

Epi News

PUBLISHED BY THE SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY

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HAPPY NEW YEAR! Here we are again in January, where did 1980 go? Our flowers bloomed late last year and we had a lot of bud drop, I suspect because of the long, wet winter, but new growth has been phenomenal (due no doubt to regular feeding for once). Whatever the reason, this year promises to be a zinger! (New buds already on Black Light, F.W. Buell, Temple Glow - Marionette bloomed all December.)

I would like to see some changes in our Epi News this year; specifically, regular participation by the membership. This Newsletter belongs to all of us and we need YOUR input - being an epi collector, whether 3 plants or 3,000, makes you eligible to have your gardening ideas, helpful hints, observations, park visits, and such, shared with the other members (and who doesn't like to see their name in print).

Please give it some thought and make a contribution - you can give it to me at the regular meeting, mail it to me, or call me (I take shorthand).

...Editor, Pat Stebbins

CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY

...Gene Schmedding

Well, our annual Christmas Dinner is over. I hope everyone had as delightful a time as this writer.

The room at the Atlantis was beautifully decorated in the holiday theme, the dinner was very good, the guests were super, of course, because the S.D. Epi Society was the dinner guests. And as everyone knows by now, we are a super Society. (I might as well start the New Year out right by doing a little bragging.)

There were several out of town guests. Our beloved Wressey Cocke,

every inch a dignified Santa Claus double with his flowing white beard. Chuck and Jerry of Rainbow Gardens, Bob and Lois Burk, of California Epi Center, to name just a few. (If I have not named all of the out-of-towners I hope I will be forgiven. After all, with an excess of 200 people laughing and having a lovely time, it is hard to remember all that attended (and of all times to forget my notebook).

After dinner we were given a rare treat. A full circle of beautiful music surrounded the room as the Bel Canto Singers took their places in the outer edge of the room full of diners. The music seemed to flow out of nowhere into the room. These young people were from Patrick Henry High School and they have won many awards for their singing. Certainly a well deserved tribute.

A heartfelt thanks goes to our dinner chairperson, George Plaisted, and his lovely wife Jerry, who gave their time and energy to see that we all had an outstanding time.

Editors Note: Can't add much to Gene's description of that lovely party, but I would like to say how much we enjoyed the drawing for the 72, 3" pots of rooted cuttings from the Calif. Epi Center (I happened to be lucky enough to have a number for one), and the special epi-gift to the oldest person at the party, Mrs. Tuttle, age 86, a delightful visitor from Kansas. Also, one of the 16 talented Bel Canto Singers is the son of George and Jerry Plaisted (proud? you bet!)

Life? Butterfly
on a swaying grass
that's all...
But exquisite!

Soin

JANUARY MEETING

Our speakers this month will be Frank Granatowski and Gene Lund. Frank will speak to us about the gathering and use of rainwater (remember that stuff?), and Gene will talk to us about grafting...look forward to an interesting and informative program.

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE

...Penny Bunker

Last month we had a great party at Atlantis and the refreshment committee had a rest. What a beautiful setting and lovely entertainment. All was done and we did not have to decorate or clean up. Now, back to a new beginning of a brand new year with helpful folks that have signed up for January---

Juana Curtis
Bev Garber
Jean Hapeman
Edith Meador
Carrie Stafford
Addie Szobar
Kathie van Arum
Martha Weis

GENERAL

Annual Open House Show, May 10: This year's theme will be "THE FOUR SEASONS", which means you can just let your imagination run riot, so many choices of display, so many possibilities. So, get started! (Gene Lund has suggested that we take our best two tables up to the L.A. Show on the 17th - that is going to be a difficult choice, judges.)

If you have any questions about the show, contact Show Chairperson, Dorothy Breining.

Editor: Pat Stebbins, 279-8026
2nd Vice Pres., Membership:
John Clancy, 277-8206

CLASSIFIEDS

RAINBOW GARDENS

***THE BEST IS HERE! That's right - our 1981 catalog is out and it's a knockout. Full color; over 75 magnificent photos of such beauties as: Acapulco Sunset, High Fashion, Monastery Garden, Zorina, Joseph Marshall, Mondora Bell, Royal Toast, much more---PLUS we've increased our selection of RHIPSALIS, HOYAS, APOROPHYLLUMS, with color photos to boot!

For \$1.00 you can get this collectors catalog (deductible on first order), 8 multiple discount coupons, winter bonus special, plus we'll throw in FREE our 1980 Bookshop Catalog with over 208 great indoor/outdoor plant books. This just has to be the best buy in town! RAINBOW GARDENS, Box 721-SD, La Habra, Ca. 90631. Credit cards accepted!

Added Note: We've got thousands of potted plants available for purchase--and books, of course. Come and see us! Call to assure we're open (213-697-1488). Let's make this a GREAT year for Epiphyllums and the Epiphyllum Society of San Diego!

...Chuck Everson & Jerry Williams
Another Added Note: Our plant customers of 1979 & 1980 will receive our 1981 plant catalog in the mail FREE OF CHARGE.

