

QuailTracks

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San Diego
BOTANIC
GARDEN

230 Quail Gardens Drive
Encinitas CA 92024

www.SDBGarden.org

MISSION STATEMENT:

To inspire people of all ages to connect with plants and nature.

Upcoming Events

Chocolate Festival

May 8



Photo: Susanne Brueckner

Fairy Festival

June 19



Photo: Rachel Cobb

Hemerocallis Show and Sale

June 12

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SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

PHONE EXTENSIONS

www.SDBGarden.org

760/ 436-3036 (phone) 760/ 632-0917 (fax)

Monday through Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM

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SDBG Highlights of 2009

Bill Rawlings,
Chairman of the Board of Trustees



Each year, as the Board of Trustee's Chair, my role at our Annual Meeting in January has been to relay to our members the notable or significant Garden achievements of the prior year. For each of the last three years, the list has become progressively longer. This year, Saturday, January 9th, was a very warm and beautiful Southern California winter day. We were at the Hamilton Children's Garden, seated comfortably outdoors and in the sun, while the rest of the country was experiencing record cold. Our goal was to shorten the program and encourage everyone to enjoy the day, so the decision was made to rank the annual highlights into a David Letterman-style "Bill's Top Ten."

So, in a very abbreviated format, our highlights included:

10. Successful 10th Anniversary Gala in the Gardens, which raised over \$160,000.
9. Numerous Garden improvements due to our docent and volunteer beautification teams and the addition of several Garden spaces.
8. The 2002 Master Plan under review, to determine future development of the Garden. The consulting firm of Deneen Powell Atelier, Inc. and a committee of staff, trustees, and volunteers, have taken on this task. The Garden is also participating in the American Association of Museum's museum assessment program, or MAP. The report on our collection management was very positive and encouraging. A committee composed of staff, board, and docents will continue to evaluate and implement recommendations in 2010.
7. The privilege of hosting the following celebrity visitors: Jane Taylor for our Herb Festival, Pearl Fryar for our Garden Expressions, and Huell Howser for our Gala.
6. The Landscape for Fire Safety Garden was enhanced with the addition of a defensible space exhibit. A miniature model home features combustion-resistant construction and defensible space landscaping. The display was developed with expertise and funding from the City of Encinitas Fire Department and major funding from FEMA.
5. A 40% increase in Garden memberships since the June opening of the Hamilton Children's Garden.

4. A 41% increase in the number of visitors to the Garden (record total of over 237,000).

3. The addition of several new public events including the Eco-Design Fair, Garden Expressions, and the enhancement of Thursday Family Fun Nights (thanks to partial funding from The City of Encinitas and Mizel Family Foundation Community Grant Program).

2. The successful completion of our capital campaign, raising more than \$4.5 million to create the award-winning Hamilton Children's Garden, which opened in June.

1. The historical announcement at the Gala on September 12, 2009 to officially change our name to the San Diego Botanic Garden.

The Garden had many other important events and “happenings” during the past year and, in truth, I believe that each of you could compose your own significant Top Ten list based on individual experiences in the Garden. The obvious conclusion from this exercise is that our venue is a very dynamic and exciting one.



Photo: Rachel Cobb

Hamilton's Children Garden

At last year's Gala, Huell Howser eloquently voiced his opinion on the priceless value of preserving the special or sacred places in California and the world. I know that we not only have the privilege, but also the obligation of stewarding and sharing our 35 acre Garden with everyone, especially children.

My sincerest respect and appreciation goes to our outstanding staff and the many members of our volunteer organizations. A large number of very enthusiastic and dedicated people are required to successfully maintain and operate our “sacred place.” Without their help, we would have struggled and perhaps failed to achieve many of our goals. This past year, 2009, was a record year for the Garden. We all look forward to an even more incredible 2010.



In the last newsletter we mentioned that the Hamilton Children's Garden received an Orchid Award in the category of Landscape Design from the San Diego Architectural Foundation and an Honor Award from the San Diego Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. We are happy to announce that in January the San Diego Botanic Garden received a Landscape Design Commendation from the Landscape Design Council of California Garden Clubs, Inc. “for creating an outstanding public garden that successfully fulfills its mission, *to inspire people of all ages to connect with plants and nature.*”



SDBG Going Green

Thanks to a donation from RSI Roofing Contracting and Consulting in San Diego there are now three Bushman rain barrels in the Hamilton Children's Garden, each with a 205 gallon capacity.

Our wet winter made it a perfect time to have these rain barrels—plants seem to thrive when watered with rainwater. Did you know that a 1,000 sq. ft. roof area in a 1" rain event can potentially collect nearly 600 gallons of rainwater?



Photo: Herb Knutson



Photo: Rachael Cobb

Lady Bug Day

Saturday • April 24 • 10 AM – 1 PM
Please see page 12 for details.

