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

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN

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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On the cover: Jacaranda Tree in bloom. Photo: Rachel Cobb

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

This winter season, our Gift Shop is bursting with lovely new additions! We have expanded our unique accessories from new and favored vendors. Stop by and explore the Garden's offering of classic, yet fun, jewelry and handbags!



This season, we are featuring Spicer Bags - durable textile bags including colorful cork purses, duffle bags, wallets, luggage tags and pouches. Complementing our Cork collection, we continue our SDBG classic line of designer cork handbags, wallets, jewelry and accessories which are Vegan and Eco-Friendly – all from Corx. And our jewelry selection has blossomed with Lula 'n' Lee, a collection of jewelry made with mixed metals combined with turquoise, pearls and gemstones.

Our Plant Shop is thriving with winter-happy plants! We are favoring those plants which grow best during the cooler, wetter weather. These include winter-growing African Aloes, Aeoniums from the Canary Islands and South American flowering shrubs. Some of the most collectible succulents are winter growers, so we also have bonsai or specimen-worthy plants throughout the winter.

Join us for our Annual Meeting

Saturday, January 6, 2018 3:30 – 5:00pm . Ecke Building

3:30 – Wine and Cheese and Mingling 4:00 – Year in Review – And the year to come! 4:30 – Guest Speaker Ari Novy 5:00 – Raffle / Ajourn

We are excited to have Ari Novy, Ph.D, Chief Scientist at Leichtag Foundation as our special guest speaker. Ari will talk about the horticultural history of the National Mall, with a special focus on Conservatories. Prior to joining Leichtag, Ari was the Executive Director of the United States Botanic Garden in Washington, D.C., where he was responsible for all activities and strategic planning at the Nation's botanical garden, including welcoming more than 1.2 million visitors per year.

2018: A Monumental Year for SDBG



Message from the President

Julian Duval President/CEO

San Diego Botanic Garden members have been hearing about our two major projects for some time now. Our San Diego County-funded capital project will create a Horticulture and Maintenance facility near our service gate. This will provide staff with a much more efficient work space away from the Garden's public areas. We have been awarded the required Coastal Development Permit, but we still have other building permits to acquire. This making predicting when this important project will be complete difficult. After staff offices are moved out of the Larabee House and Lawn House, these historic buildings will become valuable additions to the visitor experience.

Our other major project, the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory, is well on its way to becoming a physical reality. We have our building permits and the required parking improvements completed to the space we share with the San Dieguito Heritage Museum, just north of Ecke Ranch Road. The greenhouse/conservatory building components have arrived and JRS Project Management has wasted no time in preparing all the ground work, including retaining walls, footings, underground plumbing and electric conduit for the conservatory. Too early to be precise about a date for opening, but we expect that to be during summer of 2018.

The Dickinson Family Education Conservatory represents the single largest financial investment in the Garden's history. We have been successful in raising over \$5.3M for the project and there are still opportunities for recognizing additional donors. If you would like more information on how you can become a part of this historic project, please contact Carolyn



Zollars, SDBG Director of Development, or me.

The opening of the Conservatory will make 2018 a notable historic year for SDBG. It will also mark the 100th anniversary of when the Larabee House was built. It is also the 100th anniversary of the planting of the Eucalyptus cladocalyx next to the Larabee House. Sadly, while the tree is now dead the substantial trunk, which is in the process of being carved into a stylized baobab tree, representative of the Madagascar Garden where it is located, will remain, hopefully for another 100 years. 2018 also marks the 25th anniversary of the Garden becoming self-supporting and having the Quail Botanical Gardens Foundation become responsible for its management, care and future. This might be the most significant anniversary to celebrate this year given the incredible growth in the Garden over the past 25 years.

I wish you all a Happy New Year and we can all anticipate another 100 years of success and growth for the San Diego Botanic Garden.



