



# Epi News

*San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc.*

May 2026  
Volume 51 Number 5



## **Mother's Day 2017 – Best Recently Registered Hybrid 'Jennie Martinez'**

Size: Large

Hybridizer: Derek Obayashi

**San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc. (SDES)**

P.O. Box 126127  
 San Diego, CA 92112-6127  
*Epi News* is published monthly by  
 San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc.  
 SDES Website: <https://sdepies.org/>

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[EpiNews@sdepies.org](mailto:EpiNews@sdepies.org)

Design and layout: JK Hendershot

**Membership**

Single \$15.00 per year.

Dual \$20.00 per year.

<https://san-diego-epiphyllum-soc.square.site/>

**Have You Moved?**

If you have moved or recently changed your physical OR email address, please update your address so that you can continue to receive your newsletter without interruption.

Send your updates to:

San Diego Epiphyllum Society c/o Membership  
 P.O. Box 126127, San Diego, CA 92112-6127.

OR email [Membership@sdepies.org](mailto:Membership@sdepies.org)

For faster response mail directly to Beth Jackson, Membership Secretary—their address can be found on the membership roster.

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**Calendar of Events**

May	2	<a href="#">Spring Garden Festival Cuyamaca College</a>
	3	<a href="#">SDES Cutting/Sorting Party</a> at Dean’s
	6	Board Meeting
	9 -10	Mother’s Day Show & Sale
	13	General Meeting \$1 Sale left over cuttings
June	16	SDES Epi Garden Caravan
	17	<a href="#">ESA Show &amp; Sale</a>
	3	Board Meeting
July	6 -7	<a href="#">San Diego C&amp;SS Summer Show &amp; Sale</a>
	10	General Meeting
	17 - 18	<a href="#">Orange County C&amp;SS Summer Sale</a>

General Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. We are doing our best to have a presence both in person and online. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. and the pre-meeting workshop is at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom room will open at 7:00 p.m. Check your email for instructions and links. Board Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m., and are online. All members are welcome to attend the board meeting. If you are interested in attending, please request the online Zoom link from the Membership Secretary, or the President.



**On the Cover:**  
 May 2026

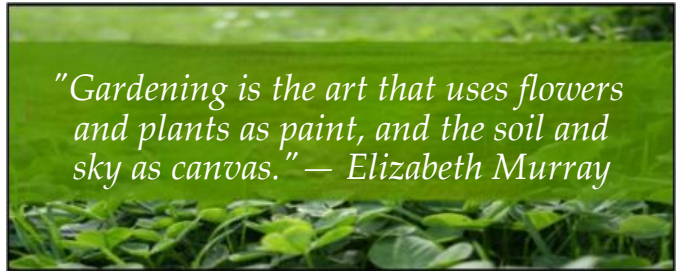
Photo: Don Crain

The Mother’s Day 2017 **Buddy Hurst Trophy** for Best Recently Registered Hybrid went to Derek Obayashi for his hybrid ‘Jennie Martinez’. ‘Jennie Martinez’- DTO 2018 Inner petals purple with lighter edge. Outer petals purple. Double, bell form. Tall, flat growth. {L} ‘Falling In Love’ × ‘Juliana Obayashi’. Reg. #14800

# We Are Keeping in Touch and New Members

Our members are the most important part of our society. Together we create more beauty for all to enjoy.

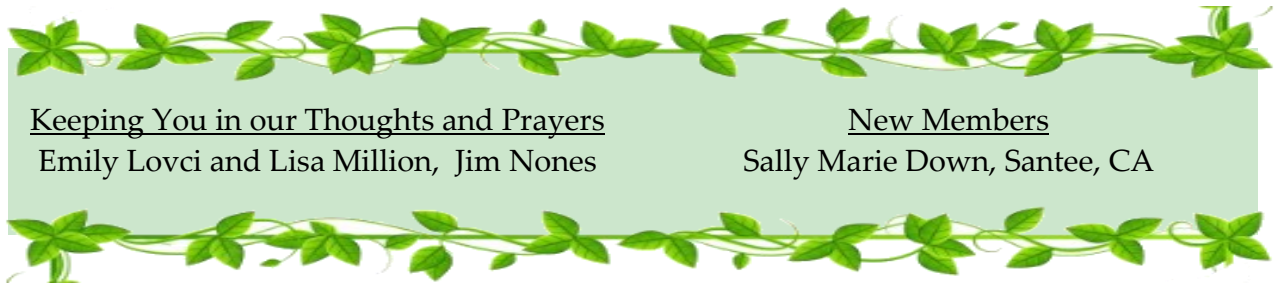
As with any group, we are more effective and stronger when we are unified together—and our membership spans the globe! Although the epies are what bring us together at first, lifelong friendships are made in the society. Knowledge, plants, passions, and stories of those who came before us are shared between members—and everyone has fun!