Chocolate Festival

Saturday • May 8 • 10 AM – 4 PM

Spend the Saturday before Mother's Day at San Diego Botanic Garden's famous Chocolate Festival. Enjoy dozens of delectable chocolate tastings, demonstrations, a chocolate fountain, and more. This family-friendly event also features lots of children's activities and a variety of Mother's Day gifts. "Tasting" tickets will be sold on site.

Cost: Free with admission or membership, plus tasting tickets as desired.



Photo: Rachael Cobb

Palm and Cycad Sale

Saturday • May 22 • 9 AM – 3 PM

This one-of-a-kind event features limited and rare palm and cycad species from exceptional Southern California nurseries. This event is co-hosted by the Palm Society of Southern California and San Diego Botanic Garden. For more information call Phil Bergman at 619/ 291-4605.

Cost: Free with admission or membership.

Encinitas Rotary Wine Festival

Presented by the Rotary Club of Encinitas to benefit local charities
Saturday • June 5 • 5 – 8 PM

We invite you to join us in the Garden for the seventh annual Encinitas Rotary Wine Festival, a celebration of international wines, local microbrews, and cuisine. We are one of the beneficiaries of this event. With the purchase of a \$135 or a \$500 ticket and the selection of San Diego Botanic Garden as your charity of choice, we will receive the entire amount of your ticket price. We will receive \$60 from your purchase of an \$85 ticket. After May 15th, the minimum ticket price increases to \$100, with \$75 coming to the Garden. To purchase event tickets, and to find out more, please go to www.encinitaswinefestival.com.

Hemerocallis Show and Sale

Saturday • June 12 • 1 – 4 PM

In this spectacular display, members from the Southwest Hemerocallis Society showcase their best daylilies from the garden, judged for ribbons. Activities include a plant sale and tours of the daylilies at San Diego Botanic Garden.

Cost: Free with admission or membership.



Photo: Rachael Cobb

Strings in the Garden

Sponsored by Carlsbad Strings Education Association, Inc.
Sunday • June 13 • 4 – 7 PM

Enjoy an evening of string serenades by children of all ages and a silent auction during this collaborative fund-raising celebration of San Diego Botanic Garden and Carlsbad Strings. Refreshments will be served. For ticket information call Randy Bengé at 760/ 434-8629 or go to www.carlsbadstrings.org.

Fairy Festival

Saturday • June 19 • 10 AM – 2 PM

Fairies! Come celebrate summer at the Hamilton Children's Garden. Wear your fairy costume if you have one, or come just as you are. Create a fairy house, make fairy treasures, leave messages on the wishing bush, or shop in the Fairyland market. Don't forget to bring your camera for a picture with the Fairy Queen. Schedule: Crafts, 10 am – 12:30 pm; Fairy Parade, 12:30 pm; Free Play and Stories, 1 – 2 pm.

Cost: Free with admission or membership. Many free activities, small fee for some crafts.

Thursday Family Fun Nights

The Garden will stay open until 8 pm on Thursday nights from June 3 – September 2. There will be activities for children and, on selected nights, music in the Lawn Garden. Check our website for the music schedule, www.SDBGarden.org.

Cost: Free with admission or membership.

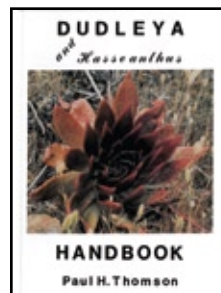


Chinese Brush Painting on Display

The Lung Hsiang Chapter of the American Artists of Chinese Brush Painting will have their beautiful paintings on display in the Ecker Building from March 31 to June 7. This is their fourth annual show at SDBG. The group meets every second Tuesday at the Garden.

Gift Shop

Considered a collector's item, the Gift Shop now carries *Dudleya and Hasseanthus Handbook* by Paul H. Thomson. A definitive work on the subject, this book introduces us to a versatile plant adapted to extremes of both temperature and habitat. It is profusely illustrated with both color and black and white photographs with location maps. The book is no longer in print. A limited number is available at the Gift Shop at a special price of \$50, a considerable reduction from those offered on the secondary book market. Join us on April 18, for Kelly Griffin's presentation on "Dudleyas and Other Native Succulents" (see pages 10-11).



Library Notes

Thanks to a donation from Patricia and Hermann Fuchs, the SDBG Library now has several nice books on Japanese flower arranging, or Ikebana. She also donated books on orchids, bamboo, Japanese gardens, container gardening, and more. The Library is open 11 am – 3 pm Wednesday and Saturday or by appointment. Call 760/ 436-3036 x210 to confirm. Library motto: Books can help you plan ideas.

