

# Quail Tracks

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April, May, June 2017



San Diego  
BOTANIC  
GARDEN

# San Diego BOTANIC GARDEN

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

## SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN PHONE EXTENSIONS

SDBGarden.org

230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024  
 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

Spring has sprung at The Garden Shops and we have some fantastic seasonal items you'll want to pick up for the garden lover in your life!

Like a beautiful silk scarf from Asian Eye to add that pop of color to any outfit – casual or upscale. These eye-catching pieces are based on traditional textiles and techniques found in India, which skilled craftspeople in America now lovingly create.

Or our ever popular cork handbags, wallets, jewelry and accessories that are vegan and eco-friendly. Cork is a natural shock absorber, so a sturdy iPhone case is a necessity for anyone who wants to protect their smart phones.

Bird watchers will go gaga over our handmade wool bird houses by dZi. For over 25 years, dZi has worked directly with over 1,000 Tibetan, Indian and Nepalese artisans to create, import and market designs that celebrate the beauty of the natural world and the amazing culture of Tibet. Birds really do dive in and make their nests in these unique (and snuggly) homes that are a perfect (and practical) adornment for any garden.

Be sure to stop by this Spring to see all of the fabulous items we have in stock this season. Best of all, a portion of your purchase goes directly toward funding the Garden.



On the cover: Hong Kong Orchid Tree, Hamilton Children's Garden Photo: Rachel Cobb

## Message from the Chair of the Board

# San Diego Botanic Garden 2016 Year in Review

It is a pleasure to share key accomplishments made this past year here at the Garden in support of our Mission: “To inspire people of all ages to connect with plants and nature.” It has, indeed, been a banner year.

More than ever, people are realizing the benefits of regular access to nature. Clinical research shows that mental and physical health is improved when people get outside in natural settings. The San Diego Botanic Garden plays a vital role in providing this benefit to our visitors from around the globe as well as those from right here in Southern California.

One of our most impactful programs here at the Garden was the hosting of nearly 4,000 students on school trips to the Garden the past year, with 1,100 from underserved communities. According to Senior Youth Education Manager Susanne Brueckner, who heads our children/youth education programs, these children develop an appreciation for nature that is truly inspiring.

Our Dickinson Family Education Conservatory completed its groundbreaking event and construction is underway! We are excited to be raising funds for the final \$411K to complete the \$5.3M campaign for this building that integrates plants and people in a new way. We are so close, but we still need your help!

I cannot thank our volunteers enough for the 38,323 hours they have contributed this past year towards maintaining and operating the Garden! This is in comparison to 55,357 hours worked by our paid staff. We couldn't be all that we are without our volunteers and we are so fortunate to have such a committed volunteer corps! I must say a special thank you to Roberta Dotson who has tirelessly run our gift shop for the past five years and must step back in 2017.

We were pleased to add more than 150 rare plants to our collection, in support of our conservation goals. All of the SDBG team's efforts have been rewarded with a record 252,000 admissions, overall. Of these admissions, more than 10,831 entered free as part of once-a-month Free Tuesdays, giving access to nature that many might not otherwise afford. We hosted more than 25,000 guests for a variety of events offered at the Garden. We continued once again this year to showcase new sculptures in the Garden by displaying 52 sculptures created by 32 artists. As you likely know, we receive a percentage of each purchase made by our visitors and Garden friends.

Our goal of preserving our history was furthered with the release of docent Sally Sandler's book, *Sowing Seeds of Wonder*, which



Sharon Lowe, SDBG Board Chair (left), with Julian Duval, SDBG President & CEO, and Dr. Meg Lowman, Annual Meeting Guest Speaker (right).

details the early historic connections of SDBG. Sally has also curated the Larabee House Museum and displayed artifacts about the founding of this beautiful public garden. Her book opened the door for members of our founding family to come to the Garden for the first time.

Our annual meeting guest speaker was Dr. Meg Lowman, also known as “Canopy Meg” for her extensive research on the forest canopy. She energized attendees with her spirited presentation about the importance of preserving the forest canopy for our own continued survival. She looks forward to providing the Garden with her expertise as we plan our educational programming for the new conservatory, which features an unusual display of plants from the canopy.

I thank all of you who support this special place by donating your time, talent and treasure. You are part of the “village” that makes the Garden both go *and grow!* I hope to see you here in the Garden soon.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Lowe". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sharon Lowe, SDBG Board Chair

P.S. To view our year-end snapshot go to [SDBGarden.org/governance.htm](http://SDBGarden.org/governance.htm) or call Carolyn at 760/ 436-3036 x216.



## EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR VISITS THE GARDEN

Julian Duval, President/CEO of San Diego Botanic Garden, Ambassador Lamia Mekhemar, Consul General of Egypt (center) and Encinitas Mayor Catherine Blakespear stand in front of an Egyptian Tapestries Exhibit that was on display at the Garden from January through March 2017 in the Ecke Building. The exhibit brought people from near and far and many tapestries were sold to largely benefit the artists and the Ramses Wissa Wassef Art Centre in Egypt as well as the Garden. To learn more about these amazing tapestries, go to [wissa-wassef-arts.com](http://wissa-wassef-arts.com). Special thanks goes to curator Glenn Weiss who brought this engaging exhibit to the Garden after Julian saw some of these amazing pieces at a conference in Florida last year.



To see full class descriptions and to pre-register go to [SDBGarden.org/classes.htm](http://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.



