

San Diego

Epiphyllum
Society

Post Office Box 2852 • San Diego, California 92112

Epi News

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Chris & Audrey Bravo,
St. Augustine, Florida

Hilary Ann Heintz,
N. Canton, Ohio

Aaron & Mary Havis
Kansas City, Missouri

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS, '82-83

The response to our appeal (in last month's EPI NEWS) for possible candidates for our election in May could have been better. We would like to make that appeal again.

When our club was 50-60 people, it wasn't hard to know everyone and their capabilities and availability. Now, with a membership of 300 people it is difficult, if not impossible, for any 5 people to know all the members. Out of our 300 members, at least 250 within meeting distance, there must be a lot of you who would like to take part in the running of our club. PLEASE don't let false modesty stand in your way - YOU let us know! Blow your own horn at us.

The April meeting will be the night the nominees of the committee will be presented for your approval - nominations from the floor will also be permitted provided the nominee is present and agrees to the nomination, or has given written consent. If you know of someone you think might want to be an officer, call us and we will contact them, or make sure they will accept the nomination and then nominate them from the floor. Isn't that easy?

The list of officers: President; 1st Vice President (Programs); 2nd Vice President (Membership); Record-

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ing Secretary; Corresponding Secretary; Treasurer; and (4) Directors.

All nominations will be published in the May EPI NEWS and our election will be held at the May 12 meeting.

Nominating Committee:

Pat Stebbins, Chairman 279-8026

Bill Nelson 298-3349

Blanche Hafiz 298-6546

Carrie Stafford 420-3646

Kathy Van Arum 477-5258

CALL US!

MARCH MEETING

...Gene Schmedding

Our guest speaker in March was Mr. Bill Fabean from Ortho Products. He gave a very informative talk on control of various insect pests. He also was very generous with his time in answering many questions from the members. He left us a number of Ortho products for our drawing. He stressed the importance of care with insect spray. I am sure that many of us are guilty of carelessness. I got a letter a few weeks ago from Peter Urschler in Austria (a member of SDES and also ESA); he had been in the hospital from poisoning with insecticide - so we can't be too careful.

Who would believe that it is almost election time again. Nominations will be presented at the April meeting, so it behooves all you members to be at the April meeting and "speak your piece". The only way to get who you would like to have for officers is to be there and approve the nominations or to nominate from

the floor another member of your choice. Don't just sit back with an "I don't care" attitude, then when it is too late to voice your preference, complain about the elected officers. The old saying that the squeaky wheel gets the grease, still is a good one.

HAROLD JENSEN

Society member Harold Jensen passed away in March after a long illness. We wish to express our sympathy to his wife Henrietta, and family.

APRIL MEETING

One of our favorite members and prolific hybridizers, Mr. Wressy Cocke will be our speaker for April. Mr. Cocke will speak to us about his hybridizing and show slides of his epiphyllums, including those lovely little miniatures he's responsible for. You won't want to miss this one!

APRIL REFRESHMENTS

...Penny Bunker

March was an interesting month - calm and warm, then suddenly turning into a cold, roaring demon with wind, rain, thunder and lightening. However, the Epi Folk turned out (191) with lots of fun and food. Hope you all liked the green punch for St. Patrick's Day (it disappeared rapidly). We missed Gwen Johnston, but she had reserved two lovely cakes with shamrocks for the birthday cakes. They disappeared so fast, I didn't even get a bite. Hope you are all OK now, Gwen.

Now April is arriving with Easter looming up early. Perhaps the Easter Bunny will appear early. Please let's bring enough cookies, and 9 x 13 cakes are easier to cut into "bars" for everyone to enjoy.

Thanks to each and every one that responds. Those to bring goodies in April:

Elinor Berry
 Joyce Bjorkman
 Sylvia & Norman
 Duckworth
 Madeline French
 Frank Granatowski
 Norma James
 Diana Smith
 Rita Ruble
 Kathy Van Arum

WILD ANIMAL PARK PLANT SALE, 3/20-21

...Nate Ogdon

On the morning of March 19, I received a call from Jim Gibbons, San Diego Wild Animal Park. It seems we had forgotten the semi-annual plant sale on March 20/21, and were we going to get some cuttings and have the sales table setup for those two days? After two swallows and a deep breath, I gave him a "yes" - hung up and got busy and let my fingers do the walking while I did a little talking. Dick Chadwick contacted Frank Granatowski and Bill Foster. I called Don and Willise Brubaker and Willise suggested George and Virginia Kocentes. George French was recuperating from his recent surgery and Madaline said he shouldn't come. Ed Lucero said sure he could make it. So Saturday morning bright and early Dick & Amelia Foster, Ed Lucero, Dick Chadwick, Frank Granatowski, Dorothy and myself made cuttings all properly labeled and on the table in time for the crowd.

Dorothy and I and Howard Jones sold Saturday.