Photo: Susanne Brueckner



Volunteer and Docent News

January Volunteer of the Month: **ROBIN HERMANN**

Robin hails from the Houston, Texas area where she met her husband of 29 years. Together they came to California when he got a job transfer. They have a 14-year-old son. Robin taught Special Education for 25 years; now she does some substituting but much of her free time is spent at SDBG. Her passion is parrots and other exotic birds. She first discovered SDBG in 2006, at Garden of Lights. In 2008, she became a docent and volunteers extensively, often with her birds. She has worked in Admissions, the Gift Shop, Membership, Orchid Festival, Herb Festival, Chocolate Festival, Fairy Festival, Insect Festival, and the Fall Plant Sale, logging in over 600 hours in 2009. What Robin likes most about the Garden is the friendliness of the people and helping out wherever she can. She loves to tell everyone about SDBG.



Photo: Martene Dupriest

February Volunteer of the Month: **AMELIA LUKAS**

Amelia is practically a California native. She moved here when she was in fifth grade. Her dad worked in the Navy Yard in Brooklyn and when it closed, they took the opportunity to move to Chula Vista. She grew up with the man who was to become her husband and father of their three children. He is a contractor, fishing fanatic, and also a volunteer at SDBG. Amelia, has a science degree, but has been teaching elementary school in Encinitas for 32 years. After her husband built their home in Encinitas, the ground was bare. No one in the family had any gardening experience. Amelia started out with foundling and orphan plants and slowly her garden grew. Now they have fruit trees, an orchid green house, tropical garden, herb garden, and the front yard is all Australian plants, mostly protea, uses no water, and blooms prolifically. Amelia first became interested in SDBG through the plant sale. Wanting to learn more and meet new people she now volunteers regularly. Her many jobs include Admissions, the Children's Garden, driving the cart, and wherever she is needed, often at a moment's notice. What Amelia likes most about SDBG, which she refers to as her home away from home, is the people, whom she finds genuinely sweet, and the peacefulness of the Garden.



Photo: Martene Dupriest

March Volunteer of the Month: **KITTY SPARROW**

Growing up, Kitty always knew where to find her mother from May to September—out in the garden, “working” and talking to the neighbors who walked by their corner lot in Birmingham, Michigan. Kitty’s own experience with plants began when Ford transferred her husband to California in the early ’70s. With two toddlers, much of her day was spent in the yard as they played, so she began to plant annuals. Later, when working in sales and marketing for Farberware, she switched to perennials! Kitty’s first memory of a public garden is Williamsburg, in her native Virginia. She loved the maze behind the Palace, and followed the docents around to hear about the history. When they built the Nixon Library two miles from her Yorba Linda home, she volunteered as a garden docent and loved talking to visitors from all over the world. When she moved to Carlsbad after her husband died, she came straight to SDBG to volunteer. Serving on most of the event committees, including two years as Auction Chair on the Gala committee, she has found many new friends. Always ready to work as well as play, last year she said “yes” to a term as secretary for the Docent Society and member of the Board of Trustees. Kitty has no favorites—from the Gift Shop to the Fairy Festival, every day is a great day at SDBG.



Photo: Martene Dupriest

Ready for Prime Time

As topiaries go, “Dorothea” (as she is fondly named) is drop-dead gorgeous, thanks to the magic of Margaret Jones, who completely remodeled the life-sized figure in the finest of haute couture. A succulent artist, Margaret often has “Ah-hah!” moments when just the right specimen strikes her so she can decorate the waitress topiary with hundreds of tiny cuttings imitating curled hair, beads, lace, and ruffles. The new Dorothea is a show stopper and just the first of several figures being transformed from ivy to water-thrifty succulents. Margaret is a docent and Team Captain of the Undersea Succulent Garden—one of many garden beautification volunteers who make a difference you can see at San Diego Botanic Garden.

Volunteer Orientation

Saturday, May 15 • 9:30 AM – 12 NOON

As a non-profit organization, the San Diego Botanic Garden depends upon volunteer support. If you are interested in an exciting and rewarding place to contribute time, please join us for the Volunteer Orientation. Volunteer opportunities and a short tour of the Garden will be part of the presentation. To RSVP, please call Shamayne at 760/ 436-3036 x206.

Docent Training Classes

The San Diego Botanic Garden is offering a six-class series to train volunteers interested in becoming docents. Each three-hour class in the series is self-contained, thus you may begin with any class, but must attend all six to complete the docent training. Topics include Botany Boot Camp and Herbs; Deserts and Succulents; Tropical Rain Forests, Palms, and Cycads; California Natives and Firescapes; Mediterranean Climates; Subtropical Fruit and Bamboo. For more information call Shamayne at 760/ 436-3036 x206.

Docent Meetings — Everyone Welcome

First Wednesday of the Month

Arrive at 11:00 AM for the program

April: Diana Goforth, Education and Events Coordinator for SDBG, will give a slide presentation on her trip to South Africa last November.

