

Draft: SDBG Docent-Volunteer Meeting Minutes  
August 7, 2019

**9:30 Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**

**Announcements** - Allan Dodds, Chair. Reminder to send in VOM nominations.

**Tony** - The plant of the month is *Lagunaria patersonia*, the cow-itch tree. Originally from the Queensland subtropical part of Australia. It is a large, under utilized tree which does best in wetter and warmer areas.

**Opportunity Drawings** - Jeremey Bugarchich. Cork Oak saplings from the Garden are available, contact Jeremy.

**Secretary** - Linda Cooper. There are no changes. Minutes approved as distributed.

**Treasurer** - Gail Earnest. The starting and ending balance for August is \$3,591.87. No change from July. There is now enough money to allocate for a special need.

**Ari** - Gala tickets on sale now for members and guests. Need suggestions for prospects for Gala sponsors and Silent Auction donations. The Garden of Lights name will change, as the event will be re-oriented to the smaller Conservatory space. It will be a Holiday Festival instead of a light show. The community will be involved in the name change.

**Brandi** - Staff will be holding monthly one hour Garden information meetings for volunteers on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 8:30 am. The first one will be on propagation.

There are now binders for work order request forms for volunteers to fill out in areas throughout the Garden. Especially if urgent or for safety concerns.

**Volunteer of the Month** - Shahla Dryer introduced Priscilla Edwards. From NY state, Priscilla is from a family of gardeners. She has a construction and engineering background and has been involved in many San Diego park projects, including Mission Bay, and Balboa Park's Japanese Garden. A docent since 2018, Priscilla is team captain of the Australian See Collection and works in GB and at the Welcome Center.

**Coordinator and Committee Reports** - Allan for Susan Starr

**Liz Woodward** - Volunteer orientation is this Friday, August 9th and the first Docent training class is on September 5th. Classes are filling up, the last class had 21 DITs. There are three new docents, Cheryl Rehome, Barbara Schwartz and Susan Kelly. Jeff Clingan will join Liz in the classroom this fall.

Master Gardener Program: Applications for UCCE San Diego Master Garden program are due October 1 for new classes starting January 20.

**Tour Guides-** Mike Blanco. - Tour Guide meeting is tomorrow morning at 10 am. Nick Ruddick will discuss the Docent Website.

**Garden Beautification** - Faith Meakin. Upcoming meetings are listed on the Agenda as well as the Garden Website. Saturday, Aug 3rd was first GB meeting to be held in the new Conservatory. Deb Batey needs replacement for herself for the Fire Safety garden.

More volunteers are needed for GB. Some Gardens have no volunteers at all. John Clements gave an interesting talk and demonstration on his favorite tools for the garden.

**Book Buddies** - Barb Farley. Books to read for the next meeting on August 14th are: The Stranger in the Woods and The Monk of Mokha. The meeting will be held in the Lawn House at noon.

**Free Tuesday** - Barb. It was well attended.

**Fall Plant Sale** - Stacy Fattaleh. There are many volunteer opportunities to work the Plant Sale. Those who work 20 hours the week of the sale are invited to shop early. Hours are 9 to 5, or stay as long as you can. Donations needed for jars and fabrics for jams. Donations needed for Botanic Attic and lunches. Sign up sheets passed to order a Plant Sale T-shirt.

**Trip Trio** - Evon MacKinnon. Tours of 2 gardens in Solana Beach (424 Dell Court) on Friday, September 13th. Meet at SDBG at 9:30 for a 10 am tour followed by lunch. Please send suggestions for gardens for next year.

**Julian Duval** - Baja trip coming next Spring. Flyer in front.

**Docents at Large** - Shahla Dryer. Shahla continues to bring volunteer concerns to the DEB board. Please let Shahla or staff know of concerns.

**Milestones** - Sue Ruddick. Two docents have reached 2,000 Lifetime hours. Paula Eoff and Carla Gilbert.

Fran Spath. Thanks for sending in hours and thanks to Nick Ruddick for his help.

**Allan Dodds** - The hours for the last fiscal year have been submitted. Nick Ruddick reported hours are 2.7% greater than last year.

**Staff Reports** - Jill Gardner. The Education Coordinator, Kim Mitchell has left. There will be a new person hired for the Education Department. The Volunteer training is this Friday. 24 have signed up, the largest class yet. 90% stay. Next Friday, August 16 is the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

**Lisa Reynolds**, Public Relations - Fall plant sale flyers are available to pass out to the public.

**New business** - None

**Break for Refreshments** - Thanks to the refreshment committee: Lucille Brown and Lin Holzinger.

**Meeting Adjourned** - 10: 47 am

**Speaker Program** - Andy Cuffel, owner of Cuffel Farms, will speak about Tillandsia and Bromeliads.

**Respectfully Submitted by Linda Cooper, Secretary**