

## San Diego Botanic Garden Docent and Volunteer Meeting April 5, 2017

### 9:30 am – Call to Order

**Announcements:** Mary Friestedt. Free Tuesday in March was very successful; overflow parking was almost full in the morning and close to one hundred people visited the Larabee House.

**Plant Raffle Table and Plant of the Month** – Tony Gurnoe, the new Horticultural Manager, presented the raffle plants.

### Early Bird and Overflow Parking Drawing

**Approval of March Minutes.** Minutes were approved (Mo Price moved and Faith Meakin seconded).

**Treasurer's Report** – Tandy Pfost. We have a balance of \$2803. We paid \$81 for coffee machines.

**Dates to Remember** – See reverse of printed agenda.

### Coordinator and Committee Reports

**Tour Guides** – Mike Blanco and Greg Hunter. Over two dozen different tours were given in March and April, including the Science in the Satchel programs. Next tour guide meeting, April 13 at 10 a.m., will be devoted to discussing procedures. Need volunteers for 4/20, 4/25 and 4/27 children's tours.

**Directory** – Linda Stewart. New Directories are available today. Thanks to Nick and Sue Ruddick for all their help. Any Directories not picked up will be available after the meeting from Jill Gardner. Let Linda know of any corrections.

**Botanic Book Buddies** – Barb Farley. Next meeting is April 12 at noon in Lawn House. Discussion of *Unstoppable* on climate change.

### **Garden Beautification** – Sally Sandler

Saturday, April 8: Subtropical Fruit Garden with June Andersen

Saturday, April 15: California Natives (CA Gardenscapes) with Kay Worley

Saturday, April 22: Gardening with Linda Stewart (Mediterranean Garden)

Saturday, April 29: Gardening with our staff, check at the Admissions Booth

**Wednesdays:** Team captains are present to supervise volunteer gardeners most Wed. mornings in many locations, beginning at 9 am. These dates will be posted on the SDBG docent/volunteer website at [www.qbgdocents.org](http://www.qbgdocents.org). If you have questions about where gardening is happening, the Welcome Center can usually help you.

**Milestones** – Fran Spath and Sue Ruddick. New nametags for volunteers are on back table.

**Volunteers of the Month** – Stacy Fattaleh. March: Patti Fitchen; April: Carla Gilbert.

**Trip Trio** – Peggy Overland. Tour of Kay Worley and Dave Ehrlinger's gardens on 4/20 is full. Lunch will be at Casa de Bandini in the Forum. Meet at the Garden at 9:15 to leave at 9:30 for the Ehrlinger's garden.

**Welcome Center** – Please email Cheryl Mergenthaler at [cmergenthaler@sdbgarden.org](mailto:cmergenthaler@sdbgarden.org) if you have been trained and are able to help.

Reminder: double hours for Saturday and Sunday.

**Fall Plant Sale** – Jane Hunt and Stacy Fattaleh. Planning meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed of every month until October; first meeting is next week. Set up for the Sale starts Oct 16. Sale is the weekend of October 21-22. There is a job for everyone who is interested.

**Chocolate Festival** – Carol Eblen. Festival is May 13. Please sign up.

### **Staff Reports**

**Julian Duval** – Chuck Ades, our honoree at the first Gala, has passed away. He was on the Board for nine years; a big supporter of the Plant Sale. He and wife were benefactor members and major donors to the Conservatory.

**Ian Cole** – Remember to slow down and wave when you go by the Admissions Booth. We have new people working the booth; they don't recognize everyone yet.

**Sam Beukema** – Good turnout for the Spring Jubilee. 90% of the Tapestries have been sold. Sign-ups are available for the Insect Festival in July. Candy Sharda reminded attendees of the mosaic birdhouse class on 4/21 from 10-3.

**Lisa Reynolds** – Spring Party with Bunny will be in the Union Tribune entertainment section next week. Julian was contacted by the Union Tribune about his recent award as well as the Gardens' listing in "2017 top ten North American gardens worth traveling for." She hopes to have another tapestry exhibit next year. Purchase of a tapestry supports the artist and their family for about a year.

**Paul Redecker** – Have hired two new gardeners, Dylan Connelly and James Lamping. Samuel Horan is a new part time gardener.

**Jill Gardner** – 3 people guessed within one pound of Sam's weight. Greg Hunter, Anna Dreiling, and Janet Ziedler will each gets a \$15 gift certificate to the gift shop. Doreen is looking for Gala Committee members. Also need: volunteers for free Tuesdays; help for Deb Batey with the Fire Safety garden Mondays or Wednesdays; and someone to help with the Christmas tree for Balboa Park December Nights.

**Susanne Brueckner** – still needs a few more volunteers for Spring Party with Bunny and volunteers for our booth at the Balboa Park Earth Fair event. Susanne can use old newspapers for this event; please bring them in if you have them.

### **New and Old Business**

**Dianna Burke** – Misti Washington Gourd and Basket Guild will have classes at the Gardens on May 6 and 7. Teaching weaving baskets, and making gourds and jewelry.

**Robert Kopfstein** - Fair exhibit is being constructed. Sign up next month to staff the Exhibit at the Fair. Each shift is two hours and volunteers get free tickets to the Fair. Exhibit will include a six-foot tall topiary cowboy courtesy of Pat Hammer.

**Plant of the month.** Paul Redecker. Sweetshade, *Hymenosporum flavum*. In the Australian garden.

### **Break**

**Program** – Leslie Duval talking about Sam the Tortoise.

Meeting adjourned at 10:40.

Submitted by Susan Starr, Secretary