*"Gardening is the art that uses flowers and plants as paint, and the soil and sky as canvas." — Elizabeth Murray*

Membership Secretary: Beth Jackson at 858-692-0314 or [Membership@sdepies.org](mailto:Membership@sdepies.org)

Newsletter Editor: JK Hendershot at 619-301-3587 or [EpiNews@sdepies.org](mailto:EpiNews@sdepies.org)



Keeping You in our Thoughts and Prayers  
Emily Lovci and Lisa Million, Jim Nones

New Members  
Sally Marie Down, Santee, CA



*'Tiger's Eye'*

Photo: Carmela Griswold



*'White Splendor'*

Photo: Carmela Griswold

# We Need Your Help with Raffle Table Items

If you have epiphyllums (cuttings or plants), succulents, species, interesting garden items, or other plants you would like to donate to stock and increase the variety of items on our raffle table, we need your help. To make a donation or to obtain more information on how you can help, please contact our raffle table coordinator, Paula Reynolds via email at [paularey@aol.com](mailto:paularey@aol.com) with your ideas and questions. We are always looking for fun and exciting new items.

## President's Corner — *From President Dean DeLibertis*



Dear SDES Members: We've already had three successful sales and Mother's Day is next. The success is totally due to the volunteers that participate. There are those who show and sell, there are those who grow and foster, and those who volunteer cuttings. I want to thank you, you deserve our thanks.

"I occasionally wonder why someone didn't do something about that. Then I realize I can be that someone" — Lily Tomlin

Our sales, our monthly meetings, cutting parties, work parties, Garden Caravan, members' appreciation party, and holiday party... are all social events. Make a friend, make a new human connection. You never know who has the advice you need or hybrid you've been searching for. This is a social club and we all have something to offer.

Please remember to bring your potted plants on Friday, May 8, before Mother's Day between 9 a.m. and 12 noon. We will be organizing and pricing out the event's stock. As at all other sales events, the club offers to cover the parking. We just need the receipt to get you reimbursed. This applies for all three days Friday, Saturday and Sunday for those of you who are actively volunteering.

May's General meeting will be a flower show and Sale. After the Mother's Day show we go through the left overs. I will bring a selection of items to the meeting for the \$1 Sale. We look forward to seeing you at the events.

*Dean*

## Meeting Program & Workshop

**Pre-Meeting Workshop:** The pre-meeting workshop will resume in June. Join us in June for the next workshop which will be held in Casa Del Prado Room 104 at 7:00 p.m.

**May Program:** Our May meeting will be held on May 13, 2026 in Casa Del Prado Room 101 at 7:30 p.m. As is our tradition, a Mini-Show will be held along with sharing memories of our past Mother's Day Show. We would like our members who are planning on attending to bring in all their blooms that were not quite ready to bring to the Mother's Day Show. We will have a People's Choice award for the best bloom that night. Don't forget there is also a \$1 Cutting Sale. Zoom begins at 7:00 p.m. for socializing, and the online meeting will join the live meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**April Program:** Our April meeting was held on April 8, 2026 in Casa Del Prado Room 101 at 7:30 p.m. Sandra Chapin gave a presentation citing examples of past Mother's Day tables and their displays to inspire our members for this year's show. Members can take what they learned and create beautiful displays for next month's event.



*Two beautiful photos of off-season blooms — shown left is 'Meadow Rose' a George French hybrid from 1985.*

*Pictured right is a lovely pink 'Oriental Dancer' hybridized by Thomas D. Harmon (date unknown).*