Art and Mary Holden

Remembering Former SDBG Docent Mary Holden

By Diana Goforth Former Events Manager, San Diego Botanic Garden

Mary Holden was wise, smart, kind and courageous. My fondest memory of our times together was when we struggled with a complicated computer program to create the Garden's first ever newsletter. Oh, how we struggled. I took the hacking approach and Mary, being wise and smart, studied the instruction manual. She was kind to me—we laughed so much—and was courageous in her pursuit of the unknown, the world of computers. I will always treasure those moments with Mary when, together, we conquered the world!



Upcoming Events

Sculpture in the Garden Now - April 2018 . 9 am - 5 pm

This unique exhibition showcases sculptures from 31 talented artists set against the beautiful backdrop of the Garden's lush and natural 37 acres. Curator Naomi Nussbaum of Naomi Nussbaum Art & Design has orchestrated an eclectic exhibition ranging from functional garden artwork to large abstract works with an emphasis on diversity of media and scale. Take a self-guided tour with the Garden's dedicated Sculpture Map. All sculptures on exhibit are for sale, with a portion of the proceeds going to fund the Garden. For participating artists, visit SDBGarden.org/sculpture.htm.

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.

Paw Walk in the Garden San Dieguito Heritage Museum Saturday, February 17

9 am - 12 pm



The San Diego Botanic Garden is teaming up with the Rancho Coastal Humane Society to produce our 6th 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). The route winds through spectacular garden areas including California Native Plants, Australia, the Canary Islands, Hawaii, Bamboo, Subtropical Fruit, and Palm Canyon. Due to the construction at the Hamilton Children's Museum, we will be staging this event at the San Dieguito Heritage Museum on the other side of Ecke Ranch Road right across the street 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 Walker - \$25.60 (includes \$6.40 discount) 18+ years. Ticket price is per person.

Youth Walker - \$16.80 (includes \$4.20 discount) Under 18 years. Ticket price is per person.

Adult SD Botanic Garden Member - \$16.80 (includes \$4.20 discount) 18 + years. SDBG Member Discount. Ticket price is per person.

Youth SD Botanic Garden Member - \$11.20 (includes \$2.80 discount) Under 18 years. SDBG Youth Member Discount. Ticket price is per person.

Adult RCHS Volunteer - \$16.80 (includes \$4.20 discount) 18+ years. RCHS Volunteer Discount. Ticket price is per person.

Register at: SDBGarden.org/pawwalk.htm





Spring Planting Jubilee & Tomato Sale

Saturday & Sunday, March 17 & 18 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. As well as locally-sourced and grown summer garden vegetable extravaganza with tomatoes, vegetables, and more offered by Diane's Herbs, Flowers & Things. Coastal Roots Farm's renowned pop-up farm stand will have fresh, harvested vegetables (and more) from their property next door available for sale at the Jubilee.

Delicious food will be available from the Feel Good Coffee Cart and Two For the Road food truck - specializing in delicious lobster rolls. Musical entertainment and educational workshops for shoppers, as well as pony rides, a petting zoo and fun crafts for kids will also be part of the Jubilee.

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.

Garden Tapestries Ramses Wissa Wassef Art Center, Giza, Egypt

Monday, January 8 – Saturday, March 31 Daily, 9 am – 5 pm . Ecke Building

Due to popular demand, the garden-themed tapestries from the Rames Wissa Wassef Art Center (RWWAC) in Egypt return for a limited engagement to San Diego Botanic Garden!

This year's show includes 15 stunning, hand-woven wool tapestries and 20 unique, hand-woven cotton weavings by individual artists who work up to 4 months on each piece. All tapestries on display are for sale and support both the artist and RWWAC.

Cost: Free with paid admission or membership.

Volunteers - We need you! We want you! We love you!

ome join our great big Garden family by becoming a volunteer! There are lots of things you can do... including digging in the dirt (our favorite!).

