

San Diego

Epi News

Epiphyllum
Society

Post Office Box ~~2852~~ • San Diego, California ~~92112~~

VOLUME 7, NO. 7
July 13, 1983

PUBLISHED BY THE SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY

MEETING: 2nd Wednesday 7:30 PM, Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

PRESIDENT: Elinor Latimer (619) 697-4100

CORRESPONDING Debbie Capp (619) 469-4784

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Check or money order payable to San Diego Epiphyllum Society, MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR ONE YEAR \$6.00 SINGLE or FAMILY MEMBERSHIP (MEMBER/SPOUSE only) U.S.A., \$12.00 INTERNATIONAL (Note: number in parentheses on mailing label indicates dues month. Please check and keep current.)



MISCELLANEOUS NOTES OF INTEREST

...We have a new Post Office Box Number and Zip Code:
P. O. BOX 3274, San Diego 92041

...to eliminate a little more redundant paper work on an ever-growing membership, the Membership chairman will make out a "Membership Card" for new members only. Membership renewals will be acknowledged by a receipt only (and if paying by check you, of course, also have your cancelled check.)

...the SDES is incorporated. This does not change the operation of the Society, and mostly means we now can have a mailing permit (for cheaper postage), and our officers are protected from individual liabilities.

...Dick Chadwick has some of the new E.S.A. Hybrid Listings available. The price is \$5.50 (only a few left), please see him at the meeting.

...Sam Markey is home and doing fine and would like to thank all who visited, called and wrote during his hospitalization - he's sorry it's not possible to thank you all individually and hopes you'll accept his thanks through the newsletter.

...the SDES 1983 Awards Banquet Christmas Dinner will again be at Tom Ham's Lighthouse, our regular meeting night, Weds. December 14. The cost of the dinner will be \$11.00 per person, for both members and guests. If you know of a member who can't afford it, please call dinner chairman Dorothy Breining (427-9306). As in the past, no one need be left out.

IF YOU PLAN TO GO, NOW IS THE TIME TO START YOUR ROOTED CUTTING IN THE 4" POT FOR THE GIFT EXCHANGE - ONE PERSON, ONE POT.



GENERAL MEETING, JULY 13

Our speaker for the July 13 meeting will be member Rick Latimer. Rick's program will be "Tracing Our Roots - the Ancestors of Epiphyllum Hybrids. A really good one for new members and guests - see you there!

JULY REFRESHMENTS

...Penny Bunker

It is great how many people responded when we needed people to sign up for refreshments.

Those folks signed up for July goodies:

Leonor Anbaya	Irmela Paul
Lorna Barrows	Sanford Roberts
Mariana Geck	Chris Sanchez
Blanche Hafiz	Carrie Stafford
Claire & Steve Hoffer	
Steve Hultgren	

...Thank you.

SPECIAL PROGRAM

WHEN: July 22 (Fri.), 7:30 PM (doors will open at 7 PM)

WHERE: Natural History Museum, Balboa Park (Lecture Hall), west entrance on the street level.

SPEAKER: Gordon Rowley, Horticulturist, Botanist, and Author

PROGRAM: Either "Confessions of a Cactomaniac (My Life with Flora)", or "Pollination Syndromes in Succulents"

Join us at a once-in-a-lifetime evening to hear one of the leading authorities on succulents (of course including cacti) in Great Britain - correction - in the world! Mr. Rowley is the author of the Illustrated Encyclopedia of Succulents and "Genealogy of the Large Flowered Cactus Hybrids" recently reprinted in the Epiphyllum Society of America's Bulletin. The succulent member of the daisy family Senecio rowleyanus, known to us as the "String of Pearls" is named after him.



Following is a complete list of Board members and Committee Chairmen for the year June 1983-1984.

Officers

President, Elinor Latimer
1st Vice Pres., (Programs), Gene Lund
2nd Vice Pres., (Membership), Marian Foster

Treasurer, Randy Light
Recording Secretary, Margaret Pethley
Corresponding Secretary, Debbie Capp
Directors (2-yr. term)

Greg Balvin	Gene Schmedding
Helen Barkdoll	Ron Miller

George Jennings

Directors (last year of 2-yr. term)

Ernest Angus	Paul Minardi
Ed Broz	Jack Stafford

Chairmanships:

Plant Table, Ernest Angus
Research Committee, Greg Balvin
Education, Helen Barkdoll
Bus Tour, Ed Broz
Budget & Finance, George Jennings
Security, Paul Minardi
North County Coordinator, Ron Miller
Hospitality, Gene Schmedding
Garden Tours, Jack Stafford
S.D. Wild Animal Park Flower Show, Nate & Dorothy Ogdon, Howard Jones
Mother's Day Show, Kathie Van Arum
Sea World Show, Frank Granatowski
Christmas Party, Dorothy Breining
Seedling Registration, George French
Epi News Editor, Pat Stebbins
Historian, Joyce Bjorkman
Parliamentarian & By-Laws, Don Irwin
Librarian, Rick Latimer
Publicity, Cindy Drake
Botanical & Floral Rep., Elizabeth Glover
Refreshments/Kitchen Chairman, Penny Bunker
Hospitality (Hostess) Table, George & Jerry Plaisted
Photographer, Charlie Coons



A white swan swimming...
Parting with her
Unmoved breast
Cherry-petaled pond

Roka

BY-LAWS

...Don Irwin

As Parliamentarian and Chairman of the newly appointed by-laws committee, I would like members to submit any ideas you might have on possible by-law revisions.

Please send your suggestions to me in writing as soon as possible.

Don Irwin
9227 Carthay Circle
Spring Valley, CA 92077

EPI CULTURE TALK (...or get 'em when they're young!)

On May 10, former SDES Librarian Chuck Saltzer (persuaded by one of his young neighbors) went to the "Lillian J. Rice Elementary School" in Chula Vista and gave a talk on Epi culture and the SDES.

Before a class of 30 third grade students and teacher Ms. Weber, Chuck gave a brief history of Epis and their natural habitat, and described our Society's monthly activities. He gave each student an Epi culture leaflet, and donated a color-brochure of Epi blooms.

They had a group picture-taking session and a cutting, flower and plant raffle (students loved this action).

Chuck reports a very enthusiastic response and says they are all looking forward to next May's show.

WILD ANIMAL PARK, JUNE 1983

...George French

June 25 was my day to host at the Epiphyllum Shadehouse at the Wild Animal Park. At 9 AM I raked leaves that blew in the entrance, then cleaned old blooms from the plants. In doing so, I counted 160 beautiful blooms for the day's showing, and another 50 blooms in the upper house. At 10 o'clock the first visitors arrived, and from then on an average of 10 to 20 people were in the shadehouse all day. The best blooms on

display were four giant SUNDANCE. In the reds, RADIANT FIRE also had four blooms. Many visitors picked a perfect bloom of DARK STAR as their favorite. In the pink class, FLIRTATION would be my choice, and BENS LAURA in white category.

The plant "CHALLENGER" drew a lot of attention with a brood of four baby Linnets in a bird's nest in the pot, which delighted both children and adults. By 4 PM approximately 300 people came up the trail to see the epiphyllums. Thank you to all the volunteers that hosted on every weekend since May 1. They are:

Nate & Dorothy Ogdon
Dick Chadwick
Ron & Joan Miller
Bill Foster
Howard Jones
Ed Broz
Mary Etta Branch
Fumiko Kida
Ed Post
Dave Wilsterman
Vernon Hook
Richard & Grace Ford
George & Jerry Plaisted
Gus & Marj Schlapfer
John Piland
George French

JUNE MEETING, June 8

...Gene Schmedding

As June is our "Birthday" month, also installation of new officers, there wasn't very much real business, but cuttings were free and we had two programs. One was our scheduled speaker, Mr. Jack Percival, who had just returned from an extensive tour inside Central America. He had slides of the many aspects of those countries, from the poorest of living conditions to miles of lush, green forests with orchids, rhipsalis and epis growing in the tree tops. Also many caves and artifacts that are still being discovered by explorers.

Speaking of tours and explorers, as many of you know, Kathy Van Arum has been touring Europe for the past few months and she will be home the

first of August. I have heard from her several times and she is having a most interesting trip. She even got to visit a couple of our overseas members in West Germany, Dr. Rudolf Troster and Eckhard Meier. She said that she was treated almost like royalty; they were most interested in the results of our flower show, and the election. Isn't it nice that our Society is so well thought of, even many miles over the ocean? We must be doing something right.

Our second speaker for the evening was Sanford Roberts. He is a member of the Day Lily Society also, and is doing some experimenting with a jellied substance called Lanolin-B. A.P.-I.A.A. Paste (I hope I got that right), on Day Lily clumps. He thought it might work on Epis too. He brought 4 rooted cuttings and put some jelly on each of them. On the Day Lillies it is supposed to make many more plants come up from the soil. I got one of the Epis too, so we shall see what happens. Will it grow more plants (leaves), or will it die in the "birthing" process?

