



Epi News

San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc.

January, 2016

Volume 41 Number 1

‘Capt. Benito O. Nones’

Cross: ‘Venetian Affair’ x ‘King of Yellows’

Size: Large

Hybridizer: Jim Nones

Photo by Jim Nones

**First Place Winner Single Flower Category
2015 SDES Photography Contest**





President's Corner

"The Old Year has gone. Let the dead past bury its own dead. The New Year has taken possession of the clock of time. All hail the duties and possibilities of the coming twelve months!"

- Edward Payson Powell, American author and journalist

Our final event for 2015 was the Holiday Dinner and installation of officers held at the Butcher Shop Restaurant on December 9. Thanks to Mildred Mikas for all of her hard work for organizing the dinner and getting the decorations for the tables. All guests in attendance were able to choose an epiphyllum plant in a gallon pot from the Safari Park collection to take home. Thanks to everyone who helped make this party a success. Thanks to Will Harvey for being the Master of Ceremonies.

We have several new board members for 2016. Patricia Frank joins us at our new 1st Vice President in charge of Programs. Dennis Hughes is our new Recording Secretary and Karl Almryde and Van-Anh Le are our new directors. Cindy Decker has changed her role on the board from Recording Secretary to Director. A huge thank you to Ron and Velma Crain for their many years of service on the board and thanks also to Marie Dempewolf and Victoria Chapman for all of their hard work.

I'm pleased to report that our SDES website, www.SanDiegoEpi.org, is now live and able to be updated. Several of the pages are now current and others will be updated soon. You can now check on the calendar to see upcoming events. I will provide more information in the February newsletter.



Need to contact your Society or keep up with events and happenings?

SDES has a website — www.SanDiegoEpi.com there you will find lots of information about what's going on.

OR check out

Facebook — [San Diego Epiphyllum Society](https://www.facebook.com/SanDiegoEpiphyllumSociety) on Facebook. Here you can keep up-to date with the society and members.

OR you can

Call or Email the Officers, Directors, or Coordinators.

Stay up-to date
Stay involved
It is your Society



Society Officers and Directors

President	Janice Wakefield jwakefield@cox.net (619) 464-1086
1st Vice President (Programs)	Patricia Frank p_frank@cox.net (619)589-1987
2nd Vice President (Mother's Day Show)	Gina Contreras ginacontreras57@gmail.com
Treasurer	Tim Paule timpaule@cox.net (619)-443-0826
Recording Secretary	Dennis Hughes deninkorea@yahoo.com
Corresponding Secretary	Beth Jackson bethjackso@yahoo.com (858) 638-0956
Membership Secretary	Humberto Contreras humbertocon@gmail.com
Director (2016-17)	Karl Almryde karlalmryde@cox.net (619)262-0808
Director (2016-17)	Cindy Decker ddecke@juno.com (619) 972-9664
Director (2016-17)	Jerry Moreau jerrysdca@cox.net (619) 208-7654
Director (2015-16)	Van-Ahn Le enviomom@gmail.com (619)940-6429
Director (2015-16)	Mildred Mikas mvmikas@cox.net (760) 690-1124

Coordinators & Committee Chairperson:

Sales Events Librarian	Cindy Decker Marie Dempewolf dempemom@aol.com (619) 573-5060
Garden Caravan Installation Banquet Safari Park EpiNews Co-Editor EpiNews Co-Editor	Mildred Mikas Mildred Mikas Jerry Moreau Jerry Moreau Linda Sinkovic linda@cruzware.com
Historian Internet / Web Past President	Open Open Ron Crain hikerron@cox.net (619) 421-4785

Meeting Programs

— Patricia Frank

Pre-Meeting Workshop: There was no pre-meeting workshop in December, Ron is planning something great for January. Don't miss out.

December Program: Last month we ended the year with our annual Holiday, Awards, and Installation Banquet. We enjoyed an evening of camaraderie and good food.

January Program: Carole Brown, a clinical herbalist, herb grower, and teacher will introduce us to medicinal herbs, growing them, and how to use them in foods. She will have on hand small plants, books, dried herbs, tinctures of herbs and limited handouts. Carole speaks widely at many of the plants societies and is a fascinating presenter. Please join us for this wonderful program.



SDES Holiday Dinner
Photo by Don Crain



Calendar of Events 2016

January 2016

- 6 December Board Meeting
- 9 Safari Park Work Party
- 13 General Meeting
- 16 The Huntington Event
- 27 Board Meeting
- 30 Safari Park Work Party

February

- 10 General Meeting
- 13 Safari Park Work Party
- 24 Board Meeting
- 27 Safari Park Work Party

April

- 23 Cuyamaca Spring Garden Festival

May

- 8 Mother's Day pre-sale
- 9 Mother's Day Show and Sale
- 28 EpiCon VX

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Safari Park Epi Display House

— Jerry Moreau

Another year has gone by and here we are with the anticipation of the new year. The volunteers have done some pretty amazing work at the Park in 2015 and because of that hard work we will be rewarded with magnificent blooms this spring. This year we will be doing some reorganizing to the epi display house.

