

**San Diego Botanic Garden Docent-Volunteer Meeting  
January 4, 2017**

**9:33 am Meeting Called to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**

**Plant Raffle Table** – Jeremy Bugarchich, Jeremy Olin and Shane Dean

**Early Bird and Overflow Parking Drawing**

**Approval of November Minutes** –

- Approved by Sue Ruddick; seconded by Mo Price. Passed by show of hands.

**Treasurer's Report** – Tandy Pfost.

- \$2569 starting balance for 2017

**Dates to Remember:**

- Exhibit of Garden Tapestries from Ramses Wissa Wassef Art Center, Giza, Egypt - Jan. 14-March 31
- New Docent Training begins January 19
- PAW Walk – February 18
- Spring Planting Jubilee & Tomato Sale – March 18-19

**Announcements**

- Mary Holden, longtime Docent, passed away in October
- Topiary and Wreath team made \$4,523 for the Garden
- Leslie Duval has taken over as Hospitality Chair

**Coordinator and Committee Reports:**

**Docent Training** – Liz Woodward

- Four of the Docents who recently completed training were honored at the meeting: Marcia Adams, Anna Dreilinger, Mark Lippard, Lisa Robinson

**Baja Trip:** Margaret and Peter Jones

- One room left for March 28 trip. Cost is \$2900. Contact Peter and Margaret Jones asap if interested.

**Tour Guides** – Stacy Fataleh, Mary Roper and Diana Goforth (absent).

- Greg Hunter and Mike Blanco will succeed Mary and Diana as Tour Guide leaders. Stacy will continue with Tour Guide programs for the moment.
- January meeting will be held in the SDBG parking lot from 9:30 – 10:00, to be followed by the Trip Trio tour (see below). February speaker is Paul Redecker; March will be Ian Cole.
- Pictures taken by Charles Larrabee on display today.

**Botanic Book Buddies** – Barb Farley

- Meet every other month on 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed at noon. February 8 book is *Sowing Seeds of Wonder* by Sally Sandler. Everyone welcome to attend

**Directory** – Linda Stewart.

- Last year's Directory was passed around for updates.

**Garden Beautification** – Peter Jones.

- Peter thanked Greg Hunter for all his work in "incredible edibles."
- *Garden beautification dates for Saturdays in January 2017. All dates are from 9 am to noon*  
Saturday, January 7: Bamboo Garden, with Mary Cozza  
Saturday, January 14: Subtropical Fruit Garden, with June Andersen  
Saturday, January 21: Gardening with staff gardener Lance Boyden. Ask for location at the Welcome Center when you arrive.

**Milestones** – Sue Ruddick and Fran Spath

- January and December awardees were honored. Any awards not picked up at the meeting will be available for pick up in the Welcome Center.

**Docents at Large** – Stacy Fataleh and Susan Gjerset

- Nothing to report

**Volunteer of the Month**

- Tim Jara, introduced by Susan Gjerset.

**Trip Trio** – Carol Eblen

- January 12 tour will include Leo Carrillo Ranch and Sally & Will Willis' garden. Since the date conflicts with the Tour Guide meeting, tour guides were given first preference for signing up. Tour will leave SDBG at 10:00, after brief Tour Guide meeting at 9:30. Others who signed up can join the tour at 10:30 in Carrillo parking lot. Tour will be cancelled in case of rain.
- Upcoming tour will be of the Zoo gardens. Date TBD.

**Plant of the Month** – Paul Redeker.

*Pterosperrum acerifolium*. Dinner plate tree.

**New Business**

**Liz Rozycki retirement** - Allan Dodds

- Please sign the watering can at Jill Gardner's desk. Envelope there to contribute towards a gift for her.

**Discussion of required hours for Docents** – Mary Friestedt

- At the DEB, L. Woodward suggested lowering the required hours for Docents to 60 in order to attract more Docents. This would require a Bylaws change. Only Docents can vote on Bylaws changes; changes require the support of a simple majority of Docents.
- Discussion followed on pros and cons of making the change. Might encourage more Docents but could result in fewer participants at large events such as the Gala and GOL. Jill Gardner agreed to develop a survey to help us better understand the implications of such a change.

**Upcoming Classes:**

- See Quail Tracks or SDBG website for upcoming classes including those on Mosaics. Flyer for class on Baskets and Gourds is now available.

**Raffle**

**Staff Reports**

**Paul Redecker**

- Need volunteers to mark containers for plants in the Greenhouse destined for the Conservatory and the Garden. See Paul or Jeremy Olin.

**Julian Duval**

- Julian thanked Jane Hunt for her service as Chair and welcomed Mary and Allan. Also thanked Liz Rozycki, who is retiring, for her 11 years of service at the Gardens.
- Mary Friestedt and Julian will do the March program on Madagascar.
- Conservatory due to open in early 2018. Project to move staff to a new area near the service gate and then renovate Larabee is just going out to bid.
- Annual Meeting is January 21. All are invited. Speaker is Margaret Lowman, aka Canopy Meg, who has done research in flora of the worldwide canopy.

**Ian Cole**

- Tapestry exhibit opening January 12 features hand-loomed and plant-dyed tapestries. First time ever exhibited in a botanic garden.
- Souheyla Ford has taken a position elsewhere; see Ian or Jill Gardner if you need assistance until a new person is hired.
- Roberta Dotson is stepping back from gift shop. See Ian or Jill if you can help with gift shop management. They will manage the shop in the meantime.

**Carolyn Zollars**

- Halfway to goal for annual appeal. Thanks to Margaret and Peter Jones for sharing their story in the appeal letter.
- Planning for next year's Gala is getting started. Contact Carolyn or Doreen Prager if interested in serving on the planning committee.
- San Diego County, Shea Homes and Rincon were Gala sponsors. Let Carolyn know of others who might sponsor SDBG events.

**Sam Beukema**

- Raised \$235,000 in this year at GOL; had 650 volunteer slots to fill.
- Sign-ups for PAW walk and Spring Planting & Tomato Sale available at the break.

**Jill Gardner**

- Need four volunteers at January 21 Annual Meeting for sign in and food monitoring. Let Doreen Prager know if you can help.
- GOL was first use of Sign up Genius. Plans to continue using for large events.

**Program** – Bette Childs introduced Jeremy Spath, a hard-hitter in the plant world who got his start here at SDBG. He shared beautiful photographs of plants he has seen in the wild.

Meeting adjourned at 10:55

Respectfully submitted by Susan Starr, Secretary.