Don & Willise Brubaker, George and Virginia Kocentes sold Sunday morning. Ron & Joan Miller (contacted by Howard) and Howard & Betty Jones sold Sunday afternoon.

I want to now thank those involved for saying yes on such short notice - we need more like you, in fact I'm sure we do. Now, if we could just get their names on our "anytime" list.

Thanks again.

NOW IS THE TIME - MAY, JUNE

...Frank Granatowski

Now is the time:

- to enjoy the fruits of your labor. Properly cared for plants should produce an abundance of spectacular blooms.

- to cross-pollinate as soon as blooms open. However, pollinate with definite goals in mind. Bees and insects may be helpful, but they are not selective.

- to remove spent and wilted blooms by cutting about 1/2" from the base of the flower, using a sharp knife or pruning shears. This method is also advisable when cutting flowers for display.

- to continue good grooming of mature plants, by pruning older branches that are no longer productive, i.e., branches on which many aerenes are callused and scarred from previous blooms. These cuttings can be used to start new plants.

- to protect foliage from the hot summer sun. Keep plants in filtered sunlight.

- to water regularly. Keep moist, but NOT wet. Do not allow soil to dry.

- to replot last years cuttings that have outgrown their containers.

- to attend local shows. Meet with epiphyllum growers and add cuttings to your collection based on blooms seen in displays.

Around town -

Some gardening events you might be interested in:

April 17, 18 SAN DIEGO BONSAI SHOW
Casa del Prado, Sat. Sun. 10 to 5 pm

April 17, 18 SAN DIEGO ROSE SHOW,
Balboa Park Club, Sat. 2 to 7pm,
Sun. 10 to 6 pm.

April 24, 25 SAN DIEGO-IMPERIAL CO.
IRIS SHOW, Casa del Prado, Sat.
12:30 to 5 pm, Sun. 11 to 5

May 1, 2 EXOTIC PLANT SOCIETY, Casa
del Prado, Majorca Room, Sat. & Sun.
11 to 5 pm.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO EPI SOCIETY MEMBERS:April 20 Tues., 7:30 PM

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION MEETING
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Program: "EPIPHYLLUMS", panel discussion by members of SDES. "Slide Show, Live Plants, Door Prizes"

*May Epi-vents!*May 1, 2 SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOC.

"GREEN THUMB" SHOW AT WILD ANIMAL
PARK. Sat. & Sun. 9 to 5 pm. Members to bring blooms for showing and sell park cuttings to public. Please contact Nate Ogdon for details (479-0425). This is a lot of fun, especially for first-timers!

May 9 SDES ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW,
THEME "HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD",
Show in Room 101, 10:30 to 5 pm,
Sale in Room 102, 10 to 4 pm. THERE
ARE ONLY A FEW TABLES YET AVAILABLE.
Contact Chairman Dorothy Breining
(427-9306) or Co-Chairman Kathy Van
Arum (477-5258). Dorothy will not be
at April meeting, but Kathy will.
CUTTINGS: Members donating cuttings
please make sure they are of good
quality (one's you would buy your-
self), at least 6 to 8", named and
marked with predominant color (R, Y,
W, etc) and sort them according to
color to make the sale-sorting easy.

You can drop off your cuttings
to the following members in your
area, or call Cutting Chairman Dick
Chadwick, and he will make arrange-
ments with you. Please arrange to
get your cuttings to these people as
soon as possible before the show -
time is fleeting.

Dick Chadwick, Chairman 463-4316

Spring Valley-La Mesa

Gene Lund, 469-1677

La Mesa, Lake Murray

John Clancy, 277-8206

Clairemont

Dorothy Breining, 427-9306

Chula Vista

Kathy Van Arum, 477-5258

S.E. San Diego, National City

May 16 SDES BUS TOUR to the Epi. Society of America Annual Show at the L.A. County Arboretum, and to Calif. Epi Center Nursery, Rainbow Gardens Nursery, Hurst Nursery, and EPICO Nursery. George Plaisted Chairman (583-9551). Hurry - reservations will be cutoff as soon as bus(es) are filled. Specific times and schedule will be in May Epi News.

May 29, 30, 31 SEA WORLD SHOW - Members will sell their cuttings in the greenhouse at Sea World. Reserve your table now, before it's too late. Chairman Frank Granatowski (460-6595) or Co-Chairman Milt Turner (224-0955) will give you specific details.

MEMBER PROFILE SERIES
...Gene Schmedding

WRESSY COCKE

When I asked Wressy if I could do an article on him for the Epi News he was a bit surprised, but I was able to get it anyway. He is a very modest man and could not understand why anyone would want to write about him. But we know, don't we? A more warm and generous man would be hard to find. The following is in Wressy's own words.

"I don't know why you want an article on me. Everyone knows about me already. But...here goes.

"I was just a country boy back in southern Illinois before I came to California in 1927. In 1929 I started in aircraft as a Mechanical Engineer which I did until I retired.