You'll meet fantastic people, learn about the 4,000+ plant species, and know you're helping others connect with plants, nature and the wonderful living world around them.

Come to our next Volunteer Orientation on Friday, February 9, from 9:30 am - 12 pm in the Ecke Building.

For more information or to register, contact SDBG Volunteer Manager, Jill Gardner at jgardner@sdbgarden.org.



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

Winter Classes

To see full class descriptions and to register go to SDBGarden.org/classes.htm or call 760/436–3036 x 201. All classes are for ADULTS ONLY (18+)

Portraits, People, Pets & Beyond

Saturday, January 6 9 am – 12 pm

Do you struggle with creating beautiful family portraits? Or, your four-legged family members? Join us to find out how you can improve your people, pet and nature photography in just one day! We will be in the classroom discussing camera functions, then move to the Garden and apply what we have learned. Instructor: Sandy Zelasko, Sandra Lee Photography.

Cost: Members \$55, Non-Members \$66. Please register by December 28.

Living Wall / Vertical Garden

Saturday, January 13 9 am -12 pm or Saturday, February 24 9 am – 12 pm

Learn the basics of planting a beautiful living wall – perfect for your home or office, indoor or outdoors. We will be planting a 10"x20" wall of succulent varieties with a multitude of colors, textures and sizes to choose from. The possibilities of striking patterns and unique designs are endless!

Instructor: Mary Lou Morgan REGISTER TODAY, THESE CLASSES WILL SELL OUT.

Cost: Members \$30, Non-members \$36, plus an \$80 per student materials paid directly to the instructor on the day of the class. Sorry, no drop-ins. Pre-registration required. Please register by January 5.

Journaling with Pens & Watercolor

All levels Sunday, January 14 9:30 am – 4 pm

Pens with watercolor are a very useful combo for journaling just about anywhere! We'll work with an assortment of water soluble and waterproof pens to create textures, values and compositions in journals. Paint freely while dropping in color onto the wet paper surface. And no worries if you've never painted or drawn before! We'll go over the basics and there will be images available to work from or bring some images of your own. Instructor: Helen Shafer Garcia.

Cost: Members \$95, Non-Members \$114 Student supplied materials list available on website. Please register by January 12.

Succulent Mushroom

Tuesday, January 23 9:00am - 12:30pm

Take home a charming succulent mushroom 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 19.

Succulent Wreath Class

Saturday, February 3 9 am – 2 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 January 26.



Mosaics For Your Garden

Wednesday, February 7 12:30 – 4 pm and Wednesday, February 21 12:30 – 4 pm

Choose from a turtle, fish, seahorse, dragonfly, butterfly, owl, frog, dolphin, crab, or bird and learn to create a beautiful garden mosaic using glass gems, ceramic tiles, ball chain, stained glass, and mirror. Learn what the appropriate substrate and the proper adhesives are for outside use and learn how to mount your creation to install it in your garden-either hanging on a wall or mounted on a stake. Instructor: Marsha Rafter.

Cost Members: \$75, Non-members \$90, plus a \$60 materials fee paid directly to the instructor on the day of class. Please register by February 2.

Zentangle African Mud Cloth

Saturday, March 3 10 am – 12 pm

Using the Zentangle Method, students will create a leather-like tapas art piece with black, brown, and white pens. For ages 10 years old and above. Instructor: Janet Masey, Certified Zentangle Teacher.

Cost: Members \$40, Non-members \$48, plus a \$10 materials fee paid directly to the instructor on the day of class. Please register by February 23.



Succulent Bunny

Tuesday, March 6 9 am – 2 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 March 2.

Mosaic Garden Jewels

Wednesday, March 21 10 am – 1 pm and Thursday, March 22 10 – 11 am

Create a beautiful mosaic flower, heart, or butterfly on a rock. These creations make beautiful accents in your garden or home. Students will use a variety of glass beads and tiles in a rainbow of colors. Instructor: Candy Sharda.

