

San Diego

Epi News

Epiphyllum

Post Office Box 2852 • San Diego, California 92112

Society

June 9, 1982
VOLUME 6, No. 6

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Heber & Pansy Branstetter, El Cajon
Kimberly Elliano, Sepulveda
Muriel Ingham, La Mesa
Sherman & Margaret Pethley, La Mesa
Lila Schmidt, Encinitas
Vera Sherer, San Diego
Phillip Simpson, Solana Beach
William & Laura Smith, Chula Vista
Thelma P. Swenson, Solana Beach
Greg Tasch, El Monte
John Bachelder, San Diego
Wilia Collins, San Diego
Bob & Jane Grimshaw, Grimshaw's
Epi-Time Nursery, Tustin
Doris Mountjoy, Escondido
Elmer A. Rasmussen, II, Santee
Mr. & Mrs. William Cameron, Long
Beach

MAY MEETING

At the May meeting the room was bursting in epi blooms again - a good show for those members who were unable to come to the Mother's Day Show.

We also held our annual election of officers for the coming year. The results:

President: Frank Granatowski
1st V.P.(Programs): Milt Turner
2nd V.P.(Membership): Joyce Bjorkman
Record. Secy.: Lynn Brokaw
Treasurer: Randy Light
Corres. Secy.: Gene Schmedding
Directors:

(new - thru May '84)

Ernest Angus

Ed Broz

Paul Minardi

Jack Stafford

(thru May '83)

Dick Chadwick

Dr. Hafiz

Elinor Latimer

Ed Lucero

George Watson

THANK YOU

I would like to express my appreciation to the Executive Board, Committee members and the Board of Directors for a fine year as President of the San Diego Epiphyllum Society.

Looking back at the year, it is gratifying to note that we are financially stable, and membership is at its highest point (317 memberships). Overall, we are in excellent shape.

I also want to take this opportunity to thank all others who contributed their services in various capacities in the past year.

I sincerely give my support and best wishes for the coming year to the President, Frank Granatowski, and the new Board.

...John Clancy

JUNE MEETING

The June meeting will be the installation of new officers; we will honor our past presidents (and it's Bill Nelson's birthday month, Bill was the first president of the Epi Society.) We'll have a program on epis, epiphytes and other succulents of Southern Germany presented by Rick Latimer (current president of the SD Cactus & Succulent Soc.). Rick is also a past Editor of the Epi News. This is going to be one of our finer meetings - don't miss it.

JUNE REFRESHMENTS

June may be bustin' out all over but it seemed our May meeting was stretching the room at the seams. However, our good folk provided the goodies for over 200 in attendance. We are so proud of the attendance, and the help of true friends so all may enjoy a great "coffee break".

Thank you one and all. The ones signed up for our June meeting are:

C.E. Boldman
Blendina Boyle
Wilia Collins
Cherie Dowell
Susie Ellis
Elizabeth Glover
Blanche Hafiz
Edith Nelson
Betty Ridge
Oralee Steele

Oh yes, thanks so very much to Betty Ridge who graciously assisted last month when I got behind. I had enjoyed the display of flowers a bit longer than I should have. See you on the 9th.

...Penny Bunker

WILD ANIMAL PARK, May 1-2

This year the Wild Animal Park Epi Society "Green Thumb" sale was the best ever. The Thursday before the sale, a group of SDES people went to the park and took cuttings. They were: Bill Foster, Dick Chadwick Ken Marr, Nate & Dorothy Ogdon, Howard Jones and George French.

We had a truly sparkling array of blooms that bedazzled thousands of people for two days. Some blooms that I would have given a gold star to were: MONESTARY GARDENS (Jean Hapeman), MY DEAR (George French), STAR FLIGHT (Gene Lund), FIRE CRACKER (Blendina Boyle/Myrtle Bates), OLD VINTAGE (Dennis & Karyn Brewer), CROWNING GLORY (Dorothy & Bob Breining), CINDY SHEREEN (Dick Chadwick), and SWEET KISSES (Roland & Gwen Johnston). There were SO many lovely flowers.