Photos: Carmela Griswold



## Now Is the Time—Seasonal Checklist

- ✓ **Keep plants in filtered sunlight to develop buds.** If mature plants have not yet budded, try moving them to a sunnier spot or location.
- ✓ **Check your plants for overcrowding.** Make sure newly-formed buds have ample space to fully open and blossom. Hanging plants need enough space between plants for the flowers to open freely. Trellised plants also need space for blossoms to open, so ensure that ties holding the plant aren't constricting buds.
- ✓ **Don't relocate plants that are developing buds.** This can cause buds to drop. However, some bud drop is normal. A plant may develop more buds than it can support and will naturally shed some of its buds.
- ✓ **Check for snails, aphids, and ants.** Ants are attracted to the nectar in developing buds, but do no damage to epies. However, their presence is an indication that mealy bugs (which are brought in by ants) may be on the plant or in the soil. Small infestations may be controlled with a 50-50 solution of water and isopropyl alcohol. Larger infestations may require chemical treatment such as Malathion. When using chemicals to control pests, be sure to read labels and follow the instructions provided completely.
- ✓ **Check for scale insects.** Little spots that can be removed with your fingernail are probably scale. They should be removed promptly with soapy water. You may need to repeat the treatment again. Chemical treatment may be necessary for large infestations—but be sure to use chemicals with caution.
- ✓ **Check labels on pots for fading.** Can you still read the plant's name? Aside from labeling the pot and the plant, many growers go one step further and bury a plastic marker with the name of the plant written on it in the pot as an extra means of identification—just in case.
- ✓ **Continue planning your display for the Mother's Day Show.** You can enter a full, half, or mini table display or flower arrangement based on our three themes. Check out *Epi News* for more information on table displays and best practices for the upcoming show. You can't win if you don't enter.



*'Lady Ruffles'*

Photo: Paula Reynolds



*'Spiced Takuan'*

Photo: Paula Reynolds

# Garden Caravan Update on May 16<sup>th</sup> *by Jerry Moreau*

Spring is here and our gardens are bursting back to life! Flowers are budding, some already blooming, and that can only mean one thing—it’s time to get ready for our annual May Garden Caravan. A highlight of the season will be on Saturday, May 16th, so mark your calendars now. You won’t want to miss it—some wonderful gardens are already on the list, and more are sprouting up soon! Last day to sign up is **Mother’s Day, May 10<sup>th</sup>**.

There are two ways you can help make this year’s Caravan a success:

## 1. Gardens to Visit

We’re still looking for a garden or two to include on the tour. Would you consider opening your garden? There’s no cost, and preparation is simple. Whether you grow ten epies or hundreds, we’d love to showcase your space. To volunteer your garden, please contact Jerry Moreau by phone or text at **619-208-7654**, email [jerrysdca@cox.net](mailto:jerrysdca@cox.net).

## 2. Members to Attend

You can sign up in several ways: 1.) online via the Store on the Society’s website, 2.) at Mother’s Day Show & Sale (check/cash/credit card).

Cost to attend is \$20/per person. The Society covers the remaining costs. The price of admission includes lunch at the final stop. Members whose gardens are part of the tour participate are at no charge.

If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Moreau directly.

We’re looking forward to a beautiful day of gardens, blooms, and great company—see you in May!



Photos: JK Hendershot

## Volunteers Needed & Mother's Day Schedule *By Pat Neal*

Mother's Day is our biggest event of the year and it takes many people to ensure its success. In addition to donating cuttings and plants for the sale, members are essential in preparing and participating in both the show and the sale. Here's how you can help:

**Friday, May 8** – Pre-Sale Set-up – **Casa del Prado, Room 101**, Balboa Park. All plant material is delivered to Room 101 where we unload plants, organize, label and price everything. We'll start at 8 a.m. with getting the room ready – extra tables are set up and covered with plastic. Trucks, vans, and cars will be delivering plants throughout the day **Volunteers are needed** to help unload everything and organize plants. In addition, all our show and sale materials will be delivered from our storage facility and we'll **set up the canopies on Patio A**.

**Saturday, May 9** – Saturday Sale – **Patio A, Casa del Prado**

- 8 a.m. – Set up tables, move plants and cuttings from Room 101.
- 9 a.m. – Sale Opens. **Volunteers are needed** for assisting customers throughout the sales area; bagging and boxing cuttings and plants at the cashier table.
- 4 p.m. – Sale Closes. Secure plant material as needed. Then assist with show set-up in 101.
- 4 p.m. – Set up Room 101 for show – **Volunteers are needed** for setup, tables rearranged; chairs stacked in closet, tablecloths on all tables. Exhibitors set up their displays.

**Sunday, May 10** – Mother's Day Show and Sale

- 8 a.m. – Any last minute set-up if needed.
- 9 a.m. – Sale Opens. **Volunteers are needed** for assisting customers throughout the sales area; bagging and boxing cuttings and plants at the cashier table.
- 4 p.m. – Sale Closes. **Volunteers are needed** to help load plants and cuttings. Take down canopies. Load canopies and show supplies on truck for return to storage. Final clean-up of sales area.
- 4 p.m. – **Volunteers are needed** to assist with take-down and clean-up in Room 101 after show closes. Room is returned to its usual arrangement of tables and chairs.