## Spring Classes

### Succulent Easter Basket Class (Ages 18+)

Tuesday, April 4, 9 am –12 pm

Create your own unique miniature succulent Easter Basket for your garden or table. Forms and succulents provided. Please bring small clippers. Taught by the SDBG wreath team. Fee includes materials.

**Cost: Members \$30, non-members \$36.**

**Please register by March 31.**

### Mosaic Birdhouse (Ages 18+)

Friday, April 21, 10 am – 3 pm

Decorate a wooden birdhouse for your garden. Participants will paint their birdhouse with a variety of outdoor paint colors. Then, they will embellish them with glass tiles, beads and gem marbles. Finish off with little birds, flowers and butterflies.

**Cost: \$40 members, \$48 non-members plus a \$25 per student materials fee paid directly to the instructor.**

**Instructor: Candy Sharda**

**Please register by April 14.**

### Living Wall / Vertical Garden (Ages 18+)

Saturday, April 22, 9 am -12 pm

Saturday, June 3, 9 am -12 pm

Learn the basics of planting a living wall. We will be planting a 10" x 20" wall with a variety of succulents. Living walls can be used on the exterior or interior with multitudes of colors, textures and sizes. The possibilities of striking patterns and unique designs are endless. REGISTER EARLY! These classes will sell out!

**Cost: Members \$30, non-members \$36 plus an \$80 per student materials fee paid directly to the instructor at the class. Instructor: Mary Lou Morgan.**

**Please register by April 14 and May 26.**

### New Class Fine Art Nature Photography (Ages 18+)

Saturday, April 22, 9 am – 1 pm

This class is recommended for all nature lovers who want to capture their vision with a camera. We will explore ways to help you create more personally satisfying images that not only look beautiful but also convey a certain mood or emotion. In this 4 hour workshop we will learn to recognize line and shape, geometry and repeating patterns. We will also focus on ways to embrace light, camera movement and how to use selective focus. Bob will help you to break out of your comfort zone and discover new possibilities! All levels welcome. Instructor: Bob Bretell.

**Cost: Member \$62, non-member \$74.**

**Please register by April 14.**

### Tropical Garden Zentangle Class (Ages 12 +)

Saturday, April 22, 2 pm – 4 pm

Saturday, May 27, 2 pm – 4 pm

Saturday, June 3, 2 pm – 4 pm

You've seen the Adult coloring books, now make your own with Certified Zentangle® Teacher, Janet Masey. Let me teach you the Zentangle® Art Method by drawing structured patterns. Zentangle looks complicated and intricate, yet easy enough for kids to seniors to complete. This art method takes the "HARD" out of art. If you can draw a circle or straight line, this art is for you. Zentangle is also *healing art*; you will focus and have a sense of well-being during the process. Zentangle is an art not a craft – guys as well as gals love Zentangle.

**Cost: Members \$40, non-members \$48 plus a \$10 materials fee paid directly to the instructor at the class.**

**Instructor: Janet Massey.**

**Please register by April 14, May 19, and May 26.**

## **Succulent Turtle Class (Ages 18+)**

**Saturday, May 6, 9 am –12 pm**

Create your own unique miniature succulent turtle for your garden or table. Forms and succulents provided. Please bring small clipper for this easy, clever garden design workshop. Taught by the SDBG wreath team. Fee includes materials.

**Cost: Members \$45, non-members \$54.  
Please register by April 28.**

## **Beginning and Intermediate Mosaics (Ages 16+)**

**Wednesday, May 17, 9:30- 12 pm &**

**Wednesday, May 24, 9:30- 12 pm**

Come and enjoy two relaxing afternoons creating art for your garden with friends. Choose your project from a butterfly, dragonfly, seahorse, owl, turtle, elephant, frog, bird or a sun. You'll be using beautiful stained glass, mirror glass, iridescent glass, beads, and glass gems. All materials and tools will be provided. Instructor: Marsha Rafter.

**Cost: Members \$75, non-members \$90, plus a \$60 materials fee paid directly to the instructor.  
Instructor: Marsha Rafter.  
Please register by May 10.**

## **Build Your Own Hydroponic Spring Garden (Ages 16+)**

**Saturday, May 20, 9 am – 1 pm**

Learn the principles of the hydroponic wick method by building your own sustainable garden to take home. Fee includes materials. Instructor: Alex Kallas of AgPALS.

**Cost: Members \$80, non-members \$96.  
Please register by May 12.**

## **Installing Drip Irrigation at Home and on the Urban Farm (Ages 18+)**

**Sunday, May 21, 1 pm – 4 pm**

Learn how to set up a drip irrigation system for your home garden or urban farm. The necessity for water conservation in Southern California is still great, and thankfully easier than ever after this class. Students learn how to install and work with various forms of drip irrigation systems including inline fertilization and alternative watering methods. Instructor: Damian Valdez

**Cost: Members \$40, non-members \$48.  
Please register by May 12.**

## **Mosaic Mirror Class (Ages 18+)**

**Thursday, June 1, 9 am – 1 pm**

Mosaic mirror class. Make a beautiful shell mirror for your home. This class is fun and the technique is easy to learn. Participants will use a variety of shells in different sizes, shapes and colors. Embellish your mirrors with a variety of glass gems, stones and pearls.

