

QuailTracks

Volume 28, No. 1 Circulation 6400

January, February, March 2017

San Diego
BOTANIC
GARDEN

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SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN PHONE EXTENSIONS

SDBGarden.org

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

Monday – Friday, 9 AM – 5 PM

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The Garden Shops

Open 10 am – 4 pm daily (Closed on Christmas Day)

Membership Discounts:

10% to Family, Individual and Steward level members

20% to Patron and higher level members

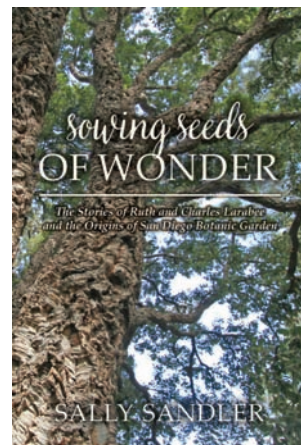
Our very best wishes for the New Year from the all-volunteer team at The Garden Shops. We will look forward to seeing you at the Shops in 2017!

Always new, yet always the same enlivening place to find a unique selection of plants and retail items, all inspired-by-nature to enhance both your home and garden. Featuring cork purses and jewelry, plus a collection of books for Southern California gardeners from the novice to horticulturist. For the kids, we have educational and cuddly toys, books, games, and apparel featuring the ever-popular Magic Tee. Wear it outside and watch it burst into color.

The Garden is delighted to feature “Sowing Seeds of Wonder,” the true story of Ruth and Charles Larabee, the founders of San Diego Botanic Garden as told by author and SDBG Docent Sally Sandler. What you read may surprise you!

It all started one day when Sally was tending the beds in the Walled Garden and a visitor asked her who the Larabees were. One year and 400 pages of documents later, Sally had some answers to the visitor’s question and the mystery of the Larabees. What Sally found was a story more complex and remarkable than anyone might have imagined. *Sowing Seeds of Wonder*, tells the story of the Larabees’ lives and the legacy they left to all of us who love San Diego Botanic Garden.

All proceeds from the Garden Shops support our educational and conservation programs. Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to find out what’s new or what’s on special in the Garden Shops!



Members, Donors, Volunteers, Docents and Friends of the Garden!

Join us for our Annual Meeting

Saturday, January 21, 2017

10:00 – 11:30am

Light breakfast will be served

230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, 92024

Ecke Building

Learn about the Garden’s accomplishments over the last year and the impact your support and involvement has made. We will also share with you all the new and exciting plans for the year ahead!

We are thrilled to have a very special guest speaker, Dr. Margaret Lowman, at our Annual Meeting. The plant pallet for our Dickinson Family Education Conservatory will largely feature plants from the tropical forest canopy. Dr. Lowman’s life work has been the scientific study of this tree top biome.



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

On the cover: Cork Trees
Photo: Rachel Cobb



Message from the President

Julian Duval
President/CEO

Campus Upgrades and More at Your Garden in 2017

The past few months have kept us all very busy. Construction is underway for the Dickinson Family Conservatory. We are closer to making this important project a reality. I thank everyone who has so generously supported this innovative educational facility thus far! I invite you to learn how you can join us in this effort if you have not yet done so. There's still time to be a part of this special building that will integrate plants and people in a new way. Give us a call for a personal tour of the Garden and a chance to learn more about this exciting project for which, at this writing, we are less than \$500,000 away from reaching our \$5.3M goal. Every dollar counts!

I am pleased to say our 17th annual Gala in the Garden, honoring Encinitas' own Nan Sterman was a great success. Special thanks to our amazing Chairs: Jim Ruecker, Rene Van Rems and Sabrina Cadini (see pages 8 & 9). Without our incredibly dedicated corps of volunteers, we would never have been able to raise more than \$200,000 this year! I thank our guests for choosing to spend their Saturday night here in the Garden for this important fundraising event. I am happy to share that this year's fund-a-need raised enough money for the purchase of a plant tagging machine (embosser) and two used carts for our horticulture team.

I had the pleasure to provide a tour to the Ambassador to Chile's wife, Antonia Valdés née Echeñique, who was recently visiting from Washington, DC. With only one day here in San Diego, we were honored she chose to spend it here at the San Diego Botanic Garden along with Alison Gildred, wife of the U.S. Consul to Chile. Ms. Valdés née Echeñique is very involved with the Chagual Botanic Garden in Santiago, Chile. She is busy adding a children's garden to this 110 acre garden, that is dedicated to native plants from the Mediterranean climate zone of Chile. She serves as Executive Director for Chagual Botanic Garden.