Cost: Members \$35, non-members \$42, plus a \$25 materials fees is paid directly to the instructor on the first day of class. Please register by March 16.

Build Your Own Hydroponic Spring Garden

Saturday, March 24 9 am – 1 pm

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 16.

Ruth's Jacaranda

The day Ruth died,
the jacaranda was
barren.
No more flower show.
Its purple blooms
were merely matter,
buried in the soil below.

In 1969, December
she slept at Hotel Rose and Crown,
tending dreams,
those glowing embers,
when the hotel walls
burned down.

... Perhaps she dreamed of early mornings, minding lilies, on her knees.

Of plants she raised — adopted youth — their roots and stems her family tree.

Of baby quail
beneath black sage,
tiny orphans
finding seeds.
And growing friendships,
like rare flowers.
Gifts of land
she longed to deed ...

Dreams of new life
(post-divorce,)
as jacaranda blooms
in May.
But Ruth came home, then,
with no flowers,

•••••

a box of ash.

a winter day.

Fifty years.
The jacaranda
fills the yard
and blooms today

~ Sally Sandler 2017

Ruth Larabee was the founder of San Diego Botanic Garden. She died on 12/26/69 at age 65 from smoke inhalation during a nighttime fire at the Rose and Crown Hotel in Cambridge, England, where she had been vacationing.

This poem, along with over 30 others, is included in Sally Sandler's book entitled, "Returning to Our Roots," available in paperback or on Kindle, through the Books Department of Amazon.com.

A Night in Nature – Gala 2017

By Doreen Prager
Manager of Development Events

If you were a guest at this year's 18th Annual Gala in the Garden, the energy was electric. From the delectable food to the beats of the bongo drum, unique and varied handcrafted pieces created by local artists, the "Living Vines," and much more. This was a night of excitement!

More than 40 food and drink providers, 100+ volunteers and Garden staff went above and beyond to make this a very special night for all. Guests meandered between the Bamboo, Herb and Lawn Garden areas, enjoying delicious tastes from top-notch restaurants and caterers from our immediate community and beyond. If you attended, you likely danced to the beat of the five-piece rock band in the Lawn Garden or swayed to the soothing sounds of Sonic Butterfly, playing a 70-foot long string harp in the Bamboo Garden!

Everyone came together for the program portion over dessert to celebrate our guests of honor, Ann Hunter-Welborn and David Wellborn. Our Garden is committed to sustainability and we were pleased to highlight the conservation efforts of Ann and David. Our fund-a-need appeal raised nearly \$400,000 in support of the new Dickinson Family Education Conservatory! We look forward to the opening of this amazing

new education facility in the summer of 2018.

Special thanks to our amazing Garden friends and our fearless Conservatory Campaign Leader Jim Farley for this achievement.

In all, nearly \$600,000 was raised from this year's Gala, making it our most successful fundraising event to date. Special thanks goes to everyone who purchased tickets, our sponsors, those who generously contributed to our fundaneed, the wonderful vendors who donated their amazing cuisine and those individuals who gave us items for our silent auction. Our volunteers' countless hours of work made this event possible and truly exceptional!

As we turn the page on another wonderful Gala, we look forward to what the future brings. We are eager to see you enjoy the Garden throughout the year. Please come by our Development Department to explore the many ways you can get more involved with the Garden! And don't forget to look over our list of amazing sponsors and help support these generous businesses in our community.

Mark your calendar for another fabulous Gala in the Garden on Saturday, Sept. 8, 2018.









Thank You To Our Fabulous Committee A Night in Nature – Gala 2017

Jim Ruecker, Gala Committee Chair René van Rems, Gala Creative Artistic Director Sabrina Cadini, Operations/Logistics Doreen Prager, Manager of Development Events

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A Very Special Thanks to the 2017 Gala

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Sandy Villa
Daisy Vincenty
Eva Wright

Special thanks to our generous Donors to our Silent Auction. Because of your generosity we raised over \$22,000!

