

# Epi News

April 9, 1986

Vol. 10, No. 4

## San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc.

### PRESIDENT SETS TONE FOR SPRING

Most Epi Lovers think that their plants are great year-round. It doesn't take long to develop a love for their strange growth patterns and odd shapes. But then there is Spring.

SDES President Ron Miller is not alone in welcoming the 1986 blooming season. Not alone, but certainly outspoken.

"This is going to be a great year for Epis", he told Epi News in an interview last month.

"Our recent rains have helped everyone's Epis. I've been hearing from members all over the area. Everyone reports more buds, bigger buds, plenty of new growth and lots of early blooms.

"We've got a great theme for the Mothers Day Show. I know several members have been inspired by the 'Melodies in Epis' idea and are going all out with their displays. Kathie vanArum and her group are doing an outstanding job. Participation should be up and, of course, the flowers will be better than ever.

"The rains that have been so helpful to our Epis have also kept some members away from our last two meetings. With Spring and show-time here again, it is good to know that we will soon be sharing our favorite flowers with all our good friends."

### ECKHARD MEIER TO SPEAK AT APRIL MEETING

Eckhard Meier of Simmern, West Germany will be our speaker at the April 9th General Meeting.

Herr Meier will show slides and discuss the conditions for growing Epis in Germany, and of course, show pictures of the Epis themselves. He has written many articles on the "EpiCacti" for both German and British cactus journals. Meier is returning the visits of several SDES members to his home in Germany.

-Rick Latimer

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### SPECIAL INSIDE

### Mothers Day at-a-glance

#### FEATURING:

HOUR-BY-HOUR at the show

SDES MEN plan lunch for MOM

A LETTER from show Chair Kathie vanArum

and more...

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### APRIL 16th IS DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE

### SDES TRAVELS TO ESA SHOW

MAY 18TH

Have you ever been to the Epiphyllum Society of Americas show at the L.A. Arboretum? Have you ever had a chance to visit the Epi nurseries in the L.A. area? If not, how about this year?

Each year we have a bus tour that goes to both places. The cost is only \$14.00 and someone else does the driving.

I'm working on final details now. There will be a sign-up sheet at the April 9th General Meeting. Call me at 561-0485 if you can't be at the meeting but still wish to go. These trips always fill up fast. Don't be left out of the fun.

-Michele Davis

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### OPEN GARDENS SOUGHT

SDES President Ron Miller is trying to organize the Open Garden schedule for this Spring.

See Ron at the April 9th General Meeting to sign-up or get more information.

A listing of Open Gardens will be published in Epi News next month.

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is published monthly by:  
San Diego Epiphyllum  
Society, Inc.

P.O. 126127  
San Diego, CA 92112-6127

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EPI NEWS  
SEEKS ART  
CONTEST  
ANNOUNCED

With this issue a familiar feature of Epi News pass into history. In printing this issue we will use the very last of our preprinted first page. That means the beautiful pink Padre, which has graced our first page since 1981, will disappear.

Many thanks to the artist, Milt Turner, for the monthly splash of color in my mailbox.

Now to find something new. I've done some sketches, I've asked some of you to start thinking.

(cont. pg.4)

ROCK STARS  
VOW TO FEED  
HUNGRY EPI  
LOVERS

This headline might be more than an April Fool, according to Penny Bunker. Penny reports that the were no sign-ups for the April refreshment table.

You can help! Please bring your favorite treat to share at the April 9th General Meeting.

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SEND NEWS  
ITEMS TO:

Sean Minogue  
808 Ethel Place  
National City, CA 92050  
(619) 475-4478

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WAP POT-LUCK  
MAY 3RD

Our annual flower display and pot-luck at the Wild Animal Park are things to look forward to again this year.

We are hoping to make it bigger and better than ever before, with some new ideas in mind. We don't want any shortage of food this year.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the April 9th General Meeting for those who would like to join the group. If you cannot make the meeting but would still like to attend the pot-luck, call me at 479-0425.