**Sign-up sheets for volunteers will be available at the general meeting.**

As Sales Coordinator Dean DeLibertis will be arranging for transportation of plants, materials from storage, pricing plant material, setting up canopies, conducting all aspects of the sale and coordinating all sale volunteers. If you want to help or have questions, please contact Dean at (619) 829-2689 or via email at [hawaiiwiamea@yahoo.com](mailto:hawaiiwiamea@yahoo.com).



*Above: Barb Alvarez assists with the larger plants.*

*Left: Shoppers browse at the Mother's Day Sale.*

*Right: Gerry Mikas rings up another sale.*

Photos: Jerry Moreau



# 'Epies: Nature's Paintbox'

## Annual Mother's Day Show — We Need Your Help!

By Jerry Moreau

It's that time of year again—our Mother's Day Show is just around the corner! You've heard about it at meetings and seen mentions in the newsletter, and if you've attended before, you know how wonderful and inspiring it can be.

This is the event that truly shows who we are as a society. It celebrates our mission by bringing together our members and the public to share the beauty of our flowers and the joy of growing, displaying, and collecting both hybrids and species. It's our chance to educate, connect, and shine.

Now comes the call to action: we need you! Our society thrives because of the passion and dedication of our members. Every contribution matters—from setting up displays and arranging flowers to lending a hand with organization and outreach.

You've seen the stunning pictures in past newsletters and meeting programs—it's a sight to behold when we all come together. With many hands helping, the work becomes easier and the results more spectacular.

Let's make this year's show our best yet. Sign up, pitch in, and be part of the fun!

If you have any questions, see Jerry Moreau at the meeting or contact him.



2017 Best Themed Display (Division 1)



Best Themed Display (Division 2) 2017



Photos: SDES Archives

Best Mini Display 2017



2017 Best Flower Arrangement

## 'Epies: Nature's Paintbox'

# We Encourage You to Bring Your Flowers to the Show — Even If It's Just One!

*Article & Photos by Patricia Neal*

Even if you have only one or two flowers blooming, bring them to the show!

- **Small flower table** – You can enter as many small named flowers as you care to on this table.
- **Extra large table** – Any named flower that is registered as an XL (extra large) can be displayed on this table.
- **George French hybrid table** – If you grow any of George's hybrids, you're welcome to display them here. Not sure if you have one of his? We'll have a list of his hybrids on the table and you can check to see if yours is listed.
- **Society table** – On this table you can enter up to six named flowers if you don't have a table display of your own.
- **People's Choice table** – Everyone is eligible to enter one registered flower on this table. Only the name of the flower is shown to the public. Everyone can vote for their favorite flower; results will be announced at the May 13th meeting and mini-show
- **Stage** – If you have an attractive epiphytic plant, you can display it on our stage where it will be featured as a part of the display.
- **Newly registered hybrid table** – Do you have one of the most recently registered hybrids? This is the place to display it.
- **Unregistered seedlings table** – Got a new seedling that's not yet registered? This is a great table for guests to see the next generation of epi flowers.

If you are unsure about any of these categories, we'll be there to help you decide where to display your flowers and assist you in whatever you need. And don't forget—you can enter as many **flower arrangements** as you want!



Janine Topell won best epiphytic plant with 'Bright N Beautiful' (2024).



Michal McKee's 'English Rose' won best small flower (2024).



'Clair Paetz' won best small flower for Linda Bennet (2025).

## 'Epies: Nature's Paintbox'

# Annual Mother's Day Potluck *By Patricia Neal*

We will hold our traditional Mother's Day potluck on Sunday, May 10, 2026 for all our volunteers and show participants in Room 104.

Please bring your favorite salad, side dish, or dessert. SDES will provide the main dish, beverages and plates, napkins, utensils, etc.

We will need one or two volunteers to help clean up Room 104 afterwards and return it to its original configuration.




Please note the Society does not provide lunch on Saturday during the sale; everyone's on their own for lunch. Sales volunteers should coordinate their breaks with our Sales Coordinator Dean DeLibertis.



On the Friday before the sale and show, we do sales preparation in Room 101. Plants and cuttings are delivered, alphabetized and priced. In addition, a truck will be delivering all our show materials from storage as well as the canopies used during the sale. We'll need help unloading the truck and erecting the canopies.

We'll be there from 8 a.m. until we're done—usually about 4 or 5 p.m. You are welcome to come help at any time. If you'd like to help for a couple hours, please stop by when you can.

We will have coffee, water and snacks available throughout the day.