May: Denise Gillen will give an overall presentation on hummingbirds, including rescuing and banding. Denise began working in the San Diego Zoo’s Hummingbird Exhibit in 1976, where she developed a successful hand-rearing program for baby hummingbirds. Referred to as “Mother Hummer” since 1978, she has appeared on TV with her many babies, written several articles on hummingbirds, and participated in a hummingbird banding program in Southeastern Arizona from 1989–1992. Although now retired from the Zoo, Denise continues to take in baby hummingbirds on occasion, and gives presentations to help people learn more about these amazing little winged jewels.

June: Summer Potluck—Bring a dish to share and join us for lunch.



Photo: Sally Sandler

Seeds of Wonder Garden Railroad Team Needs Your Help

About four years ago, a Garden Railroad was installed in Seeds of Wonder, donated by Donna and Tom Golich. The layout consists of an upper and lower loop, a track for a single car to go back and forth, and a gondola tram operating over the other tracks. The Garden Railroad is one of Seeds of Wonder’s most popular attractions and the trains are a big hit with our young visitors.

Over the last year the layout has been maintained, supervised and upgraded by a dedicated—but too small—group of volunteers like Bob Kaplan, Tom Golich, and Shirley Reeves, with help from staff. We want to invite everybody interested in model trains, limited interaction with children, and some easy gardening work, to join our Garden Railroad Team. For more information on this exciting volunteer opportunity please e-mail Susanne Brueckner at SOW@SDBGarden.org, or call 760/ 436-3036 x222.



Photo: Susanne Brueckner

New Succulent Display Garden

by Jeremy Spath

Photo: Herb Knutson



Last year the Garden's administrative offices were expanded with a new manufactured building west of the Ecke Building. The surrounding location was designated as a low-water garden to complement the existing Undersea Succulent Garden.

The initial thinking was to continue the theme of the Undersea Succulent Garden; however, at the urging of our horticulture specialist, Bill Teague, we decided to try something new. Succulent plants would still dominate, but the overall garden design would be more suited to the average home owner, giving plenty of examples on how to create a water-smart garden.

The benefits of this kind of landscape are considerable. The plants chosen combine year round color, have low water needs, and because they are succulent they are naturally fire resistant. It is often thought that these types of plants are usually spiny; yet, we made a point to use only species without spines, making the garden child-friendly. The recipe is simple but the possibilities are endless.

The initial step was to add amended soil to create natural looking mounds and elevation changes that help bring interest and visual texture to the garden. After spreading and mounding

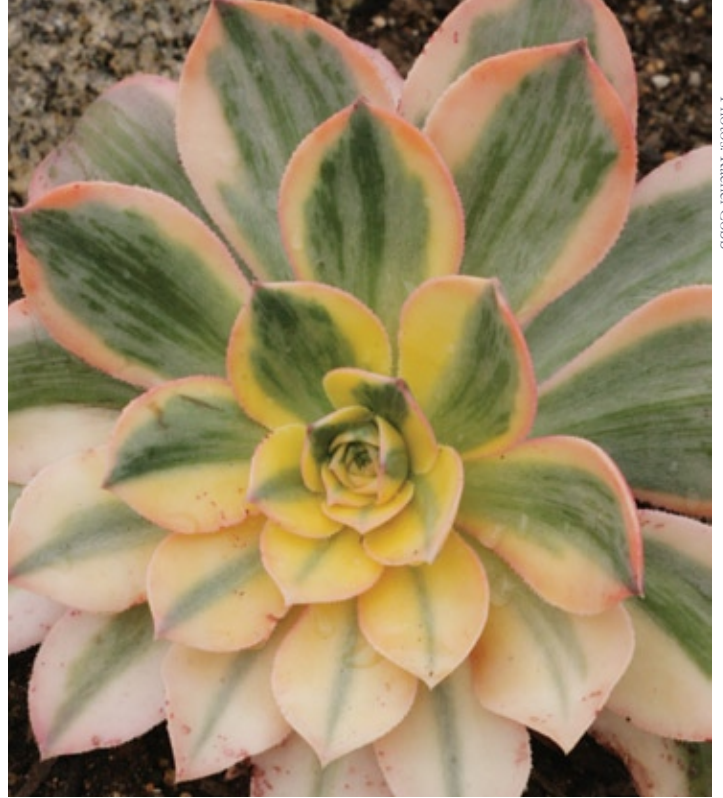
the soil to our satisfaction, we added large boulders, which were strategically placed around the mounds using a crane. Boulders, like the mounding of soil, give a natural-looking appearance and allow the plants to become a visual accent.

