



Epi News

San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc.

October 2022
Volume 47 Number 10



'Going Bananas'

Hybridizer: Fred Boutin 1994

Parentage: 'Clarence Wright' x 'Soft Lights'

Size: Large

Photo: Forrest Ehbrecht

San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc. (SDES)
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 If you have moved or recently changed your physical OR email address, please update your address so that you can continue to receive your newsletter without interruption.

Send your updates to:
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OR email Membership@sdepis.org
 For faster response mail directly to Beth Jackson, Membership Secretary—her address can be found in the membership roster.

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Calendar of Events

October	1	Safari Park Work Party ¹
	12	General Meeting and Photo Contest Deadline
	15	Safari Park Work Party
	26	Board Meeting
	29	Safari Park Work Party
	29 - 30	Del Mar Fall Garden Show
November	9	General Meeting
	12	Safari Park Work Party
	23	Board Meeting
	26	Safari Park Work Party
December	3	Safari Park Work Party
	14	SDES Holiday Banquet
	17	Safari Park Work Party
	28	Board Meeting

¹ Additional Work Parties held every Tuesday.

General Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. We are doing our best to have a presence both in person and online. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. and the pre-meeting workshop is at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom room will open at 7:00 p.m. Check your email for instructions and links. Board Meetings are the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., and are online. All members are welcome to attend the board meeting. If you are interested in attending, please request the zoom link from the Membership Secretary, Correspondence Secretary, or the President.



Off-Season Bloom 'DonOro' DP
 Photo: Dean Delibertis

President's Corner — *From President David Cheever*



I hope all of your plants are starting to cool off after all the heat we have been experiencing in August and September, here in San Diego, and in other parts of the country. I hope you enjoyed David Attenborough's presentation on carnivorous plants and the follow up by our own Dennis Hughes, regarding his collection of carnivorous plants and their care. This month we will have a member of the San Diego Turtle and Tortoise Society talk about their passion—the care and upkeep of turtles and tortoises.

With regard to our upcoming elections, we have been able to fill most of the Epiphyllum Society's Officer and Director positions for the upcoming year. However, we are still looking for someone to fill the

1st Vice President's position—whose job it is to plan the programs for the monthly membership meetings. There are many important jobs within our society that rely on volunteers to make our group successful, so please consider volunteering for one of the many positions. The more people involved, the less work for everyone. If you are interested, please contact me or one of the board members.

We also have our annual Photo Contest coming up this month. Please read *Epi News* for the categories, rules, and how to submit the wonderful photos of your flowers. I look forward to seeing them at our November Membership Meeting.

I am also trying to organize an “End of Summer Member Appreciation Potluck” for sometime in October. Look for an email with the information—I hope. Until next time,

David

Meeting Program

Pre-Meeting Workshop: This month master workshop leader Ron Crain will be discussing the pros and cons of rooting epiphyllum in perlite versus rooting in potting soil. Held in Casa Del Prado Room 104 at 7:00 p.m.

September Program: Our September monthly meeting was held in-person and via Zoom on Wednesday, September 14th. Our program focused on carnivorous plants and included a PBS presentation [“Plants Behaving Badly: Murder & Mayhem”](#), followed by Dennis Hughes's presentation.

October Program: Our October monthly meeting will be held in person and via Zoom Wednesday, October 12th. Our program will be an interesting one. We will have a member of the San Diego Turtle and Tortoise Society discuss their passion—the care and upkeep of turtles and tortoises.

In Casa Del Prado Room 101 at 7:30 p.m. Pre-meeting workshop Room 104, 7:00 p.m. Zoom will begin at 7:00 p.m. for socializing, and the online meeting will join the in-person meeting at 7:30 p.m.



Left: Dennis Hughes and Jackie Mitchell pause for a photo while discussing carnivorous plants after his interesting presentation.

Right: Correction Barb Alvarez (c.) receives the People's Choice Award from Patricia Neal (l.) and David Cheever (r.).



Photos: JK Hendershot

Keeping in Touch...

Our members are the most important part of our society! Together we create more beauty to enjoy.

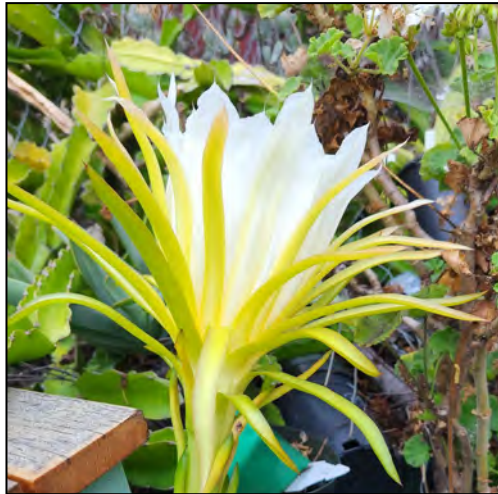
As with any group, we are more effective and stronger when we are unified together—and our membership spans the globe! Although the epies are what bring us together at first, lifelong friendships are made in the society. Knowledge, plants, passions and stories of those who came before us are shared between members—and everyone has fun!



Corresponding Secretary: Sal Castellitto Corresponding@sdepis.org

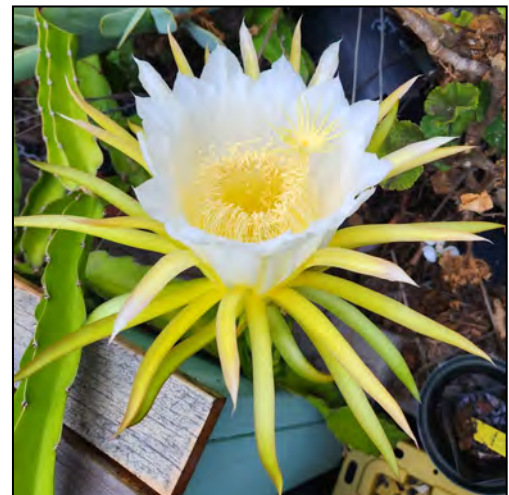
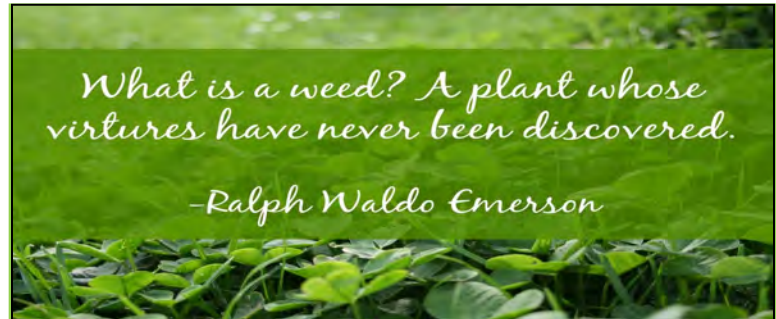
Membership Secretary: Beth Jackson at 858-692-0314 or Membership@sdepis.org

Newsletter Editor: JK Hendershot at 619-301-3587 or EpiNews@sdepis.org



Selenicereous undatus

Photo: Ron & Velma Crain



Selenicereous undatus

Photo: Ron & Velma Crain

We Need Your Help

If you have epies—cuttings or plants—succulents, interesting garden items, or other plants you would like to donate to stock and increase the variety of items on our raffle table, we need your help. To make a donation or to obtain more information on how you can help, please contact director, and raffle table coordinator, Paula Reynolds via email at paularey@aol.com with your ideas and questions.