-Dorothy Ogdon

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WELCOME  
NEW MEMBERS

Maggie Smith, Chula Vista  
Bob Scott, San Diego

SDES Membership Vice President Jeannie Eurger reports 253 members as of March 26th.

BOTANICAL  
EVENTS FOR  
APRIL-MAY

April 12 & 13  
San Diego Rose Show  
Sat:2-6 Sun:10-5:30  
Balboa Park Club  
Admission

April 19 & 20  
San Diego-Imperial Counties  
Iris Show  
Sat:12:30-5 Sun:11-5

April 19 & 20  
San Diego County Orchid Show  
Sat:9-9 Sun:9-5  
Special preview-Fri. eve. 7-10  
Scottish Rite-Mission Valley  
Admission

April 26 & 27  
San Diego Bonsai Spring Show  
Sat & Sun: 10-5

May 3 & 4  
Balboa Park African Violet Show  
Sat:12-6 Sun:10-4

May 11  
San Diego Epiphyllum Society Show  
Sun: 10:30-4:30

All events at Casa del Prado unless noted.

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EARLY DEADLINE  
FOR EPI NEWS  
MAY ISSUE

The deadline for submissions to the May issue of Epi News is Wednesday, April 16th. Epi News will be published early in May to allow for last minute Mothers Day information.

Ferguson's

CACTI & SUCCULENT

AND EPIS TOO!  
HOURS 9 to 5  
CLOSED TUESDAYS

113 North Acacia  
Solana Beach

ADVERTISEMENT

SDES MOTHERS DAY SHOW

A TIME TO SHOW OFF FLOWERS, SEE OLD FRIENDS (AND MAKE NEW ONES) AND RAISE MONEY FOR THE SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY, INC.

FROM THE SHOW CHAIR

The April 9th General Meeting will be your last chance to sign-up for a table at the Mothers Day Show. The show will be held Sunday, May 11th, 10:30am to 4:30pm.

Cuttings for the Mothers Day cutting sale will also be collected on April 9. Please bring your cuttings at this time so that they may be properly sorted before the day of the show.

Please be sure that every cutting is accurately marked with color and name.

Cutting sales chair Charlie Coons can assist you should you need help making/marking your cuttings. Call Charlie as soon as possible at 477-4069.

Your cuttings are so important to the Society. Remember that nearly half of the SDES annual operating budget is raised by the sale of your cuttings during this one day event. Even if can spare only 10, we do need them.

Your cuttings are tax deductible. Please ask for a receipt.

The cutting room will be open to members only from 9:30 to 10:00am. Wear your name tag or bring your May Epi News for admission.

The Mothers Day Show is the one big thing we do each year. It's lots of fun. Please come enjoy it with us.

-Kathie vanArum

HOUR BY HOUR AT THE SHOW

SATURDAY MAY 10

5:30 pm Room 101 opens for exhibitor set-up

8:00 pm Room 101 closes building must be cleared

SUNDAY, MAY 11

7:30 am Rm. 101 opens for final set-up

9:30 am cutting sales begin for members only

9:45 am All exhibits complete, debris removed, floor swept

9:45 am judging begins

10:30 am show opens

10:30 am cutting sales open to public

MIDDAY SDES Mens pot-luck time to be announced

4:30 pm Show closes

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TROPHY RETURN URGED

The members who won the SDES trophies at the 1985 show are asked to return them to Kathie vanArum at the April 9th meeting.(This does not include the Education Trophy.)

SDES MEN FEED MOM

Our annual pot-luck at the Mothers Day Show is coming up and the men are going to do the galley work. Ladies, all you have to do is make something for your man or, better yet, sit down and tell him what to do. Once the finished product arrives at the show you are off the hook, the men will take over.

The pot-luck, as usual, is intended for those directly involved in the show. This included exhibitors and workers (show and cutting sales).

The meat of the day is already furnished. We need casseroles, salads and desserts. A sign-up sheet will be at the April 9th General Meeting. All interested parties should see me then.