Julian and County Supervisor Dave Roberts take a tour of the Lawn House that will be upgraded with \$2.1M of county funds.

Thanks to our supervisors and a grant from the County of San Diego, we are moving closer to seeing the fulfillment of this \$2.1M construction improvement on our grounds. This project includes the renovation of the historic Larabee House so it can serve as a museum about our founding and history. In addition, the County will be constructing a separate building near our back parking lot to house our horticultural and maintenance staff offices that will include space for our 300+ volunteers to store their belongings while working in the Garden.

Lastly, the current Lawn House garage utilized by our horticultural team for equipment will be transformed into an interpretive space for visitors. We are very grateful to Supervisor Dave Roberts and the County of San Diego for their support of our mission through these significant campus enhancements.

I hope you enjoy learning more about our history in this edition of *Quail Tracks* (on pages 7 and 11) and I look forward to seeing you in the Garden soon!

Warmly,

Julian

Remembering Our Dear Friends who passed away this last year

Jane Branum
William Buddenhagen
Laurence Denny, M.D.
Betty Ehrlinger
Bill Gish
Harry J. Griffiths
Elmer Lorenz
Maurice Miller
Marianne Muse
Mille Purvis
Michael Roper



Julian with Antonia Valdés née Echeñique, the Chilean Ambassador's wife, and Alison Gildred, wife of U.S. Consul to Chile on a tour of the Garden.



To see full class descriptions and to pre-register go to SDBGarden.org/classes.htm or call 760/ 436-3036 x201.
You can also pick up flyers at the Ecke Building or at the Welcome Center.

Winter Classes

Beginning Mosaics – Butterflies, Dragonflies, Seahorses, Owls, and Turtles

**Wednesday, January 18, 12:30 – 4 pm &
Wednesday, January 25, 12:30 – 4 pm**

Come and enjoy two relaxing days creating art for your garden with friends. In this beginning mosaic class, students will create a butterfly, dragonfly, seahorse, owl, or turtle using beautiful stained glass, mirror glass, iridescent glass, beads, and glass gems. All materials and tools will be provided. Instructor: Marsha Raftar.

Cost: Members \$75, non-members \$90, plus a \$60 materials fee paid directly to the instructor on the first day of class. Please register by January 13.

Focus on Orchids Photo Workshop With Bob Bretell

Saturday, January 28, 9 am – 1 pm

Orchids are among nature's loveliest creations but are often very challenging to photograph. Bob Bretell has been shooting orchids for 20 years and will demystify the frustrations many camera enthusiasts have capturing these exotic flowers on digital. There will be indoor and outdoor shooting in the garden followed by a critique and discussion. All levels are welcome!

Cost: Members \$62, Non-Members \$74. Please register by January 17.

Mosaic Garden Jewels

Saturday, January 21, 10 am – 1 pm & Saturday, January 28, 9:30 am – 1 pm

Create a beautiful mosaic using ocean rocks and glass beads. Students will learn how to glue and grout colorful beads to create flowers, plants, or other shapes resulting in attractive garden art. Instructor: Candy Sharda.

Cost: Members \$30, non-members \$36, plus a \$30 materials fees is paid directly to the instructor on the first day of class. Please register by January 13.

Living Wall / Vertical Garden

Offered twice this Quarter! Register TODAY. These classes will sell out!

Saturday, January 21, 9 am -12 pm & Saturday, March 4, 9 am – 12 pm

Learn the basics of planting a living wall. We will be planting a 10"x20" wall of succulent varieties in just 3 hours that you can take home! Living walls can be used exterior or interior with multitudes of colors, textures and sizes. The possibilities of striking patterns and unique designs are endless. Instructor: Mary Lou Morgan.

Cost: Members \$30, non-members \$36 plus \$80 per student materials paid directly to the instructor on the day of class. Please register by January 8 for the January 21 class. Please register by February 24 for the March 4 class.

Succulent Turtle

Tuesday, January 31, 9 am – 12 pm

Take home a charming succulent turtle that you make yourself in this class taught by the SDBG Succulent Wreath Team. Students should bring small clippers or scissors to class.

Cost: Members \$45, Non-Members \$54 (fee includes materials). Please register by January 27.

Water Smart Landscape Design for Homeowners

Saturday, February 4, 9 am – 1 pm

This three-hour workshop will teach homeowners the basics of how to do a landscape makeover. Topics include soil, design, turf removal, plant selection, planting, irrigation, rainwater catchment, and implementation – all elements needed to convert high-water use turf to a beautiful, water-efficient landscape. This class will also include information on the SDCWA Sustainable Program Turf Removal incentive and how to apply. A tour of the San Diego Botanic Garden will be included after the classroom presentation. Instructor: Sharon May Lowe.

