Garden. August 16 and 23 will be announced later. Information can be found on the Docent website. Peter also informed members that the Garden Beautification team has three new members.

The garden of Docent Sally Sandler will be featured in the upcoming issue of San Diego Home and Garden magazine.

Fall Plant Sale: There will be new T-shirts this year in an apple green color. Please sign up so that coordinators can get an accurate count of how many T-shirts to order. The price of T-shirts is currently \$12, but will probably rise to \$15 in the future.

Stacy Fattaleh announced that it is not too early to begin propagating succulents and cool season vegetables. One gallon pots are available in the propagation area for those who wish to participate. Now is the time to sign up to be a caller or driver. Driver packets will be available at the September meeting.

It will again be necessary to work 20 hours at the plant sale to be eligible for early buying privileges.

Ken Hayward stated that there will again be a book sale at the plant sale and asked for donations. They will also sell DVDs and CDs, but no magazines, Reader's Digests or encyclopedias. Collection will begin October 1.

Dianna Burke announced that jams and jellies will also be on sale at the Fall Plant Sale.

DIT: Linda Stewart announced that Deirdre Swanson has joined the Docent body.

New Docent training classes will start September 11 and will be held every other Thursday.

Milestones: Sue Ruddick and Fran Spath introduced Docents and Volunteers who have achieved 90+, 200+ and 400+ hour milestones. These persons are listed on the back of the meeting agenda for each meeting.

Volunteer of the Month: Shari Harrold was the Volunteer of the Month for August. She was introduced by Sharon Clay-Rose.

Plant of the Month: Paul Redeker introduced the Plant of the Month, *Brachychiton discolor*, or the Lacebark tree.

Gala in the Garden: Dianna Burke told members that the Silent Auction needs more items. She asked members to pot some plants at home to donate to the auction and drop them off at the garden.

SDBG Staff Reports

President: Julian Duval gave a brief description of new funding from the Leichtag Foundation and from San Diego County.

Tracie Barham elaborated on the relationship between the Leichtag Foundation and SDBG.

Development: Nancy Kelly reported on new grants. To date \$90,000 has been raised toward a goal of \$103,000.

Education: Sam Beukema reported that drawings done by children at the Insect Festival will be printed on T-shirts to be sold at the SDBG Gift Shop. Images of the drawings can be seen on the SDBG website.

Hamilton Children's Garden: Susanne Brueckner announced that there will be a new festival, similar to the Fairy Festival, which will be held in the fall with a Halloween theme. She will need help with staffing for this event. This event will take place October 25 from 10 am to 2 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 am.

Social Intermission

Program: Today's program featured Kelly Griffin, plant research and development manager for Altman Plants.