### Rules for Exhibitors in Balboa Park

- No helium-filled balloons.
- No spraying is allowed in Balboa Park.
- No moss can be disposed of in Balboa Park trash cans.
- If your exhibit sits directly on the floor, the floor must be covered.
- All tables used for displays must have table coverings. SDES provides black plastic tablecloths. **Per fire regulations, all table coverings must be fire-resistant.**
- No sand or similar material is allowed directly on the table covers.
- If you plan to use any such material, please bring your own heavy table cover and clean up any spills before the show opens and clean up thoroughly after the show closes.



## 'Epies: Nature's Paintbox'

# Parking Fees Will be Covered for Volunteers

With the new Balboa Park fees for parking, many members have voiced concerns about the cost of volunteering to help over the weekend for our show and sale. The SDES board has decided volunteers and exhibitors will be reimbursed for parking.

- Save all your parking receipts.
- Write your full name on each receipt.
- Give your receipts to either Dean DeLibertis, Jerry Moreau or Pat Neal (SDES Rep to the SD Botanical Garden Foundation).

Not only will the SDES Treasurer need the receipts for their files, but we also have new reporting requirements to the SD Botanical Garden Foundation regarding numbers of people who attend our shows and sales, but also the new costs of volunteers paying for parking. This year we will again use our hand-held counters to keep track of the numbers of people attending show and sales. (Names will not be shared with SDBGF, but are needed to reimburse you.)

Article & Photo by Patricia Neal



Vicki Pham won 2025 Best Flower - Society Table with 'Clarity's Antigone'.

## Epi Cutting/Sorting Party to be Held Sunday, May 3

By Dean DeLibertis



SDES will hold its annual Epi Cutting/Sorting Party on Sunday, May 3, 2026, from 12:00 Noon to 4:00 p.m. The event will be hosted by Dean DeLibertis.

Take the morning to get your coffee, wander into your gardens, and then we'll give you the opportunity to give back to the organization that has given you so much.

The event is in preparation for our upcoming Mother's Day Sale, and we depend on members like you to assist in donating, labeling, and sorting cuttings in advance of our sale.

If you are unsure how to make a cutting, the newsletter has a great informative article and pictures—or just cut really big pieces and bring them along. We will be serving lunch at around 12:00 p.m.

Supplies will be provided, but feel free to bring additional copies of the ESA Registry and black Sharpies.

The event will be held at Dean's home at 3035 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street in National City, CA 91950.

Even if you do not have a cutting to spare, you are invited to help sort and enjoy the garden. We are a social organization after all. We welcome you to the hanging gardens of Babylon.

We hope to see you there. If you are unable to attend and have cuttings to donate please contact Dean DeLibertis so we can coordinate a pick-up. Photo: Dean DeLibertis

# 2023 Mother's Day Show Memories *By Don Crain*



*Troxell Division One Award 1st*



*Buddy Hurst Award 'Devil Ray' 2nd*



*Buddy Hurst Award 'Queen for a Day' 1st*



*Gus and Marge Schlapfer Award*



*Don & Judy Francis Award for Best Small*



*Society Table Eva Clover Memorial Award*



*George French Table*



*Mikas Award Best Mini Display*

# Member Wish List and Local Events in San Diego

If there is an epi that you are looking for it's possible someone in the society might have it and is willing to share a cutting with you.

As a service and benefit to our members this list is being included in the newsletter. Send your wish list along with your contact information to the editor to have it included here.

**Sal Castellitto:** [aclarasd@aol.com](mailto:aclarasd@aol.com)  
'Buttercup', 'Christmas Elf', 'Spanish Gold'  
'Christmas Kiss', 'Kiwi Honey Gold'

**Casey Gerdes:** [casey@yogawithcasey.com](mailto:casey@yogawithcasey.com)  
'Crystal Flash', 'Gladyce Jones', 'Glow Bug',  
'Kiwi Contradiction', 'Monastery Gardens',  
'Ron Crain'

**Carmela Griswold:**  
[calcolors@gmail.com](mailto:calcolors@gmail.com) 'Massimo', 'Crystal  
Flash', 'Tassel', 'Lilac Time'

**Oliver Lapuebla:** [OliverRyanLP@gmail.com](mailto:OliverRyanLP@gmail.com)  
'Hedgehog'

**Michal McKee:** [folklorist@gmail.com](mailto:folklorist@gmail.com)  
'Elegans Lei', 'Mojave Gold'

**Priscilla Merriam:** [pafmerriam@gmail.com](mailto:pafmerriam@gmail.com)  
'Frida Kahlo', 'Gold Coin', 'Oberon',  
'Ron Crain'