Cost: Members \$45, Non-Members \$54.
Please register by January 27.

Tropical Garden Zentangle Class

ZERO ART EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

Saturday, February 11, 1 - 3 pm or
Saturday, March 11, 1-3 pm

You've seen the adult coloring books... now make your own with Certified Zentangle® Teacher, Janet Masey! If you can draw a circle or straight line, this art is for you. Zentangle is also a healing art. As you engage in the process, you will focus and have a sense of well-being. Try it out! Instructor: Janet Masey, Certified Zentangle Teacher.

Cost: Members \$40, non-members \$48 plus a \$10 materials fee paid directly to the instructor at the class. Ages 10 and up welcome. Please register by February 3.

Translucent Stitched Color Pencil Book

Sunday, February 12, 9 am – 4 pm

Instructor : Helen Shafer Garcia

Working with color pencil on vellum is beyond fun. This simple book structure is a perfect way to create, draw, stitch while blending color, ink, collage, and paint on 2 different but compatible surfaces. Participants will learn at least 6 different techniques in this workshop including color pencil techniques on vellum, drawing flora shapes, color mixing, acrylic painting with abandonment and book binding to stitch signatures in place.

Cost: Members \$93, Non-Members \$109. Fee includes a \$12.00 kit fee with vellum, PVA glue, signature paper, oil pastels, and waxed, linen thread. Please register by February 3.

Succulent Wreath Class

Saturday, February 18, 9 – 3 pm or
Tuesday, March 14, 9 am – 3 pm

Take home a beautiful succulent wreath that you make yourself. Taught by the SDBG Succulent Wreath Team. Students should bring small clippers or scissors to class.

Cost: Members \$65, Non-Members \$78.
Fee includes materials. Please register by February 10 for the February 18 class and by March 10 for the March 14 class.

Succulent Bunny

Tuesday, February 21, 9 am – 12 pm

Take home a charming succulent bunny that you make yourself in this class taught by the SDBG Succulent Wreath Team. Students should bring small clippers or scissors to class.

Cost: Members \$45, Non-Members \$54.
Fee includes materials. Please register by February 17.

Healing Garden and Therapeutic Landscapes Immersion

Saturday, March 4, 9 am – 12 pm

Learn the design principles of a Healing Garden for stress-reduction and mindful awareness. We'll look at how access to nature influences health and how to incorporate it into daily life (including a meditative walk through the Botanic Garden). Special attention will be given to personal experience of place and the psychology of the "inward garden," a place within us "before gardens and after gardens." Instructor: Chris Garcia.

Cost: Members \$40, Non-Members \$48.
Please register by February 24.

Photo: Bob Bretell



Macro Flower and Garden Photography Workshop with Bob Bretell

Saturday, March 18, 9 am – 1 pm

Join professional flower photographer Bob Bretell as he leads you into the fascinating world of macro photography. During this fun and informative workshop Bob will show you everything you need to know to create stunning flower and nature photos. Bob will show you how to choose the best macro lens or filter, compositional techniques, using flash and light modifiers, stacking layers and more. A photo critique and discussion will follow.

Cost: Members \$62, Non-Members \$74.
Please register by March 10.

Build Your Own Hydroponic Spring Garden

Saturday, March 25, 9 am – 1pm

Learn the principles of the hydroponic wick method by building your own sustainable garden to take home.

Instructor: Alex Kallas of AgPALS.

Cost: Members \$80, Non-Members \$96. Fee includes materials.
Please register by March 17.

Fresh Start: How to use Soul Collage to Discover Your Hidden Creativity

Saturday, March 25, 9:30am – 4pm

Soul Collage is a fun, easy way to use pleasing pictures to create collaged cards that can be used to tap into the creative mind. Anyone can do it! Discover how the poetry of images can uncover hidden resources and activate key brain areas to find creative solution you didn't know you knew. Instructor Mary M. Mulvihill, Ph.D.

Cost: Members \$75, Non-Members \$90. Please register by March 17.



Like us on Facebook!
Get exclusive information on
your favorite SDBG events!

Upcoming Events

Paw Walk in the Garden

Saturday, February 18 • 9 am – 1 pm

The San Diego Botanic Garden is teaming up with the Rancho Coastal Humane Society for our fifth annual “5K Paw Walk in the Garden.” Both organizations will be benefiting from this event.

Participants will follow a 5K walk through the 37-acre garden with their dog(s) in tow. The route winds through our spectacular garden areas including California Native Plants, Australia, the Canary Islands, Hawaii, bamboo, tropical fruit, and palm canyon. Due to the construction at the Hamilton Children’s Garden, we will be starting this event at the San Dieguito Heritage Museum (across Ecke Ranch Road from Hamilton Children’s Garden).