**Cost: Members \$40, non-members \$48 plus a \$25 materials fee paid directly to the instructor.  
Instructor: Candy Sharda. Please register by May 26.**

## **New Class The Art & Science of Composition (Ages 18+)**

**Saturday, June 3, 9 am – 1 pm**

No matter what type of photography you enjoy, composition is fundamental in creating great pictures. In this 4 hour workshop we will practice compositional techniques using the rule of thirds, filling the frame, using lines and shapes and learning how to simplify. Students will have lots of one-on-one instruction and plenty of camera time. The workshop will end with a slide show and discussion of pictures taken by the students. All levels welcome.

**Cost: Member \$62, non- member \$74.  
Please register by May 27.**

## **A Fresh Start: How to Soul Collage to Discover Your Hidden Creativity (Ages 18+)**

**Saturday, June 10, 9:30 am – 4pm**

Soul Collage is a fun and easy way to use pleasing pictures to create collaged cards, tapping 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 solutions you didn't know that you knew. Instructor Mary M. Mulvihill, Ph.D.

**Cost: Members \$75, non-members \$90.  
Please register by June 3.**

## **Watercolor Pencil Botanical Journaling (Ages 18+)**

**Sunday, June 11, 9:30 am – 4 pm**

Pressing down pure color on paper leads to endless good vibes. We'll combine watercolor pencils and water-soluble pens while learning clever user-friendly ways to draw. My drawing methods will ease those present inhibitions about drawing lines and shapes. Drawing flora is a delightful way to practice techniques with these pencils. Watercolor pencils are great for journals and for traveling. Colors become vibrant when water is applied to the paper surface. The effects range from smooth to textural with effortless brush strokes. We'll also add some textures with stencils for a great mixed-media effect. Instructor: Helen Shafer Garcia.

**Cost: Members \$75, non-members \$89. Fee includes special materials. Separate supply list will be e-mailed once registration is taken. Please register by June 4.**



# Upcoming Events

## Art Fest

Including Fine Art, Asian Art, Quick Draw Contest  
Saturday & Sunday, April 8 & 9 • 9 am – 5 pm

ArtFest at the Garden features some of the finest regional artists displaying their talents with the beautiful San Diego Botanic Garden as a back drop.

Our fine arts show features more than 20 artists displaying and selling their work at amazing prices just for Garden guests. Many of these fantastic sculptors, painters, glass artists, potters, gourd and fiber artists who participate in ArtFest will also provide interesting demonstrations of their craft.

The plein air quick draw contest features 20 artists who will create an entire work of art in the allotted time right before visitors' eyes. After judging, these pieces will be available for purchase at ArtFest.

Celebrating the art of Asian horticulture is the focus of our Asian art show, featuring outstanding displays of Ikebana, by the Ohara School of Ikebana and Bonsai, with informative lectures and demonstrations.

Fresh salads, sandwiches, coffee and treats will be available from the Feel Good Coffee Cart, located right next to the Gift Shops, where you can find unique, garden-related gifts for the plant lover in your life. Enjoy live music from Bob Ballentine and friends in the Lawn Garden.

**Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.**

## Chocolate Festival

Saturday May 13 • 9 am – 4:30 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.

Food will be available from Isaac's Catering serving their award winning chocolate chili and BBQ.

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





## **Palm, Cycad, Bamboo & Tropical Plant Sale** Saturday, May 27 • 9 am – 3 pm

This one-of-a-kind event features rare and exotic species of palms, cycads and other tropical plants. These will be provided by 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 paid admission or membership.**



## **Fairy Festival** Saturday, June 17 • 10 am – 4 pm

Calling all fairies! Come celebrate summer in the Eucalyptus Grove. Wear your fairy costume 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. Be sure to bring your camera for a picture with the Fairy Queen.

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

## **Thursday Family Fun Night** Every Thursday June 1 – August 31 • 4:30 pm – 8 pm

Pack up the kids and enjoy some outdoor fun at Thursday Family Fun Night, every Thursday evening from June 1 – August 31. The fun begins at 4:30 pm with the entire Garden open for families to enjoy, including our nationally-acclaimed Hamilton Children's Garden.

Don't miss family-friendly entertainment playing from 6 pm-7 pm, like San Diego's own Hullabaloo, designed to amuse both children and adults. This year, this activity will be staged at the San Dieguito Heritage Museum on Ecker Ranch Road. Wrist bands will be made available for those wishing to enter the Garden before and after the concert.

See who's performing at Thursday Family Fun Night by visiting [SDBGarden.org/thursnight.htm](http://SDBGarden.org/thursnight.htm)

**Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.**

## **10th Annual Lung Hsiang Exhibit & Sale** April 25 – July 11 • 9 am – 5 pm Ecker Building

Enjoy original Chinese Brush Paintings on display by members of the Lung Hsiang chapter of the American Artists of Chinese Brush Painting, a group that has been painting together for more than 25 years!

The public is invited to an opening reception on Sunday, April 30, from 2 pm - 4 pm. Your paid admission to the Garden is your admission to the reception.

**Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.**



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

# How Public Gardens Impact The World

*And the questions we should ask as members of SDBG  
to determine our strategic vision in the years to come*

By Clement Hamilton  
Former President & CEO, Holden Forests & Gardens

Every so often, it is useful – and even fun! – to take stock of where an institution is headed, especially a nonprofit organization that enjoys tax-exempt status because its purpose is to improve the world. That innocuous (and even corny-sounding) phrase, “improve the world” is what I have found to be the best starting point for planning and evaluating an organization’s mission and strategic foundation.

Recently, I joined San Diego Botanic Garden’s board and management team in a full-day strategic retreat, which was an honor and pleasure for me because I have enjoyed following your remarkable progress over the years, and have long admired Julian Duval’s leadership. We thought about public gardens in general, to provide context for SDBG, and here are some ideas I shared.