The most successful in the Garden's history!

Our heartfelt gratitude.

Gaia Gelato

Youth Education

Seeds of Wonder • Hamilton Children's Garden

For Children

For questions regarding Youth Education and our Children's Gardens, please contact Susanne at SOW@SDBGarden.org.

Upcoming events: Spring Planting Jubilee



Activities for children will be offered during the Spring Garden Fest on March 17 and 18. For detailed information on this event, see page 5.

Spring Party with Bunny

Saturday, March 31, 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, 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: A \$15 activity pass can be purchased upon arrival, as long as supplies last. Regular admissions fees to the garden apply for non-members.



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.htm. for detailed information or contact Susanne at SOW@SDBGarden.org, if you would like to book a party.

Please check our website for description and schedule of our ongoing preschool programs in Seeds of Wonder.



School Group Visits

General Tour (Grades 1 through 6)

Students will visit different areas of the Garden and will learn basic facts about some of the plants. A tour usually includes a visit to the: Bamboo Garden, Subtropical Fruit Garden, Herb Garden, Tropical Rainforest, Desert Gardens, and Mediterranean Garden.

Plant Adaptation (Grades 2 through 5)

Students will visit the Desert Garden and the Tropical Rainforest and learn how plants are adapted to their environment. They will compare adaptations to a very dry and sunny climate with adaptations to a shady and wet environment. Students work in small teams to make observations and recordings in a field notebook. The docent is using props to help them understand how these adaptations 'work.'

Native Plant Native People (Grades 2 through 5)

Students will visit the Native Plant Native People Trail and will learn about native Southern California plants, and how some of these plants were used by Kumeyaay people for food, medicine, building materials, and more.

Pollinator Program (Grades 2 through 5)

Students will learn through hands-on activities about the anatomy of flowers and insects, and how plants and pollinators work together. Special emphasis will be placed on the importance of pollination for food production. Afterwards, students will make pollinator observations in the Garden, while recording their observations in a field notebook. Available April through June.

Tour request forms for self-guided and docentguided group visits can be found on our website at SDBGarden.org/hcg_tours.htm

Travel with The San Diego Botanic Garden Led by Julian and Leslie Duval

Ensenada And Its Surroundings: A Wine And Culinary Experience

Trip Dates: April 27 - 30, 2018 (Friday to Monday) **Price:** Includes transportation, accommodations and meals. \$1,225.00 per person in double occupancy \$250.00 Single supplement (Subject to availability) Price based on a minimum of 15 passengers



Bestowed with prime climate and soil conditions, Mexico's magical wine country produces 90% of the country's wines. Attracted by the peculiarities of the Northern Baja region, enologists, chefs, and artists alike established an exuberant, world-class wine and culinary industry.

Discover Mexico's wine country, savor its exquisite wines, compare flavors and production processes, delight on the region's unique gastronomy and get to

know local art.

Contact Rosa at Andiamo Travel for more information and reservations via email at Rosa@andiamo-travel.com or by telephone at 619/632-4571 andiamo-travel.com

Equador: Amazon Rainforest, Cloud Forest, and the Galapagos Islands

Trip Dates: September 25-October 7, 2018 **Price:** \$7,465. Does not include airfare. Single supplement (subject to availability) is \$1,740. Price is based on 14 participants.

Get a glimpse of the land and sea of Ecuador during this 13-day program, highlighting three very different ecosystems: the rainforest, cloud forest, and Galápagos Islands.

Begin your exploration in the bustling capital of Quito, where you'll have a chance to visit the botanical garden and sample local culture. Then take an exciting four night cruise of the Galápagos Islands. You'll explore the high elevation cloud forests of Mindo and conclude your journey in the Amazon rainforest, where you'll get treetop views from canopy walkways and see iconic flora and fauna. This trip offers experiences you won't forget.