**Anh Nguyen:** [anhsandiego@gmail.com](mailto:anhsandiego@gmail.com)  
'Angel Falls'

**Jim Nones:** [jan46@gmail.com](mailto:jan46@gmail.com)  
'Mother Juana', 'Mila A. Nones'

**Leonora Rodriguez:** 'Lenore Overture',  
'Kinneloa', 'Spanish Flare'

**Paula Reynolds:** [paularey@aol.com](mailto:paularey@aol.com)  
'Sunset Cliffs', 'Voltaire'

**Janice Wakefield:**  
[jwakefield.home@gmail.com](mailto:jwakefield.home@gmail.com)  
'Bobby Brynildsen', 'Jasa',  
'White Cloud'



*Save the Date!*

Forever Balboa Park's inaugural

## Balboa Park Garden Party

Saturday, June 6, 2026  
The Botanical Building & Central Gardens  
Balboa Park, San Diego

*Something beautiful is blooming...*

FOREVER BALBOA PARK

# SPRING Garden & Butterfly Festival

**Saturday May 2nd**  
9am - 3pm  
900 Rancho San Diego Pkwy, El Cajon  
Cuyamaca College

- Plant Sales
- Craft Vendors
- Butterfly Releases
- Cuyamaca College Open House
- Food Trucks
- Live Music
- Family Activities
- Non profit booths

**FREE ADMISSION** **FREE PARKING**

[www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org)

# News Notes, Social Media + Refreshments

## Got an Old Box? Save it for the Mother's Day Sale!

SDES is requesting that you save any gently used, small to medium-sized shipping boxes such as UPS, Amazon, etc., so they might be repurposed for our sale. This will provide customers a convenient way to transport their purchases. If you care to "break them down" we can always tape the bottoms the day of the sale. You can bring them to our scheduled cutting party, or contact Dean DeLibertis at [hawaiiwiamea@yahoo.com](mailto:hawaiiwiamea@yahoo.com).



Photo: JK Hendershot



## Monthly Refreshment Schedule

January	C—G	July	Society
February	H—L	August	H—L
March	M—Q	September	M—Q
April	R—U	October	R—U
<b>May</b>	<b>V—B</b>	November	V—B
June	C—G	December	Banquet

## San Diego Epiphyllum Society Grows With Instagram Social

The San Diego Epiphyllum Society recently launched a new Instagram account [@SDepisociety](https://www.instagram.com/sdepisociety). At the time of this publication, we have over 70 followers and the numbers are growing every day.

For those that are new to Instagram, the platform is designed for visual content—encouraging users to express themselves and share stories through images and videos.

As we tell our story, Instagram gives us a great opportunity to connect with those social media users who have similar interests, and it provides SDES an ideal platform to share our mission as it relates to epiphyllum.

Using Instagram social media as a tool, we're able to post photos and videos from events such as our Mother's Day Show and Sale, and our Garden Caravan—as well as additional sales events and activities to attract new members to our group. And, Instagram also provides a forum to showcase the beautiful bloom photos taken by our members. Be sure to check for frequent updates and follow us today!



# Beautiful Bloom Photos Submitted by Members



*'Marilyn Monroe'*  
Photo: Ken Maculan



*'Loma Portal'*  
Photo: Ken Maculan



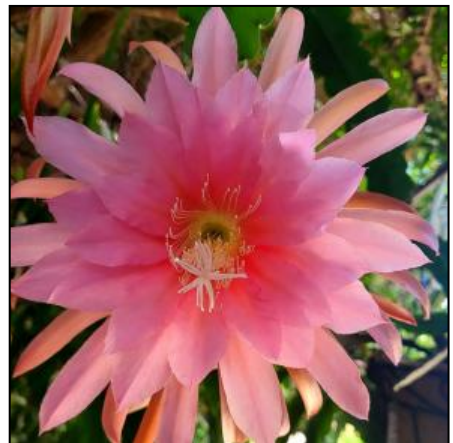
*'Bumpkin'*  
Photo: Ken Maculan



*'Gitti Paetz'*  
Photo: Forrest Ehbrecht



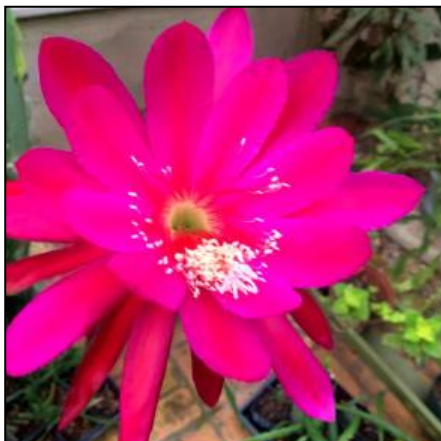
*'Sandra Chapin'*  
Photo: Dean DeLibertis