A very grateful thank you to all who came out to the park and contributed their blooms and time for the cutting table sale and the talking, talking (that's the part I like). A very special thanks to Nate & Dorothy Ogdon who kept track of who did what and at what time, and bird-dogged the whole thing on both days. (The following names are for both days combined.)

Those who brought blooms	
John Piland*	Michael Shepley
Sam Markey	Rick Latimer
Dennis Brewer*	Bob Grimshaw
Howard Jones*	Diana Smith*
Ed & Faye Broz	Ken Marr*

Dorothy & Bob Breining*
Jack & Cecile Bradley*
Gwen & Roland Johnston
George & Madeline French
Gene Lund*
Gus Schlapfer
Nate & Dorothy Ogdon*

Ron & Joan Miller*
Jean Hapeman
Blendina Boyle
Myrtle Bates
Edith Meador
Dick Chadwick*
Don Irwin

*Did duty on cutting table also.

Cutting Table:

Mary Newman
Bill & Ruth Nelson
Valerie Bailey
Marian Foster
Marcia Hultgren
Dottie Dutcher
Larry Zoellner

Sharon & Dave Wilsterman
Milt Turner
Pat & Jerry Stebbins
Jesse & Mary Camacho

ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY EPI SHOW, May 9

...Pat Stebbins

The annual Epi Show on May 9 was once again THE affair of the year at the park. Every year I think it can't be topped and every year it is. A more colorful and imaginative demonstration of the theme "Holidays Around the World" would be hard to imagine. Since there were over 50 exhibitors, I couldn't do justice to a description of each one without taking up the next 3 newsletters; if you missed the show you really missed an "event".

Best of Display awards were given to those with an exhibit and also some individual blooms on our epi "tree". Here are the Best of Display blooms, my apology if I missed anyone.

Kathy Van Arum, SANTA BARBARA
Greg Balvin, AUTUMN BRIGHTNESS
Calif. Epi Center, JENNIFER ANN
George & Jerry Plaisted, PADRE
Ed Lucero/Chuck Spencer, PEACOCKII
Dick & Elinor Latimer and
Rick Latimer, TOURNAMENT
Bev Garber, MING GOLD
Bob & Helen Barkdoll, ACKERMANII
Rainbow Gardens, COPACABANA
John Piland, REWARD
Betsy Bollman, RUBY SNOWFLAKE
Margaret Fisher, ABU HASSAN
Michiko Munda, JULES SCHLUMBERGER
Paul & Peg Minardi, FIRST PROM
Bob Leffler, MARINA SPECIAL
Karen Brewer, NOVENA

Valerie Bailey, VIVE ROUGE
 Kurt Hammel, MING GOLD
 Blendina Boyle, GLORIA
 Edith Meador, WINGS OF SONG
 Kathy Adams, REWARD
 Bob & Dorothy Breining, BER TEE
 Nate & Dorothy Ogdon, LULU
 Gus & Marge Schlapfer, CLARA ANN
 Don & Willesse Brubaker, JOLLY ROGER
 George & Madeline French, BAYOU BELLE
 Pat & Jerry Stebbins, CHRISSY
 Gene Lund, ARTIC WATERS
 Ed & Faye Broz,

Daniel Broz, OZARK BEAUTY
 Jerrie & John Clancy, UTOPIA
 Ernest Angus/Robert Verbeckmoes,
 LETTY MAY

Gene Schmedding, (2) seedlings
 Gwen & Roland Johnston/

Dennis & Donna Morey, MOONLIGHT
 Michael & Denise Shepley, HONEYCOMB
 Stephen & Carolyn Esposito,
 HERMOSISSIMUS

Randy Light, GRAND EMPRESS
 Bill & Amelia Foster, GRAND EMPRESS
 Ed Gauss & Sanford Roberts,
 KITTY HAWK