In establishing a visionary and strategic foundation, it’s not about the numbers of visitors we engage, how many species and cultivars of plants we display, how many schoolchildren we reach, how much botanical research we publish, how much produce we raise in community gardens, or how we contribute to the protection and stewardship of our region’s natural areas. Those are the means to an end. Rather I believe our fundamental question is: **“How does the world improve as a result of the actions we take?”** Only after deciding that, should we tackle the practical matter of, what should we do to most effectively bring our world-vision to fruition?

There are many ways public gardens impact the world, and no two gardens have the same emphasis or balance. Overall, I think of a garden’s potential “impact areas” as falling into seven categories: livability of cities (beauty, low crime, environmental justice); green infrastructure (air and water quality, stormwater management, fire control, efficient use of energy and water, slope stability); conservation of biodiversity and natural ecosystem health; plant awareness and literacy; gardening; plant products (agriculture, sustainable logging, forest farming); and human health (both mental and physical). That’s a lot of potential impact, and no one institution can tackle it all!

In deciding which “impact areas” to pursue, I like to ask essentially three questions: (1) What are the most consequential societal needs that a garden can help address, in the region it seeks to impact? (2) Are there good collaborative partners, to help achieve success? And (3) what are your garden’s comparative advantages, that portend success in any particular impact area?



Clement Hamilton and Julian Duval take a selfie at Torrey Pines State Park.

For instance, at Holden Forests & Gardens we see northeast Ohio’s forests threatened by climate change, invasive plants and pests, pollution, and imprudent forest management. We also see Cleveland falling far short of its old nickname, the Forest City, which affects overall livability and the infrastructural function of the city. And we also see schoolchildren growing up without appreciation for the importance of plants, and largely without the ability to reason scientifically, which is to say rationally. So it should be no surprise

we have chosen the four impact themes of biodiversity, green infrastructure, sustainable land use, and plant and environmental literacy; and each of our activities must serve one or more of those themes.

In deciding which directions to select, the beauty is, there are no wrong answers. Society is chock full of ways we can have positive impact. All of you, as SDBG members, are partners in the San Diego Botanic Garden’s wonderful present, and its inspiring evolution into the future, in whatever direction it takes. Thank you for all you do.

*Dr. Hamilton is a plant taxonomist and ecologist who is bringing to a close 25 years of public garden leadership, from Seattle to Claremont to Chicago to Cleveland.*





# New Information Surfaces about the Larabees

By Sally Sandler, Docent/Historian

*“The greatest satisfaction in my disordered life has come from my contact with Nature.” Ruth Larabee, Puebla Mexico, 1960*

Ruth and Charles Larabee were the unique couple who turned 26 acres of Southern California chaparral, now known as San Diego Botanic Garden, into something spectacular during their tenure in the 1940s and 50s and bestowed it to the public in 1957. With the publication last year of the book entitled *Sowing Seeds of Wonder: The Stories of Ruth and Charles Larabee and the Origins of San Diego Botanic Garden*, additional information surfaced to expand and complete their remarkable stories. This information reveals more about why they may have come to California, how they developed the land, and their far-reaching personal interests, which extended way beyond gardening.

## The move to California had roots in their earliest days together.

The question of why the Larabees left their comfortable home, jobs and families in Kansas City in 1943 to move to coastal California has always been a curiosity. While we can still only guess at their motives, recent findings provide some foundation for this radical move: the fact is, the Larabees were actually *returning* to Southern California in 1943, having previously lived there during their first year of marriage 17 years before.

When Ruth and Charles married after her graduation from Vassar in 1926, they immediately headed west to live with his widowed mother May Larabee and his sister Angeline in Hollywood. In letters to her father Charles Baird, Ruth alluded to her husband’s “good business judgement,” though she never mentioned specifically what his business plan entailed. In short time they arranged to move to Culver City, “to be closer to his work.” At one point, she told her father, “The Italian has left,” and later, “Charles and I slept in the factory last night, in order for him to learn to use the dryers.” Again we are left with speculation about his exact occupation based on these cryptic references. However, it’s possible to conclude that Larabee may have been in textile manufacturing, during a time when the fashion and fabric industries were on the rise in Los Angeles. Whatever the case, Ruth and Charles stayed in the Los Angeles area for only a year, then returned to Kansas City, where he worked as an engineer in milling and she as an elementary school teacher.

## The Larabees were guided by prominent landscape professionals.

It’s well-known that Ruth was up at the crack of dawn most days tending her gardens, wearing her trademark overalls and boots. At one point in time, before their divorce in 1950 and when Charles



Ruth Larabee as a Registered Nurse in Puebla, Mexico, 1961.

was actively engaged in gardening, too, they were known to have truckloads of cacti and succulents from Mexico brought in to what she named “El Rancho San Ysidro del las Flores.” By 1957, when Ruth deeded the property to the County, those areas of the ranch that were landscaped were botanical showstoppers, lavishly planted with over 200 different species selected for their ability to survive in the local climate and conditions.

We now know that Ruth and Charles Larabee sought expert help from professionals that placed them among the leading edge of San Diego estate owners of their time. These included Clifford Tanner, a nurseryman connected to the renowned architect Lilian Rice, of the firm of Requa and Jackson; Christen Westergaard, a close friend of and influenced by San Diego’s Kate Sessions, known as the “Mother of Balboa

Park”; and Mildred Macpherson, a noted landscape architect in San Diego’s North County who later donated the waterfall at the Garden which bears her name.