We favored unusual plants, like the curiously formed trees with grass-like leaves known as Ponytail Palms or Elephant Foot trees, *Beaucarnea recurvata*, and two species of the Australian bottle tree, *Brachychiton rupestris* and *B. bidwillii*, both of which have an understated beauty and help soften the architectural boxiness of the new rectangular-shaped building. There are several striking silver fan palms, Mazari palm or *Nannorrhops ritchiana*, and large succulents like kalanchoes, aeoniums, and aloes. In fact, so many varieties of aloe were used that it has often been referred to as the aloe garden. To tie all the large pieces together smaller succulents were planted like echeveria, senecio, rhipsalis and *Aloe 'Grassy Lassie'* and even the annual purple alyssum to help give a feeling of cohesion to the garden.

Something was needed to visually break-up the plantings and give the eye a place to rest. On the slope we installed a dry creek, which is both ornamental and functional. It has proven to work well preventing erosion during the winter rains. As



Photos: Rachel Cobb



a finishing touch, container plantings were placed at the corner of the building to soften an otherwise hard edge.

Succulents are often thought of as slow-growing; but the garden has filled in tenfold in the mere nine months since its creation, and never a day has passed when at least one of the plants was not in bloom. Therefore, any time of year is the best time to visit and enjoy this new garden.

Some of the plants used:

Trees: *Acacia willardiana*, *Beaucarnea recurvata*, *Brachychiton rupestris* and *B. bidwillii*, *Ipomoea arborescens*, *Ficus palmeri*

Aloes: *Aloe plicatilis*, *A. rubroviolacea*, *A. karasbergensis*, *A. fleurentiniorum*, *A. capitata*, *A. munchii*, *A. chabaudii*, *A. hijazensis*, *A. conifera*, *A. betsileensis*, *A. ortholopha*, and many more.

Large succulents: *Kalanchoe beharensis*, *K. orgyalis*, *K. bracteata* (silver form), *Aeonium* 'Purple Moon,' *A. urbicum*

Smaller succulents: *Echeveria* sp., *Aloe* 'Grassy Lassie,' *Graptopetia* 'Fred Ives,' *Senecio serpens*



Photo: Herb Knutson

Spring Classes

Succulent Container Garden



Photo: Better Childs

Saturday • April 10 • 10 AM – 1 PM

Besides needing very little water, succulents add color, texture, and architectural interest to a great variety of containers. Design your own unique succulent garden with Bette Childs from the Flower Girls. She will demonstrate how to use succulents in

containers, show a variety of planted containers, and help students design and plant an arrangement. Bette is a docent at SDBG. Fee includes all materials.

Cost: Members \$55, non-members \$65.

Pre-registration required by April 7.

Succulent Wreath Class

Tuesday • April 13 • 9:30 AM – 2 PM

Tuesday • May 18 • 9:30 AM – 2 PM

Take home a beautiful succulent wreath that you make yourself in this class taught by the SDBG wreath team. (Same class, offered twice.) Bring clippers, water, and a snack, and dress in layers since the class is held outside. Fee includes instructions, materials, and wreath form. This class fills up fast so sign up early.

Cost: Members \$55, non-members \$65.

Pre-registration required by April 8 or May 13.

Dudleyas and Other Native Succulents

Sunday • April 18 • 2 PM

Learn about Dudleyas from someone who is considered a world expert. Kelly Griffin, of Rancho Soledad Nursery, will share his insights on this great low-water plant for Southern California along with other native succulents. In addition, we will have *Dudleya and Hassenanthis Handbook* by Paul H. Thomson available, which is out-of-print and the only book available on the topic.

Cost: Members \$10, non-members \$12.

Pre-registration required by April 15.

Garden Photography Workshop

Saturday • April 24 • 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Do you love nature? Are you passionate about photography? Learn proven techniques from local plant and garden photographer, Bob Bretell, who will teach you how to create award-winning flower and garden portraits. In this five-hour workshop, you will learn the creative use of natural light under all conditions, artistic effects using movement and depth of field, adding fill flash, and how to simplify your composition for maximum impact. Photos will be projected and critiqued by the group and the instructor. This is a fun workshop designed for all levels. Students must bring a digital camera and a tripod is recommended. Bring a bag lunch.



Photo: Bob Bretell

Cost: Members \$69, non-members \$79.

Pre-registration required by April 20.

Australian Plants for a Mediterranean Climate

Sunday • April 25 • 2 – 4 PM

Explore the beautiful and unique plants from Down Under that thrive in our Mediterranean climate. Mo Price will discuss ground covers, rockery plants, climbers, shrubs, and container plants, with practical advice on cultivation requirements and tips on which plants are most likely to thrive in your garden. After the presentation, she will lead a tour of the Australian Garden at SDBG. Mo completed an internship at the Australian Plants Nursery in Ventura County.

Cost: Members \$10, non-members \$12.

Pre-registration required by April 20.



