

# Epi News

*San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc.*

JULY 11, 1984  
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MEETING: 2nd Wednesday 7:30 PM, Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

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



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: (May and June)

Mrs. Mae Baxter, La Jolla  
Charles & Dorothy Bradford, Lakeside  
Marcia Brandhorst, La Mesa  
Cherie Dowell, San Diego  
Everett & Norma Gunter, El Cajon  
Michael Hawkes, Canada  
Linda Hinchey, San Diego  
Laura Hockman, La Mesa  
W. H. Holt, Lemon Grove  
Marion & Marvin James, El Cajon  
H. & Eve Larrick, Rancho Santa Fe  
John & Margaret Maher, San Diego  
Julia McKenzie, San Diego  
Mike Meeker, Vista  
Gerald & Betty Jane Pearce, Poway  
Ruth Ryan, Coronado  
Betty & Fred Sinton, San Diego  
William & Joann Stark, Santee  
Rexford C. Starling, San Diego  
Robert & Nita Stroberger, San Marcos  
Tom Stroberger, Buckeye, Arizona  
Vernon & Vivian Wendorf, San Diego  
Roberta Wetzell, San Diego  
Leonard & Ruth Zabawski, San Diego  
H. B. & Lucille Ayles, San Diego  
Veronica King, El Cajon  
John A. Fetco, San Diego  
Bruce McDonough, Escondido

## JULY GENERAL MEETING, July 11

Member Rick Latimer is going to give one of his unforgettable programs, this time a slide presentation titled "Baja Norte", covering part of his recent trip to Baja...don't miss this one, see you there!



## JULY REFRESHMENTS

...Penny Bunker  
Wasn't the cake last meeting gorgeous and delicious?  
Those signed up for July:

Muriel Ingham  
Louise Newman  
Emily Packer  
Nita Stroberger  
Edweenia Vilorio  
(...WE NEED ABOUT FIVE MORE PEOPLE TO BRING GOODIES..call Pat 279-8026.)



## JUNE GENERAL MEETING

...Gene Schmedding  
It is hard to believe that the year is half over already. Here it is July with a whole new "crew" aboard.

June was our installation month. Our new officers were duly installed by the most able Betty Cooper, who presented all the officers with a pot of herbs, to "add spice to our meetings". We did not have a formal program as it is also our Birthday month and everyone wanted time to get to the refreshment table for a piece of the delicious cake; it was filled with strawberries and REAL whipped cream, also decorated with whipped cream. Yummy!!

We did have a mini-show of epi blooms though, and there were quite a few still in bloom. Many of the blooms were of George French's crosses.

Past president Elinor Latimer was presented with a lovely, tiny crystal animal (she collects them) as a going-out-of-office gift.

Our program for the July meeting will be a slide presentation by Rick Latimer of his two jaunts into the interior of lower Baja on a cactus collecting trip. There are many very interesting scenes (y'all come, ya hear?) It should be a great show. Not many of us have had the experience of traveling into the deeper parts of Mexico.

I hope that I will see many of you at the next meeting. We need to crowd the meeting room again. Don't let the summer heat keep you home - just think how nice and cool the ride from home and back again is...

Come out and support the society.



#### CUTTING TABLE

...Pat Stebbins

The cutting table raffle is one of the major activities of our general meetings - it is also one of our great successes (and periodically a total flop due to the quality of the cuttings).

Everyone who tackles this task tries his best to make it a happy experience for the members, and the tackler this year is Mike Shepley - good luck Mike!

A gentle reminder to those who are able to contribute cuttings: make sure the cutting is marked with the correct hybrid name; make it a GOOD cutting - at least 6", please;

if it has spots on it or holes in it, put it in the trash can - would you want one like that?

There will be a new policy on cutting contributions this year (not finalized yet but to be announced soon).



SOME UP-COMING GARDEN EVENTS IN THE CASA DEL PRADO:

July 15 CONVAIR GARDEN CLUB DAHLIA SHOW, Sun. 1 PM-4:30 PM

July 21, 22 S.D. GERNERIAD SHOW Sat. 12 PM-5 PM, Sun. 10 AM-5 PM

July 28, 29 SAN MIGUEL BR. AMERICAN BEGONIA SHOW, Sat. 1 PM-5 PM

Sun. 10 AM-5 pm

Aug. 4, 5 S.D. CO. DAHLIA SHOW

Sat. 2 PM-5 PM, Sun. 10AM - 5 PM



#### CHRISTMAS AWARDS BANQUET, 1984

For your information, the Awards Banquet this year will be held at the Scottish Rites Center in Mission Valley (the Corinthian Room), it will be catered. There will be a \$4.00 per member registration fee (the balance to be paid by the Society) and \$8.00 per guest.

START YOUR 4" POT CUTTING NOW FOR THE GIFT EXCHANGE so it will be rooted well by Christmas...make it one of your favorites, or one YOU would like to receive.

MORE DETAILS ON THE DINNER AS THE YEAR PROGRESSES.



#### HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP! HELP!

I'm soliciting items for the Epi News again - do you have a garden help or hint - would you like to tell us about your growing methods and experiences?

In order to keep our newsletter on a higher level than just a meeting notice, I need input from the membership.

This past year has been an exceptional one for the Epi News. The regular contributions from Dick Chadwick, Helen Barkdoll, Rick Latimer, and Greg Balvin have been so well done; we are really fortunate to have such talented people willing to

share their expertise.