Furthermore, the Larabees had a head start in landscape development thanks to the previous owner, an experienced avocado rancher named Anton van Amersfoort, who actually lived here for 20 years (six years longer than the Larabees). He was responsible for planting a host of trees that still stand today, among them the giant Torrey pines. He also planted a long allée of Monterey cypress trees, cultivated avocados, and brought irrigation infrastructure to the ranch. The road now named Quail Gardens Drive was initially Amersfoort Drive. To be sure, this industrious Dutchman deserves his rightful place in the history of San Diego Botanic Garden.

## Ruth did indeed leave the ranch to become a nurse in Mexico.

In 1957, apparently out of strong personal need, Ruth Larabee hastily packed all her possessions into the barn at El Rancho San Ysidro de las Flores and left for Puebla, Mexico, where she commenced training as a nurse. For years she had volunteered her help and support to the struggling populations south of the border. Now free of the ranch responsibilities, she spent five years as a registered nurse in the Baptist mission Hospital Latino Americana, undertaking the training and strenuous work at the age of 53. It was during this period, deprived of much of her tonic of the outdoors, that she looked upon previous times in her life and reflected, “The greatest satisfaction in my disordered life has come from my contact with nature.”

# 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](mailto:SOW@SDBGarden.org)

### Upcoming events:

#### Spring Party with Bunny

Saturday, April 15 • 10 am – 1 pm

Children are invited to meet our gentle bunny for a photo op, decorate their own bunny ears, and get a bunny face paint during this fun springtime event. You can also visit real bunnies in a petting zoo, plant a spring flower to take home, and make some colorful spring crafts. At 12:30 pm, our big bunny will lead a parade through the Native Plant Native People Trail.



**Cost: Passes will be sold for participation in activities on the day of the event for \$15 per child. A limited supply of passes will be available, first come, first served.**

#### Chocolate Festival

Saturday, May 13  
10 am – 4 pm

The Chocolate Festival is filled with fun activities for kids. For a small fee, children can create Mother's Day keepsakes. See page 6 for details.



#### 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](http://SDBGarden.org/birthday) for detailed information or contact Susanne via email at [SOW@SDBGarden.org](mailto: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](http://SDBGarden.org/tours.htm)

#### Fairy Festival

Saturday, June 17 • 10 am – 4 pm



Calling all young fairies! Come to the Garden wearing your favorite costume. Fairy and garden related flowery and glittery crafts will be offered for a small fee. There will also be a Fairyland Market and live entertainment. Don't forget to stop in to have a photo taken with the Fairy Princess!

**Cost: Free with paid admission or membership, plus a small fee for crafts if desired.**

#### 4th of July Parade

Tuesday, July 4 • 10 am

Join us for our annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade through the Garden. Bring decorated strollers and wagons (no bikes please) and wear red, white and blue! We will meet at Seeds of Wonder at 10 am and the parade will start at 10:30 am sharp. After the parade, you are welcome to stay and enjoy the Garden.



#### Ongoing programs for children



**For a detailed description and schedule of ongoing programs in Seeds of Wonder and the Hamilton Children's Garden, please check our website at [SDBGarden.org](http://SDBGarden.org) and click on "For Kids" from the menu.**





# Summer Youth Program Enrichment Camps 2017

## Flower Fairy Camp

**July 3, 5, 6 & 7 (4 days) • 9 am – 12 noon**  
**Ages: 7 - 10**

Each day we will work on building our own fairy house to take home. For that, we will go on walks through different areas of the garden to collect natural material. Along the way we will find enchanted places to take a break and listen to flower fairy poems. We will make a flower fairy crown for ourselves, and of course, will build all the “furniture” for our fairy house from natural materials. On Friday we will wear our fairy crowns and have a dress-up day. Space is limited to 20 campers. Go to [SDBGarden.org](http://SDBGarden.org) or call 760/ 436-3036 x201 to reserve your space today! For questions please e-mail [SOW@SDBGarden.org](mailto:SOW@SDBGarden.org).

**Cost: Members \$108 / 4 days**  
**Non-Members \$120 / 4 days.**



### The Larabees Continued from Page 9

#### Ruth and Charles each had compelling interests beyond gardening.

For years, much has been understood about Ruth Larabee’s unique strengths and interests. We’ve known about the Girl Scout and Camp Fire troops she sponsored, her rather heroic fortitude following her divorce, her generous gift of land to the County, her self-abasing turn at nursing, her trail-blazing presence, and the modest life style she pursued despite her wealth. The image of Charles Larabee, on the other hand, has been relatively incomplete.

New information fleshes out the portrait of Charles Wright Larabee (1901-1968), a man of considerable depth and substance. His black and white photographs developed in the 1930s and 40s earned him recognition for the insight and sensitivity he brought to scenes in South and Central America, Mexico, and the American Southwest. He guided a troop of Senior Explorer Scouts in Encinitas on some of the greatest adventures of their lives, for which he was dearly

## Snap Shot – Nature Photography

**July 10 – 14 (5 days) • 9 am – 12 noon**  
**Ages: 7 - 10**

This camp will focus on appreciating the beauty of plants in the Garden around us. Students will tour different areas of the Garden each day and will focus on taking pictures of flowers, trees, insects, and using plants as a backdrop for portraits. Throughout the week campers will also create their very own photo album to take home. Students need to provide their own digital camera or smart phone. Space is limited to 20 campers. Go to [SDBGarden.org](http://SDBGarden.org) or call 760/ 436-3036 x 201 to reserve your space today! For questions please e-mail [SOW@SDBGarden.org](mailto:SOW@SDBGarden.org).