Photo: Mo Price

Learn to Bead

Tuesday • April 27 •

10 AM – 3 PM

Spend the day creating a St. Petersburg bracelet embellished with netted leaves. Taught by Ruth Ellison of Jewelseed Designs, who specializes in custom handcrafted beaded jewelry. Bring a lunch. Fee includes all materials.

Cost: Members \$55, non-members \$65.

Pre-registration required by April 22.



Build a Sustainable Kitchen Garden Using Hydroponic Wick Method

Saturday • May 1 • 9 AM – 1 PM

Learn the principles of applying hydroponics as a sustainable agriculture and landscape method, then set up your own kitchen garden with veggies and herbs. Produced by Ag PALS. Fee includes all materials.

Cost: Members \$70, non-members \$90.

Pre-registration required by April 27.

Free Composting Workshop

Saturday • May 15 • 10 AM – 12 NOON

Learn how to compost your food scraps and yard trimmings. Workshop also covers vermicomposting (worms). Compost bins and worm bins for sale afterward. Taught by Solana Center Master Composters. Meet at the Compost Demonstration Site by the Seeds of Wonder Children's Garden.

To register contact the Solana Center at 760/ 436-7986 or www.solanacenter.org.

Birds and Blooms in Watercolor

Sunday • May 16 • 9:30 AM – 4 PM

Helen Shafer Garcia will teach you a contemporary approach to watercolor focusing on color mixing, dropped in color, and glazing methods. The class will spend a portion of the time painting in the Garden focusing on selected plant shapes and bird habitats. A materials list will be supplied upon registration.

Cost: Members \$65, non-members \$75.

Pre-registration required by May 11.



Helen Shafer Garcia



Canary Islands Basket

Saturday • May 22 • 10 AM – 3 PM

Fiber artist Carol Lang will teach students how to make a basket using the orange-tipped leaves from the dragon tree, *Dracaena draco*, native to the Canary Islands and very important to the Garden. We have major plantings and it is part of our logo. Students will have

time to finish one basket and start on another. Wear old clothes, bring a pail to soak plant material, and bring a sack lunch. Fee includes all materials.

Cost: Members \$42, non-members \$47.

Pre-registration required by May 18.

Contemporary Floral Design

Sunday • May 23 • 2 – 4 PM

Learn design principles and techniques as you create your own contemporary floral design at this hands-on workshop taught by floral designer extraordinaire David Root. Bring your floral tools: knife, clippers, scissors, and wire cutters. Fee includes all materials.

Cost: Members \$55, non-members \$60.

Pre-registration required by May 19.

Permaculture: No-till Gardening

Wednesday • June 2 • 6 - 9 PM AND

Saturday • June 5 • 9 AM - 1 PM

Develop a deep understanding of nature's resources so you can create a bountiful no-till garden that will enhance your life and benefit the environment. This two-day class is taught by Julia Dashe, Farm Manager and Educator at San Diego City College's Seeds at City Urban Farm.

Cost: Members \$65, non-members \$75.

Pre-registration required by May 28.



New Plants for Southern California

Saturday • June 12 • 10 AM – 12 NOON

Wendy Proud of Mountain States Wholesale Nursery in Glendale, Arizona, will introduce you to some exciting plants for our dry Southern California landscapes. New to Southern California, these plants have been successfully used in low water areas like Arizona. Plant sale will follow her presentation.

Cost: Members \$10, non-members \$12.

Pre-registration required by June 8.

Kumihimo (Cord Weaving)

Thursday • June 17 • 10 AM – 12:30 PM

Learn the ancient art of *kumihimo* from fiber artist Lynn Ely. Students will learn how to weave yarn and other fiber materials into colorful braids of many uses. Lynn shows her large variety of fiber art work at Off Track Gallery in Encinitas and many other venues. Fee includes all materials.

Cost: Members \$25, non-members \$30.

Pre-registration required by June 14.

What's Cooking

Cooking with the Opera Singing Chef

Best Seafood Comfort Dishes

Saturday • April 3 • 1:30 – 4:00 PM

Chef Elizabeth will prepare her highly prized Beggar's Fish Stew, made with local, fresh-caught fish and seasoned with rosemary, a full-flavored broth, and a pinch of cayenne; Flakey Tuna Potpies with tender carrots and celery, laced with a touch of curry; and a very easy Salmon Corn Chowder, which can be made using left-over baked salmon. Bits of tomato, dill, and succulent kernels of corn make this dish into a perfect meal.

Slow Foods

Saturday • May 15 • 1:30 – 4:00 PM

"Slow Foods" is a food movement gaining in popularity that is all about good health and the smart use of resources. It promotes using whole foods, fresh foods, and foods grown locally. Chef Elizabeth will demonstrate how to use "slow foods" in her Cinnamon-cured Chicken Breasts with cherry BBQ sauce; Seasoned Fingerling Potatoes; and Strawberries and Grapes with a red wine reduction that tastes and looks a lot like chocolate.

