

San Diego Botanic Garden Docent/Volunteer General Meeting August 3, 2016

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

Liz Rozycki introduced the plants on the plant table. This month's theme was summer color for the garden. The early bird and overflow raffle drawings were held.

The minutes of the June 1, 2016 meeting were approved with the following correction: The date of the Jazz Concert is the 7th of August not the 2nd as listed.

Treasurer's Report

Tandy Pfost reported that the Docent Funds had a balance of \$2039.17 at the beginning of 2016. The ending balance for June was \$2,302.05. Raffle tickets netted a post-expense balance of \$504.00 and the refreshment fund balance was 23.82. (There was no Docent/Volunteer meeting in July.)

Chairperson's Report:

Upcoming & Volunteer Signups:

Sunday, August 7	Dickinson Family Education Conservatory Groundbreaking Ceremony
Sunday, August 7	Summer Jazz Concert
Friday, August 19	Volunteer Appreciation Dinner
September 6	Free Tuesday
Saturday, September 10	Gala in the Garden
Week of October 10-17	Fall Plant Sale

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. This event will be held August 19, 2016 from 4:30 to 7:30 pm (not 4:00 pm as stated in the invitations). Festivities will take place in the Ecke Building. Members were encouraged to RSVP as soon as possible.

Gala in the Garden: Kathy Hoffman stated that sign-up sheets for pre-Gala, Gala, and post-Gala jobs were available at today's meeting. The Gala will be held Saturday, September 10 from 4:30 - 9:00 pm; help is needed from Thursday through Saturday, September 8 - 10. Donations are still being accepted for the silent auction that is part of the Gala. This year, guests will be able to bid online before the event for silent auction items.

Free Tuesdays: Volunteers are always needed for Free Tuesdays in the Garden. Members are encouraged to sign-up.

Hospitality: Going forward from this meeting, refreshments will consist of coffee, tea, water and cookies. Both money and sufficient staffing have become a problem for this program. The Docent Executive Board voted at its July 20 meeting to simplify refreshments to this formula. The new hospitality coordinator is Judy Focht.

Committee Reports

Fall Plant Sale: Stacy Fattaleh introduced the 2016 Fall Plant Sale T-shirts. Mo Price was presented with a free T-shirt for designing the logo for the back of the shirt: *Plant - Grow - Enjoy*.

The new shirts were on sale during the break between today's meeting and program. The price is \$15 for short-sleeves and \$20 for the long-sleeved styles.

Drivers are needed to pick up plants from various locations prior to the sale. They will be reimbursed for mileage costs with plant-sale bucks. There will be a 15-minute meeting prior to the September general meeting for these volunteers. Callers (people who will call growers to ask for donations) are also needed. The silent auction, raffle and botanic attic still are in need of donations. Also the jam and jelly committee would like donations of jars and/or fruit. Anyone with questions about the Fall Plant Sale may contact Stacy, Jane Hunt or Liz Woodward.

DIT: The new docent training classes will begin September 8 and continue every week through December. Liz Woodward is the new docent trainer.

Botanic Book Buddies: The next meeting of this group is Wednesday, August 10 at 12 noon in the Lawn House. The book is *The Snow Child* by Eowyn Ivey.

Tour Guides: Tour Guides will meet Thursday, August 11 in the Ecke Building (not the Larabee House as usual) at 10 am. The speaker will be Naomi Nussbaum who will discuss *Art in the Garden*. The September meeting will feature Ian Cole, SDBG's Director of Operations.

Garden Beautification: The schedule for August is:

Saturday, August 6: Herb Garden with Faith Meakin & Kathy Anderson

Saturday, August 13: Subtropical Fruit Garden with June Andersen

Saturday, August 20: Mexican Garden with Shari Harrold

Saturday, August 27: Bamboo Garden with Barry Martin & Mary Cozza

Peter Jones announced that the Bamboo Garden is in serious need of volunteers. If interested, members should contact Barry Martin at: theolderbear@att.net. The Mediterranean Garden also needs additional help this fall.

Volunteer Orientation: Peter Jones announced that the next Volunteer Orientation meeting will be held Friday, August 5 at 9:30 am in the Ecke Building.

Milestones: Sue Ruddick announced that 17 docents achieved the 90-hour milestone and 8 docents achieved the 200-hour milestone. Fran Spath announced that 5 volunteers achieved 90 hours and one volunteer reached the 200 hour mark.

VOM: Margaret Jones who has been writing the articles on VOMs for *Quail Tracks* is resigning. Anyone interested in taking on this job should contact her or Jane Hunt.

The volunteers of the month for July and August are Bobbi Siebert and Shahla Dreyer. They were introduced by Stacy Fattaleh.

POM: The Plant of the Month is the Plumeria family. Liz Rozycki stated that SDBG has an ongoing relationship with the San Diego Plumeria Society. Eight new plumeria trees have been planted in HGC. Home gardening information about plumeria can be had by contacting the society.

The monthly Plant Raffle was held.

Staff Reports

President: Julian Duval reported that SDBG realized more than \$50,000 in profit in the 2016-1017 fiscal year. The Garden also received more than 250,000 visitors, making its cost per visitor served the best of any attraction in Southern California.

Operations: New Director of Operations Ian Cole spoke about a renewed emphasis on safety at the Garden. He demonstrated the items that are included in a standard SDBG safety kit. Safety Kits are in many locations around the Garden, including the Larabee House, the West, Wing, the Welcome Center, HCG in Susanne Brueckner's office, the Gift Shop, and the Lawn House garage. The kits will be checked every six months and will contain a "last revised" notice.

The Safety Kits also include accident report forms which **MUST** be filled out for any injury or accident that occurs on SDBG property. For serious problems, call 911 immediately. Remember that members **CANNOT** offer advice or give treatment. First aid supplies must be used by the guests themselves.

The new safety committee includes Ian Cole, Stephanie Wilson and Greta Ott.

During discussion of safety issues, suggestions included having defibrillators on site, holding CPR classes for docents and volunteers, and labeling all the safety-kit boxes clearly.

Development: Carolyn Zollars was announced as the new Director of Development. She spoke about her excitement in working with volunteers and thanked all for help with the Gala and donations of items for this event.

Sunday, August 7, 2016 between 2:30 - 4:30 pm is scheduled to be the **Groundbreaking Ceremony for the new Dickinson Family Education Conservatory**. The event will be held in the Hamilton Children's Garden.

Education: Sam Beukema stated that the Insect Festival in July was a great success and had record-breaking attendance.

SOW & HGC: Susanne Brueckner thanked volunteers for their help with the recent Fairy Festival and announced that there were more than 30,000 tickets sold for the craft events.

Susanne also stated that volunteers are needed for the Carlsbad Rotary Club's October 1 Holiday Park event. Children's activities such as pumpkin painting will be featured.

Program: Bill Toone creator of ECOLIFE Conservation spoke about his experiences helping to create a national park in Madagascar. (SDBG members will joining a tour to this country in November.)

Respectfully submitted,
Nan Criqui, Secretary