**Cost: Members \$135 / 5 days**  
**Non-Members \$150 / 5 days.**

## Art and Garden Adventure Camp

**July 11 – 15 (5 days) • 9 am – 12 noon**  
**Ages: 7 - 10**

Each day students will explore different areas of the Garden to find inspiration for their art projects. We will paint on canvas, decorate clay animals, do sand art, and make our own survival bracelet. We will also go on exciting Scavenger Hunts, play games, and build a hydroponics unit to take home. Space is limited to 20 campers. Go to [SDBGarden.org](http://SDBGarden.org) or call 760/ 436-3036 x 201 to reserve your space today! For questions please e-mail [SOW@SDBGarden.org](mailto:SOW@SDBGarden.org).

**Cost: Members \$135 / 5 days**  
**Non-Members \$150 / 5 days.**

loved and admired. His personal curiosity, appreciation of nature, and quest for knowledge led him down the Colorado River on a two-month river trip in 1940 with a small group of quasi-pioneers. He personally paid for a college education for 12 young men, sponsored through the Encinitas Rotary, of which he was a lifetime member. And perhaps most notably, many of Charles Larabee’s values were influenced by his friendship with the legendary Ernest Thompson Seton, an icon of environmentalism, a leading nature writer and illustrator, and a seminal figure in the emergence of the American conservation philosophy in the early twentieth century.

*Sally Sandler is the author of “Sowing Seeds of Wonder,” and a docent and historian at San Diego Botanic Garden. Copies of the 200-page book are available in The Gift Shops at the Garden as well as on [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com).*



# Volunteer and Docent News

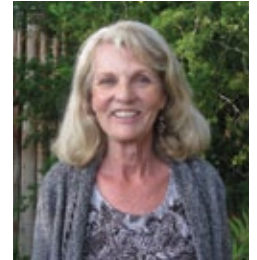
## January Volunteer of the Month: **TIM JARA**

Tim's father moved to San Diego in 1939 to join the Marine Corps and, as the youngest of six children, he is a lifelong resident! Tim met his wife, Pam, when they were both students at San Diego State University and they were married in 1984. A retired Navy pilot, Tim currently works for the U.S. Navy at Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command (SPAWAR) on computer and communication programs. Working outdoors and gardening are key personal interests and he completed a major overhaul of his yard in 2007. Pam became a Garden Volunteer first and, after he helped at one of our Gala events, Tim signed up in 2012. Tim enjoys working with all of the wonderful people at the Garden and seeing the beauty of a garden area after their work is done. He especially likes being with Barry and Mary and the rest of the Saturday Bamboo Team. He describes them as the best team anyone could ask for!



## February Volunteer of the Month: **CANDY SHARDA**

Originally from Akron, Ohio, Candy also met her husband, Satish, there. They have one son, Kevin. Candy has had a diverse career ranging from retail clothing, cosmetics, and teaching preschool, to chemical dependency counseling. She moved to Del Mar five years ago and became interested in gardening after viewing the many California native flowers and succulents. Candy learned of the Garden from Patti Fitchen and started volunteering after taking a Succulent Wreath class. That experience led to her joining the Wreath Team and she especially enjoys "hanging with my wreath team on Mondays!" Candy contributes her time and talents during special events and has been a Gala Silent Auction Committee member for the last two years. What Candy most enjoys about the Garden is seeing it all lit up during the holiday season at Garden of Lights.



## March Volunteer of the Month: **PATTI FITCHEN**

Patti is a native Californian who grew up and attended University of California, Santa Barbara. She has a PhD in French Language and Literature and met her husband during graduate school. They spent time in Europe before settling in Santa Cruz where Patti taught French Language, Civilization and Cinema for 30 years. When her husband retired in 2004, they moved to Encinitas to be near one of their daughters and three of their six grandchildren. After taking a Succulent Wreath class at the Garden in 2006, Patti joined the team of devoted women who create wreaths and topiaries for the Gift Shop. Over the years, Patti has volunteered in Admissions and at special events and enjoys leading children's tours. What she loves most about our Garden is that it is alive and dynamic, always changing, never the same. There is always something new to discover, to uncover, to learn. Like Cleopatra, "Age cannot wither her, nor custom stale her infinite variety!"



## Volunteer at the Garden!

Join us at our next volunteer orientation where you'll meet interesting people, learn about our beautiful Garden, and find out how to get more involved. Won't you join us? Our next Volunteer Orientation Meeting is Friday, May 19, 9:30 am – 12 pm. RSVP or direct questions to Jill Gardner at [jgardner@sdbgarden.org](mailto:jgardner@sdbgarden.org) or by calling 760/ 436-3036 x213.

**Docent Meetings – Everyone Welcome**  
**First Wednesday of the Month**  
**9:30 am – 12 pm**  
**Arrive at 11 am for the program**

**April 5:** Come and learn about Sam the giant Galapagos Tortoise, the Garden's biggest goodwill ambassador. Leslie Duval will enlighten us on the Duval's very special relationship with Sam.

A heartwarming story of true friendship lost and found inspired Leslie to write a children's book, "Too Big to Lose." Proceeds from book sales benefit the San Diego Botanic Garden to help care for Sam who might live another 100 years!