Our birthday meeting, which is usually a fun time, was marred by the death, in June, of our first president, Bill Nelson. Bill was loved by all who knew him. The Society's deepest sympathy goes to his beloved wife Ruth.

Those board members that were unfortunate enough not to be able to attend the "out-going and incoming" board meeting and potluck at Pat and Jerry Stebbins' on June 22 missed a lovely time. The evening was a typical San Diego balmy night, so all of us had our dinner on the patio that surrounds the pool. In back of us and all around the side of the patio were a large variety of plants besides her healthy Epis.

A fearless hummingbird darted in and out to his feeder in the area where we had our business meeting after our sumptuous meal. It was almost as if he wanted to be part of the meeting. It has been a few years

since we have had a potluck board meeting, and we really enjoyed ourselves. I hope that we can get back to doing that every change of the board as we used to do. It gives us a chance to get better acquainted.

Pat, the members of the board give you a big thanks for all your work and hospitality. On a scale of 1 to 10, we rate you a 15. (Editor's Note: thanks for the thanks, we really enjoyed hosting - I have a very good suggestion of how to get two years of put-off garden chores done in two weeks, just invite 40 people for a patio potluck - works like a charm! ...Pat)



Member Tim Edwards passed away in June. Our heartfelt sympathy goes to his friends and family.



EPI CULTURE

...Helen Barkdoll, Education

You missed something very interesting if you missed last month's educational feature. Sanford Roberts of Blossom Valley in El Cajon, one of our more colorful members, gave an entertaining description of an experiment he is running and solicited the help of several members to carry out his experiment. There were many more volunteers than there were plants, but don't despair, there will be other projects that you will be able to participate in.

Sanford explained the problem of vegetative reproduction (cloning) of day lilies, of which some valuable varieties do not increase well. He showed us how the day lily crown was removed and a coating of Lanolin-BAP-IAA paste was applied to the cut surface. In 3 or 4 days the cut surface starts to reproduce little plants, which are ready to pot up in 3 to 5 weeks depending upon variety.

Now the interesting part. Will this technique work with Epis? Right there in front of us, Sanford

decapitated a rooted cutting, leaving about an inch of thick stem above the soil. Then he took out his "kinky paste", or "dirty vaseline" and smeared a coating across the raw cut surface, muttering an incantation half under his breath. Now in clear and resonant tones, he asked for volunteers to watch over these mutilated, but treated specimens. But he was very picky and choosy for homes for his potential Frankenstein-monsters. Each treated plant was to go into a different climatic situation for better evaluation of the process. Specific locations were picked and plants distributed. Every now and then we will have further updates upon the fate of these plants and hopefully their offspring.

If you feel left out, the paste is available at \$15.00 a small jar and you can do some experimenting on your own. Contact Sanford Roberts if you want more information.

Next month's educational feature:
HOW TO MAKE A GOOD CUTTING.



NOW IS THE TIME, JULY AND 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 a 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.



CLASSIFIEDS

CALIFORNIA EPI CENTER will be open by "appointment"...just call to see if we're here, and if we are, you're welcome to come by...for those of you who would like to select your plants in person rather than ordering by mail. As usual, we have a very large selection of rooted epiphyllums, rhipsalis, rattail cacti and holiday cacti. And, we have a good selection of rooted epiphyllums that are not in the 1983 catalog. If you'd like our current catalog, send \$1.00, which you may deduct from your first order. California Epi Center, P.O. Box 1431 (1444 E. Taylor St.) Vista, CA 92083. Phone (619) 758-4290.



RAINBOW GARDENS' PLANT AND BOOKSHOP CATALOGS FOR 1983 IS STILL ONLY \$1.00. A GREAT PICTORIAL REFERENCE FOR ALL YOU EPI LOVERS, PLUS A FEW GOOD BARGAINS TO BOOT! DON'T PASS THIS UP WHILE THE SUPPLIES LAST. RAINBOW GARDENS, Box 721-ESD, La Habra, CA 90631.



NAME TAGS

Jeannie Burger will take your order for a SDES nametag (blue plastic with a pin-back). They are \$2.65 including tax). Call Jeannie, 280-6747.



* Sanford Roberts has submitted a "Pedigree Blank" that he uses in his flower hybridizing, that some of you might be interested in using. Six generations could be plotted (though perhaps not with Epis due to the time factor.) The blank is on 5 the following page. →

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