

# Epi News

PUBLISHED BY THE SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY

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"The Executive Board shall be composed of the Officers of the Society and the Board of Directors."---(Bylaws of SDES Art. IX, Sect. 1)

## OFFICERS

GENE LUND	President
FRANK GRANATOWSKI	First Vice President
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NATHAN OGDON	
JOHN PILAND	Cutting Table
DR. J. W. TROXELL	Honorary Director
GEORGE FRENCH	Honorary Director

These Officers (except Editor) and Directors were presented to the Society in April, elected in May by all our members, and will be now installed by our member Betty Cooper (President of the San Diego Botanical Foundation) today. This meeting is also our birthday meeting. We will have birthday cakes and free cuttings for all!

## Programs

August-The scheduled speaker for the eighth month is James "Jim" A. Gibbons, who is of course the Horticulture Manager at the Wild Animal Park of San Diego. He has been responsible for the Green Thumb Shows at the SDWAP, which we are able to show our beauties at the best of all the Green Thumb Shows of the year.

July-Fred Shamblen, our Society Photographer, will head a new type of program that we hope to make a regular feature through the following years. What it is is this: Members will show roughly from 10 to 15 slides of their own on our club GAF projector. President Lund has 20 circular magazines to be borrowed by those showing off their wares. This is not a competition! Slideshowers should contact Fred to reserve their spot to show their flower and plant slides.

June-Tonight we are pleased to announce that our scheduled speaker is our

Club's favorite speaker-Howard Jones. (It seems a crime that his name does not get mentioned until the second page!) Mr. Jones, besides being a top-notch Epiphyllum grower is a prize winning Photographer (and teaching said Art for many years, he was department head for 25) of not just Epiphyllums, but most memorable for California themes especially the coast, mountains (Yosemite), and deserts (deer). Mr. Jones talk will be so enjoyable, that he could fool us this time and talk just about Economics and we would enjoy that too!

We take this opportunity to list Mr. Jones's registered hybrids:

Dr. Sandburg by Amber Queen

Mildred Virginia- 5", funnel, fire engine red  
Beverly Ann- 4", cup & saucer, fuchsia with orange center  
Cora Corrine- 7", ruffled cup & saucer, white  
Virginia Lorraine- 6", cup & saucer, fuchsia  
Fuchsia Queen- 5", cup & saucer, fuchsia to lavender edge  
Willa Marie- 7", cup, fuchsia with orange stripe  
Rainbow Fairy- 5", cup, orange to purple, lavender/flaring sepals  
Maude Lee- 7", cup, dark fuchsia  
Winifred H.-7", funnel, dark fuchsia, orange stripe  
Louise O.-4", cup, fuchsia-outer red  
Della W.- 6", bell, red, inner violet  
Rainbow Gypsy- 3", cup, light rose/lavender edge orange stripe  
Sacajawea- 5", cup, medium rose overcast dark  
June Marie- 5", cup & saucer, lavender

Dr. Sandburg by Crystal Cup

Molly T.- 7", bell, bright red, lavender eye  
Blushing Doll- 4", funnel, orange red with lavender center

Latona by Crystal Cup

Fern Rosella- 7", funnel, lavender with darker stripe  
Ina Elizabeth- 4", bell, orchid  
Crystal Latona- 7", cup & saucer, red outer and lavender inner

Rosetta by Dr. Sandburg

Lavender Doll- 3", cup, pale lavender with white stripe  
Tropical Dawn- 8", cup & saucer, lavender with pale orange stripe  
Double Rose- 3", cup & saucer, clear rose in two shades  
Eva Audry- 5", cup & saucer, lavender  
Phyllis Ruth- 5", cup & saucer, orchid with orange center stripe

Crystal Cup by Dr. Sandburg

Ruth Bennett- 5", cup & saucer, red orchid

Goliath by Rosetta

Lisetta- 3½", cup & saucer, red with orange stripe  
Red Spider- 4", pointed wheel, dark red  
Hazel May- 7", bell, fuchsia with orange stripe

Goliath by Rosetta

Miss Escondido- 10", bell, red with overlaid iridescent purple

Rosetta by Empress

Pink Doll- 4", cup, light pink with lighter sepals  
Mini Midget- 2", funnel, light rose pink

NOTE: In order to give the Mother's Day Show an adequate report- we regret to announce that complete coverage will be in the July issue.

## SELENICEREUS

The plants in this genus have been given this name because it was originally thought that the light of the moon was a factor in the opening of the flower [Seleni-Moon, Greek]. The plants are native to S. Texas, Mexico, Central America, West Indies, and along the northern coast of South America. In their natural tropical jungle haunts, the plants either climb up the trunks of large trees by means of aerial roots, or merely trail along the ground or hang suspended from rocks and cliffs. The stems are slender, rounded, sometimes ribbed, and long being described as rope-like or snake-like. The plants grow easily in a pot with a trellis, where the stems may soon become a tangled mass. Some of the species' flowers are disappointing, but the ones popularly grown have flowers larger than any of the Epiphyllums. The flower tubes are spiny and hairy. The flowers are night-blooming, expanding in their glory at sunset, movement is detectable, petal tips may pass a 180° arc in a three hour period; but this is a one-night show as the flowers wither at sunrise. The flower buds generally make their appearance in May, as soon as the plants start growing after their winter rest, the flowering period commencing in late May, continuing through June into July, and the plants grow rapidly in the summer. Plants prefer Epi culture with maybe some sand in the mix. They may sunburn with too much sun, but like Hylocereus, the plants must have the right amount of sun to bloom (more than Epis). There are 24 species, but I will only mention the ones that most of us have:

- S. macdonaldiae-Everyone should have this plant. The stems are green with knobby areoles with inoffensive spines. The flowers are the largest of any cactus being 15" long and 12" across. The flowers have chartreuse sepals and white wider petals.
- S. grandiflorus-(The A. Blanc drawing on the previous page.) This one is not as common as it should be. The stems are purple with short but sticky white spines. The flowers are white inner and brown outer, sometimes being orangish inbetween. The interesting thing about this plant is that the flower has a wonderful scent, being usually described as vanilla.
- S. pteranthus-(winged flower) This one is similar to S. g., except that the stems are purple with dark green areas, the spines are thicker and shorter and do not come off, and the flower is smaller and just white and brown. This plant splits from too much rain in the winter and is considered to be the most common.
- S. hamatus-The stem of this one is similar to S. m., but the knobs are backwards. Mine has never flowered.

These plants seem to have some medical applications. Backeberg mentions that freshly cut stems and flowers of S. g. are used in the preparation of drugs with a spasmolytic effect on the coronary vessels and to promote blood circulation. (See also Cutak) Another note is that some plants especially cacti grow on bare rock by decomposing the rock. In 1968 the Hermanos Brothers isolated an extract when given to arthritis patients cured them, because normal bone is not affected as it is protected by the living cells on the outside of all bones (periosteum) while the boney deposits causing the pain are dissolved by the drug. It is my understanding that one cactus grown for this drug is S. m.

of the

11/22 '88

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

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**CEREUS GRANDIFLORUS**

"THE QUEEN OF THE NIGHT."



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