**May 3:** Meet Yvonne Savio, a master gardener, who comes to us from Pasadena. She has a weekly blog called Gardening in LA. For 36 years she worked for the University of California in the horticulture field, helping to revitalize the Los Angeles County Master Garden Program. Yvonne has traveled abroad, visiting many famous gardens and events. She will share her love of English gardens and the famous Chelsea Flower Show at our Docent Meeting.

**June 7:** Come and enjoy our Docent Potluck with all your friends at the Garden.

# Thanks to our Benefactor Members

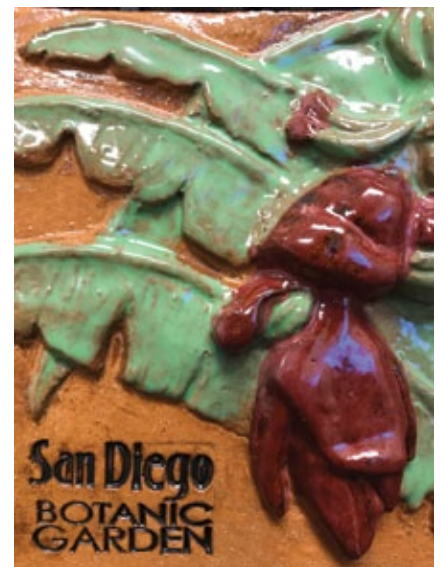
More than 130 upper-level annual members and corporate sponsors were honored at our festive Benefactor Dinner in December. The San Dieguito Garden Club (SDGC), once again, decorated areas inside and outside of the tent exquisitely! The Garden was a sparkling show of many twinkling lights that kicked off the holiday season for all.

Guests enjoyed sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and a delicious three-course dinner created and served by SDBG corporate sponsor, Continental Catering. Entertainment was provided by renowned harpist, Mary Fawcett. At the end of the evening, guests took home their 2016 botanic ceramic tile, crafted by local artist Rae Holton in recognition of their annual contribution to the Garden.

To learn more about Benefactor Memberships or to join today, contact Josh or Bella from our Membership Team at 760/ 436-3036 (Josh x214 and Bella x215). Our special thanks to Geri Thirloway and her SDGC committee for helping make this a lovely night to remember!



Our Benefactor members enjoyed an evening of great food, wine and fellowship and received a 2016 Benefactor Tile!



## Gift Ideas for Birthdays and Mother's and Father's Days

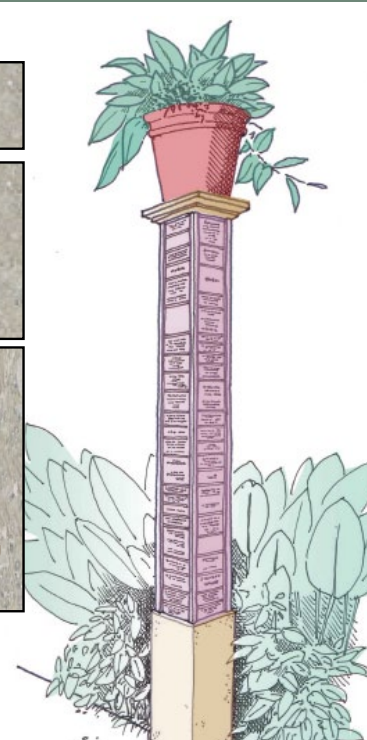
Choosing a gift for a friend or loved one can be challenging! Often, you really cannot think of a material thing the person wants or needs. *The Garden can help!*

**We offer gift certificates for membership** that come with a lovely photographic greeting card you can personalize. The membership period does not begin until the certificate is redeemed. This is a gift your loved one will remember all year long. Memberships start as low as \$45 for an individual and \$85 for a family. Call our Membership Team at 760/ 436-3036 x215 or x214 to find out more today.

**A commemorative tile is another great gift for a loved one or entire family.** These tiles will be installed in front of the new Dickinson Family Education Conservatory, currently under construction and set to open in late 2017. There are several options and costs range from \$250 to \$5,000. What a lovely way to honor your loved one into perpetuity! To learn more about purchasing a tile, contact Susan at 760/ 436-3036 x217.

As a nonprofit organization, your gifts help us continue our mission to *inspire people of all ages to connect with plants and nature* by supporting our programs, facilities and operations.

Susan and Clark Parker Married on May 25, 2014
As enthusiastic gardeners And avid nature-lovers We thank you For inspiring us! Olivenhain Garden Club
In appreciation of time Spent in the Garden Over so many years Thank you for the fond Memories! Our Gratitude, Cassie, John & Mary Young





# 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 **October 31, 2016 and January 31, 2017.**

If you see an error, our sincere apologies! Please reach out to Carolyn at 760/ 436-3036 x216 or email her at [czollars@sdbgarden.org](mailto:czollars@sdbgarden.org). We will be sure to recognize you properly in the next issue. Thank you!

