

## **SDBG Docent-Volunteer Meeting Minutes**

### **June 5, 2019**

#### **10:00 am. Call to Order and Pledge**

#### **Announcements**

**Allan Dodds** - Chair. Julian Duval and Kathy Duval's mother passed away.

**Susan Starr** - Co Chair. Reminder to submit names for Volunteer of the Month. VOM forms are available in the back of the room, in the office and on the website. Also, if you have a life event that you would like announced to the Google Groups list, please let Allan know.

**Ari Novy** - CEO. Thank you to Robert Kopstein for his work on the San Diego County Fair exhibits.

Ari introduced new staff member Brandi Eide, the new Managing Director. She will take on the day-to-day management of the Garden. Brandi comes from the Springs Preserve Botanical Garden in Las Vegas.

**Gala Update - Ari Novy:** Abby Eisen has been hired as an outside contractor to manage this year's Gala, which will be held at the new Conservatory, with an overall goal of raising \$400,000. This year's Fund-A-Need goal of \$250,000 will go towards the new Pacific Plaza Promenade and Visitor Center, replacing the Welcome Center. The center will be located on the west end of the parking lot and include an ocean overlook and promenade.

The 2nd phase of the plan will include a new path to this area from Overflow, with better access overall. The main parking lot will remain in place.

**Plant of the Month.** Tony Gurnoe. June plant is the Cape Chestnut. *Calodendrum capense*. Known as 'Beautiful tree from the Cape'. Found in Kenya through the Cape. It is an early summer bloomer that also does well in subtropical climates. Locals use oil from the tree for sunscreen. Tony expressed the need for better nursery space for propagation.

**May Minutes** - Linda Cooper, Secretary. Approved as distributed.

**Treasurer's Report** - Gail Earnest. The Opportunity drawing brought in \$119 and Refreshments \$84, with a balance at the end of May of \$3,533.74.

**Dates to Remember** - See back page and Garden Website for current listings.

**Volunteer of the Month** - Linda Cooper introduced by Shahla Dreyer.

**Opportunity Drawing** - Ed Beimel and Dianna Burke. Drawing for on time and overflow.

#### **Coordinator and Committee Reports** (Susan Starr, Vice Chair)

**Docent Training** - Liz Woodward. Three new Docents, Rosemary Haggarty and Charlene Evans were introduced and received a certificate. Rosie Eckberg was not present. The spring 2019 class was the first to get an official tour of the new Conservatory.

**Tour Guides** - Mike Blanco. Next meeting is June 13 at 10 am in Ecke. Business meeting will be followed by update/tour of Propagation led by Stacy Fattaleh.

Thank you to Julian for last month's tour. There will be no meeting in July. The August meeting is on the 8th.

**Garden Beautification** - Faith Meakin, Anna Dreilinger, and Barry Martin

(see <http://sdbgdocents.org/> for GB dates in June, July and August; click on Calendars)

Faith has the following announcements in GB:

Rose Ann Woolridge is going to be the future Overlook Succulent Garden Team Leader. Elaine Lawless is new Co-Team Leader with Kathy Anderson in the Herb Garden. Ann Heck is new Co-Team Leader with Kay Worley in California Gardenscapes. Priscilla Edwards is the new Team Leader in Australia Garden.

The Garden Beautification Team Leaders Meeting is noon June 19th in the Ecke Building. The 24 team leaders will be meeting with the Horticultural Staff and GB Coordinators, Anna Dreilinger, Barry Martin and Faith Meakin to review all the changes in the Horticultural program.

**Botanic Book Buddies** - Barb Farley. June 12th at noon in the Lawnhouse. *The Forest Unseen* by David George Haskell. August 14: *The Stranger in the Woods*, a novel by Michael Finkel. Everyone welcome. In August breaking tradition and reading a novel.

**Free Tuesday** - Barb Farley very busy yesterday with many classes for kids. The next Free Tuesday will be July 2nd.

**Trip Trio** - Carol Eblen, Evon MacKinnon, and Peggy Overland. Next tour is Thursday, June 20th to Vann Parker's garden followed by Rosie Eckberg's garden. Both gardens are over half an acre and close to the Botanic Garden. Meet at 9:30am and bring a lunch. Carol will bring dessert. Sign up outside after the meeting.

**Docents at Large** - Shahla Dreyer and Liz Tesolin. Shahla. Reminder to let them know of any issues in the Garden the Staff gardeners should know about.

**Milestones** - Sue Ruddick and Fran Spath (see over). Sue announced the docent milestones. No volunteer milestones this month. June is the end of the Garden fiscal year, so please submit hours for this year before the end of the month. Congratulations to Debbie Thompson, who has reached 2,000 Lifetime Hours! Debbie became a docent in 2004.

**Fall Plant Sale** - Stacy Fattaleh - The annual Fall Plant Sale will be October 19 and 20. Need signs-ups for callers for donations and drivers to pick up plants for the Plant Sale. Will use sign-up genius for making lunches. Linda Stewart will be in charge of cashiers. Alison Heirs requested donations of jars, fruit and cotton fabric, which can all be left behind the garage to be picked up. Short on donors for plant sale as many plant vendors have gone out of business. Please plant succulents now to use for the sale. There will be no sign-ups for the week before the Plant Sale, just show up. A new painting, created by Grace Swanson, was shown. It will be used for Plant Sale posters and t-shirts. T-Shirts will be in short sleeve only, please sign up ahead to ensure size availability.

**Fair Exhibit** - Robert Kopfstein showed photos of the Dibble house exhibit, a photographed canvas of the house with a front porch built on the front, called 'Rainbows End'. The Cycad exhibit is 360 degrees, 'in the round'. Each exhibit is 500 sq. ft. Plant palettes for both exhibits were picked by Katie Pelisek.

The Garden received several Merit Awards for the exhibits. Among them were;

The Theme Award for 'No Place Like Home', for the use of OZ inspired plants, The Master Gardeners Earth Friendly Garden, the Native Plants Society Award, the San Diego Horticultural Society, Don and Dorothy Walker Award of Excellence, as well as Notable Plants awards.

Volunteers are needed on July 5th to remove the exhibits by 5:00 PM. A special thank you to Bill Rawlings for his carpentry and lighting skills and more.

**Staff Reports** Jill Gardner. No staff reports. Jill's new extension is 218. Reminder to pick up your parking passes for Fair volunteers in Jill's office.

Caren Clayton asked for sign ups for the Fairy Festival to be held on Saturday, June 22.

**Other Business:** **Leslie Duval** - SDBG Travel. Julian Duval announced that the trip to Peru in the Fall has been filled.

There will be another trip to Baja on March 30 to April 10th, 2020, with the focus on plants and whale watching. Sign ups will be available soon.

**Join us for our June Potluck!!**

**There is no V&D Meeting in July.**

**Meeting adjourned at 11:18 am**

**Linda Cooper, Recording Secretary**