Remember the Society—Support your passion, support the Society's collection at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park. Currently, we have the world's largest collection of epiphyllum hybrids and epiphytic species on public display. We also have a very unique new display, and to keep it intact SDES needs additional funding to maintain it. All money raised goes toward the care of the collection and display. We are all volunteers who create and upkeep the display because we are passionate about it. All donations are always welcome and greatly appreciated. Consider putting SDES and the epi collection in your will or trust.

SDES Holiday Banquet and Installation of Officers

You are cordially invited to the San Diego Epiphyllum Society Holiday Party. Come join your Epi friends and celebrate with a three course dinner, door prizes, a secret gift exchange, and the installation of our 2023 officers.

Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022.

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: The Butcher Shop Restaurant.
5255 Kearney Villa Road, San Diego, CA 92123.

Phone: 858.565.2272

Dinner Menu: Caesar salad with rolls and butter, with an entrée choice of: Beef Tenderloin or Tofino River Salmon.

Served with buttermilk Yukon whipped potatoes and roasted asparagus, and for dessert cheesecake with marinated berries, along with full coffee service. Note there is a vegetarian option available upon request. There will also be a no-host cash bar available in the room.

Cost: \$35.00 per person for members and \$75.00 per person for non-members.

Tickets can be purchased at our general meeting, or on our website from our online store. Seating is limited so get your tickets now!

If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, we are asking each person to bring a gift valued at no more than \$20. In order to take part in the gift exchange please bring a gift.

Please direct any questions to Lauren Burnette lburnette01@gmail.com



Cindy and Dave Decker enjoy the festivities from our last Holiday Banquet held in December 2019.

Photo: Jerry Moreau

Fun Facts—Website Analytics *by Gilbert Hatfield*

Editor's Note: If you are a statistics geek like me you may enjoy seeing where our web traffic comes from and what web content people are actually looking at. Gilbert did a great job of compiling those statistics for our readers to better understand.

A lot of our members do not realize the positive impact our website has on the worldwide epiphyllum community. I thought I would provide some useful information that may be of interest to some of our members.

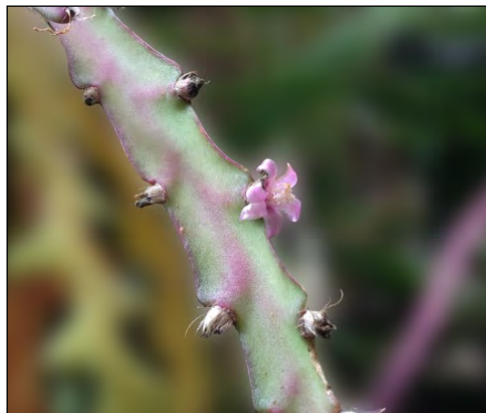
The top five countries where people log into our website for information are: USA, China, France, Germany, and the Russian Federation. You can see that we are having an international impact. While 66% of our viewers use their desktop computer to access the website 28% use their phones or mobile devices.

Most viewer are members or frequent viewers, as they go directly to the website and not from a browser search or a Facebook link. The most looked at areas are the *Members Only* section with the next most popular area being the *Epiphyllum Galleries*. Stay tuned for more website statistics in the future.



Get Your Facts First Article and photos by Linda Sinkovic

“Get your facts first, and then you can distort them as much as you please”—Mark Twain



Editor’s note: This article was originally published in Epi News Volume 40, Issue 9, dated October 2015, and is reprinted with the permission of the author.

Maybe you are interested in growing some species of epiphytic cactus in addition to the hybrid epicactus you already grow? How about an easy-to-grow and interesting-looking epiphytic cactus? In May 2015, I wrote a column that mentioned *Lepismium cruciforme*. This month I’d like to talk about it in a little more depth.

First described in 1838, *Lepismium cruciforme* has also been known as *Rhipsalis cruciformis*.

A blooming *Lepismium cruciforme*. Although the species name means ‘cross form’, branches can be flat or angled, with up to six ribs. The edges of the branches are crenate¹ with tufts of white hair. There is also a variety known as *Lepismium cruciforme* var *spiralis* with twisted branches.

The interesting branch shape means *Lepismium cruciforme* looks good growing alongside hybrid epicactus. You can treat it the same as far as watering and shade requirements. It can take a bit more sun but will become stressed in full sun exposure.

Flowers are highly variable, ranging from pink to cream to yellow. This color variation has been partially linked to ecological factors.² In my experience, the flower color on a given plant will remain the same—that is, a plant with pink flowers will continue to have pink flowers. Others have had different experiences.³ Berries are pinkish red and remain on the plant. In my San Diego garden, *Lepismium cruciforme* blooms sporadically from April until October. The biggest flush of flowers occurs in July or August.

Lepismium cruciforme occurs naturally in northeastern to southwestern Brazil, southeastern Paraguay, northern Uruguay, and northeastern Argentina. It can be found growing on coastal rocks and also as an epiphyte in seasonally dry forests of this region, up to 1200 meters in elevation. In San Diego, it does best at temperatures between 45°F/7°C and 90°F/ 32°C. During a Santa Ana or other time of low humidity, be sure to mist this plant.

I hope this inspires you to grow—or at least take a look at—*Lepismium cruciforme*. One more fun fact before I go: in Japan, this plant is called ‘nezumioashi saboten’, which translates to ‘mouse tail stem cactus’.

Have a good October and enjoy any off-season blooms.

Notes:

¹ Something that is crenate has notches or scallops.

² Barthlott & Taylor, 1995, p 47

³ Süplie, 2007, p 64

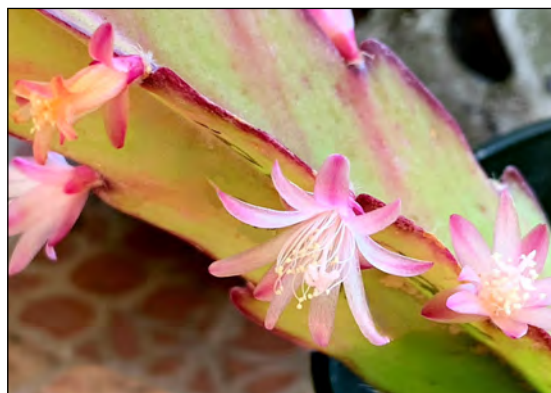
Resources:

Barthlott, W. & N.P. Taylor, “Notes towards a Monograph of Rhipsalideae”, *Bradleya* 13:43-79, 1995

Eggl, U., E. Marchesi, M. Bonifacio, R. Nyffeler, “Taxonomy and Distribution of Epiphytic Cacti in Uruguay—Notes Toward Checklist of Cactaceae of Uruguay, Part 3”, *Haseltonia* 14:161-169, 2008

Mitsuhashi, H & T. Hachizume, *Hanasaboten*, 1996

Süplie, F, *Rhipsalis & Lepismium*, 2007



Above: Blooming *Lepismium cruciforme*, f. *Floribunda*.