Any help from the ladies will be gladly accepted.

-Nate Ogdon

COME TO THE 1986 SDES SHOW

MELODIES IN EPIS

ADVERTISEMENT

30 years ago...

ESA HOLDS SD MEETING

On December 2, 1955 the Epiphyllum Society of America held a meeting in East San Diego to consider organizing a San Diego chapter.

Over sixty people attended.

Dr. J.W. Troxell told those present about Epi culture and the advantages of the unique San Diego climate for growing epis.

ESA President C.L. Wright then discussed the activities of the ESA. President Wright also noted that the distance between San Diego and Los Angeles precluded participation for many SD epi lovers.

(Some readers might be unaware that freeways, as we know them today, did not exist in the fifties, at least in the SD-LA corridor. At the time a drive to Los Angeles meant a rambling tour of Southern California orange groves.)

Herbert S. Irwin showed 200 slides taken at various private Epi gardens.

Door prizes were awarded and many present joined the ESA that evening.

Other Epi notables there included Mrs. L.K. (Peggy) Williams, Mr. and Mrs. M.E. Humphrey, and Mr. and Mrs. P.C. Broadhurst.

While the dream of a San Diego chapter of the ESA was never precisely realized, many present that evening helped form the San Diego Epiphyllum Society in 1970.

Special thanks to Betty Berg for sending this item from the ESA archives.

HUNGRY EPIS? FEED THEM OFTEN

We don't feed our Epis often enough. Epiphyllums are heavy feeders during blooming season and growing time. But they want a constant supply of fertilizer rather than a heavy dose at one time. During blooming time feed at least every two weeks with 1/2 strength of 0-10-10 (liquid) or 2-10-10. Better results may be obtained by using 1/4 strength 2-10-10 every week. Liquid fertilizer goes to work right away but if it rains the next day, most of it will be lost.

Using the dry form of 2-10-10 has some advantages in that it only has to be applied every 6-8 weeks. (Check package label.) Every time you water a little fertilizer dissolves and becomes available to the plant.

Epis are prime candidates for using time release fertilizers since you only need to apply them every three, four or six months. Most of them contain a large amount of nitrogen, so you'll want to use them during growing season. Don't be scared off by high numbers on the label. (30-30-30 and 40-40-40 are not uncommon.) Look on the package for the rate of release. A fertilizer with 30-30-30 and a three month life span would give you a rate of 10-10-10 per month. If it were rated for six months it would release an average of 5-5-5 per month.

-Dick Chadwick  
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DEADLINE FOR  
MAY ISSUE IS  
APRIL 16th

FULL COLOR "Flowering Jungle Cacti" catalog \$1.00 (deductible). Hundreds of Epiphyllums, Christmas/Easter/Rattail cacti, night blooming cacti, hoyas, haworthias. SDES members will also receive our 1986 "Unrooted Cuttings" list of 70 additional epis. The following 1986 lists are available FREE...send long stamped envelope...A)1986 Catalog Supplement-21 color photos, 64 plants. B) Rhipsalis List-over 70 species 33 illustrations. C) Serious Collector List- 28 true epiphytic cactus species for the advanced collector. D) Haworthia List-over 100 species. During April, May and June (starting April 5th) the nursery will be open Saturdays only 10:00-5:00. If Saturday is not convenient, the nursery is open at other times by "appointment". Please call. If we're here, you're welcome to come by. All of the plants mentioned above are available, and we have a large selection of epi baskets... 2 young plants to the pot... at very reasonable prices... most under \$10.00. California Epi Center, Box 1431-SDES, 1444 E. Taylor St., Vista, CA 92083. (619) 758-4290

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ART CONTEST (from pg.2)

The new masthead is all ready to go except for the new corner Epi. Please send your sketches and drawings. Size does not really matter. The art will be "shot down" to the right size (1 1/2"x1 1/2"). Black and white line drawings only, will be considered. A prize will be awarded. Time is very short. Act now.