Howard & Betty Jones, HOWARD L. JONES
 Ron & Joan Miller, MALCHO'S PLUM
 Kent & Gladys Harper, GLADYS HARPER
 Wressy Cocke, seedlings
 Shirley & Omar Rogers, seedling
 Bill & Ruth Nelson, BLACK BIRD
 Don & Lucile Irwin, MAYFAIR
 Margaret & Harry Blake, PINKY
 Jack & Cecile Bradley, BLACK LIGHT
 Chuck & Lucile Saltzer, KOHINOOR
 Jack & Carrie Stafford, F. W. BEUEL
 Sam & Adela Markey, TASSEL

 BUS TOUR, ESA SHOW, May 16

I hear the SDES Annual Bus Tour went very well, no breakdowns, nobody got lost. We (me and Jer) did not go on the tour this year, choosing to drive instead. We spent about an hour at the ESA show. They also had good blooming weather this year and their show room was jam-packed, 3-deep at the plant and cutting table, keeping all the members hopping.

The San Diego Society was represented by Gene Lund who took his exhibit and two others, and Kathy Van Arum who took her charming Christmas tree exhibit.

After a brief visit with Velma Featherstone and Linda Hart, we went to the Hurst Nursery where we ran

into several ESA members, including Slim Hathaway and his lovely wife (also SDES members). And then - to the cool oasis of the Bill and Erna Beuer residence/nursery, EPICO.

I don't think I could have been more hot and thirsty if I was riding a camel. It was hot up there folks, at least 10° more than San Diego, and smoggy. All in all though, a great day and always such a pleasure to see the ESA members on their home ground.

NOW IS THE TIME - JULY, AUGUST

...Frank Granatowski

Now is the time:

- to fertilize plants that have completed their blooming cycle with fish emulsion, slow release nitrogen fertilizer or any good balanced fertilizer. DO NOT OVERFEED.

- to remove spent blooms and unwanted apples, in order to conserve the plant's vitality.

- to transplant to larger containers, plants that have outgrown their present containers, i.e.: transplant 4" pots to gallon pots and gallon pots to 2-gallon pots. If you have the necessary garden space it is adviseable to utilize hanging baskets than to support pendulous growth with a trellis.

- to plant new cuttings during the warm weather, to allow new growth to become established during the growing season.

- to remember to water hybrids during the hot summer months, and remember an occasional spraying or misting of your plants is very beneficial. DO NOT allow soil to completely dry out.

- to maintain plants in their proper environment such as lath house, under shade cloth, or suspended from the branches of a tree, and avoid direct exposure to the hot summer sun.

- to learn and benefit from mistakes in the past year, and to look forward to a more productive blooming season in the next.

EPIPHYLLUM PROBLEMS

...Dick Chadwick

BUD DROP:

Excessive fertilizing, over-watering, insufficient light and sudden temperature change. Also on some plants, moving them after the buds are formed.

SPOTTING:

Too much water, fertilizer, shade or poor air circulation. Also possible fungus. On certain plants, too much sun will spot them.

REDNESS:

On some hybrids it is a natural color but on the others it could be too much sun or the plants have been chilled. If the plant turns red and the blades are limp, it usually means root problems. Check your soil and find out if the feeder-roots dried out, rotted off or have been eaten off by angle worms or mealy bugs.

RUSTING:

Plants that have been exposed to extreme cold and then have the sun strike them before they return to a normal temperature will cause a sunburn that looks like rust. Also, brown spotting and blistering may occur, having the appearance of a disease.

YELLOWING:

Too high of an acid condition, either in your soil or fertilizer. Also on some plants, too much sun. Also a lack of fertilizer.

YELLOW SPOTS:

May be caused by root disturbance and the inability of rootlets to absorb water. Repot and move to a protected area.

SUNKEN AREAS:

Sunken areas may be caused by improper feeding or forcing. Change the soil or the diet.

BLACK ROT:

Black rot is a fungus confined to the surface of the soil and lives ordinarily on decomposing material. Cutting off the rot spot does not always remove the infection. Re-pot and both the new soil and pot should be sterilized. Also use one of the many fungicides available.