Photos: Linda Sinkovic

What's in a Name? A Beautiful Flower of Course!

By Jerry Moreau, Volunteer Curator/Coordinator Epiphyllum Collection & Display



Above: Helmut Paetzold in his garden.

Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick

This month I would like to share with you the naming conventions around the Paetz hybrids by Helmut Paetzold. There are over 270 named hybrids that were hybridized by Paetzold. His hybrids are very sought after and with good reason—they are beautiful. Some of Helmut's criteria for a hybrid to be registered were: compact growth, multi-colored flowers, and free-flowering tendencies. In addition, he also experimented in hybridizing, using species plants such as *Disocactus macranthus*, *Disocactus quezaltecus* and *Selenicereus anthonyanus*.

This experimentation in hybridization led the way to new flower forms, new fragrances, and new variations on colors—with some flower blooms lasting up to five days. Most of his 274 hybrids all end with the word "Paetz" which is the first part of his last name. Only fourteen named hybrids do not. Those are named as follows: 'Frau Gundi Haage', 'Dieter Biletzke', 'Dr Gottfried Gutte', 'Dr K', 'Dr Rudi Dorsch', 'Hans Wurzbacher', 'Jürgen Brinckmann', 'P.J. Schade', 'Paetzold's Rosi', 'Rudolf

Hessing', 'Peter Schäfer', 'Taskamore', 'Wolfgang Wilborn', and 'Ypsilon Zehn'.

Helmut Paetzold was born in 1931, in the East Berlin quarter known as Weissensee, which takes its name from the small lake Weißer—and literally means 'White Lake'. As a young man, Helmut was a successful musician—a singer and drummer in the famous dance hall band called "Klaechen's Ballhaus". It was there he met his wife Gitti. Then in 1974, he attempted his first try at cross-pollination and found that he was very successful—and at that point he was hooked.

His first registered hybrid was 'Rosalie Paetz'. In the beginning of his career in creating hybrids, he didn't have many epiphyllums to use as parents. He later found Haage Nursery and placed an order to increase his plant stock, and in turn to help his hybridizing efforts. He also used Curt Knebel hybrids as parents. In 2006, Helmut was awarded the Founders' Award by the Epiphyllum Society of America. Helmut passed away in 2016. To learn more about Helmut, check out Epi News October 2016 issue, Volume 41, Number 10.



'Elmira Paetz'

Photo: Roger Chapin



'Alexandra Paetz'

Photo: Beth Jackson



'P. J. Schade'

Photo: Allen Pellymounter

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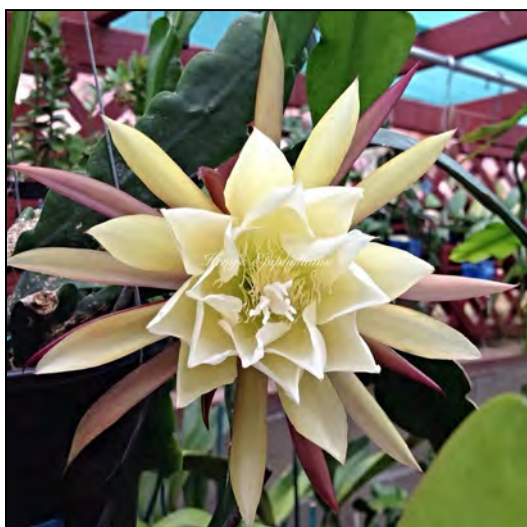
What's in a Name? A Beautiful Flower of Course! (Continued)



