

# Epi News

## San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc.

PUBLISHED BY THE SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY, INC.  
C/O 455 E. NAPLES ST., CHULA VISTA, CA. 92011

OCTOBER 9, 1985  
VOLUME 9, NO. 10

MEETING: 2ND WEDNESDAY, 7:30 PM, ROOM 101, CASA DEL PRADO, BALBOA PARK

The San Diego Epiphyllum Society is open to all persons interested in the growing, display, and collecting of epiphyllum and its related species.

MEMBERSHIP: MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR ONE YEAR \$6.00 SINGLE, OR MEMBER/SPOUSE U.S.A., \$12.00 INTERNATIONAL. SEND CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY, INC. TO: JEANNIE BURGER, 4577 ALTADENA AVE., SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92115 (phone (619) 287-9193)

(NOTE: DUES MONTH IS NUMBER IN PARENTHESES ON MAILING LABEL - PLEASE CHECK AND KEEP CURRENT.)

SEND ALL NEWS ITEMS TO EPI NEWS EDITOR:

Pat Stebbins, 10404 Orozco Rd., San Diego, CA 92124 (phone 279-8026)

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE: WEDS. OCT. 23

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Walter & Margaret Vieira,  
Chula Vista  
Marge Buysman,  
Lindale, Texas



### OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING, OCT. 9

The tentatively scheduled meeting this month is guest speaker Frank Bowman, of the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens in New York, who will talk to us about insect pests.

There is a possibility that Mr. Bowman will not be available at the last minute. If this is the case, program chairman Rick Latimer will give a program of slides taken by the late Eugene Cooper, husband of Betty Cooper who passed away last month. The slides are mainly of Dr. Troxell's epiphyllums, with some included of other original SDES members. A very appropriate program for the 15th anniversary of the first Epi Society meeting in October of 1970.

It is sure to be a good meeting whatever it turns out, see you there!



### OCTOBER REFRESHMENTS

...Penny Bunker

Hurrah! This month we have a goodly number of folks that signed up for refreshments (thanks to our "Cookie Team"). I think everyone enjoys the treats brought by dedicated members for the refreshment break in meetings. Thanks to all those special people that have always taken their turn bringing cookies or cakes.

Those signed up for October:

Greg Balvin	Muriel Ingham
Marie Chadwick	Louise Newman
Margaret Fickas	Margaret Pethley
Blanche Hafic	Milt Turner



### ANNUAL "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST" PLANT SHOW AT THE S.D. WILD ANIMAL PARK OCT. 12, 13 (SAT. & SUN.)

...Dick Chadwick

HELP! We need help in hosting the show, selling cuttings, talking to the public and conducting tours to the epiphyllum house.

If you can spare a couple of hours on either day, please sign up at the next meeting, Oct. 9.

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

...Sean Minogue

Vice President Rick Latimer presided over the September general meeting. Rick introduced one of the most interesting and practical programs we are ever likely to see.

Society members Margaret and Harry Blake presented their long awaited slides of the lath houses of the following members:

Helen & Bob Barkdoll	Gladys & Kent Harper	Louise Newman
Harry & Margaret Blake	Gloria & John Holms	Nate & Dorothy Ogdon
Dick & Marie Chadwick	Donald & Lucile Irwin	George & Jerry Plaisted
James & Michelle Davis	George Jennings	Shirley & Omar Rogers
Marian & Elmer Foster	The Latimers, Elinor & Richard, and Rick	Gus & Marge Schlapfer
George & Madeline French	Randy Light	Milt & Eileen Turner
Elizabeth & Wilbur Glover	Gene & Kathleen Lund	Kathie Van Arum
Frank & Carol Granatowski	Ron & Joan Miller	
Paul & Jean Gray		

Their photos concentrated not on our prized blossoms but instead focused on how the structures were designed and made. Special attention was also paid to the various sprinkling and other labor-saving devices our members have concocted.

There was something for everyone in the Blake's presentation.

