Tandy Pfost (sub for Susan Starr)

## San Diego Botanic Garden Docent-Volunteer General Meeting May 2, 2018

Meeting called to order at 9:30am

There was a moment of silence for our friends Sue Richardson and Ann Hoeppner who passed away recently.

Plant of the Month and Raffle Plants: Jeremy Bugarchich

Dendrocalamus giganteus - Giant Bamboo,

Pelargonium Chocolate Mint,

Tuscan Blue Rosemary,

Agave Celsii,

Encephalartos ferox Cycad,

Iresine - Bloodleaf,

Stapelia gigantea - Carrion Flower,

Agathis robista.

Early Bird and Overflow Parking Drawing.

April Minutes: approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: Tandy Pfost. Cash on hand after paying for propagation picnic table is \$2,834.

Dates to Remember: See back page and Garden website for complete listings.

Volunteer of the Month: Christine Schmidt was introduced.

Plant Raffle

Welcome back to Thelma Montag who thanked everyone for get well wishes and visits.

## Coordinator and Committee Reports

Docent training: Liz Woodward.

New docents received certificates - Bobbi Siebert, Hugh Lawrence, Linda Bergquist, Lynne Karle, Katherine Carbon, Danuta Marquez, Mimi Parker, Shaun Henry, Terry Wood, Carolyn Zollars, Jessie Wu. The next classes start September 13.

Tour Guides: Mike Blanco and Greg Hunter. Next meeting is Thursday May 10 at 10:00 in Ecke. Jeremy will show new plants for conservatory. The pollinator class was well attended, and more classes will be scheduled.

Botanic Book Buddies: Barbara Farley. Next meeting is in June, and the book is The Nature Fix by Florence Williams.

Free Tuesdays: Barbara Farley. Sign up is available.

Garden Beautification: Faith Meakin and Barry Martin. No gardening on Saturday May 12 due to Chocolate Festival event. There are openings on two teams - South Africa and Larabee perennial beds. Anyone with minimal garden experience can contact Faith to become part of a team.

Garden History 101: Stacy Fattaleh. Stacy recognized Sally Sandler for all the work she has done researching garden history. Stacy spoke about Dorothy Telford, who was active in the garden during the 1980s. Ms. Telford was responsible for seven volumes of Living Memories that were created with hand calligraphy and paintings. Stacy brought one to share at the meeting. One of the seven was gifted to San Dieguito archives.

Milestones: Sue Ruddick and Walter Spath (for Fran Spath). Sue congratulated Sarah Clayton for achieving 2,000 lifetime docent hours in the Garden since 2008. Sue reported that 41 docents have not recorded their hours this year. They have been contacted by her.

Docents at Large: Stacy Fattaleh. Nothing to report.

Trip Trio: Evon MacKinnon. The last tour received five stars. The next tour will be Monday June 25 and available for sign-up at the pot luck meeting in June.

Fair: Robert Kopfstein and Greg Hunter. Blocks and dirt are installed and ready to plant. Fair theme is "How Sweet it is". The Garden's display is titled "Living the Good Life in San Diego County". Pat Hammer will provide topiaries. Liz Rozycki's propagation team is growing the succulents. Volunteers are needed to man the display during the fair and will be able to sign up on Sign-Up Genius.

Fall Plant Sale: Stacy Fattaleh. There is a job for everyone to volunteer. Donations are needed for Botanic Attic. Alison Hiers needs materials for jams and preserves.

Gala: Doreen Prager. The Gala honors Julian Duval. Gala Committee is chaired by Jim Ruecker, and members are Bobbi Siebert, Kathy Hoffman, Dianna Burke, Donna Cancel, Grace Swanson, Anna Dreilinger, Susan Hilton, Linda Cooper. There will be over 50 vendors, and attendance is expected to beat last year's 600. Rene van Rems welcomes volunteers from the Garden to help the floral arrangers. Doreen thanked the Committee members and Jill Gardner for coordinating volunteers.

## **Staff Reports**

Julian Duval: Brought our attention to the new Chinese Brush painting display in Ecke Building. He thanked Stacy Fattelah, Liz Woodward, Doreen Prager and Robert Kopfstein for their ongoing contributions. The Dickinson Family Education Conservatory is expected to open early fall or late summer. The interviewing is going well for Julian's replacement.

Sam Beukema: Nothing to report.

Jill Gardner: Starting to develop youth volunteer program with a waiver in order to include younger individuals. She is also working with the Garden to solidify the internship program. Jill observed that some sign ups on Sign-Up Genius are unknown individuals to the Garden. We were reminded that volunteers must be known and go through the regular processes prior to volunteering. There will be an adjustment to Sign-Up Genius on the Garden website.

Susanne Brueckner: Introduced Kim King, a new Education and Events Coordinator. 25 attended the pollinator class. Two pond studies are coming up on May 9 and 10. There are still some openings for volunteers at the Chocolate Festival on May 12 and for the Fairy Festival on June 23.

Lisa Weaver: Blue Star Military program, for active military families, started May 1 and will go through Labor Day. There are separate free days for retired and veteran military.

Carolyn Zollars: A reminder to place orders for Conservatory tiles. The estate planning seminar is Saturday, and it is wait-listed.

## Old and New Business

Mary Friestedt: A Nominating Committee for the next Board has been formed made up of Stacy Fattaleh, Liz Woodward, Mo Price. A new Programs Chair is needed to replace Bette Childs. She also announced there are still some openings for Barb Sands' trip to the Christmas Markets in Vienna, Salzburg, and Munich, Dec 5-14. Let Mary know if interested.

Program: Jim Bishop, past President of the SD Horticulture Society, will speak on his recent trip to Australia.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30am.

Submitted by Tandy Pfost, substitute for Susan Starr