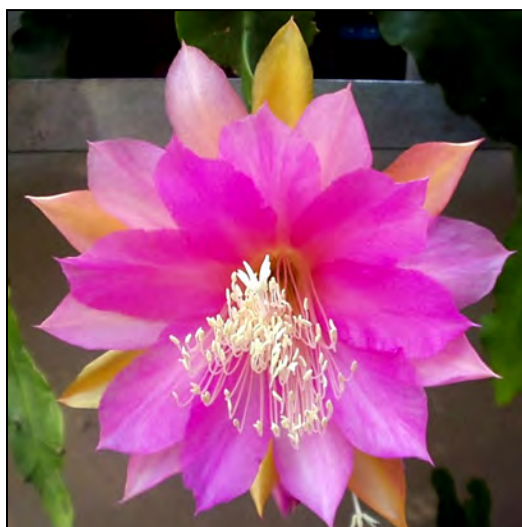
'Gabi Paetz', Photo: Linda Sinkovic



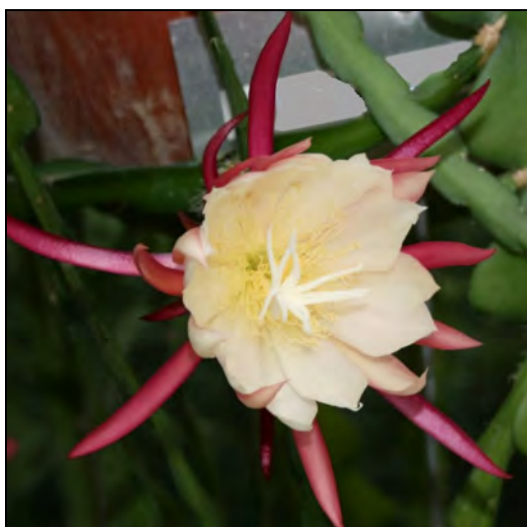
'Dr. Rudi Dorsch', Photo: Jerry Moreau



'Bernhard Paetz', Photo: H. LaPuebla Brandenburg



'Gitti Paetz', Photo: Rudolf Heßing Herick



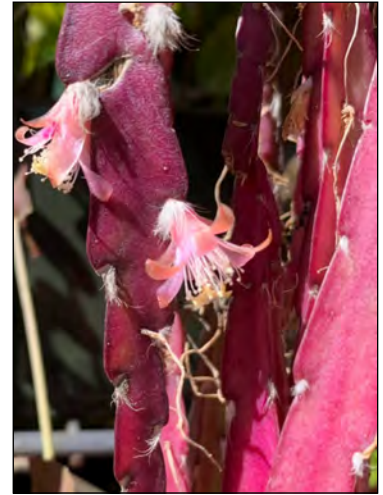
'Taskamore', Photo: Jerry Moreau



'Ramona Paetz', Photo: Linda Sinkovic

Now Is the Time—Seasonal Checklist

- ✓ **Protect your plants from the direct sun.** As the angle of the sun changes, ensure plants do not get too much southern exposure. You may need to move some plants to new spots or remove or adjust your shade cloth.
- ✓ **Be sure not to over water.** You may need to relocate plants when the rainy season begins to ensure they do not get too much water.
- ✓ **If you live in a colder climate, stop feeding plants now.** New growth is susceptible to frost damage. Epies tend to go dormant in colder weather.
- ✓ **Check ripening fruit.** If in doubt, wait to pick the apples—or seed pods. Remember to use clean tools when cutting the fruit open to remove the seeds. Also, be on the look out for birds and raccoons who love to feast on the tasty fruit.
- ✓ **Watch for snails and slugs.** As summer comes to an end, snails and slugs become more active in the cooler, moister weather.
- ✓ **Trim off all dead growth.** Some plant die back is natural. If the die back starts from the roots instead of the tips of the stems, you may want to remove the plant from its pot to check the roots.
- ✓ **New growth is normal during fall season.** You should continue to fertilize plants that are actively growing. Again, this depends on your local climate.
- ✓ **Start planning now how much and what kind of winter protection your plants will need.**



Lepismium cruciforme, Pink
Photo: Linda Sinkovic

You're Invited...

San Diego Epiphyllum Society Holiday Party

Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: The Butcher Shop Restaurant

5255 Kearney Villa Road, San Diego, CA

Cost: \$35 per person for Members,

\$75 per person for Non-Members

*Tickets can be purchased at our general meeting or
on our website from our online store.*



Graphics by: Lauren Burnette

Deadline Approaching for Annual Photo Contest

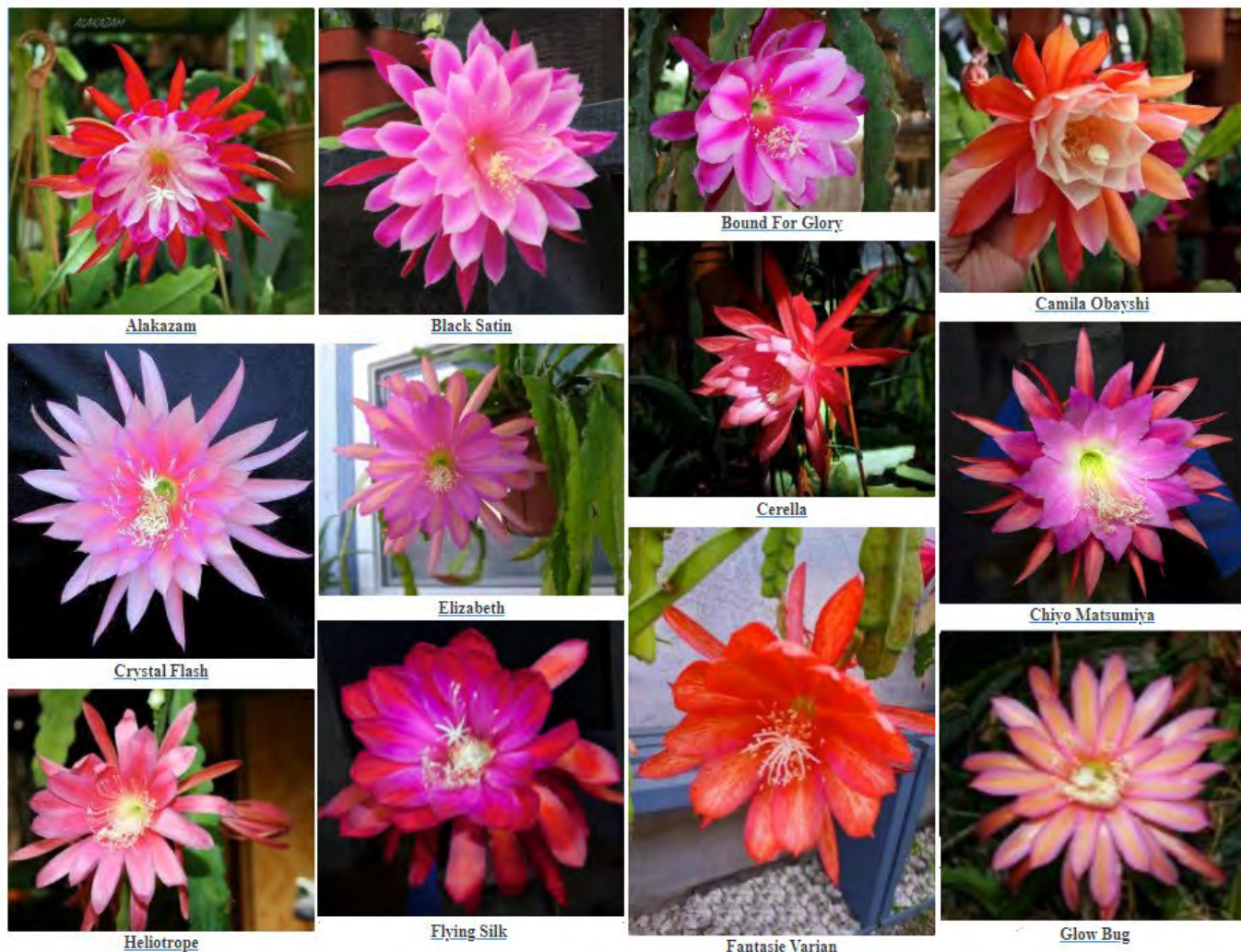
There are less than two weeks left to cull through your favorite epi pictures and submit your best photos to compete in the San Diego Epiphyllum Society Annual Photo Contest. The contest will be held from the 2nd Wednesday in October to the 2nd Wednesday in November—October 12 thru November 9, 2022.

San Diego Epiphyllum Society strives to include all of our members across the globe in events—whenever possible. To further this objective, the 2022 SDES Photography Contest will be an online event. This will allow all of our members—no matter where they live—to participate in our photography contest.

As you are reviewing your favorite photographs be sure to review and read the updated rules. The contest categories are *Single Flower*, *Multi Flower*, and *Epi Art*. Your photographs must be submitted **no later than the 2nd Wednesday in October—October 12, 2022, to qualify**. All entries that meet the contest requirements which will be posted online, and judged by our team of judges. As always, we will have a *People’s Choice* category, so make sure to view the online entries and vote for your favorites.

Contest winners will be announced the 2nd Wednesday in November—November 9, 2022 at our general membership meeting. The results will be posted on our website shortly thereafter.