Those of you unable to attend the September meeting missed out on a do-it-yourselfer's guide to everything epiphytic. All is not lost. The Blakes have given this program, complete with narration to our society. As soon as details can be arranged the slides will be available to society members.

George French gave us our monthly blossom chat. It's never too late in the season for our members, even reliable Oxypetalum made his late summer show.

SPECIAL NOTICE RE: CUTTING TABLE

...Dick Chadwick

Due to the resignation of Mike Shepley from the cutting table, and a replacement not available at this time, all actions of the cutting table will be suspended until the January meeting. If you have already made cuttings for the October meeting please bring them to the meeting and we will take them to the Wild Animal Park for the Beauty and the Beast show.

Anyone desiring to chair the cutting table, please contact president Ron Miller (619/746-9620).

EPI NEWS ITEMS

...Pat Stebbins

Do you have a garden related article, report, helpful hint, anything...that would be suitable for printing in the Epi News? Please give it some thought and if you have any questions, call me at 279-8026.

NOW IS THE TIME, September-October

...Frank Granatowski

Now is the time:

- to maintain good grooming of your plants, by eliminating unsightly and non-productive branches, thus conserving energy for the general well being of the plant. Remember, the healthier branches will produce the stronger blooms next spring.

- to protect plants from excessive direct sunlight, and to prevent the soil from drying out. An occasional spraying or misting of the foliage can be very beneficial.

- to protect new growth from wind damage.

- to practice preventive maintenance of insect control. Use of insecticides is recommended only when absolutely necessary. Malathion and Orthene are available locally. BE SURE TO READ AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS ON LABEL!

- to bait for snails and slugs. A few granules of Slugetta placed at the base of the plant has proved to

be very effective and leaves little or no unsightly residue.

- to protect the apples (seed pods) from Bluejays and other birds who are especially fond of the ripened fruit.

- to give plants a final feeding of a good balanced fertilizer before they become semi-dormant.



#### HISTORIAN'S NOTE:

...Sean Minogue

15 years ago this month...

The San Diego Epiphyllum Society held it's very first "official" meeting. The first permanent officers and board were elected. Meetings had been held in June and July of that year and the October meeting was the result of those planning sessions.

Elected that night (which was the third Wednesday of the month owing to a scheduling conflict) were:

President - William H. Nelson  
 Vice President - Richard A. Hartford  
 Secretary - Owen Hamilton  
 Treasurer - Gladys Harper  
 Chairman of the Board -  
 Dr. J. W. Troxell  
 Board Members: Walter Scott  
 Veronica Popelar  
 Eva Clover

Also that night the society presented its first slide show. Newly elected Vice President Richard Hartford gave the talk.

(Source: THE GOLDEN AGE OF EPIPHYLLUM  
 by Ruth Nelson)

As I mentioned at the September meeting, our society has been without an historian for the past few years. Your help is needed to fill this gap. Your photographs, ribbons, magazine articles, memorabilia and other items are needed. The years of greatest concern are 1982-184. Some items are still needed for the early part of 1985. Photos of the Mother's Day Show, Wild Animal Park show and work parties are extra welcome.

At the October meeting our scrapbooks will be on display. Stop by and see these collections of memories and trivia.



EDITOR'S NOTE: These articles were taken from ESA Bulletin VOL. XXIV #2, dated February 1969. They are written by Dr. Herbert S. Irwin, who was also the Editor at that time.

...Pat Stebbins

#### "A WORD ABOUT WATERING YOUR PLANTS

Inquiries have come concerning the Winter rains. Will the epiphyllums stand the rain? The specie all come from the jungles where rain is the chief characteristic. Of course, the plants are in a loose porous mix, so water is not drowning the roots. One should make periodic inspection of the pots - during or right after rain or watering to make certain that the pots are not holding the water. If a pot is holding water, immediately drain the water off and inspect the the drainage holes - for they must be sealed shut with calcium slats.\* If so, carry with you on the inspection, an old ice pick or screw driver to open all drainage holes. \*SALTS

If the plant has been standing in water up to the rim of the container, for a season or long period before attention, one, even if the water is freed, can expect to find the plant in the next 4 or 5 weeks to look sick - root rot has taken the plant. Cuttings should be taken a few inches above the rot - or higher until no discoloration is seen in the midrib - dipped in Roottone and started as new cuttings.