ALGAE:

Algae on top of the soil keeps the air from permeating the soil. Keep the soil loose or place a layer of charcoal on the surface of the soil.

ROOT ROT:

May be caused by plants being too dry as well as too wet. If the rootlets have dried up and you resume watering the plant cannot absorb the water and the plant will rot off. Treat the plant as a new cutting. Cut off the affected roots and re-pot, mist the whole top growth rather than watering the root area until the new roots develop. Otherwise cut the plant apart and start over.

SPINDLY GROWTH:

Etiolation or spindly growth often occurs in the winter months or under poor light, too much warmth or crowded stems. They will rarely produce healthy growth or flowers. Do not remove them as they appear, but wait until spring and remove them all at once and they will be replaced by healthy summer growth. If you remove them as they appear, they will just send out more spindly growth.

DIE BACK:

Some die back is natural and to be expected. Most epis have a small root system and will support only a limited number of branches and the excessive ones may wither and die back.

WITHERING OF BRANCHES:

Certain hybrids have this tendency when it has spent its vitality on too many flowers. Give it a rest before resuming fertilizer. Also, could be root rot from soggy soil.

SEARCH & RESEARCH COMMITTEE

...Greg Balvin, Chairman

Until further notice the San Diego Epi Society Research Committee will be meeting the first Monday of every month at 7:30 PM in Room 104, Casa del Prado.

The committee is trying to fill what we conceive to be a need for more information about which plants are still to be had and which are already extinct, or on their way to becoming so.

If you have plants that you feel are rare please contact me either at any meeting or at my home, phone number 281-8229. Any information you give will remain confidential to the committee unless otherwise specified by you.

Public input for ideas is always welcome and we cordially invite all members to attend our meetings.

EDITORIAL

...Pat Stebbins

Well friends, another epi-year has passed. My blooms are just about over, maybe a scattered one here and there for the next couple weeks. We've had another great show, and elected new officers, had a lot of fun and gone thru a lot of cake and coffee. Looking over all my epi-stuff, it occurred to me this might be a good time to review the event and aim of the San Diego Epiphyllum Society and give ourselves a little pat on the back.

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY BY-LAWS

ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

Section 1: The purpose of this society is:

1. To collect, study, and grow Epiphyllum, both the true species and the hybrids, and the closely-related epiphytic species.
2. To obtain a more exact knowledge of the culture and nomenclature of these plants.
3. To provide an opportunity and place to meet; to exhibit plants, flowers, arrangements, and/or pictures when advisable.
4. To promote the interchange of ideas by Epiphyllum growers and collectors, with emphasis on correspondence between members.
5. Compilation of correct names and detailed description of the hybrids, together with their synonyms, and to encourage the use of the original names as first given by their originators.
6. To promote interest in these plants with the general public.

In Item 1, there is such a wide variety of methods and collections in the society. Some members have quite large collections (1,500 or more plants) and some have patio-collec-

tions, but most fall somewhere in between. As an example, my husband Jerry and I have been collecting for nearly 7 years and have accumulated a well-rounded collection of 100, both older and newer hybrids, a half-dozen rhipsalis, and one gorgeous rattail (in addition to other plants such as fuchsias, begonias, succulents and cacti).

We've visited open gardens for the last 5 years and have seen as many varied ways of growing and displaying epis as is possible, with ingenuity and inventiveness and a dedication unique to epiphyllum nuts... er..enthusiasts. Though we will never have more than 150 plants due to our space limitations, I consider ours a valuable collection, worthy of comparison to anyone's. And by being discriminate in adding to our limit, we will have many more fun years of collecting. (Ahh..my kingdom for a half-acre and two helpers!)

I think we do a fine job of accomplishing Item 2. We strive to do this every month by the wide variety of programs and botanical and historical information exchanged at our meetings and in our monthly newsletter. We have a fine library, available at every meeting, and a whole bunch of people who know what's what and who's who, just for the asking.

