

SDBG Docent-Volunteer Meeting Minutes
Feb. 6, 2019

Announcements. Allan Dodds, Chair.

New Spring Event, "Got Green", March 16. It is listed on the SDBG public website. Directory deadline is Feb. 28. Ari Novy could not be here today as he had an out of town engagement.

Plant of the Month. Tony Gurnoe. The plant is *Alpinia zerumbet*, Shell Ginger, an ornamental ginger plant with a great fragrance. Today's raffle plants all propagated out of the Garden.

EB and Overflow Parking Drawings.

January Minutes. Linda Cooper, Secretary. The minutes of the January meeting are approved as posted.

Treasurer Report. Gail Earnest. Ending balance was \$2943.83 after expenses of \$140.48.

Dates to Remember. Please see back page and Garden Website for current listings of events and classes.

Volunteer of the Month. Gail Earnest introduced by Stacy Fattaleh. Gail is a native of New Jersey and has a career as a business analyst. She became a Docent in 2015, is a member of the engraving team and leads school and sculpture docent tours. She is Treasurer of the Docent Society.

Raffle

Coordinator and Committee Reports. Susan Starr, Vice Chair. Brochures for the Master Gardener Spring Seminar on Saturday, March 16 are on the back table.

Special Event. Paw Walk will be held on February 16. All parking that morning will be in the overflow lot.

Docent Training. Liz Woodward introduced 21 members of the Winter/Spring 2019 DIT class. Volunteer Orientation for the next class is this Friday. A new Docent from the 2018 Spring/Winter class, Garuda Ishtarerra, was introduced and received her pin.

Tour Guides. Mike Blanco. Next Tour Guide Meeting is February 14 at 10 AM in the Ecke building. Following the meeting, Mary Friestedt, Lan Lin and Mike Blanco will discuss the herbs presentation that was given at the Scripps Natural Supplement Conference January 9 and give feedback. More information on the presentation is available on the Docent website (sdbgdocents.org) under 'Docs, Tour guides, Herbs at the San Diego County Garden'.

Garden Beautification. Faith Meakin, Anna Dreilinger and Barry Martin. Faith reported that Saturday GB requires lots of work to set up and get enough people to work. Rain has caused a backup of work. The next GB is in HCG. Will start doing rain dates. Pay attention to messages from Jill.

Garden Historian. Sally Sandler. Garden History 101 presented by Stacy Fattaleh, written by Sally Sandler. Anton van Amersfoort was the person who lived at the Garden the longest, 20 years. An early land owner. One property he owned was 80 acres. He purchased part of what is now the SDBG in 1923. During that time he grew avocados and many other types of trees. The Larabees bought 16.5 acres from him in 1943, the start of the Larabee estate.

Botanic Book Buddies. Barb Farley. Next meeting will be next Wednesday in the Lawn House at noon. The book will be *The Overstory* by Richard Powers. The next book will be *Invention of Nature* by Andrea Wulf in April.

Free Tuesday. Barb Farley. Please send any suggestions for making working in Hamilton Children's Garden easier.

Trip Trio. Carol Eblen, Evon MacKinnon and Peggy Overland. Save Thursday, March 28, for a visit to Sharon Clay and Steve Rose's gardens in Solana Beach. Sign up at the March meeting.

Docent at Large. Shahla Dreyer and Liz Tesolin. No report.

Milestones. Sue Ruddick and Fran Spath. Milestones and Awards on back of agenda. Final hours for 2018 reported were close to 50,000 hours. Please make sure to turn in your hours. Fran: Impressive hours logged by volunteers, with the big winner, Dan Peterson who had 400 hours in 2018. In addition Dan has achieved his 2,000 hour Lifetime Recognition.

Directory. Nick Ruddick. Items for the 2019 Directory updates needed by February 28. Please notify Nick if you have any changes. Volunteers who have reached 10 hours are eligible to be added to the Google Groups list and receive regular emails including the agenda, minutes and volunteer opportunities.

Staff Reports. Jill Gardner, HR and Volunteer Mgr.

Suzanne Brueckner thanked volunteers for their help with the Garden of Lights: over 2,500 hours logged in 28 nights! It was a very successful event. The next event is Paw Walk on February 16, from 8 AM to noon. Requests for help have been filled. Additional areas added this year are Native Plants and the Fire Safety Garden. Parking will be in overflow parking that morning.

The Pollinator Garden in Hamilton which is a part of the Education program will be getting more help.

Reminder that the Spring Succulent class will be held on 2/19 from noon to 3. The Orchid Workshop class will be on Sat., 2/23 from 11:30 am to 2 pm. Two helpers are needed for the Children's Plant Adaptation tour on 2/13.

Susanne, Got Green Earth Festival inspired Got Green event on Saturday, March 16, 10 am to 4 pm. There will be booths with educational demonstrations with ideas on how to live a more sustainable lifestyle. Vendors include Ecolife Conservation and Solana Center for Environmental Innovation. Also included are demos on vegan cooking, organic gardening, composting aquaponic and a tour of the Herb Garden. Event is free with membership or paid admission. Help is needed for someone who can give 10 to 15 minute tours of the Subtropical Fruit Garden and Incredible Edibles and volunteers to set up plant booths during this event.

Jill Gardner. Almost 50,000 hours reported from Nick for 2018!

Susan Parker now working with Michael Fisher in the West Wing. Susan will also be assisting with the Welcome Center and Gift Shop.

The new Accounting Assistant is Liz Dill.

Very close to having a new Horticulture Mgr.

Volunteer orientation of 24 to start this Friday, Feb. 8. Four of those in the class are students from UCSD.

Lisa Reynolds. Flyers now ready for the Got Green event to take to coffee shops, etc. in area. Saturday Feb 16, KUSI will do a segment on Paw Walk. Fox 5 will be at the Garden on Feb 15 for Presidents Day weekend and the educational program going on in Incredible Edibles in Hamilton Garden.

Allan. Trips: Barbara Sand brought flyers for the September 19th trip to South Africa. There will be an extension to Zambia, Botswana and Namibia. Please contact Barbara at bsands2@gmail.com. The Gourd and Basket Weekend is May 4 & 5 in the Garden with exhibits and classes. Sign up on the main Website.

Break for Refreshments.

Speaker Program, Caring for your own Bromeliads by Robert Kopfstein. Introduced by Kathryn Blankinship. Robert presented a delightful and informative program on Bromeliads from around the world.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:10

Submitted by Linda Cooper, Secretary