The San Diego Zoo Global had its volunteer appreciation event. Some of the Special recognition goes out to members who have volunteered at the epi display house. Special note goes to Bob Holzinger volunteered 100 hours, Jerry Markle and Janice Wakefield 250 hours, Tim Paule 500 hours, Fred Savage, 750 hours, Laurie Lasslo 10 years, and Ron Crain and Beth Jackson 15 years. Thank you for your continued effort supporting SDES and the Epiphyllum collection at the Safari Park.

Helping out these past work parties were Sandra Chapin, Ron & Velma Crain, Cindy Decker, Marie, Dempewolf, Bob Holzinger, Dennis Hughes, Judy Johnson, Mildred & Gerry Mikas, Jerry Moreau, Mary Nash, Tim Paule, Linda Sinkovic, Paul Vanderploeg, and Janice Wakefield. Your effort is greatly appreciated.

Wish List: Mini blinds to use as plant tags.

The next work party will be
January 9th and 30th.

To the left, Judy Johnson. She came out to volunteer with us in December. It was great to have her back again. To the right, 'Beautie Wegener'. Last year it bloomed all winter at the Park and it is going to do the same this year.

Photos by Jerry Moreau



DESERT FORUM at The Huntington Saturday, January 16, 2016

SDES is an affiliate member of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA)

- 9:00 – 10:00 **Registration – in front of new visitor entry area**
Please bring your CSSA or **affiliated club badge** or membership card for admission
- 9:00 – 11:00 **Desert Garden**
Knowledgeable staff and docents will be stationed throughout the Desert Garden and Desert Conservatory
Aloes will be flowering
- 11:00 – 1:00 **Plant Sales**
Gate opens by the Teaching Greenhouse at 11:00 for plant sales
please, no early bird shopping — Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted
- 1:00 – 4:30 **Free Time** — Attendees are welcome to tour the gardens and galleries as of 10:30

On your own for lunch. There is the Café in the new visitor center features a variety of sandwiches and grilled items or the tea room at Liu Fang Yuan is a lovely option for fresh Chinese food



THE HUNTINGTON

LIBRARY, ART COLLECTIONS, AND BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California 91108 (626) 405-2100

Holiday, Awards, & Installation of Offices Banquet

—Mildred Mikas



Our Holiday Dinner was a BIG success! We had 64 wonderful epi lovers dressed in their holiday clothes in attendance. There were many, many “Door Prizes” & “Wear Your Name Tag” gifts, including (15) \$20.00 gift certificates to the Butcher Shop Restaurant. One of our Grand prizes was a \$50.00 certificate to the Butcher

Shop. Mike, the manager at the Butcher Shop Restaurant, has been very good to us and we thank him for his generosity. Another grand Prize was a 4’ Pot of ‘Yellow Tang’ with growth. We had a number of people partaking in the gift exchange and it was fun. I’d like to thank Van-Ah, Victoria, Karl and my husband Gerry, for all their help with the prizes & gift exchange at the Dinner. A Special thank you to Will



SDES 2016 Board of Directors above, far left Will Harvey, and left Allen Pellymouter and Judy Johnson
All photos by Don Crain

Harvey for keeping us entertained at Dinner. By the way, Will celebrated his 90th Birthday in December and it was wonderful his 3 children were able to attend the dinner with him. Janice, President, introduced the old and new SDES former board members. She thanked the members for their dedication to the Society. Janice also presented the Roger Chapin Award and Honorary Life Membership.

Jill Rowney Volunteer of the Year

The Roger Chapin Award, AKA ‘Volunteer of the Year’ was presented to Jill Rowney, who wasn’t able to be present at the dinner. Jill joined SDES in July 1996 and has held many offices – treasurer 2001, 1st vice president 2005, 2nd vice president 2003-2004, recording secretary 2009. She also has been cutting chair woman, sales event coordinator, has hosted cutting parties and the garden caravan and was a Mother’s Day participant every year. She was also the newsletter editor for ten years. Jill was awarded Honorary Life Membership in 2005. Thank you Jill for all you have contributed to SDES over the years.