Send ideas to:  
Sean Minogue  
808 Ethel Pl.  
National City, CA 92050

Thanks.

## WAP EPI HOUSE GEARS UP FOR MAY SHOW

The March 15th work party at the San Diego Wild Animal Park was a Spring-Cleaning success, but more work remains to be done, according to Dick Chadwick, SDES representative to the WAP.

Those attending the March 15th workfest were:

Ron and Joan Miller

Nate and Dorothy Ogdon

Bob Stroberger

Charlie Coons

Curt Hammel

Dick Chadwick

Thanks for your help!

Another work party will be held on April 19th (Saturday). This work party will make and mark cuttings for the two day WAP show.

A sign up sheet will be at the April 9th General Meeting. Many volunteers are needed for this day.

## WAP/SDES SHOW MAY 3rd & 4th

The San Diego Wild Animal Park will hold its annual Epi show May 3rd and 4th.

Those interested in exhibiting should see Dick Chadwick at the April 9th General Meeting. You may reserve your tables through him and may select ½, 1 or two full tables. You may also choose to show either or both days.

As usual the set-up begins at 7:00am. You must have your car off the grounds by 9:00 sharp.

Volunteers are needed both days to sell cuttings, talk to people about Epis and act as hosts in the Epi House itself.

(See related item pg. 2)

## NOW IS THE TIME

- to maintain good grooming by removal of dead spindly and unsightly branches from your plants.

-to remove dead leaves and debris from containers eliminating a haven for harmful pests and allowing a free flow of oxygen to the soil and root system.

-to remove scale residue clinging to the outside of containers.

-to give mature plants a final feeding of Nitrogen-free liquid fertilizer such as Hi-Bloom or Bloom-Builder to promote healthy buds and blooms.

-to utilize control methods to inhibit aphids and ants (who are attracted by the nectar) from attacking the blooms. Insecticides such as Orthene and Malathion can be used. READ AND FOLLOW DIRECTIONS ON LABEL CAREFULLY.

-to remember not to relocate plants once buds have begun to form.

-to bait for snails. They become more active in wet weather.

-to repot last years cuttings which have outgrown their present containers.

-to gather and store rain-water for future use. If possible use covered opaque containers to avoid infestations of larvae and build-up of algae.

-Frank Granatowski



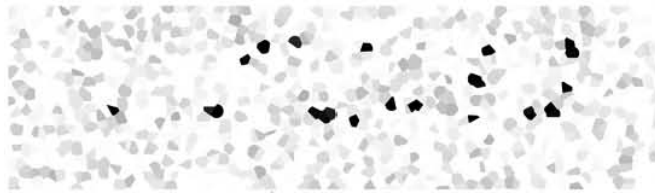
### Rainbow Gardens Nursery & Bookshop

P. O. Box 721  
La Habra, California 90633-0721

(213) 697-1488

Old timers and newcomers alike who haven't received our brand new 1986 Plant/Bookshop Catalogs can still do so by sending \$1.00 to the address above. We've got many exciting new Epis, some never before offered, including many new Christmas/Easter Cactus. We have 225 of those books, plus more on Bromeliads, Iris, Ferns, etc.

Newcomers note: Walk-in trade welcome. We always keep a few thousand Epis available for sale, including nice 7" hanging baskets that start under \$8.00. Credit cards accepted. It's worth the trip. Blooming season's just around the corner. (Open every Saturday in April without appointment. 1574 Dorothea Rd., La Habra Heights.)



SAN DIEGO, CA 92112-6127

P. O. 126127

S.D.E.S. - EPI NEWS



### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month:

7:30 P.M.  
Room #101, The Majorca Room  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

Guests are welcome to attend all regular meetings.

DEADLINE FOR

MAY ISSUE IS

APRIL 16TH

### MEMBERSHIP DUES

Dues in the SDES are \$6.00 (\$12.00 foreign) per year for each individual or married couple. Please send checks, payable to San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc. to:

SDES-Membership  
P.O. 126127  
San Diego, CA 92112-6127