Food and Wine Pairing

Saturday • June 5 • 1:30 – 4:00 PM

Which wine goes best with a slowly baked Beef Brisket Barbeque? Spicy Pulled Chicken and Grilled Corn Tacos are perfect for summer entertaining, light and flavorful...but with which wine? Victorian Rose Geranium Cake with pine nuts is beautiful and delicately flavored, perfect for a June wedding or shower; which wine will you toast with? Students will sample each dish with a coordinating wine.

Recipes and tastings will be offered for each dish.

Cost per class: Members \$25, non-members \$30.

Pre-registration required.

Ongoing Programs

Docent-led Guided Tours

Saturdays • 10:00 AM

Meet at the Visitor Center to learn about plants from around the world. On the last Saturday of the month, the tour focuses on water-smart plants.

Cost: Free with admission or membership

Botanical Originals

1st Sunday of each month • 9:30 AM

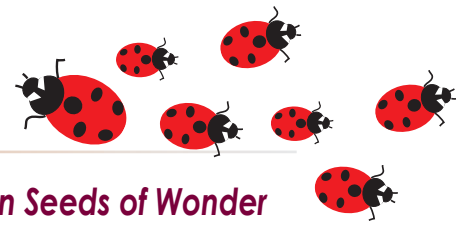
Gift card-making with natural elements.

Cost: \$20 initial fee

Bird Watching

1st Monday of each month • 8:00 AM

Discover the fascinating birds and the unique art of bird watching at the San Diego Botanic Garden.



Lunch with Bunny

Thursday, April 1 • 9:30 – 11:00 AM

Children ages 2 to 6 are invited to visit our gentle bunny and make some spring crafts. Children will also parade through the garden, go on a bunny hunt, and enjoy a rabbit snack.

Cost: Members \$12 per child, non-members \$17 per child.

Pre-registration required by March 26.

E-mail SOW@SDBGarden.org or call 760/ 436-3036 x222.

Ladybug Day

Saturday • April 24 • 10 AM – 1 PM



Calling all young citizen scientists! Ladybugs are an important natural defense against harmful bugs and scientists from Cornell University need your help to track the ladybugs' whereabouts. Help search for ladybugs and do ladybug-related crafts. Irene T. Hunt will be reading and signing her new book with many pictures from our very own San Diego Botanic Garden.

Cost: Free with admission or membership. Small fee for some crafts.

Chocolate Festival

Saturday • May 8 • 10 AM – 4 PM

The Chocolate Festival is filled with fun activities for kids. For a small fee, children will make decorative hats, a Mother's Day card, and more. See page 4 for details.

Fairy Festival

Saturday • June 19 • 10 AM – 2 PM

See page 5 for details!



4th of July Parade

Sunday • July 4 • 9:30 AM

Join us for our annual Red, White, and Blue Parade through the Garden. Bring decorated strollers and wagons (no bikes or scooters please) and wear red, white, and blue. We will meet at Seeds of Wonder at 9:30 am and the parade will start at 10:00 am sharp. After the parade you are welcome to stay and enjoy the Garden.

Cost: Free with admission or membership.

Plan Now for Summer Fun

Abrakadoodle Art Camp

Week-long art camps, July 19 – 23 and August 9 – 13. Camp runs 9 am – 2 pm Monday through Friday including a mini-art show for parents on Fridays. Cost: \$189. Information and registration: 760/ 731-0555 or www.abrakadoodle.com/ca07.html. Discount for early registration.

Champions Science Adventures

Summer Day Camps

Action-packed science fun for kids ages 6 – 12. Each week-long camp program is filled with fun experiments, individual projects, and engaging science. Camps are Monday through Friday, 9 am – 12 noon or 9 am – 3:30 pm. Cost range is \$199 - \$309. Enroll online at www.discoverchampions.com or call 1-888-458-1812. Discount for early registration.



Ongoing Programs in Seeds of Wonder



For Young Children

Free with admission or membership (Not available on rainy days)

Occasionally a program may be cancelled without prior notice if a volunteer is not available. For more information email SOW@SDBGarden.org.

Toddler Tales and Tunes

2ND, 3RD, 4TH, AND 5TH Tuesday • 10 AM — 12 NOON

Play in the garden and pot plants to take home. Children and caregivers participate in pre-school stories and songs at 10 am.

Garden Arts and Crafts

Wednesday • 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Children ages 1 – 6 may participate in a variety of arts and crafts. There will also be plant potting and other fun activities.

Plants, Wings, and Crawly Things

Thursday • 10:00 – 11:00 am (not offered on April 1)

Children ages 1 – 6 will discover plants and bugs that live in our garden.