Wressy Cocke

"Marge and I were married in 1936 and lived in the Silverlake district of Los Angeles. We have two boys, all grown now. I have always been interested in growing plants. In Los Angeles I grew begonias, also I did some hybridizing of them.

"I first became interested in Epiphyllum about 1940, when I would go to Cactus Pete's and see their flowers and pick up some cuttings.

"When the war came and the Japanese were moved out in 1941, I bought a lot of plants from them, although most were unnamed, I was more interested in quantity than quality.

"After the war was over, we moved a couple of times. Just couldn't seem to put down roots. Then we moved to San Fernando Valley. (Maybe this is the spot.) After moving there, I found that it was too cold there for Epiphyllums, unless I built some protection for them, which I did not want to do (just lazy, I guess). A friend came out with his pickup truck and I gave him a truck-load of epis.

"In 1952 we moved to where we are now (Redondo Beach), and I started another collection. In 1960 I got a seed pod from an unnamed plant. These were the first seed I planted. I planted them in '61. The flowers from those seeds were not good. The third cross that I made turned out to be one of my best. It was Lilac Time by Mon Cherie.

"Five years later, I made a cross using Pseudorhipsalis Macrantha. This was my start of star-shaped flowers. I now have ten different colors. Before this, all my crosses had been large flowers. About this time I bought some seed from a catalog seed house which turned out to be small flowers. I could see a future in these, and I started to work with them. One advantage, or disadvantage, depending how you want to look at it, or if you live where it is cold, in the small varieties a lot of them bloom in the wintertime.

"Of the 162 crosses that I have made since 1960, 88 are small flowers. Many of them will bloom for the first time this year. I also have seed from 10 more crosses to be planted."

---it looks like we will be enjoying this dear man's flowers for generations to come, if the ten crosses that he has to plant yet turn out as good as his other crosses.

NOTE: In last month's newsletter, I said I would publish Mr. Cocke's hybrid list but due to the length of time it would take to include all of it I have decided not to. Instead, I will have some copies for those of you at the meeting who want them, and anyone else please let me know and I will mail it to you on an individual basis...Pat Stebbins

Open Gardens

Omar & Shirley Rogers
6751 Burgundy St. (Mission Gorge and Zion)
San Diego Phone: 287-7795
April 25th, Sun. 10 am to 4 pm

Bob & Dorothy Breining
605 Melrose Ave. (off J St. in Chula Vista)
May 22nd, Sat. 1 pm to 5 pm

Elinor & Richard Latimer, Sr.
3990 Lake Murray Blvd.
La Mesa
May 22nd, Sat. 1 pm to 5 pm

John & Jerrie Clancy
All day Saturdays, and Sunday afternoons, please call first 277-8206
4910 Mt. Ashman Dr. (Clairemont)

If you wish to add your name to this list, please contact Open Gardens Chairman, George Watson, 435-6349.

A gate made all of twigs
With woven grass
for hinges...
For a lock...this snail

Issa

"the Epi Lover"



CLASSIFIEDS

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS IN SAN DIEGO:

Just a reminder that we're open for business. Our lath houses and sales area are open to you by appointment. We suggest you plan a visit, and call ahead for a time that is mutually convenient (although we're usually here). Take advantage of our in-house specials and see our thousands of plants for sale, from 3" pots to gallon size.. all at REASONABLE PRICES. Books are also available for preview upon request. Remember, our blooms come only once a year---COME AND SEE OURS! RAINBOW GARDENS, 1574 Dorothea Road, La Habra Heights, California 90631 (213 697-1488), 9 am to 4 pm

EMERALD GARDENS NURSERY specializes in small and miniature-blooming epiphyllum hybrids, and offers a small select list of medium to extra-large-blooming hybrids. We've just published our first retail mail-order catalog, which we would love to send to you. Just send us your name, address, and a 20¢ U.S. postage stamp. A wholesale listing will be available soon. Please send all requests to EMERALD GARDENS NURSERY, Yankee Farm Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93109. We are open by appointment only, and you may call us at (805) 966-7413. Hope to hear from you soon! ...Sincerely, Dean Walters

Mrs. Pearle Carlton is selling her epi collection. Please contact her if you are interested.
Phone: 466-5994

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President: John Clancy (714) 277-8206

Meeting: 2nd Wednesday 7:30pm, Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

EPI NEWS Editor: Pat Stebbins DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 5/3/82
SEND ALL ITEMS TO: 10404 Orozco Rd., San Diego, California 92124

MEMBERSHIP: Jerry Plaisted, (714) 583-9551
6356 Delbarton St., San Diego, California 92120
MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR ONE YEAR ARE \$6.00 SINGLE or MEMBER/SPOUSE U.S.A.,
\$12.00 INTERNATIONAL (NOTE: Number in paren. on mailing label indicates
dues month. Please check and keep current.