There will be pet products, food (for people), treats (for dogs), lots of great information for dog lovers, and (of course) dogs and puppies!”

Cost: Adult \$32, Adult Member/RCHS Volunteer \$21
Youth \$21, Youth Member/RCHS Volunteer \$14
Family/Team \$92 - \$120 depending upon
team size. Go to SDBGarden.org/pawwalk.htm



Spring Planting Jubilee & Tomato Sale

**Saturday & Sunday, March 18 and 19
9 am – 5 pm**

It’s March planting madness at our Spring Planting Jubilee & Tomato Sale! This event is a plant lover’s dream with a wide variety of herbs, spring plants, bromeliads, garden art and implements available as well as all new locally-sourced and grown Summer Garden vegetable extravaganza, offered by Coastal Roots Farm. The sale will feature a wide variety of tomatoes, vegetables, seeds, cut flowers and annuals. Garden experts will be on hand to answer questions and provide helpful advice on spring plantings and caring for your entire garden.



Yummy food will be available from the Feel Good Coffee Cart and Red Oven Artisanal Pizza Kitchen. Musical entertainment will be provided by Bob Ballentine and friends. Educational workshops will be offered throughout both days. Don’t miss our KidZone at the Jubilee with special educational displays, crafts and activities as well as a petting zoo and pony rides. For more information visit SDBGarden.org/springfest.htm

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership

Sculpture in the Garden

Now – April 2017 • 9 am – 5 pm, Daily

This unique exhibition showcases sculptures from 50+ talented artists set against the beautiful backdrop of the San Diego Botanic Garden. Take a self-guided tour with the Garden’s Sculpture Map. All sculptures are for sale and a portion goes to benefit the Garden. For participating artists visit SDBGarden.org/sculpture.htm

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.

Ruth Larabee's Legacy Lives On

Lucy Chase Williams & Bart Williams
Great-Niece & Great-Nephew of one of SD Botanic Garden's Founders
Remember Ruth Fondly and Connect with their 'New Garden Family'

Back in 1957, Ruth Baird Larabee had the foresight to donate 20+ acres of land in Encinitas to the County of San Diego for future generations to enjoy. Thanks to her concerns for wildlife conservation and the passion she and her husband Charles Wright Larabee shared for nature, those acres formed the basis of what is now San Diego Botanic Garden. Until 2011, there was very little known about this extraordinary woman. Now, however, thanks to the recent publication of a biography about the Larabees, previously unknown members of her extended family are becoming part of the Garden's family as well. Please enjoy the new insights we've gained about Ruth made possible by her great-niece Lucy Chase Williams and great-nephew Bart Williams.

Our most vivid memory my brother, Bart, and I have of our great-aunt Ruth is, literally, "vivid." Annual family Christmas get-togethers in the early 1960s were held at the home of our mother's parents, Ruth's sister and brother-in-law. The men would be wearing dark suits and conservative ties, and the ladies (even our beautiful mother who was hardly 30) elegant but subdued cocktail attire. But Ruth, who was in her early 60s, was resplendent in a brightly-colored, Southwest-evoking dress, with dangling earrings and multiple bangles on her wrists, her skin tanned dark from years spent out of doors in California and Mexico. Nobody in the suburbs of Detroit looked like that! She seemed so exotic.

Ruth Baird was certainly her own woman. Together with siblings Mary and Jimmie, she grew up in a well-to-do, conservative, civic-minded family. Father Charles made sure the children received the best possible education, and after their mother Georgia died young, remained an involved single parent. Throughout Ruth and Mary's undergraduate years at Vassar College, he wrote the girls literally hundreds of letters providing sage (if slightly stuffy) advice (about bobbing hair, not swimming in cold water, and concentrating on studies.) But when Ruth married Charles Larabee immediately after graduation, it was against her father's wishes (possibly because, at first, the young man was either unemployed or only marginally employed.) She was broken-hearted to upset her father, but determined to stand by her decision and "accept the consequences." "I am happier than I have ever been -- no more looking to the future but complete contentment with the present." Within months, their affectionate correspondence resumed. And while the young couple's decision in a few years to relocate to California was probably considered quite unusual by the rest of the family, they all nonetheless remained close.