For more information please go to: <https://sdepis.org/welcome-to-sdes/gallery/yearly-photo-contest/> or click this [link for contest rules](#), and then submit your photos via email to photocontest@sdepis.org. Please be sure to read all the contest rules. If you have questions contact the webmaster@sdepis.org



2020 Annual Photo Contest—*And the Winners Were...*

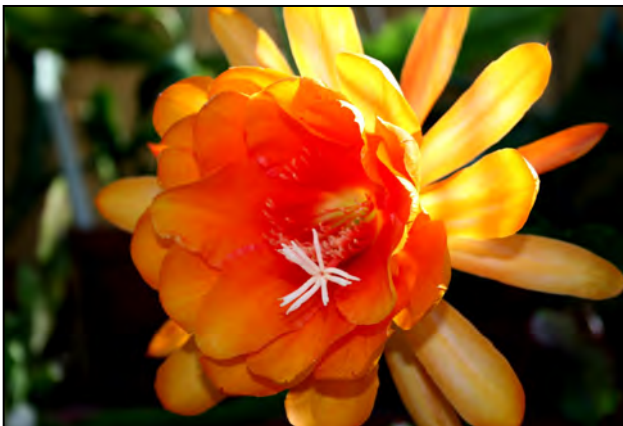
Single-Flower Category



1st Place Svante Lundqvist
'Clarity's Sun Diego'



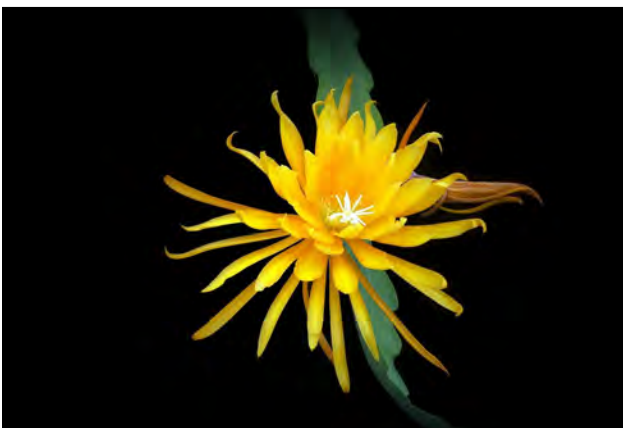
2nd Place Linda Sinkovic
Selenicereus vagans



3rd Place Jerry Moreau
'DonOro'



Honorable Mention & People's Choice
Gilbert Hatfield
'Curt Blackberg'



People's Choice Svante Lundqvist
'Clarity's No Ordinary Love'

Special Silent Auction to be Held at October Meeting

By Dean Delibertis

Please be sure to join us at our October 12, 2022 General Meeting as we will be holding a special silent auction featuring five newly registered hybrids that were registered in 2021 and 2022. The silent auction will be held in addition to our regular raffle event.

We will be offering one cutting from each of the five newly registered hybrids listed below.

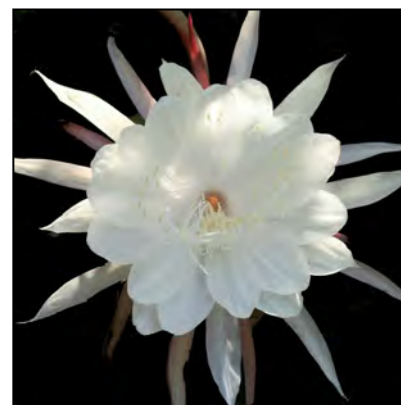
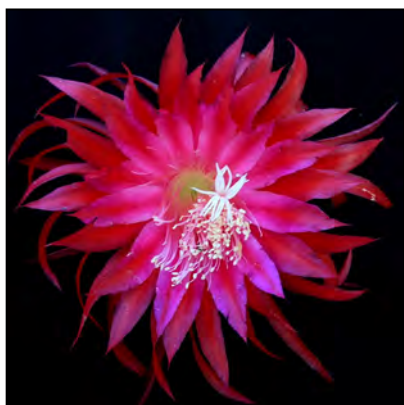
To bid on the cutting(s), you or a representative must be in attendance and present to win. This is a cash auction—payment must be made at the time the winners are announced. The auction will open at 7:00 p.m. and will continue until the last raffle number is called by Paula Reynolds, Raffle Coordinator.

At that time Paula will close the auction and announce the silent auction winners. The winners' cutting will be made and one of our assistants will be on hand to collect the amount due and complete the transaction. Cash or credit card payments will be accepted.

New hybrids being offered:

- 'Call Of The Wild' – Don Patterson, XL flower, the parents are: 'Countess d'Amour' *Ex Nat.*
- 'Tiger's Eye' – Don Patterson, L flower, parents are: 'Doris W. Pittman' x (unknown yellow hybrid).
- 'Raconteur' – Richard Latimer, Sr., XL flower. Named in honor of Galen Pittman. Parentage is 'Meditation' x 'Jennifer Ann'.
- 'Twizzler' – Don Patterson, L flower. Parentage is a cross of 'Alakazam' *Ex Nat.*
- 'Full Moon Beauty' – Mitsuhashi Nursery (Japan), *Epiphyllum pumilum* x *Epiphyllum oxypetalum*.

Join us and place your bid—as you will surely not want to miss the opportunity to add these new and hard-to-find cuttings to you collection.



Top Left to Right:
'Call Of The Wild',
'Tiger's Eye', 'Raconteur'.

Bottom Left to Right:
'Twizzler',
'Full Moon Beauty'.

Photos: Jerry Moreau

Hummingbirds in Our Garden and

“The Hummingbird Ladies”: Coincidence? *By JK Hendershot*

This past spring, we had the privilege of watching a hummingbird build her nest on an ornamental light fixture under the covered pergola on our patio. It was amazing that we were able to observe the mother caring for her two very small eggs, that eventually hatched into two adorable baby hummingbirds. It was miraculous witnessing the whole process once—but the mother came back two more times—laying two eggs each time, for a total of six eggs and six babies. So between growing epies, raising monarch butterflies, and the addition of three “charms” of hummingbirds (because they’re charming), there was a lot going on in our garden. But wait—there is more. I almost forgot to mention, that a morning dove built her nest in one of the hanging cactus basket that Gretchen Ward gave me before she moved to Albuquerque, NM, last year. Currently, the morning dove is on her ~~second~~ third brood.

So now the coincidence part. As I was culling through old electronic issues of EpiNews, attempting to get ideas for future issues, I was drawn to a pdf file from November 1999. I opened the file and started scrolling through the pdf and came upon an article that described the program notes at the monthly membership meeting for the prior month of October 1999. It read: “*Our program for the evening was Marion and Susan Stacey, The Hummingbird Ladies. It was great! They had three birds with them.*”

So if this wasn't odd enough, in the third charm (yes, the third time **is** a charm), one of the hummingbirds looked a little peaked, and he didn't want to leave the nest. We were concerned that he might have a problem. I then Googled “hummingbirds San Diego” and the website and phone number popped up for “Hummingbird Rescue Center”. At this point, I am thinking could this be the same place—the ladies were active over twenty years ago? I was feeling a bit adventurous, so I thought I would call the number given and see what happens. I dialed the number, and after numerous rings a rather spry-sounding woman answered “Hummingbird Rescue—what’s your emergency?” I stammered a bit, because I wasn't sure if this warranted being labeled a true “hummingbird emergency”, and explained to the woman that our hummingbird did not want to leave the nest. She then rather forcefully interjected something about “tough-love”, and “he wouldn't get hurt if he fell out of the nest”. I apologized, thinking I was wasting her time and taking away precious resources from a true hummingbird emergency, so she assured me that the bird was probably fine (which he was), and asked if that was all I needed.