*'Pink Tinsel'*  
Photo: Dean DeLibertis



*'Daniel'*  
Photo: Ken Maculan



*'Desert Rose'*  
Photo: Ken Maculan



*'Frühlingspracht'*  
Photo: Bruce Wolski

*Beautiful Bloom Photos Submitted by Members Continued*



*'Blue Ray'*  
Photo: Dean DeLibertis



*'Satin Ruffles'*  
Photo: Dean DeLibertis



*'Emmett Kelly'*  
Photo: Dean DeLibertis



*'Sandra Lee'*  
Photo: Dean DeLibertis



*'Lacewing'*  
Photo: Dean DeLibertis



*'Chatterbox'*  
Photo: Dean DeLibertis



*'Jizaemon Kida'*  
Photo: Dean DeLibertis



*E. Hookeri*  
Photo: Dean DeLibertis



*'Buff Monarch'*  
Photo: Dean DeLibertis

## Epi News Submissions

News of interest to our SDES membership, and brief articles about our members, or our community are also welcome.

- Send any articles, photos, and questions.
- Send submissions as a Word or Google document. Items can also be sent as text pasted into an email body. No PDFs.
- Please limit formatting. Avoid excessive bolding or tabs. Avoid words in all CAPS. Please proofread and spellcheck, esp. names.
- Send photos as JPEGs attached in an email to submit to the editor.
- All photos need caption and photographer's name. Photos need photographer's permission.
- Use of photos is at the editor's discretion.
- Send videos as MP4 or as a YouTube link. Videos must have videographer's permission.
- Materials and submissions need contributor's name.
- All submissions are at the editor's discretion.
- Submissions are due by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month for inclusion in the following month's *Epi News*.
- If you are not sure—send it anyway. Email the editor at: [EpiNews@sdepies.org](mailto:EpiNews@sdepies.org)

### Mission Statement

SDES is a community of epi growers who encourage the study of epies and the interchange of ideas on growing, displaying, and collecting epies and its related species.

## SDES Officers for 2026<sup>1</sup>

<a href="#">President</a>	Dean DeLibertis
<a href="#">1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</a>	David Cheever
<a href="#">2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</a>	Jerry Moreau
<a href="#">Treasurer</a>	Gerry Mikas
<a href="#">Recording Secretary</a>	Open
<a href="#">Membership Secretary</a>	Beth Jackson
<a href="#">Immediate Past President</a>	Carmela Griswold
<a href="#">Director 2025-26</a>	Ken Maculan
<a href="#">Director 2026-27</a>	Gilbert Hatfield
<a href="#">Director 2026-27</a>	Linda Kruger
<a href="#">Director 2026-27</a>	Mildred Mikas

<sup>1</sup> Click 'Title' hyperlink to email an officer.

## Resources

As a benefit to our members we have compiled a list of epi resources available to you. If you are aware of any additional resources that you feel would benefit our members and you would like to have them included, please contact the editor.

### Epi Nurseries:

Epi Haven - <https://epihaven.com/>

Epiphyllum World - Don Cravalho  
<http://stores.ebay.com/epiphyllum-world>

Epic Foundation - Frank Süplie  
[www.epiphyllum.online](http://www.epiphyllum.online)

Garden Jewels Nursery - Katie Lutz  
<http://gardenjewelsnursery.com/>

Heny's Epiphyllums - Heny Brandenburg  
<https://www.facebook.com/emeraldmoonepiphyllums/>

Kakteen Haage - Ulrich Haage  
<http://www.kakteen-haage.de/>

Pacific Epiphyllum - Chris Welcher  
<http://www.pacificepiphyllum.com/>

### Plant and Other Societies:

#### Cactus & Succulent Society of America

<https://cactusandsucculentsociety.org/>

SDES is an affiliate member and our members are welcome at their meetings and webinars. See their website for more information.

#### Epiphyllum Society of America

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of every month except in December or January at 7:30 p.m. <http://epiphyllums.org/>

#### Master Gardener Assoc. of San Diego County

<https://www.mastergardensd.org/>

Website includes: live meetings, programs, a blog, and items of interest for gardeners.