## Gifts of \$100,000 and up

Jane Minshall

## Gifts of \$50,000 and up

The Leichtag Foundation  
Ms. Frances Hamilton White

## Gifts of \$10,000 to \$49,999

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## Gifts of \$5,000 to \$9,999

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The Margaret R. Seeley Charitable Foundation  
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### Tribute Gifts

*In Memory of*  
Dr. Lawrence A. (Larry) Denny  
Russell Mills

*In Honor of Norma McAfee*  
Kelly and Matthew Griffin

*In Memory of Marianne Muse*  
Sally M. Johnson  
Robert and Edith Mott

### In-kind Gifts valued at \$100 or greater

Rachel M. Cobb  
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Mr. Hugh Lawrence  
Gary Lizana  
Karen O'Neill  
Ms. Barbara G. Osthaus  
Judy Pique

**Special Note: For memberships or donations paid on a monthly basis, the total annual donation is recognized once each year. Tapestries purchased at the Egyptian Tapestries Exhibit will be recognized in our next issue as donations to SDBG will be received following exhibit close at the end of March.**



# Ron Moss

## Arbor Vitae Guild Member

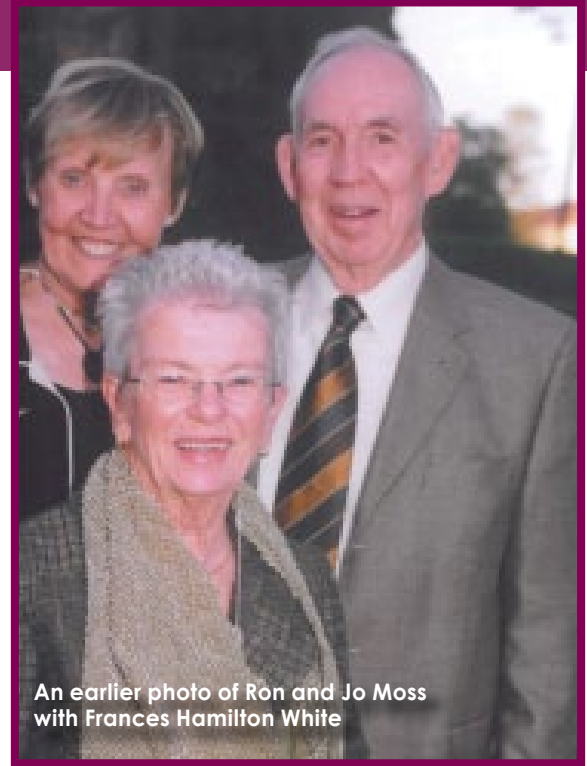
By Carolyn Zollars

I recently sat down and interviewed Arbor Vitae Guild (AVG) member, Ron Moss. I was curious to find out why he decided to name San Diego Botanic Garden as a beneficiary in his will which is how people join the Guild. Ron shared that a close friend introduced him to the Garden, someone he had known for many years after working together. That friend was none other than Frances Hamilton White. It was Frances who introduced Ron and his wife, Joan, to the Garden in 1999. They were immediately taken by the idea of the Seeds of Wonder Garden, the mini prototype for the much larger children's garden opened on the northern end of campus in 2009 and named Hamilton Children's Garden, in honor of Frances.

Ron had a successful career in corporate finance. So, when it comes to investing his charitable dollars, he needs to know that the proper planning, controls and management are in place. He feels that the Garden has done and continues to do this well. Ron also is very passionate about knowing an impact is being made on people. He is impressed with the multitude of programs for people of all ages at the SDBG. He appreciates that visitors can see plants from diverse climates around the world, especially important for those who do not travel to places like China to see a collection of bamboo. Most of all, though, Ron shared, "It always makes me happy to see the children playing in the Garden and people of all ages enjoying themselves."

**Guild members need not provide the Garden the details about this future gift. They are recognized at our special Benefactor's Dinner held annually in the Garden and are listed on an elegant glass sign located in the Lawn Garden and in Quail Tracks, unless no name recognition is preferred.**

**To learn more about the Arbor Vitae Guild, contact Carolyn at 760/ 436-3036, x216 or via email her at [czollars@SDBGarden.org](mailto:czollars@SDBGarden.org).**



An earlier photo of Ron and Jo Moss with Frances Hamilton White

Save  
the Date

## Gala in the Garden!

### Saturday, Sept. 9, 2017



We are busy preparing for what will be the best Gala in the Garden... ever! Food, wine and spirits are served throughout the meandering pathways of the Garden. Musical groups and strolling entertainers will be performing along the way. You will enjoy beautiful floral creations and a lovely sunset sky during the evening.

We hear from our guests again and again, "This is the best gala I have ever attended! There's not another one like it."

Contact Doreen Prager at [dprager@sdbgarden.org](mailto:dprager@sdbgarden.org) to learn more about volunteering, donating items/services for the silent/live auctions or how to become a sponsor.



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## Become a Corporate Partner TODAY!

As a Corporate Partner, you will receive recognition on our website and on signage in the Garden, invitations to special events, and other attractive benefits for each 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 x 218 or by email at [dprager@sdbgarden.org](mailto:dprager@sdbgarden.org).

## Our Appreciation to our Corporate Partners

We thank our corporate and foundation partners for their annual support of the Garden's mission to inspire people of all ages to connect with plants and nature. These organizations provide unrestricted cash or in-kind contributions, which fund our educational programs and the overall care and maintenance of our 37-acre beautiful botanical oasis. Be sure to patronize our Corporate Partners!

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\$10,000 or more

Agri Service, Inc.

JRS Management and  
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The Leichtag Foundation

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San Dieguito Water District

### SILVER LEVEL

\$2,500 - \$4,999

EDCO Waste & Recycling Services  
Fire Protection Products, Inc.  
The Flavor Chef  
The Heller Foundation of San Diego  
The Samuel I. & John Henry Fox Foundation  
Union Bank  
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### BRONZE LEVEL

\$1,000 - \$2,499

The Arthur and Jeanette Pratt  
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Best Western Inn, Encinitas  
Encinitas Garden Festival &  
Tour Committee  
Encinitas Rotary Club  
Jimbo's...*Naturally!*  
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