CALIFORNIA EPI CENTER

CALIFORNIA EPICENTER would like to announce that our brand new 1981 FULL COLOR "Flowering Jungle Cactus" catalogue (#6) is now available for \$1.00 (deductible, first order). Our \$3.00 Early Bird Coupon will be included with all catalogues mailed out thru 2-15-81. 1980 customers will automatically receive the 1981 catalogue free of charge. The catalogue contains 103 color photos and an expanded selection of yellow flowered hybrids.. we now offer Clarence Wright, Soft Lights, Jennifer Ann, Lemon Custard and others. California Epi Center, Dept. SDES, Box 1431, Vista, CA 92083. (714) 758-4290. Don't forget, the nursery is open by appointment.

THE GOLDEN AGE OF EPIPHYLLUMS

Part VIIb: The San Diego Epiphyllum Society

by Ruth Nelson

At the November meeting, our Charter was presented to us by the representatives of the Epiphyllum Society of America. At the January 20, 1971 meeting it was decided to keep the Charter open until June 1, 1971. Dr. Leroy N. Phelps was elected Historian. The date of May 23, 1971 was set for our first independent SDES Flower Show with Richard Hartford as Chairman. Our first program given by a Nurseryman - Betty Cox - took place that night.

At the February 17, 1971 meeting, it was decided that a Second Vice President was needed. So our first Board became complete when George French was nominated and elected to this position. Dick Hartford discussed the arrangements for the upcoming flower show. Penny Bunker spoke on the policies of the S. D. Botanical Garden Foundation, Inc. and Balboa Park. Then Owen Hamilton gave a program on grafting Epis.

The program on March 17, 1971 was given by Cleoves Hardin of Hardin's Exotic Nursery of Spring Valley and was also on grafting Epis. The first membership list came out and included the names (excluding those already mentioned in this article): Mr. & Mrs. H. Warren Buckner, Margaret Cooper, Betty Cox, Juana Curtis, Vera Crousen, Floyd Gable, Cloeves Hardin, Jean Hapeman, Ione Hubner, Hazel Jacob, Richard Latimer Jr., Robert Myers, Mr. Mrs. Robert Mc Neil, Eleanor Norvich, Thelma & Loyal Rader, Jack Ramay, and Gene Schmedding.

At the April 21, 1971 meeting, George French gave his first program. Our first garden tour was May 9, 1971 and was at the Troxell's. On May 16, SDES members: Dr. Troxell, Owen Hamilton, and Bob Mc Neil were winners at the ESA Flower Show (competitive). On the night of May 19, Dr. Lee Phelps gave a program on epiphytic plants. On May 23 the SDES had its first flower show (noncompetitive). Over 200 flowers were displayed and 418 visitors were counted. On May 20 was Kent & Gladys Harper's 6th annual garden potluck.

The last meeting of our first year was held on June 16, 1971. The program for the evening was presented by Clark Sager on photographing Epis. The Charter was signed. Members signing this document that were not previously mentioned were: El-

OUR FIRST SDES BOARDBack Row

George French
Dick Hartford
Ruth Nelson
Owen Hamilton
Walter Scott

Front Row

Dr. Troxell
Gladys Harper
Eva Clover
Veronica Popelar
Dr. Lee Phelps



eanore Gilliam, Petey Kelly, Fred & Dorothy Rathmann, Howard Jones, and Theresa & Spero Yianilos. (Betty Cox, Bob Bossier, Glen Heyer, Cleoves ardin, Jean Hapeman, and Jack Ramay did not sign the Charter.) On June 26, 1971, the By-Laws committee was created by the Board that met at the Troxell's (the picture on the previous page). At our September 8, 1971 meeting, these By-Laws were read to the 55 member SDES by Dr. Phelps and accepted. The SDES was accepted by the San Diego Floral Association as an affiliate in November of 1970. The SDES joined the San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation, Inc. on October 13, 1971.

ALL IN ALL AN EXCELLENT BEGINNING!

REFERENCES: The San Diego Epiphyllum Society's Historian's Book and I thank Penny Bunker for verifying the dates, etc.

---Ruth Nelson

THANK YOU!

I would like to thank all of those SDES members who helped me these past three years while I was working on the EpiNews issues involved:

Warren Kelly - For starting the EpiNews as it now is and teaching me how;
Juana Curtis - Who first suggested the need for updated information on the species;

Everson/Williams - Who provided much more needed data on that matter;

Dean Hawks - Who suggested printing the name of the Editor and Membership Secretary in each issue for those who might miss a meeting and fall behind on their dues;

Samuel Markey - Who suggested that we need the EpiNews identified on the outside so it is not thrown out with the junk mail;

Contributors: Kathie van Arum, Addie Szobar, Charlie Saltzer, Dorothy Ogdon, Ruth Nelson, Dolores & Ken Moss, Samuel Markey, Gene Lund, Fern & Dave La Borde, Gwen Johnston, Frank Granatowski, Madeline & George French, Penny Bunker, Blendina Boyle, and Kathy Adams; and especially Gene Schmedding****;

Photographs: Pat & Jerry Stebbins, Fred Shamblen, Garland O' Barr (for future issues), and Vi Carriker;

and

the Mailing Committees: Hisae Hook, Suzuko Ellis, and Kathy Adams; and Dolores Moss**** (who has done so much work)

---Rick Latimer

When Epis Bloom

The stars in the skies became crowded
And one fell swiftly to earth
Here in my epi garden
It came to a bright new birth
And as a pure white bloom shed glory
On the garden's old, old story.

---Murray Skinner

(From the Epiphyllum Society of America's Bulletin (11:2), p. 7.)