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to visit the rainforests, cloud forests & the island where Giant Galapagos Tortoises roam (like Sam, the Garden's Gentle Giant!)

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL Visit holbrooktravel.com/sdbg-ec18 or contact Sandy Schmidt at 800-451-7111 or Schmidt@holbrooktravel.com

Mariette Pinchart, 96 Years Young

By Julian Duval, SDBG President & CEO

Mariette is one of the heroes of the San Diego Botanic Garden. She was a leader on the Quail Botanical Gardens Foundation board when the move was made to save the Garden by taking over its operation from San Diego County in 1993. This was a difficult time, and not everyone was in favor of the decision that Mariette supported.

Always a lovely and friendly person, Mariette was a very active Docent, who volunteered in the Gift Shop until she retired. Mariette is a life member, but went on to become a founding member of the Benefactor Membership group providing important annual operating support for the Garden.

She made a significant donation to the Dickinson Family Education Conservatory and was the first person to do so. Mariette has been a true friend of the San Diego Botanic Garden and an important member of its family for over 3 decades. Mariette is also a member of the Arbor Vitae Guild having provided for the support of the Garden in her estate plan.

The success SDBG has enjoyed over the years owes many thanks to Mariette.



Mariette Pinchart with her dog Princess and Leslie and Julian Duval on the occasion of her 96 birthday.



SDBG Member
Steffi Griffin surprised
husband Rob on their
one year anniversary
at SDBG with her
gift of a tile for
the Conservatory,
commemorating their
wedding here.

Fall Plant Sale Record Sales Raise \$70K for Garden

Our generous local growers and plant lovers made this year's Fall Plant the best ever! Co-chairs, Stacy Fattaleh, Jane Hunt and Liz Woodward led a fabulous team of volunteers and docents who helped raise more than \$70,000, which was \$10,000 over our goal! The money raised helps to fund the Garden's ongoing programs, operations and exhibits.

The wide selection of plants this year was like none other – from rare and unusual plants to drought-tolerant and houseplants. A big hit was the jams and jellies, hand made by Alison Heirs, that raised \$1,400 alone! And the used book sale that raised an additional \$500. The silent auction, baked goodies and Botanic Attic were also hits among shoppers and Garden supporters.

Our sincere gratitude to everyone who helped make this event a success! We're looking forward to next year!

Donors

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Our heartfelt thanks to EVERYONE who gave their time and items of all sorts to make this our most successful Fall Plant Sale ever!





Volunteer and Docent News

October Volunteer of the Month: KATHY ANDERSON

Kathy, a 'New Jersey girl,' has been married to Charlie for 51 years. They moved to California in 1995 and have two sons and two grandchildren.

Kathy retired from a career in Human Services and joined the Garden as a volunteer in 2014. Her gardening gene traces back to her grandfather's garden and herbal remedies and her mother's love of roses.

As co-team leader of the Herb Garden, Kathy also contributes to many events. She is drawn to the Garden by its beauty and the delightful, knowledgeable volunteers. Kathy recounted entering the Herb Garden one Spring day and being overwhelmed by the fragrances of flowers and herbs, a gentle breeze off the ocean, birdsong and the beauty of nature all around.



November Volunteer of the Month: LUCILLE BROWN

Born in Brooklyn, Lucille worked in New York City as a bookkeeper before moving to Albany, where she met her husband, Frank. They moved to San Diego briefly in the 1960's and returned in 1978 where she began an income tax business.

Lucille loves gardening and, as a child, enjoyed the Brooklyn Botanical Garden with her father where she visited her 'own tree.'

Lucille completed Docent training in 2015 and volunteers at the Gala in the Garden, Garden of Lights, our Welcome Center and Seeds of Wonder. She especially appreciates the natural peace and beauty of our bamboo and banana groves.