I thanked her again, and thought maybe I should give her a donation for the time spent—but before hanging up, I had to ask her if she remembered a “Marion Stacey” at the Center. She abruptly responded I'm Marion Stacey—and I am 92 years old! A bit taken a back, I responded “great to meet you!” and told her I had read an article on her and her daughter when they presented to the SDES years ago. I asked if she was still presenting, and she said she had scaled back a bit, and typically only goes out in the cooler months. I let her know that we would love to have her speak to our group if she was up to it.

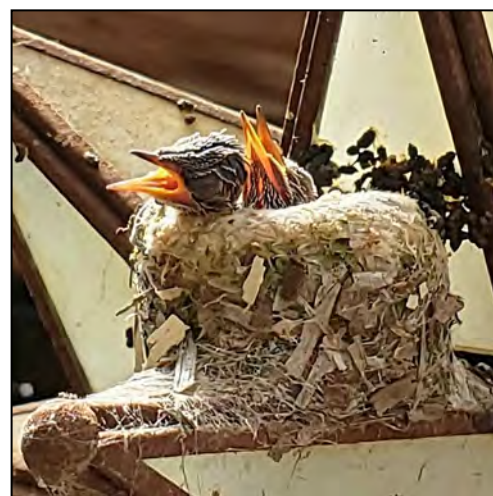
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Left: Mother hummingbird guards her nest from intruders.

Right: Two newborn fledgling hummingbirds from the first charm—so hungry!

Photos: JK Hendershot



Hummingbirds in Our Garden and “The Hummingbird Ladies”: Coincidence? (Continued)

She told me to try her when it’s cooler and she responded that she needed a white plumeria—so if any of our readers have a white plumeria to gift to Marion let me know.

Still a bit shocked that Marion was still at it, I mentioned the conversation to a few of our more tenured members, and one member said Marion was the reason she started putting out feeders and plants that attracted hummingbirds. Another member recounted the story that Marion told at their last presentation. Apparently, the hummingbirds need to be fed twice hourly, so Marion went to the bank and did her banking with a hummingbird securely tucked in her décolletage. Actually, the account was a little more descriptive—but adding a word or two in French always seems to add a certain *je ne sais quoi* to the situation. On that note, I think this is probably a good place to end this part of the story. So I will let you—our readers decide—were the hummingbirds a sign? Was there a reason I stumbled onto the article, and Marion Stacey? Or, were these sequence of events just coincidental? You decide.

Editor’s Note: The following article appeared in EpiNews in November 1999, and was entitled “The Three R’s of Humming Bird Rescue”.

For most people, the “Three R’s” usually mean reading, writing and arithmetic. But in the Stacey family, they mean rescue, raise and release. Our family specializes in the care and rehabilitation of injured or orphaned hummingbirds.

Hummingbirds have been the family project for the past six years. We began with a few birds brought home by Susan, a keeper at the San Diego Zoo. Then other family members became involved as a result of the sheer amount of work, time, expense, and knowledge required. Now we not only care for the birds turned over to the Zoo, but also for birds from Wildlife Center, Project Wildlife, and Bob Farner’s Wildlife Rescue in Vista, CA.

When the phone rings, the household goes on “hummingbird alert”. Nets, food, eyedroppers, cages, and baskets of baby birds are scooped up and bundled into the car for emergency house calls. Time is crucial in the care of hummingbirds. If these delicate birds are left too long without proper food, they will go into torpor—a natural state similar to a deep sleep. It is difficult to arouse them from this state.

Baskets of babies and cages of fledglings have to go everywhere we go because of the frequent feedings. From dawn to dusk, the birds are hand fed every 25 minutes. We customized eyedroppers to approximate the mother bird’s beak. The tip must be fine enough to be inserted in the baby’s crop. Inexperienced feeders may get fluid in the tiny bird’s lungs, resulting in death.

The hummingbirds are fed a very special food that fulfills all their nutritional requirements while in our care. Sugar water cannot be used to raise baby birds. They can suffer permanent problems in their development due to malnutrition. Hummingbirds should never be given honey, brown sugar, molasses, fruit juices, bouillon, or sugar substitutes.

The weaning process usually begins after a bird has attempted his first flight. Then the bird graduates

Continued on the following page



Note in upper left corner of the photo the ornamental glass star light fixture and the birds’ home. Photo: JK Hendershot

Hummingbirds in Our Garden...Coincidence? (Continued)

from his nest to a small portable cage with other fledglings. Test tube feeders with tempting red colored sugar tips are positioned for him to investigate and to begin eating independently. Until he is completely self-feeding, food is offered to ensure he is eating sufficiently.

When a bird is able to control his flight between food and perch, he is placed in a larger cage. Along with about twenty other fledglings, he then moves to an outside aviary. The aviary exposes him to real flowers, plants, a variety of types of feeders, fruit flies, and variable weather in the outside world. Hummingbirds are extremely territorial, and the young birds must learn to compete for food. There is a minimal amount of contact with humans at this point.

After about two weeks in the outside aviary, the birds are usually ready to be released. They have grown up with good nutrition, they have become proficient flyers and independent eaters, and they have learned the necessary skills to survive. They are self-reliant birds, no longer dependent upon or bound to us. Groups of about twenty to thirty birds are released directly from the aviary every two weeks from April to August. Our involvement with hummingbirds lasts all year round. However, "baby season" runs from January to August. From August to January, we receive injured birds. During the whole year, we go to schools to help educate children on how important all birds are to our environment. For more information or to make a donation go to <https://hummingbirdrescuecenter.org>.

Hummingbird Flowers for Your Garden

- Firecracker bush: small red blooms.
- Cape honeysuckle: orange blooms.
- Hummingbird bush: red tubular flowers.
- Mexican butterfly weed: orange-yellow blooms, great hummer favorite.
- Mexican bush sage: long slender rose-purple spikes studded with small white flowers, very drought tolerant.
- Firebush or Texas scarlet bush: orange tubular flowers, large shrub
- Lantana: perennial. Also attracts butterflies, best in sunny areas, and well-drained soil.
- Turks cap: good planted around trees.
- Autumn sage: comes in three colors: red, coral or white, sub-shrub, hummer favorite.
- Scarlet sage: red flowers, sub-shrub, afternoon shade, good ground cover.
- Mexican cigar plant: red-yellow tubular flowers. full sun, drought tolerant.
- Mexican honeysuckle: orange or red tubular flowers, drought tolerant.
- Shrimp plant: resembles in shape and color of shrimp.
- Coral honeysuckle: tubes of red or orange, needs support, hummer favorite.
- Trumpet vine: orange trumpet. healthy. drought tolerant, can become a pest.