Ruth's sister Mary and her husband Marcus E. Cunningham settled in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, where daughter, Susan, our mother, grew up and, after marriage, remained to raise her family. So we saw much more of our grandparents than Ruth. But she served as my godmother, and it was Ruth (long divorced from Mr. Larabee) whom our parents asked to stay with us youngsters while they went on holiday. Bart's favorite memory stems from that occasion, when Ruth eschewed driving the family car for a lovely long walk into the downtown shopping area -- and taking four-year-old Bart firmly by the hand, marched him a couple of miles each way!

Ruth lost her life in a tragic hotel fire in England when Bart and I were only 10 and 13. I cherish the few pieces of her personal effects that came down to us, particularly a bronze dragonfly on spindly wire legs, whose six-inch wings slightly flutter when you



Ruth Baird Larabee, 1962



Bart Williams & Lucy Chase Williams, the great nephew and niece of Ruth Larabee visit the Garden.

Ruth Baird Larabee, Marc & Mary Cunningham, and Susan Cunningham Williams.



move it. The monetary bequest she left me bought the car in which I drove out to California at age 22, close to 50 years after she made the same journey as a young newlywed.

Recently, my brother and I had the pleasure of visiting San Diego Botanic Garden for the first time. Our welcome was overwhelming, and we were touched and humbled to learn the high regard in which our great-aunt is held. On behalf of the Baird family, Bart and I want to say thank you from the bottom of our hearts to the hundreds of people over the decades who have kept alive Ruth and Charles' legacy. We are especially grateful to Sally Sandler for her wonderful book, "Sowing Seeds of Wonder."

Continued on page 11

Gala 2016: Growing With Passion

A Gala to remember! Guests to our 17th Annual Gala were greeted with spectacular sunflowers and unique floral creations by Rene van Rems and his talented floral design team. This annual fundraiser was the result of much time and effort by a large group of dedicated volunteers, who are members and volunteers here at the Garden. Special thanks to Jim Ruecker, our Chair for a decade now! Strolling through the garden amidst twinkling lights, nearly 40 restaurateurs throughout San Diego served a multitude of food, wine and spirits. Amidst the beauty of the various areas of the Garden, friends and family came in support of a greater good, sustaining this beautiful place.

Between magician and mime, our guests mingled and playfully competed by bidding on more than 140 silent auction items. Guests enjoyed the art, beauty and fellowship. They were delighted to take home the unique items they won from our silent auction while benefitting the San Diego Botanic Garden through their generosity. On our beautiful Lawn Garden, part of "Canary Island," guests had a taste of paradise while enjoying delicious cuisine and music by the incredible Chris Torres Bank band. The funky tunes of Con Alma and Len Rainey & the Midnight Players rocked guests in both the Herb and the Sub-tropical Fruit Gardens.

At sunset, the true beauty of the evening was revealing itself with its crimson sky! The Open Air Pavilion welcomed everyone for the program part of the event. Nan Sterman received the Paul Ecke, Jr. Award. Paul Ecke, III presented Nan with an exquisite custom succulent mosaic created by local artist, Marshal Rafter. A proclamation for "Nan Sterman Day" was presented by San Diego Supervisor, Dave Roberts.

With a sense of fullness and warmth, the evening concluded with remarks from our Board Chair, Sharon May Lowe and Gala Chair, Jim Ruecker and special acknowledgement to our Gala Committee and volunteers for their hard work and dedication to the Gala and the Garden. Without them, none of this is possible.

Thanks to our generous guests, sponsors and donors, together we raised more than \$200,000; the most successful Gala in the Garden's history! We thank you for coming and supporting our event in so many ways.

Please be sure to look over the list of our sponsors and patronize these generous community partners. Mark your calendar for September 9, 2017 for our 18th annual Gala in the Garden. Expect new surprises!



Carol Dickinson, René van Rems, AIFD, SDBG President & CEO
Julian Duval, Martin Dickinson, and Leslie Duval.



2016 Gala in the Garden Committee

Jim Ruecker, Gala Committee Chair

René van Rems, Gala Creative Artistic Director

Sabrina Cadini, Operations/Logistics

Doreen Prager, Development Special Events Coordinator

Rachel Azhocar

Kathy Hoffman

Susan Parker

Dianna Burke

Sharon May Lowe

Susan Starr

Jessica Brandon

Brad Mason

Joyce Wilder

Carrie Clay

Karen O'Neill

Thank you for your talent and many hours of work!



