

# Epi News

PUBLISHED BY THE SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY

August 13, 1980--Volume 4, Number 8

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Helen & Robert Barkdoll  
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La Mesa, Ca. 92041

Ed & Faye Broz 465-1721  
2346 Chatham St.  
El Cajon, Ca. 92020

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San Diego, Ca. 92105

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Lloyd & Elizabeth Coutts  
11 Vista Dr. 420-8579  
Chula Vista, Ca. 92010

Madeline Jean Dacey  
4065 Citradora Dr. 464-8540  
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Agnes & Jack Eubanks  
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San Diego, Ca. 92107

Diane Johannes (714) 525-1097  
1411 N. Acacia Ave.  
Fullerton, Ca. 92631

W. R. & Charlotte Seaman  
4031 Jewell St. 273-8262  
San Diego, Ca. 92109

---Kathy Adams

## AUGUST 13TH PROGRAM GEORGE FRENCH

George French-one of the premier hybridizers of the San Diego Epiphyllum Society-will give the program this month. He will show slides, mostly featuring his own seedlings, discuss his personal propagation techniques, and hand out cultural leaflets to the members. Some of George's best seedlings are "Madeline", "Sebu", "Jennifer Ann", and "Radiant Fire".

---Gene Schmedding

## REFRESHMENT NEWS

I have a crew for kitchen help - Suzie Ellis, Hisae Hook, and Shirley Rogers. A thank you for everyone's willingness to assist in any way - bringing in goodies or aiding in the kitchen. August folks for refreshment:

Margaret Blake  
Dennis Breuer  
Ed Broz  
Gloria Holm  
Henrietta Jensen  
Pat Marquez  
Peg Minardi  
Madelon Montunnas  
Louise Newman  
Irmela Paul  
Kathie van Arum

---Penny Bunker

## OVERDUE LIBRARY BOOKS

Several items, such as photo slides, Master Epi Listings, cacti books, and Annie P. Williams flower descriptions are overdue from six months to two years as per our library record cards. The Library requests all members having overdue items to please return them as soon as possible. Other members wish to use them too, either to take home on loan or just for viewing at the general meeting. Items in the Library may be checked out to members for a maximum time period of one month. If an item is needed for a longer period, it must be approved by the Librarian. The Library's records can then be updated.

---Charles Saltzer (422-3854)

---HELP!---

As our president announced at the last meeting, we will be in need of a new editor for the EPI NEWS. Our present editor, who has worked so un-  
-iringly for the SDES, is retiring from this job with the Nov.-Dec. issue. Rick said that he will still write most of the future historical articles (we will have an occasional guest author), but time does not permit him to carry the full load as he has done in the past.

I know that there are a lot of members out there that have the go-how and the know-how to edit our paper. All of you that are interested in keeping our little newspaper going, please contact any of the Board mem-  
-bers or Rick. He will assist in any way that he can in "learning the ropes". Come on all you members that want to get more involved in the SDES business---here is your chance!

---Gene Schmedding

FINANCIAL REPORT

Checking account:

\$867.60

Savings account:

\$4,627.67

---Dave LaBorde

Drawing "Epiphyllums" by Jo. Selman in "The Begonium."

From "California Garden" Autumn, 1949.



Send all news items and articles to: R. G. Latimer Jr., 5990 Lake Murray  
Blvd., La Mesa, Ca. 92041

Send all new or renewed memberships to: Kathy Adams, 3340 Del Sol Blvd. -  
Sp. 9, San Diego, Ca. 92154

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## THE GOLDEN AGE OF EPIPHYLLUMS

### Part IVc: The Legacy of Curt Knebel

Here we will reprint three articles from the Epiphyllum Society of America's Bulletin:

#### HOW ONE EPIPHYLLUM SEEDLING RECEIVED ITS NAME

by Peggy Williams

In showing our president, Mr. C. L. Wright, through my gardens, I happened to show him "Alta Scott" and told him its story. Years ago, Mrs. Roberts, Miss Kilbourne and I went in together and had Mrs. Grant, who was German, send to Mr. Knebel for some of his best seed. About this time, he named one of his hybrids "Mrs. Grant". Mrs. Grant had a glass house, so she planted the seeds for us and raised them until they were large enough to transplant-I forget what we paid her for her work. A neighbor of Mrs. Roberts also had a glass house, so when they were large enough, we moved them there.

There was a little old lady named Mrs. Alta Scott who loved flowers and went wherever she could to find flowers in bloom. She came over one day to see our little seedlings. We gave her one and told her we would name it "Alta Scott". She was so proud of it and took great care of it. It proved to be such a lovely flower when it bloomed. When she passed on, her son sold the plant to our friend, Mrs. Callison. She then divided it among different growers.