December Volunteer of the Month: SUSAN GJERSET

Originally from Oregon, Susan grew up on a Navy base in the Mojave Desert. She has been married to John for 35 years and they have two children. Susan's mother was an avid gardener and taught her the Latin names and growing habits of 'her green friends.'

Shortly after retiring from teaching elementary school in Encinitas, Susan joined our Garden because of the beautiful plants, enthusiastic volunteers and peaceful environment.

A trip to Africa with our Garden last year was a unique experience and she says interacting with visitors and passionate volunteers when she is here at the Garden is a pleasure! Susan enjoys working with her gardening team, Mary J. and Terry W., and always leaves the Garden with a smile on her face.



Become a Docent at San Diego Botanic Garden

Classes run every Thursday from January 18 – April 26 . 9:30 am – 1 pm

Want to learn more about the 4,000 different plant species at our 37-acre botanic wonderland? How about meet some great people who share your interest in the natural world?

Then come to our next Docent Training, beginning Thursday, January 18! Some prerequisites and a small fee of \$60 is required. For more information, contact SDBG Docent Training Coordinator Liz Woodward at liz@woodwardweb.net or 760/ 420-1455. To register, contact SDBG Volunteer Manager Jill Gardner at jgardner@sdbgarden.org or 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

January 3: Presentation by SDBG's new Director of Horticulture Tony Gurnoe. Come and get to know our new leader of the Horticulture Team.

February 7: SDBG Docents Mike Blanco, Lan Lin and Mary Friestedt will discuss "Herbs That Heal."

March 7: Former SDBG Director of Horticulture Dave Ehrlinger, through historic photos, will describe how the Garden has morphed over time since 1957 when Ruth Larabee donated the property to San Diego County to be developed as a park.

Thank You, Donors! San Diego Botanic Garden wishes to thank the following donors for cash and in-kind gifts, including our Benefactor and Larabee Society memberships made between August 1 and October 31, 2017.

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

Matching Gifts

ExxonMobil Foundation

Gifts of \$100,000 and above Anonymous

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Baobab Eucalyptus Sculpture A Big Thank You to our Volunteers!

By Docents Peter Jones and Mary Friestedt

At our October Docent and volunteer meeting, Peter Jones and Mary Friestedt presented a challenge to the Docents and volunteers to donate toward a project to honor our beloved Bill Teague. The project is to have an artist sculpt what would have been one of our oldest trees in the Garden - the deceased Eucalyptus tree by Larabee House - into a beautiful Baobab tree.



The outpouring of love and generosity for our project has totally touched our hearts. We are delighted that this campaign, fully funded by volunteers, was a great success and we thank those listed below for helping us reach more than \$20,000 so quickly.

Peter Jones, Katie Peliseh, Bill Teague and Margaret Jones

Baobab Sculpture Donors

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Happy New Year! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season with friends and loved ones. The beginning of a new year is always an exciting time, as it represents an opportunity to set new goals for ourselves and reflect on what worked and what didn't work for us in the past. I am very optimistic about 2018.

I will be entering my second year as a San Diego County Supervisor and beginning my first year as Chair of the Board. I am honored and humbled to be serving District 3 and San Diego County. The stories I hear when I am out in the community continue to inspire me. It is my hope that you will take a moment to think about what inspires you and that 2018 will be your best year yet."

Best wishes,

Supervisor Kristin Gaspar

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Our Sponsors





SAVE THE DATE Annual Spring Reception Friday, March 16 • 5:00-7:00 pm

Come join us at our Annual Spring Reception, celebrating the kick-off of our Spring Planting Jubilee & Tomato Sale. Larabee and Benefactor society members, as well as Corporate Partners, are invited to join us at the Reception where you'll enjoy delicious spring cuisine and a glass of wine, plus a special guest speaker!

Upgrade your membership by becoming a Larabee or Benefactor Society member today and join us!

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.



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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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We are delighted to announce our new corporate partnership with Brothers Signature Catering and Events!



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.