A Very Special Thanks to the 2016 Gala Sponsors

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San Diego Home and Garden

A Growing Passion

HOSTED BAR

Mo Ecker

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Stone Brewing Co

Tequila Fortaleza

The Fish Market Del Mar/Solana Beach

The Flavor Chef

The Spice Way

The Wild Thyme Company

Twisted Horn Mead

URBN Pizza

Vesper Vineyards

Whole Foods Market Encinitas

Yummy Cupcakes

FLORALS DESIGNED BY

Annie Buran

Betty Patterson Del Sol

C & H Gardens & Artistic Landscapes

Daisy Vincenty

Del Mar Floral & Gifts

Gabe Gil

Sydney Heffner

Patrick O'Grady

René van Rems, AIFD

David Root

Sandy Villa, AIFD

Special thanks to our generous donors to our Silent Auction. Because of your generosity we raised over \$23,000! The most successful in the Garden's history! Our heartfelt thank you!

SOW HCG

Seeds of Wonder • Hamilton Children's Garden

For Children

Questions regarding Seeds of Wonder and the Hamilton Children's Garden?
Please contact Susanne at SOW@SDBGarden.org or call 760/ 436-3036 x222

Aquaponics in Action at the Garden

By Susanne Brueckner, Ph.D,
Senior Youth Education Manager

Check out our new Aquaponics System in the Incredible Edibles Garden, made possible through a generous Environmental Champions Grant from SDG&E. This system was designed and built in collaboration with ECOLIFE Conservation with a custom fish tank providing easy viewing for children.

Aquaponics combines raising edible fish with cultivating vegetable plants in a symbiotic environment. How is this done? Water from the fish tank is pumped to the channel above the tank that holds the plants in grow baskets, with their roots extending into the channel. Byproducts of the fish metabolism (fish "poop") are broken down by bacteria into nitrates and nitrites, which provide nourishment for the plants. The roots of the plants "clean" the water, by filtering out the nutrients. The "cleaned water" is then recirculated back into the fish tank.

Our new system consists of a 280-gallon fish tank that is home to four albino channel catfish, and a hydroponics system that holds 28 vegetable plants. Only about 2% of water is needed for Aquaponics farming in comparison to conventional growing techniques. Come by to see aquaponics in action on your next visit to the Garden!

Special thanks goes to SDG&E for making this educational exhibit possible.



Martin Niminski and Lexi Lane from ECOLIFE Conservation with our new Aquaponics Unit made possible by a generous grant from SDG&E.



Albino Channel Catfish



Upcoming Event Spring Planting Jubilee & Tomato Sale



Activities for children will be offered during the Spring Planting Jubilee & Tomato Sale on Saturday March 18 and Sunday March 19. For detailed information on this event, see page 6.

Birthday Parties for Children

On Saturdays and Sundays, we reserve the picnic area in Seeds of Wonder and provide special activities like plant potting, rock painting, easel painting and bubble play for birthday parties. Please visit our website SDBGarden.org/birthday for detailed information or contact Susanne via email at SOW@SDBGarden.org if you would like to book a party.

School Group Visits

Information and tour request forms for self-guided and docent guided group visits can be found on our website at SDBGarden.org/tours.htm.



Explore the Wonder & Beauty of Baja California With SDBG Docents Margaret & Peter Jones March 28 – April 8, 2017

Starting at \$2,975.00 per person in double occupancy /
\$3,625.00 per person in single occupancy.

***Dates & prices subject to change. Price does not
include air fare. Valid passport required.**

Just a few hundred miles and a few hours south of San Diego Botanic Garden is a gardeners' and explorers' paradise – Baja California. These exotic desert regions house more than 700 different plants in more than 350 genera in 111 families. And the deep blue lagoons that surround this unique peninsula, provide breeding and birthing grounds to one of the Pacific Coast's most majestic creatures, the California Gray Whale.

This incredible South of the Border adventure will take visitors on an exhilarating journey: from exploring the UNESCO protected cave paintings in the Sierra San Francisco to swimming with the sea lions at Espiritu Santo Island; from a Rock Art Excursion in Cueva Ratón to studying native flora including Cardons, Boojum Trees, Burseras and Jatrophas.

Historical and cultural tours of three Spanish Missions are also included in the trip, along with two whale watching excursions, tours of a local oyster farm, a goat farm and a turtle hatchery. Plus fantastic cuisine, knowledgeable tour guides, and the opportunity to make some great new Garden friends!

This is an 11 day bus tour to Cabo San Lucas, with a return trip by air. Peter and Margaret Jones are taking reservations TODAY! Please contact them via email at peter3496@sbcglobal.net or mhfjones@gmail.com.



Introducing Our New Membership Team!

After a major transition, we are pleased to announce we have a full Membership team on board!



Josh Pinpin comes to Development following five years in the Garden's Welcome Center. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Studies from the University of California, Riverside. The very first Garden area he walked through as a spring intern was the Bamboo Garden, and he can still remember the peaceful rustling of the wind through the swaying leaves and the creaking of the bamboo stems.