As for Item 3, we are very fortunate to have a place like Balboa Park, so centrally located and responsive to our particular needs and it benefits us all to adhere to the park regulations and make sure we don't abuse their rules and requests. As you know, every aspect of our meetings and exhibits depends on volunteers to do the housekeeping, refreshments, and clean-ups. And there are so many of us now, nobody needs to be called on more than once or twice a year for these chores (and some members will always do more than their share). If you have an irresistible urge to volunteer for anything, the epi meeting is the place to do it.

In Item 4, I'm not sure where the dividing line is between an epigrower and a collector, for surely if

you collect you are growing - but I take it to mean grower as in "nursery" as opposed to one who collects (from a grower). Anyhow, we certainly hit the nail on the head with this one - a more generous and cooperative group of growers who are members couldn't be wished for. These are tight times for small businesses, and they are having their problems with increased costs for supplies and utilities, same as us. Our patronage is needed now more than ever. Hats off to our nursery members!

As for correspondence - there have been many welcome and interesting queries (and lots of compliments) that have kept me and Corresponding Secretary Gene Schmedding, and Membership's Jerry Plaisted busy, busy...I don't even correspond with my own family that much (and I hope my Aunt Mildred in Florida doesn't find out - I've owed her a letter since last November).

Now for Item 5 (GROAN!)...this is probably always going to give us trouble to some degree and has been talked to death, but let's don't give up, let's keep at it till we get it right! We keep complaining about cuttings that finally bloom and are not what they are supposed to be. Now this is not an earth-shaking event to a member who has hundreds of plants and lots of room (and time) - but for the collector (like me) who yearns for a particular cutting and gives it precious space and TLC for 3 or 4 years and then discovers it's an imposter - I take that very personally. It may be silly but I do get a little emotional, and I have lots of company!

There are some basic safeguards we can take before that cutting gets on the cutting table or into the hand of a friend: Be sure the cutting you are taking IS from the plant you want (plants hanging close together often get their leaves entwined), and please don't cut them in the dark. This past year some members had as many as 20 plants bloom for the first time, incorrectly marked (some demented soul ran amuck at the cutting table 3 years ago, right?). Mark the cutting AS YOU TAKE IT, don't lay it in a pile to mark later. Don't

give a cutting from a plant that hasn't bloomed yet so you know for sure what it is. When the plant blooms for the first time, compare the description in the hybrid listing with the actual bloom - do you agree? (I also write on my list who or where I got that cutting, then I know who to cry to.) Don't use abbreviations when marking your cutting, please take an extra 2 seconds to spell out the whole name so there's no question - there are so many similar names.

Now I am not a monthly contributor to the cutting table (and probably never will be due to the size of our collection), but I take a sackful in every 3-4 months and my name is on each cutting, along with the cutting name, size and dominant color.

I know there are a few members who have a cavalier attitude about this problem, but I think most of us are very careful and are concerned. Please go that extra little bit to prevent disappointment. I believe the majority of us think it IS important, and what's the point of having a Search and Research Committee if we are not doing 100% in the here and now to prevent mistakes?

Last of all, "To promote interest in these plants with the general public". That is a very general statement but the end result of this is in the combination of the other 5 items, for all these things together that we have been doing now for 12 years has resulted in the growth and popularity of the society and variety of community events we participate in. I still find a lot of people who do not know what an epiphyllum is, but after seeing one epi bloom, they never forget!

These are strictly my own observations, for whatever they're worth, but are also feelings and opinions of many members I have talked to and listened to. I think the things that have made such a success of the Epi Society, and that keep any organization active and virile are new ideas, people who are not reluctant to speak out, and differences of opinion - without these, there's no horse race, folks! One

thing for sure, we have a lot of talent, experience, and good will to keep this society going for as long as there are epi's. And keeping in perspective (in the scheme of life) the magnitude of a mis-marked cutting, and a difference of opinion between members, it's a lot of fun and the best place to be the second Wednesday of every month!

I ♥ EPI PEOPLE!