Friday Fun

2ND Friday • 9:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

Children ages 1 – 6 may pot a plant and play in the garden.

Ongoing Programs in Hamilton Children's Garden

Hamilton Happenings

Stop by on Monday and Thursday afternoons at 3:30 pm to explore the natural world in the Hamilton Children's Garden. Sometimes science, sometimes art, sometimes stories, sometimes crafts. Requirement: bring an inquiring mind and your imagination.

Cost: Free with admission or membership.

No registration required.

Find Leonard

Lucille the lizard is looking for her best friend Leonard. Come to the Hamilton Children's Garden, follow the trail, and see if you can help find him.

Best Friends Tea Party

Sunday • May 23 • 2 PM

Dress up fancy to sip tea from fine china. Bring your best friend and your favorite doll to enjoy a formal tea party in the Hamilton Children's Garden. "Mistress Molly Quigley" in full colonial dress will teach colonial manners. In addition to tea and light refreshments, each child will make a "tussie mussie" and "food items" for her doll. Mom and Grandmother are welcome. For children ages 6 and up.

Cost (children): Members \$20, non-members \$25.

Cost (adults): Members \$25, non-members \$30.

Pre-registration required by May 17. Call 760/ 436-3036 x206.

BIRTHDAY PARTIES Seeds of Wonder (ages 1–6) and the Hamilton Children's Garden (ages 6–12) are perfect environments for a nature-based garden party. For party details at Seeds of Wonder, email SOW@SDBGarden.org or call 760/ 436-3036 x222. For details at Hamilton Children's Garden, e-mail mroper@SDBGarden.org.



SAVE THE DATE

GALA IN THE GARDEN • SEPTEMBER 11, 2010

Event Chair: Jim Ruecker

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us for a terrific party under the September stars. It will be difficult to top last year's 10th Anniversary Gala, but we have got a surprise or two in store for you—it's a new decade for the Gala. For sponsorship and ticket information, please visit www.SDBGarden.org and look under Events for Gala in the Garden.

Las Patronas grant brings much-needed shade to the Hamilton Children's Garden

If you visited the Hamilton Children's Garden during the cooler months of winter and early spring, you may find it difficult to remember the heat of the summer sun. When the new garden opened in the middle of June, we heard from our visitors that the young trees and plants did not provide enough shade. Two areas in particular, the Elephant Foot Tree Forest Overlook Deck and the Tropical Surround, became natural gathering places in need of shelter from the sun. Now, thanks to a generous grant from Las Patronas, two custom-designed shade structures have transformed these spaces. We thank the members of Las Patronas for their tradition of service to enhance the quality of life in our community, and we invite you to visit soon to relax in the shade of these attractive new garden enhancements.



Parents can watch their young engineers as they explore the Cob House and build a balsa wood fort in the Earth Builders exhibit from the comfort of the newly-shaded Elephant Foot Tree Overlook Deck.



The Tropical Surround now functions as an outdoor classroom and gathering space for the participants in our children's programs and special events.

Photos: Susanne Brucekner



Thanks to a partnership between the American Public Gardens Association and Better Homes and Gardens® magazine, we are able to offer a free one-year subscription to anyone who joins or renews their membership between March 15 and June 15, 2010. Make your membership contribution by mail or online at www.sdbgarden.org/membership_form and you will automatically receive a gift certificate to submit for your own subscription or to give as a gift.



San Dieguito Garden Club President Geri Thirloway presented Julian Duval with the Club's donation to San Diego Botanic Garden at their February meeting. The Club held a fundraiser, featuring René van Rems, on November 18th to raise money for the children's programs offered in the Hamilton Children's Garden. In addition to raising funds for the Garden, the members of the SDGC contribute their talents each year creating decorations for our annual Benefactor Dinner. Thank You San Dieguito Garden Club for ALL that you do!

Photo: Nikki Alexander

Thank you Donors

San Diego Botanic Garden wishes to thank the following donors for cash and in-kind gifts, including Benefactor and Larabee Society memberships, received between November 16, 2009 and February 15, 2010.

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Ruth Larabee believed in the importance of preserving open spaces and gardens for the enjoyment and education of the community. This belief led her to bequeath her 30-acre estate for just that purpose, a gift that became San Diego Botanic Garden. Planned giving is the cornerstone of the Garden's history and the key to its future.

The Arbor Vitae Guild was established to honor the Garden's friends who have indicated that they have included the Garden in their will, trust, or other deferred giving method. Gifts of all sizes are welcome, as they ensure the Garden's natural beauty and vitality for the enjoyment of future generations. We invite you to begin a conversation about how a planned gift can benefit you now and the Garden in the future. Please contact Tracie Barham, Director of Development, at 760/ 436-3036 x216 for more information.

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