Above Left: Hummingbird Bush, Middle: Tutti Frutti Hummingbird Plant, Right: Mexican Bush Sage

Photos: lowes.com

Election Time Is Near— *“Many hands make for light work” John Heywood*

We are fortunate to have so many people volunteering time and effort to make our society work well and be a success. However, for our society to remain successful we need you to volunteer. We need your help, so please consider volunteering for a position, especially if you have not yet served—the more people involved the less any one person will have to do. If members don’t take an active role, the society won’t be able to do as much or function as well as it can. SDES is an all volunteer organization—without you we would not exist! Everything we get from the society starts from what we put into the society.

There are a few positions that need to be filled at this time. Consider serving as 1st Vice President. If you have some skills you can offer the society please let us know. We can always use help with newsletter articles, technology and the website. Reach out to any of our board members—they will be happy to talk with you about helping out.

In November, the final slate of officers will be presented to the membership and a formal vote will be held at the regular monthly meeting. Installation of new officers will occur in December at the annual installation of officers and holiday banquet.

The 2023 SDES proposed slate of officers and directors are:

President	David Cheever	Director (2023-24)	Linda Bennett
1 st Vice President	Open	Director (2023-24)	Lauren Burnette
2 nd Vice President	Patricia Neal	Director (2023-24)	Paula Reynolds
Treasurer	Gerry Mikas	Not up for re-election:	
Recording Secretary	Carmela Griswold	Director (2022-23)	Gilbert Hatfield
Membership Secretary	Beth Jackson	Director (2022-23)	Mildred Mikas
Corresponding Secretary	Sal Castellitto	Past President	Gretchen Ward

SDES Mourns the Passing of Keith Ballard



Pat and Keith Ballard April 2022

Photo: Jerry Moreau

We are saddened to report that Keith Ballard, age 90, died September 1, 2022 at his home in Los Angeles, CA from end-stage dementia. Keith was born August 2, 1932 in Crystal Lake, IL to Howard and Ruth Ballard. He earned a Masters in Engineering at UCLA in 1957, and worked as an aerospace engineer for 37 years at TRW.

Keith married his high school sweetheart Pat, in Las Vegas when he was 19 years old, and they’d been married just short of 70 years. The Ballards raised three sons and two daughters in the Los Angeles area, and have 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Keith and his wife Pat joined the ESA in 1976, and served in leadership positions for 25 of the 46 years they participated.

Keith served as president, vice president, annual show chair, program chairman, member of the board of directors and editor of the society’s newsletter, ‘The Bulletin’ for over 20 years. Keith not only edited ‘The Bulletin’ but wrote many of the articles himself. Keith was instrumental in presenting the monthly meeting programs and many of the show and flower photos in ‘The Bulletin’ were taken by Keith. Keith received the prestigious Alice Buchanan Award, honorary life membership status, and Keith and Pat received the ESA Founders’ Award for their contributions to the epiphyllum world.

A Celebration of Life was held to honor Keith Ballard on September 30th, at University Christian Church in Los Angeles. In lieu of flowers, donations in Keith’s memory can be made to Hope International University, 2500 Nutwood Avenue, Fullerton, CA 92831 or visit online at www.hiu.edu.

Safari Park Epi Collection and Display *by Jerry Moreau*

September brought about interesting weather. We went from record high temperatures to days of rain. One of our work parties had a bit of on-and-off sprinkles. Since we don't melt and the water falling from the sky wasn't a lot, we stayed and had fun. It did make it very humid. The plants loved it and I know for us San Diegans that it was difficult to endure—but I'm proud to say that we had fun and did it.

Also, we received a donation of 14 named plants from a former member, Edwin Wemys who passed away in 2021. Looking up our records, he was a member from 1995—when he lived in Texas to when he moved to San Diego in the late 90s. He wasn't an active member, but he did attend the Mother's Day show and sale. Many of the plants will be used for next year's sales. One of the plants donated was labeled 'Calling All Angels'. I've never heard of this one and it's not in the registry of hybrids. It might be just a name someone put on the plant and either sold it that way or gave it away—that's what I believe may be. However, if anybody has any information about this hybrid, let me know. I will watch the bloom next spring and will see what it looks like.

I also want to welcome a new volunteer to the park, Ada Wildberger. Ada attended her first work party in August and is very enthusiastic about working with us and the plants. If you didn't meet her at the work party look for her at the October general meeting. She is a hard worker and will be lots of fun to work with.

As you may know the San Diego Zoo and Safari Park are not only zoos, but they are also botanic gardens. They are accredited by The American Alliance Of Museums and the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and have been accredited for many years. It takes lots of work to maintain that accreditation. Recently the Zoo and Park have also received accreditation by another



association, Botanic Gardens Conservation International (BGCI). BGCI has an international botanic garden accreditation process to recognize the work of botanic gardens and especially their achievements in plant conservation. Since then, lots of things have been happening behind the scenes. In addition to all the work we do caring for the plants, collection, and display, I am happy to announce that the epiphyllum collection, specifically the epiphytic species, are now part of the accessioned botanical collection at the Safari Park.

Helping out during August were Barb Alvarez, Keith and Linda Bennett, Sandra Chapin, David Cheever, Ron and Velma Crain, Cindy Decker, Marie Dempewolf, Dennis Hughes, Dean Delibertis, Jeff Hendershot, Ellen McCollum, Jerry Moreau, Paula Reynolds, Tim Paule, Janice Wakefield, Ada Wildberger, and Paul vander Ploeg.

R: Members of the Tuesday work team enjoy the morning, while dodging a few rain drops. Shown are Tim, Paula, David, Barb and Cindy



Above Photo: JK Hendershot

Details on How To Become A Volunteer at the Safari Park can be found on our website. If you have any questions contact Jerry Moreau. Click on <https://sdepis.org/welcome-to-sdes/epiphyllums/volunteering/>



Wish List, Off-Season Blooms and Species

If there are epies that you are looking for it is possible someone in the society might have it and be willing to share a cutting or two with you.

As a service and benefit to our members this list is being included in the newsletter. Send your wish list along with your contact information to the editor to have it included here.