I would like to thank these people from a personal standpoint, for making my part of the Epi News easier.

My very grateful thanks to Gene Schmedding for her monthly contribution of general meeting reports and the many other bits of information she contributes.

In the nearly four years I've been doing the newsletter, the spare time I had when I started out has gotten shorter and shorter, so I really do need your help now. If I'm to continue with the newsletter I need all the help I can get.

Call me, 279-8026.

...love you all, Pat Stebbins



CLASSIFIEDS

California Epi Center will be open by "appointment"...just call to see if we're here and if we are you are 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 epis, rhipsalis, rattail cacti, and holiday cacti. And, we have a good selection of rooted epis that are not in the '84 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, California 92083  
Phone (619) 758-4290

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, 287-9193



Lend me water please?  
Some fresh young  
Morning-glory,  
Careless...took my well

Chiyo-Ni

....need a temporary plant stand (or even a permanent one) to show off a late bloomer?

Just take that old tomatoe cage and turn it upside down and - ta da! instant plant stand!

A gallon pot slips right in and the points of the bottom wires (inverted) fit right up under the small ridge at the top of the pot - even the larger pots slip in snugly and the wires slip right under the ridged lip. I spray-painted mine with a pale green rust preventative and they are almost invisible...

Try it, you'll like it.



## DR. TROXELL'S HYBRIDS

...Dick Chadwick

The late Dr. Troxell registered many epiphyllums but I have been unable to locate a complete list. I know that he hybridized many plants and named them after members of his family and his friends. Unfortunately, he failed to register many of them so they may be lost forever. I have a partial list of Dr. Troxell's hybrids and hope that some of you may be able to add to the list.

DAVID WALTER	JWT	
DIANA KAY	JWT	
ITALIAN PRINCESS	JWT	
JOHN ROBERT	FOB	(JWT)
JUDITH CWEN	JWT	
LITIGA	JWT	
MAMIE	FOB	(JWT)
MARC	FOB	(JWT)
MARY BETTY	FOB	(JWT)
MICHELLE	FOB	(JWT)
MICHAEL T.	JWT	
RAINBOW DANCE	JWT	(FG)
STELLA MARIE	JWT	
SUSAN KENDALL	JWT	
SUSAN T.	FOB	(JWT)
YAK-YAK	FOB	(JWT)

JWT: Jacob Walter Troxell  
 FOB: Paul Fort & Garland O'Barr  
 FG: Frank Granatowski



## THE GOLDEN AGE OF EPIPHYLLUMS

Part XIX: The Troxells

by Rick Latimer

The following is the second reprint that we will include in the EpiNews by Richard Russell. It was originally written March 1, 1971:

Every February and March I stop, look, and reverse myself; for this is the time when my Epiphyllums start stirring. Often, they will grow right through the winter, but by March buds are appearing everywhere and new shoots are sprouting in every direction. Then, knowing the amazing floral explosion which is in the making, I turn hypnotically to the Epiphyllums. I have about 110 hybrid varieties and about 6 true species. My hybrids are the real wonders, and for floral dramatics, I do not believe that there is anything in the plant world which compares to the hybrid Epiphyllums. True, the plants themselves do not look like much. The stems are either flat or triangular, but when the buds appear, and grow larger and larger and larger, watch out! The wonders of the plant world are about to show their wares.

Now, if you like Epiphyllums, there is a man in southern California worth seeing. He is the famed Dr. J. W. Troxell of San Diego. I had read about the Doc., but had never met him. So last week I called him, and he said that although it was too early for blooming time, "Come on out!". Dr. Troxell lives only 10 miles from my house. In a half of an hour on our California freeways, I was there. It was a pretty little stucco house, with not a sign of any Epiphyllums from the front yard. I was ushered around to the backyard by Dr. Troxell's charming wife Miriam, and as I walked into the back, I was truly staggered. My only comment was: "Good Lord!". The back extends to a half acre and it starts with a large screened section. There, thousands of Epiphyllums, arranged tier upon tier, greet the eye. I had never seen anything like it, and I am not sure that there is anything like it. Most of the plants are in half-gallon tin cans, which are stacked neatly in ascending rows. The plants are staked against very high trellises. It would take days to examine them all! Some were a few feet high, and many were 6 to 8 feet high, while a few were 20 to 40 feet high - actually growing to the top of the patio and across the screening. The Doc., a retired navy physician, is a very friendly man, and he greeted me warmly. I was still reeling from the sight as he took me on a tour of his gardens, picking 7 rooted cuttings out for me as we walked through his "nursery".

I asked him which of his plants provided the largest blooms (I truly love the giant flowers), and he said probably Phyllanthoides grandiflora. This had surprised me, since I had not heard of this hybrid. Perhaps the Doc's variety is something special. At any rate, he said the flowers run over 10 and sometimes 12 inches across, and he gave me a cutting of this (which I will plant with great excitement.)

TROXELL HYBRIDS

Italian Princess  
Susan Kendall  
Susan T.

FOB Hybrids Named by Dr. Troxell

David W.  
John Robert  
Mamie  
Marc  
Michelle  
Yak Yak

Peggy Williams Hybrid  
Named by Dr. Troxell  
William Nelson

REFERENCES:

Rainbow Gardens, Directory of Epiphyllums and other Related Epiphytes.

Richard L. Russell, "Notes from California", The Cactus and Succulent Journal of Great Britain (33:2), p. 7-8.