

**San Diego Botanic Garden Docent/Volunteer Meeting
October 1, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 am.

The items on the plant raffle table were identified by Paul Redeker. Paul also identified the **Plant of the Month**, *Leucophyllum pruinatum*, bubble gum sage.

The minutes of the previous meeting of September 3, 2014 were approved as listed on the Docent website.

Treasurer's Report

Tandy Pfost reported that the Docent Fund had a balance of \$1832.96 at the beginning of 2014. Raffle ticket profits in September were \$100.00, making a total for the year after expenses of \$740.00. Refreshment donations were \$5.00 and expenses were \$30.25 in September.

The ending balance as of September 30, 2014 was \$1,096.31 in the Docent Fund. Docent Funds in recent months have purchased two communications radios, four garden carts, and garden tools for SDBG at a total of \$1,625.65.

Chairperson's Report

Welcome Center: Barbara Farley asked for volunteers for the Welcome Center for October. Barbara also reminded the group that members who wish to serve in the Welcome Center must be trained before they volunteer.

Barbara also indicated that she will be giving out packets for drivers for the Fall Plant Sale.

Susan Starr said that anyone interested in being added to the Garden's **Google Groups** email list should email her at susanstarr1@gmail.com.

Because of the plant sale, the next meeting of the DEB will be on October 22, 2014 (instead of the regular date of October 15) at 10 am. in the Lawn House.

Coordinator & Committee Reports

Tour Guides: Kay Worley will be speaking on water-wise gardening and giving a plant tour at the Thursday, October 9 meeting of the tour guide group.

Trips: Carol Eblen reported that the September 18 tour of the garden of Lani Freymiller was very successful. The last tour of the season will be on November 4. Two gardens will be featured. These are the gardens of Carol Ann Lewin and of Kent Horner. Lunch at Brett's will follow.

There will be no tour in December. The next trip will be in January or February of 2015. Save the date of May 28, 2015 for a bus trip to the Virginia Robinson Gardens & Mansion in Beverly Hills.

Carol reminded the group that updated information about trips can be found on the Docent website.

Botanic Book Buddies: The next meeting of this group will be Wednesday, October 8 in the Lawn House at 12 noon. The book is, "*The Signature of All Things*," by Elizabeth Gilbert. Members are encouraged to bring a bag lunch and suggestions for books they would like the group to read in 2015.

Garden Beautification: Peter Jones announced that there will be a work party in the Fire Safety Garden this Saturday, October 4, at 9 am.

Fall Plant Sale: A special person is needed to get up very early to put up the "Clearance" sign. Admissions help is also needed.

Stacy Fatallah thanked Barb Farley and Elf Mitton for assembling the driver's packets. The callers were also thanked.

The Botanic Attic wants garden items only: pots, bird houses or garden tools. Bring them anytime after the Orchid Festival to propagation where they will be stored.

T-shirts are available for sale after the meeting. Members were asked to wear them during the Plant Sale. There will be a break for lunch at the plant sale, but food probably will not be supplied by the Garden. Those working at this event were reminded to park in overflow parking.

Thanks to the person who dropped off a pile of books by the West Wing. Members can bring books in anytime. Diana Burke and Leslie Duval are handling jams and jellies. Leslie reported that June Anderson donated mulberries which were made into 16 jars of jam.

Ice Bucket Challenge: Sue Paperek announced a plan to do the Ice Bucket Challenge in memory of Bill Teague on October 16, 2014. Money will go to the local San Diego ALS group.

DIT: Linda Steward stated that there are 15 new members in the current Docent in Training program.

Milestones: Sue Ruddick thanked all who put in their hours and reminded docents and volunteers that we are reaching the end of the year. She asked that people don't wait until December to report their hours. She also announced the Docent milestone awardees. Volunteers with milestone awards will be honored at the November general meeting.

Docent of the Month: The docent of the month is Joan Herskowitz. She was introduced by Mo Price.

President: Julian Duval commented on the beautiful exhibit of paintings from the Botanical Arts Guild of Southern California, curated by Leslie Randall, currently on exhibit in the Ecke Building.

Julian thanked everyone for helping with the Gala and announced the naming of the future pavilion after the Dickenson family. It will be formally titled the Dickenson Family Education Pavilion.

In other news, the Leichtag Foundation, which gave a million dollar grant to SDBG, has recently extended it for another year.

Development: Nancy Kelly reported that 530 people attended the Gala, which was 100 more than last year. The goal of \$17,000 for the Silent Auction was met, and the Gala netted \$101,000.

Operations: Pat Hammer thanked everyone for turning in their hours. This information is needed to apply for grants and other important records. Last week a total of 30,585 hours for the 2013/14 fiscal year were reported to the auditors.

Education: Sam Beukema reported on the the Orchid Festival and said that he needs cart drivers for this event. The cactus and succulent event will be at the end of the month.

Signups for the Garden of Lights are ready, and Sam reminded those who want to sell mulled wine will need to do the ABC training, which takes about a half hour. Mary Roper needs helpers for the kids' crafts section of the Garden of Lights.

Hamilton Children's Garden: Susanne Breuckner invited members to volunteer for the Family Fall Festival. She needs help with admissions at the Hamilton Gate. Volunteers will need to be trained for that. She showed a home project, cutting fabric into strips, for anyone who might want to take it on.

Gift Shop restroom remodel: The remodel of the women's restroom behind the Gift Shop is finished and has greatly improved that facility. Photo art donated by Barbara Osthaus has been hung on the walls.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49.

Program: There was no program following the meeting this month because of the preparations for the Fall Plant Sale. A slide show was presented featuring last year's Fall Plant Sale.

Respectfully submitted,

Nan Criqui, Secretary, with Susan Carneiro