I am sure you would like to know the names of the other fine seedlings which were raised from the seed sent to us by Mr. Knebel. Mrs. Roberts named one "Malcolm F. Roberts" and one "Betty Crow". I named these flowers myself: "Lynn"-a very large, unusual pink, "Susan Jo"-a small white basket, "Chuck Williams"-very lovely, "Lou"-something like "Alta Scott", "Roberta Lee"-a huge orange, "San Diego"-purple, "Meda"-dark yellow and white, and "Friend Sherfy"-medium sized copper. After all these years, I still have many unnamed and now they are really coming into their own. Miss Kilbourne never named any as far as I know. She moved and had to keep her things inside. They never did too well. I do not believe that there were ever any named for Mrs. Callison.

After we had received the seeds from Mr. Knebel, Mrs. Roberts, Miss Kilbourne and I started getting cuttings direct from Mr. Knebel, as Mrs. Freda Grant had remarried and moved to San Francisco. Miss Kilbourne worked in the Post Office, so we had them sent to her. That was when Mr. Knebel named a plant "Miss Ruth Kilbourne".

(Note: this and the next article were in the January 1, 1956 issue, Volume XI, Number 4, page 25.)

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

by Gertrude W. Beahm

Curt Knebel # 307-"Miss Ruth Kilbourne" is listed in this manner in

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this manner in all of Mr. Knebel's catalogues. However, in his book Phyllokakteen, it was incorrectly listed as Mrs. Ruth Kilbourne and the error was carried over into the English edition. This variety is often spoken of simply as "Ruth Kilbourne".

While on the topic of seed from Mr. Knebel, I feel our members might like to know that Mr. Knebel <sup>sent</sup> more seed to Mr. Wegener, Mrs. Steele, Dr. Poindexter, and others. The following are a few of the wonderful varieties produced: "Bagdad", "Blushing Angel", "Buenos Noches", "Choxoda", "Chrissy", "Concord", "Curacao", "Dolores", "Golong", "Harmony", "Imp", "Indoxol", "Lynn Gilbert", "Marina Special", "Nellie", "Orchid Supreme", "Paradise", "Party", "Plupel", "Sleepy Hollow", "Tahoe", "Transvaal", and "Wonderland". Too much honor can not be paid Mr. Knebel for his devotion to the Epiphyllums. His careful selection of breeding stock over a life time of work and his understanding of plant genetics can alone be credited with the marvellous Epiphyllums he developed. All that he has accomplished will have a great bearing on the work that will be done in hybridizing Epiphyllums in the future.

### MY KNEBEL SEEDLINGS

by C. L. Wright

When Mrs. Martha Maxwell, one of our past ESA secretaries, discontinued her labors for this society, she gave me two trays of seedlings. The soil in these trays was not over an inch deep and the seedlings ranged in size from nothing to not over an inch high. She told me the seeds were sent to her by Curt Knebel from Germany. This is as I remember it, but I could not vouch for the name. There must have been at least 100 seedlings in the group. I grew the survivors of these seedlings until they flowered. I discarded all but three. All of these very three were good reds. I named one "Clara Ann" after my mother, one "Joseph Marshall" after my father, and the third after Mrs. Wright's sister-"Annabelle Lee", who lives in San Diego at the present time. These were described and registered by me with Ernie Beahm, who was in charge of registration at that time.

"Clara Ann" attained a justly deserved wide distribution. Personally, I like "Joseph Marshall" just as well. It is a deep red, medium sized flower that opens flat the first day. It is a good grower, but occasionally throws out what I call a 'bull-head' bud. The fourth flower that I registered was "Marie Frances". When Fort and O'Barr sold all their Epiphyllums, I purchased several seedlings in four inch pots. This was the only one that I kept. "Marie Frances" is a white, feathery edged flower. "Walter Putnam" is a medium sized flower that belongs in a basket. I first saw it in the home of a friend of mine who lives in San Marino. It had numerous branches well over two feet long and was covered with deep pink flowers. It was really outstanding. The stems were strong enough to carry the extremely heavy load of flowers. My friend had obtained the plant from its originator, the late Mr. Putnam of San Marino.

My only contribution to the above five hybrids, has been to describe and register them. In no case was I the 'pollen dauber'. I wish to encourage our members to describe and register any outstanding seedlings that they have in their possession. (Note: "Clarence Wright", one of the yet few good yellow hybrids, was crossed in 1965, by C. L. Wright's son Dick.)

(Note: this article was in the May 1978 issue, Volume 33, Number 5, page 36.)

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