Another thing about watering, which is peculiar to our plants, if they get too dry, sprinkling will do little good. The only way to wet the entire soil system is to immerse the entire container in a tub or bucket of water until all air bubbles cease. If this is not done, one can water the usual sprinkling and find that the water is simply running down the inside of the container and the major portion of the soil dry. As a result the plant is starving for moisture.

So, if your plants have been out in a great deal of rain, realize that the heavy rain has leached all the calcium salts from the soil. This is very good for your epiphyllums. Then as the sun and breeze start drying sprinkle the pots and plants, before

the soil dries out, and your plants will benefit, since they are not drying out completely or allowing water tunnels to drain off the water from the soil. Remember your plants are to be damp - NOT WET. There is a big difference.

#### CONCERNING FROST DAMAGE

Your Editor received phone calls after the sudden bad freeze just before Christmas, when many received much damage to their epiphyllums. What should you do?

The best counsel, from years of experience, is to resist all urge to cut or junk the plant or plants so damaged.

Leave all such plants alone until all damage of frost is past (we have had many bad frosts in March in years past.)

The blackened parts will protect the remainder of the plant in case of another bad frost period.

Just wait until the days and nights are warmer - then, and only then, will new growth start showing. After new growth is nicely established, it is then okay to trim away the sad reminders of the frost damage.

Get the habit of listening to the "Frost warning" every night from November to April at 7 pm PST on radio KFI (NBC) be prepared."



#### SOME UPCOMING GARDEN EVENTS IN CASA DEL PRADO, BALBOA PARK:

Oct. 19, 20 S.D. ORCHID SOC. FALL "MINI" SHOW, Sat. & Sun.

Sat. 12-5 PM, Sun. 10AM-4:30 PM

Nov. 2, 3 S.D. TROPICAL FISH AQUARIUM SHOW

Sat. 12-7 PM, Sun. 9AM-4PM



Pebbles shining clear,  
And clear  
Six silent fishes...  
Deep autumn water

Buson



CLASSIFIED

Advertising for garden-related items limited to members only, no charge. Size of ad limited to space available at discretion of editor.

EXOTICA? YOU BET!

SEAN MINOGUE'S first-ever one day plant sale, Saturday, October 19th, 1985.

10am to 5pm (please no early arrivals)  
808 Ethel Place  
National City (phone 475-4478)

The sale will include some epis. The featured attraction of the sale however, will be many items from my collection of terrestrial cacti and succulents. Many beautiful plants. All in radiant good health.

You will find a wide selection of:

Euphorbia (over 20 different varieties)  
Ferocactus (you'll like these prices)  
Bromeliads (pretty and plain)  
also Crassula, Pcaypodiums and many others!

NAMETAGS

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

CALIFORNIA EPI CENTER is open by "appointment"...if we're here, you're welcome to come by. We have a large selection of 1-yr. old epi baskets... two young plants to the pot...at very reasonable prices...most under \$10. Plus thousands of rooted epis, rattail cacti, hoyas, rhipsalis, Xmas and Easter Cactus in 3-inch pots. If your interest is haworthias, we have one of the finest selections anywhere. If you can't visit, our FULL COLOR "Flowering Jungle Cactus" catalog is available for \$1.00 (deductible). It features 114 photos of the plants listed above. Society members will also receive our "Unrooted Cutting" list of 90 additional epis. California Epi Center, Box 1431-SDES, 1444 E. Taylor St., Vista, CA 92083. (619) 758-4290.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



## SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY

## OFFICERS

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Immediate Past President: Gene Lund 469-1677  
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Plant Table:  
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Seedling  
Registration: George French  
Security: Dick Chadwick  
Wild Animal Park: Dick Chadwick  
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