Around town -

June 19 & 20 SAN DIEGO FUCHSIA & SHADE PLANT SHOW, Casa del Prado
Sat. 12-5 pm, Sun. 10 am - 5 pm
July 10 SAN DIEGO DAHLIA SPECIMEN SHOW, Sun. 1 pm - 5 pm
July 11 CONVAIR GARDEN CLUB DAHLIA SHOW, Sat. 1 pm - 5 pm

SANTA BARBARA is sponsoring a tour (to benefit Santa Barbara Beautiful tree program) to Madame Ganna Walska's estate, open to the public for 1 day. 40 acres of exotic gardens. The cost is \$12.50/person (tax deduc.), on SUNDAY JULY 18. Write to Santa Barbara Beautiful, Inc. 901 State St. Suite 211, Santa Barbara, CA 93101. They will send directions and time, etc.

Special -

The Society has 20 trays of 4" rooted cuttings (from ESA show) that will be for sale to members for \$1.00. These will be available at Gene Lund's on Sat. June 5 IF YOU GET THE NEWS-LETTER BY THEN - if not, they will be available at the General Meeting on June 9.

Gene Lund, 5666 Aztec Dr. La Mesa
469-1677

A NEW MEMBERSHIP ROSTER WILL BE AVAILABLE AT JUNE MEETING. MAY BE PICKED UP AT LIBRARIAN'S TABLE.

CLASSIFIEDS

Elinor Latimer has some choice mature plants for sale, most in 5-gal. pots, \$20.00 ea. Some plants: MEDITATION, EASTERN MORN, WHITE MIST, GOLDEN SUNBURST, SILENCE, and more.
5990 Lake Murray Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92041
Phone: 463-1655

Madeline Dacey still has some epis for sale, call her for directions on how to get there and to see what she has - 4065 Citradora Dr., Spring Valley, phone 464-8540.

Louise Newman is reducing her collection of epis - mostly large, beautiful, mature plants, all sizes - 1 gal. on up. Call after 6 pm for more information and directions.
Phone 448-3145

CALIFORNIA EPI CENTER is pleased to announce that this year during the May and June blooming season the nursery will be open to visitors on Saturdays between 10 am and 5 pm. The nursery is open the rest of the year by appointment only. California Epi Center is located at 1444 E. Taylor St., Vista, CA 92083. Please call 758-4290 for directions. if you have not previously visited the nursery, as our section of Taylor Street does not appear on most maps. Full color catalog \$1.00, deductible first order

It's (Epi-Time) at Grimshaw's Nursery. Our large Epiphyllum selection is in tip-top shape, a sight to behold. The selenicereus and rhipsalis add their own diversity to the collection as companion plants. Our already very low prices will be reduced by 20% off the catalog price for all orders received prior to Aug. 1, 1982. Our catalog is free for a postage stamp. (Please show second choice in case your first selection is sold out, or mark "no substitutions.") Grimshaw's (Epi-Time) Nursery is located at 2362 Coca Palm Dr., Tustin, CA 92680.

CLASSIFIEDS (CON'T.)

EMERALD GARDENS NURSERY specializes in small and miniature blooming and growing epiphyllum hybrids. We also have a limited but lovely selection of medium to extra-large bloomers and species. If you would like a copy of our new 1982 retail mail-order catalog, send your name and address and a 20¢ stamp. Our brand new wholesale mail-order list is now available. Send any requests to EMERALD GARDENS NURSERY, Yankee Farm Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93109. We are open by appointment only for direct buying-retail or wholesale; so give us a call at (805) 966-7413. You will find our specimen plants to be the finest for sale in southern California. Hope to see you soon!..... Dean Walters

ROBERT MCGRATH is a new member who would like to share his experiences with other growers with the same growing conditions. Any collectors in the North East who would like to correspond with Robert, please write:

Robert McGrath
35 Concord St.
Nashua, New Hampshire 03060



I raised my knife to it:
Then walked
Empty-handed on...
Proud Rose of Sharon

Sampu

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President: Frank Granatowski (714) 460-6595

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3827 Billman St., San Diego, California 92115

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.
