

Minutes
San Diego Botanic Garden Docent and Volunteer Meeting
May 3, 2017

9:30 – Call to Order

Plant Raffle Table – Tony Gurnoe.

Early Bird and Overflow Parking Drawing

Approval of April Minutes (Sue Papreck moved and Linda Wagner seconded)

Treasurer's Report – Tandy Pfost. \$2921 in cash on hand at the end of April

Coordinator and Committee Reports

Docent Training – Liz Woodward. Twenty DIT's completed their training this spring. We have two new Docents from our fall 2016 class: Nancy Sexton and Mark Dowling. Dates for the fall 2017 Docent classes are dates are on the SDBG web site. Please encourage people who are interested to sign up or come to volunteer orientation.

Tour Guides – Mike Blanco and Greg Hunter. Next meeting: May 11 at 10 am. Program will cover Sign Up Genius for Tour Guides. Mary Roper encouraged new volunteers to sign up to assist with Pond Study, as no particular knowledge of plants is needed to help with this children's tour.

Directory – Linda Stewart. Please pick up your 2017 Directory in the West Wing.

Botanic Book Buddies – Barb Farley – Next meeting is June 14 at noon. Group will discuss "Small Wonders" by Barbara Kingsolver.

Garden Beautification – Sally Sandler

Saturday, May 6: Bamboo Garden with Barry Martin and Mary Cozza

Saturday, May 13: Subtropical Fruit Garden with June Andersen

Saturday, May 20: Australian Garden with SDBG gardener James Lamping

Saturday, May 27: Mexican Garden with Shari Harrold

Peter Jones – *please join the Saturday crews!*

Wednesdays: Team captains are present to supervise volunteer gardeners most Wed. mornings in many locations, typically beginning at 9 am. These dates will be posted on the SDBG docent/volunteer website at

www.qbgdocents.org If at any time you are unsure about where gardening is taking place, please inquire at the Admissions/Welcome Booth.

Garden History – Stacy Fattaleh gave a brief history of Bill Teague's involvement with the Gardens. A plants man and a landscape designer, Bill served as a mentor for many SDBG horticultural staff, docents and volunteers. He was instrumental in creating many of the SDBG gardens including Seeds of Wonder, the Undersea Garden, Herb Garden, Walled Garden, Overlook, and Succulent Display Gardens. Bobbi Hirschhoff suggested that Docents buy a tile for the Conservatory in honor of Bill Teague.

Free Tuesdays – Rosemary Stafford. There was a large turnout for Free Tuesday this month. Stacy Fattaleh reported over 60 people in the Larabee House museum. Need help in Hamilton Children's Garden next month.

Milestones – Fran Spath and Sue Ruddick. New nametags are on the table at the back of the room and older ones can be found on the file cabinet in the West Wing.

If volunteers want to report additional hours in a month, please email Fran rather than using the web form. Milestone envelopes are available on the front table; after the meeting, they can be picked up at the Welcome Center.

Volunteer of the Month – Susan Gjerset presented Volunteer of the Month, Mike Blanco, who was featured in this month's *92024 Magazine*.

Trip Trio –Evon MacKinnon. There will be a trip to Japanese Friendship Garden on Thursday, May 18 in exchange for their Docent's earlier visit to SDBG.

Plant of the Month – Paul Redecker. Plant of the Month is Bird of Paradise.

Welcome Center – Please email Cheryl Mergenthaler at cmergenthaler@sdbgarden.org if you are trained and are able to help.

Chocolate Festival – Carol Eblen. Event is Saturday May 13. Please sign up if you can help with the stroller parking area or work as a roving salesperson.

Fair Display – Robert Kopfstein. The 1000 square foot exhibit is coming together nicely. Contact Robert if you can help with creating a water feature. Please sign up to be a garden host. Shifts are 12-2 and 2-4. Hosts receive two tickets to the Fair for every shift worked.

Staff Reports

Julian Duval – Thanks to the support of Francis Hamilton White, SDBG is again able to participate in the Blue Star Museum Program. Active duty military and their immediate family receive free admission through the summer with military ID.

Caroline Zollars –Brochures and samples are available for the Conservatory tile campaign. The tiles will be on columns outside the Conservatory. She is still working on donations to finish the Conservatory and would also welcome more volunteers to assist with Gala planning.

Sam Beukema – Thanks to those who helped with the Art Festival. This year's Family Fun Nights will be in the Heritage Museum area. We will need shuttle drivers; please sign up if you can help. Fairy Festival June 17 will be in and around the Eucalyptus Grove with a shuttle from Leichtag and extra admissions booth at the back entrance. If you can help with admissions, please see Mary Lou Morgan.

Ian Cole – Considering a variety of options to improve food service. Meanwhile, it may help to let visitors know that the coffee cart is an employment training opportunity.

Lisa Reynolds – Has flyers for Chocolate Festival – please take and post.

Jill Gardner - New volunteer orientation is May 19 and we already have 15 people confirmed. Garden needs additional shuttle drivers for Wednesdays and Saturdays. If you would like to be trained as a driver, please let Jill know.

New and Old Business

Sue Richardson announced an art show at her home, May 20-21.

Meeting adjourned 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Starr, Secretary.