#### San Diego Botanical Garden Society

<http://www.sdbgf.org/>

#### San Diego Bromeliad Society

2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

<http://www.sandiegobromeliadsociety.org/>

#### San Diego Turtle and Tortoise Society

Meets on Zoom every 2nd Friday

<https://www.sdturtle.org/>

#### South Bay Epiphyllum Society

Meets quarterly. Check Facebook for dates

[www.facebook.com/groups/511560205668403](http://www.facebook.com/groups/511560205668403)



# What's in a Name? A Beautiful Flower of Course!

## *A Historical Look at Beahm Gardens*

Beahm Nursery, which was widely known in its heyday as Beahm Gardens, was a distinguished Pasadena-based nursery specializing in succulent plants and epiphyllums (orchid cacti) during the mid-20th century. Established in 1920 by Sherman E. 'Ernie' Beahm and his wife, Gertrude W. Beahm, the nursery served as a significant hub for rare, exotic, and hard-to-find plant specimens. The Beahms were also recognized for contributing significantly to the botanical diversity of Southern California gardens.

### **Founders and Specialization**

Gertrude W. Beahm was a prominent figure in the specialized horticultural community. Her expertise was deeply rooted in her family history; her father, J.B. Wagner, was a renowned rhubarb and berry specialist who operated a Pasadena nursery and was associated with notable figures like Luther Burbank, Albert Etter, John Lewis Childs, and David Fairchild.

Gertrude began working in this field in 1908, and began collecting cacti as she accompanied her father on road trips in search of worthwhile plants. Gertrude later became one of the premier cactus collectors in the United States, becoming an original member of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, which was organized and founded in 1929.

Beahm Gardens specialized in 'epi' (epiphyllum) hybridizing, producing popular cultivars of epiphytic cacti. They were recognized as leaders in promoting epiphyllum and published several descriptive nursery catalogs, including their own epiphyllums hybrids, as well as other hybridizers who were popular at the time. Some of their more notable registrants are 'Bertha Talbot Loose', 'Blushing Belle', 'Daisy Dean', 'Frosted Raspberry', 'Hum Dinger', and 'Kinneloa', to mention a few. The Beahms also registered many cultivars of other hybridizers, including Paul Fort and Garland O'Barr after they no longer were able to register their previously hybridized plants themselves.

### **Contributions to the Gardening World**

Beahm Gardens was not merely a retail establishment; it was a center for taxonomic study and hybridization. The nursery published specialized lists of *Haworthia* and *Apicra* (now often reclassified under *Haworthia*), providing detailed information on plant forms that were rare to find, such as various *Haworthia* rosettes and thick-leafed succulents.

Gertrude and Sherman were also instrumental in the Epiphyllum Society of America (ESA), editing its newsletter for 18 years.

The couple was highly regarded in the Cactus and Succulent Journal community, and their work, such as the *Haworthia* and *apicra* lists which were published throughout the 1950s and early 1960s, is preserved in the Biodiversity Heritage Library, which is the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives and is housed in the Smithsonian Libraries in Washington, D.C.

### **Legacy and Closure**

Gertrude passed away in 1962, and Sherman passed in 1977, and both were laid to rest at the Resurrection Cemetery in Montebello, CA. Their contributions to the plant world, particularly their hybridizing efforts, left a lasting mark on California horticulture, with many of their epi hybrids remaining available today—several decades after their passing.

In a footnote, the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish (ABVM) in Pasadena, purchased the Beahm Nursery property in 1951. The location was used to make way for the church, school, and rectory complex, marking the transition of the nursery before its eventual closure. The Beahm legacy is that of a passionate family business that transformed niche, 'hard-to-find' plants and epiphyllum into a beloved, accessible, and scientifically recognized—yet artistic, aspect of Pasadena's horticultural heritage.



*'Bertha Talbot Loose'*  
Photo: JK Hendershot

*What's in a Name? A Beautiful Flower of Course! Continued*



*'Daisy Dean'*  
Photo: SDES Archives



*'Contentment'*  
Photo: SDES Archives



*'Duchess of Windsor'*  
Photo: SDES Archives



*'Blushing Belle'*  
Photo: SDES Archives



*'Bountiful'*  
Photo: SDES Archives



*'Hum Dinger'*  
Photo: SDES Archives

*What's in a Name? A Beautiful Flower of Course! Continued*



*'Kinneloa'*  
Photo: SDES Archives



*'Frosted Raspberry'*  
Photo: SDES Archives



*'Buckeye'*  
Photo: SDES Archives



*'Cannonball'*  
Photo: SDES Archives



*'Fanciful'*  
Photo: SDES Archives



*'Duke of Windsor'*  
Photo: SDES Archives



# Mother's Day Show 2026

## Epies: Nature's Paintbox

May 9-10, 2026

# We Leave You With This — *Mother's Day Show 2022*



*'Beth Jackson' DTO*



*'Chardonnay Twist' MIY*



*'Ron Crain' DTO*



*'Bon Appétit' FRE*



*'Campari' EW*



*'Marian Grant' FLECH*