Bella Trillizio comes to us as a recent graduate of Seattle Pacific University where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Christian Theology and a minor in Reconciliation Studies. She is a San Diego native who grew up visiting the Garden as a young girl with friends and family. She especially enjoys the sanctuary the Garden provides, and is pleased to join us as a part of the Membership Team.

Please stop in and say hello to both Josh and Bella next time you are in the Garden! They work in the Development office located on the East side of the Ecke Building.

We thank our amazing members and volunteers for sustaining the Garden through this transition. We are grateful for your ongoing support!

Ruth Larabee's Legacy Lives On Continued from Page 7

Ruth's fascination with Western flora and fauna -- her prescient passion for conservation and environmentalism -- her philanthropic bequest of what became the San Diego Botanic Garden -- are all representative of what her father was proud to call "the energy and industry of the Bairds."

Without your dedication, without all your hard work (much of it under a blistering SoCal sun!), the "seeds of wonder" Ruth and Charles planted so long ago would not have grown and thrived, to create an oasis for generations to enjoy.



Charles Baird, daughter Mary and grand-daughter Susan.

Sowing Seeds of Wonder: The Stories of Ruth and Charles Larabee and the Origins of San Diego Botanic Garden, written by Docent/Historian Sally Sandler, is available in The Gift Shops at SDBG and at Amazon.com. Get your copy now!



Fall Plant Sale Raises a Record \$62K for the Garden!

Thank you to all of our volunteers, docents and donors!

Thank you to our magnificent donors to our Fall Plant Sale! Over 100 local growers and plant lovers contributed to this successful event! With the hard work of our dedicated docents, volunteers and Co-chairs, Stacy Fattaleh, Jane Hunt and Liz Woodward, the sale raised \$62,000 to support the Garden's programs, operations and exhibits. We thank you so very much! Way to go!

Phyllis Flechsig
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Thank you for Raising the Funds for our Garden Needs!

What a success!

Thanks to our 57 very generous donors, more than \$20,000 was raised toward our Fund-A-Need at Gala in the Garden. All of the money raised will go directly toward the purchase of two carts and a plant label embossing machine. The carts will allow our full-time gardeners and maintenance staff to get around our beautiful 37 acres with greater ease while transporting their essential tools of the trade! We will also be purchasing an embosser machine that will produce the tags that identify our more than 4,000 plants in the Garden. A big thank you to our wonderful donors!

Volunteer and Docent News

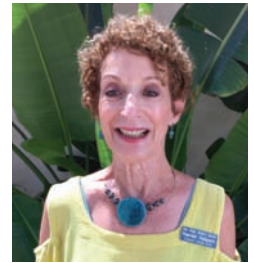
October Volunteer of the Month: STEVE CHATELAIN

A native of Louisiana, Steve inherited his gardening gene from his grandfather and father who had a passion for growing roses and vegetables. Steve's career experiences included construction inspection and quality assurance. He moved to San Diego in 1983, completed a Master's Degree in Technology Management and retired from SAIC in 2014. Steve's fondest memory of the Garden was proposing to his wife, Laura, where they continue to enjoy photography and the serene environment. In 2013, Steve began volunteering at the Welcome Center where he strongly believes that a smile and friendly greeting can enhance a visitor's experience. Steve was also "Santa" at the Garden of Lights and is currently enjoying a project working with David Allen to map the Garden using a geo-spatial database, ArcGIS (a Geographic Information System).



November Volunteer of the Month: HARRIET HALPERN

Harriett and her husband, Alan, have been married for 52 years and are originally from Baltimore, Maryland. They have two children and moved to California to be closer to their two grandsons. Harriett grew up on a farm where she often helped her mother tend to their beautiful garden. She started her career as a Laboratory Assistant before studying Floristry. Harriett co-owned a floral business and consulted for many years at a garden shop. Harriett first visited the Garden with Sharon Metz. "It was love at first sight!" and she immediately signed-up as a Volunteer. Harriett and Sharon are co-captains of the Overlook Succulent Garden and are very good friends. She enjoys the beauty and energy of the Garden and loves seeing the smiling, happy faces of visitors and volunteers.



December Volunteer of the Month: JANET ZEIDLER

Born in Michigan, Janet attended colleges in Michigan, California and New York and has degrees in Business and Imaging Services. Janet met her husband, Pete, at Xerox, near Rochester, NY. Her career spanned 27 years in Engineering Management for optical and display systems manufacturers. In 1985, Janet moved to San Marcos where she enjoys living near her daughter. Janet first began learning about and planting bird-friendly native plants after buying her 1.5-acre home. Janet visited the Garden many times over the years and her fondest experience occurred one Mother's Day when she saw a Sapphire Tower bloom and her first Varied Thrush (a beautiful non-native bird) sighting! Janet enjoys learning from other volunteers and worked in California Gardenscapes before moving to Propagation. She loves the ever-changing beauty of the Garden and viewing new, amazing plants, animals and people.



