

San Diego Botanic Garden Docent and Volunteer Meeting
October 4, 2017

9:31 Call to order

Plant Raffle Table and Plant of the Month – Tony Gurnoe

Welcome to the new Docents in Training – Mary Friestedt

Plant of the month - *Justicia carnea* – Brazilian plume flower.

A New Life for our Dead Eucalyptus - Peter Jones and Mary Friestedt. Would like to carve the dead Eucalyptus into a Baobab tree in honor of Bill Teague and all past, present, and future volunteers. The project will cost \$16,000 to complete, and Peter and Mary hope to have it completely funded by donations from SDBG volunteers. Mary and Peter are each donating \$4000 to start the process. Watch for an eblast asking for your tax-deductible donation.

Early Bird and Overflow Parking Drawing

Approval of September Minutes. Stacy Fattaleh moved; Mo Price seconded.

Treasurer's Report – Tandy Pfost. We have an increase of \$570 so far this year; the balance in our account is \$3140 but that does not include approximately \$500 for the purchase of carts.

Coordinator and Committee Reports

Gala – Doreen Prager and Carolyn Zollars. Close to 600 guests enjoyed the event. Thanks to the Gala Team: Cuisine Team; Silent Auction Team and everyone who made and donated auction items as well as the day of Gala volunteers. If you would like to help next year, see Doreen. \$147,000 was received from 68 donors, which closed out the Capital Campaign; an additional \$100,000 was contributed by an anonymous donor and another \$150,000 was given in honor of Julian and his service at the Garden, for a total of \$397,000. Half-price holiday gift memberships will be available in Development next month.

Fall Plant Sale – Stacy Fattaleh, Jane Hunt. Reminders: surround incoming donations with orange tape and keep the invoice/donation list with the donated plants. Also, early shopping is ONLY for those who put in 20 hours during the week. Alison Hiers has made 200 jars of jam and jelly; she thanks everyone who donated sugar, fruit, etc. Still need help with plant tally, plant holding, and Botanic Attic as well as items for the bake sale. Bring book donations to West Wing or the Ecke foyer; leave Botanic Attic donations on the Ecke patio after the 16th. Drop off bake sale items anytime Friday or Saturday, or on Sunday morning. Liz Woodward needs one more person to pick up plants in Escondido; if you have an SUV see Liz; she also needs someone to make calls to nurseries to schedule deliveries.

Docent Training – Liz Woodward. 20 people in the new DIT class. Docent status was awarded to Kim Kuba, David Vieira, Sue Hilton, Dennis Pilien, and Phyllis Salvage.

Tour Guides – Greg Hunter and Mike Blanco. Next meeting is Oct. 12 in Ecke. All invited. Jeremy Bugarchich will be showing us special plants in the Garden.

Botanic Book Buddies – Barb Farley. All invited to the discussion next Wednesday in the Lawn House of *West with the Night* by Beryl Markham, a memoir of her early life in South Africa.

Free Tuesday – Barb Farley. Thank you all for your support for Free Tuesday. Sign-up sheet on table.

Garden Beautification – Sally Sandler and Peter Jones – All dates are from 9 – 12

Saturday, Oct. 7: Bamboo Garden with Barry Martin and Mary Cozza

Saturday, Oct. 14: Subtropical Fruit Garden with staff

Saturday, Oct. 21: No gardening; Fall Plant Sale

Saturday, Oct. 28: Gardening with Peter Jones – location to be determined and announced soon.

Wednesdays: Please remember that team captains are present to supervise volunteer gardeners most Wed. mornings in many locations, typically beginning at 9 a.m. These dates will also 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 center booth.

Milestones – Allan Dodds (for Sue Ruddick) and Fran Spath. Reminder to pick up new badges; they will be on the file cabinet in the West Wing after the meeting. Be sure to record your hours. Hours are usually posted by N. Ruddick on the Sunday prior to the Docent/Volunteer meeting; hours coming in after that will be on next month's report. Awards not picked up at the meeting are in the Welcome Center.

Docents at Large - Stacy Fattaleh and Susan Gjerset. The Docents at Large are the liaisons between all Docents & Volunteers and the DEB. If you have suggestions or ideas for the DEB, please pass them on to Stacy and Susan.

Volunteer of the Month – Kathy Anderson, introduced by Susan Gjerset.

Please remember that VOM forms are available in the West Wing and on our website.

Trip Trio – Evon MacKinnon – Next outing is Tuesday, Nov. 14, to a fabulous Santee garden

Staff Reports

Julian- Thanks for everyone who helped with the Gala. Thanks to Stacy for organizing the Plant Sale. Still room for the wine tasting trip November 3-6, 2017. Thanks to Mary and Peter for leading the project to carve the eucalyptus tree.

Ian – Garden is partnering on a new project to compost food waste. At any meetings, please drop food waste in the “green bucket.” Please slow down going into the Garden and be sure to STOP at the Welcome Center. Looking into “active shooter training” and additional safety precautions; will keep us posted. No longer using scan cards for volunteers. New procedure may be introduced after the switch to a new computer system in January.

Sam – GOL is 27 nights. Many openings: sign up on patio or online. Still looking for some craft leads. If you are doing mulled wine, please sign up for mandatory 15 minute training.

Lisa – Special thanks to Barry Martin for coming to groom the bamboo area near the *Amorphophallus titanum* every morning during “corpse flower mania.”

Susanne – Family Fall Festival is on October 28. Still need shuttle driver and ticket sellers.

Jill - will have table at Leichtag event on October 14 with items from our gift shop. All current sign-ups are available on the Docent website: sdbgdocents.org

Old and New Business

**Celebration of Life for Margaret Jones on Thursday, Oct. 12, at 2 pm in the
Lawn Garden**

Program - Bob Holzinger will speak on Passifloras and the best ones for San Diego!

Meeting adjourned at 10:58.