Sal Castellitto: aclarasd@aol.com

'Bold Venture', 'Buttercup', 'Christmas Elf', 'Christmas Kiss', 'Kiwi Honey Gold', 'Merry Christmas', 'Spanish Gold'

Forrest Ehbrecht:

forrestkehbrecht@yahoo.com

'Sakurahime', 'Fire Island'

Casey Gerdes: casey@yogawithcasey.com

'Crystal Flash', 'Gladyce Jones', 'Glow Bug', 'Kiwi Contraction', 'Monastery Gardens', 'Ron Crain'

Carmela Griswold: calcolors@gmail.com

'Ron Crain', 'Sakurahime', 'Exotic Dancer', 'Kiwi Sweetheart'

Bridget Kleindienst:

Bkleindienst13@gmail.com

'Baby Cake', 'Crystal Claret', 'Heather'

Andrea McArthur:

acmcarthur@roadrunner.com

'Queen Tatiana'

Michal McKee: folklorist@gmail.com

'Elegans Lei', 'Mojave Gold'

Priscilla Merriam: pafmerriam@gmail.com

'Frida Kahlo', 'Gold Coin', 'Oberon', 'Ron Crain'

Paula Reynolds: paularey@aol.com

'Sunset Cliffs', 'Voltaire'

Janice Wakefield:

jwakefield.home@gmail.com

'Bobby Brynildsen', 'Jasa', 'White Cloud'



Off-Season Blooms

This list is comprised of informal research on off-season epi blooms. Here you can track which epies have been blooming consistently off-season over the years. If you would like to add to the research and list what epies have been blooming in your garden, email the editor with your list of blooms. Here's what's been blooming in September:

Barb Alvarez (Lemon Grove): 'Tangerine', 'Bertee'

Cindy Decker (La Mesa): 'Tangerine'

Dean Delibertis (Chula Vista): 'DonOro'

Forrest Ehbrecht (San Diego): 'Harald Knebel'

Barb Landon (Manhattan Beach): 'Hobie', 'Pam Jam', 'Felcino Favorite', 'Abracadabra', 'Gold Charm', 'Friend Rudi', 'Jalisco Flirt', 'Lycorias', and 'Seahorses'

Safari Park (San Pasqual Valley): 'Big Daddy', 'Full Moon Beauty', 'Jalisco Joy', 'Jalisco Starlight', 'Kafi', 'Tecuya'

Paula Reynolds (Point Loma): 'Harald Knebel', 'Grace Ann'

Linda Sinkovic (Santa Cruz): 'Disco Flirt'

Species Blooming

Here is a list of species blooming this month.

Barb Alvarez (Lemon Grove): *Epiphyllum pumilum*, *Epiphyllum hookeri*,

Cindy Decker (La Mesa): *Neon Sugar Dragon*

Forrest Ehbrecht (San Diego): *Epiphyllum hookeri*, *Epiphyllum hookeri* ssp. *Guatemalense*, *Lepismium cruciforme*

Jerry Moreau (San Diego): *Lepismium cruciforme*

Safari Park (San Pasqual Valley): *Epiphyllum hookeri* ssp. *guatemalense* monstrose, *Selenicereus vagans*

Paula Reynolds (Point Loma): *Epiphyllum hookeri*

Linda Sinkovic (Santa Cruz): *Epiphyllum hookeri* ssp. *hookeri*, *Lepismium cruciforme*, *Lepismium cruciforme* Domingo Martins, *Lepismium cruciforme* ex Hans Wiehler, *Lepismium cruciforme* Spiralis, *Lepismium houlltimum* f. *houlltiana*

Ron & Velma Crain (Chula Vista): *Selenicereous undatus*.

Epi News Submissions

News of interest to our SDES membership, brief articles about our members, or our community are welcome.

- Send any articles, photos, and questions.
- Send submissions as a Word or Google document. Items can also be sent as text pasted into an email body. No PDFs.
- Please limit formatting. Avoid excessive bolding or tabs. Avoid words in all CAPS. Please proofread and spellcheck, esp. names.
- Send photos as JPEGs attached in an email to submit to the editor.
- All photos need caption and photographer's name. Photos need photographer's permission.
- Use of photos is at the editor's discretion.
- Send videos as MP4 or as a YouTube link. Videos must have videographer's permission.
- Materials and submissions need contributor's name.
- All submissions are at the editor's discretion.
- Submissions are due by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the following month's *Epi News*.
- If you are not sure—send it anyway. Email the editor at: EpiNews@sdepis.org

Mission Statement

SDES is a community of epi growers who encourage the study of epies and the interchange of ideas on growing, displaying, and collecting epies and its related species.

SDES Officers for 2022

President	David Cheever
1st Vice President	Tim Paule
2nd Vice President	Patricia Neal
Treasurer	Gerry Mikas
Recording Sec.	Carmela Griswold
Corresponding Sec.	Sal Castelletto
Membership Sec.	Beth Jackson
Immediate Past Pres.	Gretchen Ward
Director 2022-23	Gilbert Hatfield
Director 2022-23	Mildred Mikas
Director 2022-23	Tim Paule
Director 2021-22	Paula Reynolds
Director 2021-22	Lauren Burnette

Resources

As a benefit to our members here is a list of epi resources available to you. If you are aware of any additional resources that you feel would benefit our members and you would like to have included, please contact the editor.

Epi Nurseries:

Epi Galleria - Mark Piette

<http://www.epigalleria.com/>

Epi Haven - <https://epihaven.com/>

Epiphyllum World - Don Cravalho

<http://stores.ebay.com/epiphyllum-world>

Garden Jewels Nursery - Katie Lutz

<http://gardenjewelsnursery.com/>

Heny's Epiphyllums - Heny Brandenburg

<https://www.facebook.com/henysepiphyllums/>

Kakteen Haage - Ulrich Haage

<http://www.kakteen-haage.de/>

Passionate gardener since 1685.

Pacific Epiphyllum - Chris Welcher

<http://www.pacificepiphyllum.com/>

Plant and Other Societies:

Cactus & Succulent Society of America

<https://cactusandsucculentsociety.org/>

SDES is an affiliate member and our members are welcome at their meetings and webinars. See their website for more information.

Epiphyllum Society of America

1st Tuesday of every month except in December or January at 7:30 p.m. <http://epiphyllums.org/>

San Diego Botanical Garden Society

<http://www.sdbgf.org/>

San Diego Bromeliad Society

2nd Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

<http://www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org/>

San Diego Turtle and Tortoise Society

Meets on Zoom every 2nd Friday

<https://www.sdturtle.org/>

San Francisco Epiphyllum Society

1st Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

<http://www.sfepi.org/>

South Bay Epiphyllum Society

2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/511560205668403>

We Leave You With This — *ESA Show 2022 by Don Crain*



'Seven Seas' FB



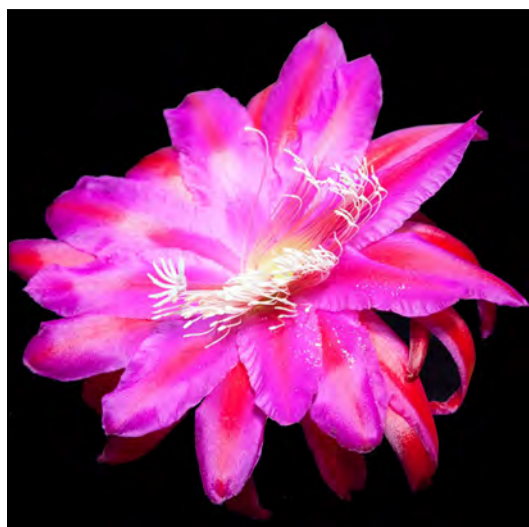
'Garland O'Barr' FOB



'Butterscotch Topping' HST



'Pegasus' CLDG



'Hong Kong' FOB



'Royal Coachman' FRE