Become a Docent!

New Classes Begin in January 2017

Looking to get more involved with the San Diego Botanic Garden? Meet a great group of people and join the ranks of more than 150 active docents working in various tasks throughout the Garden.

Sign up for our next docent class series beginning January 19, 2017. The Docent Training Program is a series of 8 classes held biweekly. Topics range from understanding desert plants to tropical rainforests and everything in between. Learn about how the San Diego Botanic Garden is fortuitously situated within a Mediterranean climate zone (which means we can grow almost anything!) and the signature gardens and plant collections contained here.

Contact Liz Woodward at 760/ 420-1455 or by email at liz@woodwardweb.net for more information. You can also register for docent training classes by contacting Volunteer Coordinator Jill Gardner at 760/ 436-3036 x213.

Cost: \$60 for 8 classes held bi-weekly from 9:30 am – 1 pm. Pre-requisites are required. Visit our website at SDBGarden.org/docent for more information.

Volunteer at the Garden!

Join us at our next volunteer orientation on Friday, February 3, 2017!! You'll learn about our beautiful Garden, meet new friends and find out how you can get involved. As little or as much as you'd like – it's up to you.

Our next Volunteer Orientation Meeting will be held on Friday, February 3 from 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m. Join us in the Ecke Building and if you are so inspired, you can sign up right then and there to become one of our fantastic volunteers. See you in February!

For more information, contact Volunteer Coordinator Jill Gardner at 760/ 436-3036 x213 or by email at jgardener@sdbgarden.org.



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 made between **July 18 and October 26, 2016.**

If you see an error, our sincere apologies! Please reach out to Carolyn at 760-436-3036, ext. 216 or email her at czollars@sdbgarden.org. We will be sure to recognize you properly in the next issue. Thank you!

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Arbor Vitae Guild Members

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 the 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 Carolyn Zollars, Director of Development, at 760/ 436-3036 x216 for more information.

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* Indicates Arbor Vitae Guild members whose gifts have been realized.

Please remember to include Quail Gardens Foundation, Inc., dba San Diego Botanic Garden, tax ID 95-6120581, in your will, trust, or estate plan.



What a beautiful holiday season it was! I hope you and your family enjoyed every minute! One of the major highlights of the holidays for my family is visiting the Garden of Lights at the San Diego Botanic Garden. More than 25,000 residents and visitors visited the Garden during the Garden of Lights and had the opportunity to participate in holiday activities at this remarkable Garden and discover all of the beauty it offers.... the twinkling lights..... Santa.... Horse carriage rides..... snow sledding..... what a grand way to spend time during the holiday season!

San Diego Botanic Garden offers vital educational and community resources to our community. The mission to inspire people of all ages to connect with plants and nature is available to everyone.

I encourage you to visit the Garden throughout the year!

Regards, *Dave Roberts*

DAVE ROBERTS
Third District Supervisor
San Diego County Board of Supervisors

The Garden of Lights
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SAVE THE DATE
Annual Spring Reception
Friday, March 17
5:00-7:00pm

Larabee and Benefactor Society Members and Corporate Partners are invited to kick-off the Spring Planting Jubilee and Tomato Sale at this private annual event. Enjoy delicious cuisine, wine, good company and lots of Spring cheer.

Become a Larabee or Benefactor Society member today and join us at the Annual Spring Reception!

To join or upgrade your current membership to Larabee or Benefactor Society, please contact

Josh Pinpin at 760.436.3036 x214 or email him at jpinpin@sdbgarden.org.

To become a Corporate Partner, please contact Doreen Prager at 760.436.3036 x218 or email her at dprager@sdbgarden.org.



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Corporate partners receive recognition on our website and on signage in the Garden, invitations to special events, and other attractive benefits, depending on their level of support. For information on how your organization can support the Garden as a Corporate Partner, please contact Doreen Prager at 760/ 436-3036 x218 or by email at dprager@sdbgarden.org.

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San Diego Botanic Garden is committed to preserving resources and protecting our environment. Our printed materials use 100% recycled paper with 100% post-consumer recycled content whenever possible. We also require paper with a minimum of chlorine or bleaching agents. Our inks are soy-based. We print locally with a printer who is Forest Stewardship Council and Rain Forest Alliance certified.