Beth Jackson Honorary Life Member

An Honorary Life Membership was awarded to Beth Jackson, who also was not able to be present at the dinner. Honorary Life Membership is awarded to a person who goes above and beyond in their dedication to the SDES and supports the SDES mission statement. Beth joined SDES in July 1998 and has contributed to SDES in many roles in spite of spending a great deal of her time traveling for her work. She has been a director, membership secretary, and corresponding secretary as well as Mother’s Day judges clerk from 2006 to the present. She volunteers at Safari Park whenever she is able and takes home the used plastic pots to wash. Beth has been honored in 2011 as the ‘Volunteer of the Year’ and awarded The Roger Chapin Award. Thank you Beth for all you do for the society.



Epiphyllum Society of America Diamond Jubilee

— Jerry Moreau



Beth Jackson, Janice Wakefield &
Ron & Velma Crain

On Saturday December 6, 2015 members of SDES traveled to Monrovia, CA to celebrate the ESA's 75th Anniversary. There was an exhibition of the best of our epiphyllum memorabilia collection from the ESA and members' private epi collections put together by Jim Nones. The ESA paid tribute to Chuck Everson & Jerry Williams of Rainbow Gardens after 36 years in the business, they plan to retire from their epi business. The program featured special awards, including the Founder's Award to our very own Don Patterson (see below), a silent auction of rare epi cuttings, and door prizes. A special trophy was created to honor ESA past president Galen Pittman, Best in Show—The Galen Pittman Award at the ESA flower show. Entertainment was provided by singer/pianist Tommy Dodson. It was a wonderful time to get reacquainted with old friends and reminisce with other members who made a difference in our 75 year history. SDES/ESA members attending were Sandra Chapin, Velma & Ron Crain, Gina & Humberto Contreras, Michael & Jim Davis, Chuck Everson & Jerry Williams, Beth Jackson, Mildred & Gerry Mikas, Jerry Moreau, Don Patterson, Linda Sinkovic & Peter Thompson, and President Janice Wakefield.



Don Patterson & Gina Contreras



Kathy Brown & Doris Pittman

Don Patterson Awarded Founder's Award by the ESA

—Jerry Moreau



In 2005 the ESA decided to honor people for "Lifetime Achievement" in the promotion, culture, science, spread, promotion, support, ect of epiphyllum. This award may be given to an organization or an individual. At that time San Diego members have been honored with this award; they were Dick Chadwick, George French, Phyllis Flechsig, Gray/Davis Nursery, Rainbow Gardens Nursery. In 2008 SDES was award the Founder's Award. In 2015 at the ESA's 75 Anniversary Dinner Don Patterson was awarded.

Don Patterson started collecting epis in the late 1960's early 1970 when a friend give him his first epis, one of them was 'Tassel'. He was right on time to begin just as the San Diego Epiphyllum Society began. When George French was president (1972-74), Don was the Society's Historian and continues today by keeping alive the history of the past 45 years of SDES, its people, nurseries, and flowers. Don has a way of writing and telling stories of the plants, flowers, and people of the epi world which has enthralled the Society and friends. Over the years he has gotten to know and maintained friendships with people such as the George and Madeline French, Bill Nelson (SDES's 1st president), Dr. and Mrs. Troxell, Betty Cox (Cox Nursery), Gerry Williams & Chuck Everson (Rainbow Gardens), Tina & Dean Hawks (Hawks Nursery), Galen Pittman, Wressey Cocke, Beahm Gardens, and many others.

In the 1980's Don became interested in hybridizing, his curiosity of "what would happen if I crossed this flower with that" stirred. Don, being an artist and art teacher, let his imagination run away with the possibilities of color combination, form, texture, and size. His curiosity, fortunately for us, produced many beautiful hybrids. His first and notable registrations were 'Lily Dache' in 1992, 'Ninja' and 'Smarty Pants' in 1993. And more recent introductions of 'C'est Magnifique', 'Alakazam', 'Mr. P', 'Lothario', 'Heather', 'Crystal Claret', 'Imperial Tiger', 'Hopelessly Devoted' just to name a few. Don has registered 74 hybrids to date, with more on the way.

Don has competed in many flowers shows of SDES, SBES, and ESA and has won many blue ribbons. Don shared that these plants became my "Garden of Eden". The many epi people, epi plants, societies, and hybridizing efforts, has contributed to my life being enriched by their presence and beauty.



Pictures from the Holiday, Awards, and Installation Banquet

Photos by Don Crain, Jerry Moreau, & Janice Wakefield



Ron & Velma Crain
right—Bill Greene &
June Singer



Alex and Alexandra Buck



Mildred Mikas &
Janice Wakefield



Velma Crain, Jim Nones, Sandra Chapin



Allen Pellymouter & Laura Johnson



Marj Myers & Marie Dempewolf

Pictures from the ESA 75th Anniversary Dinner

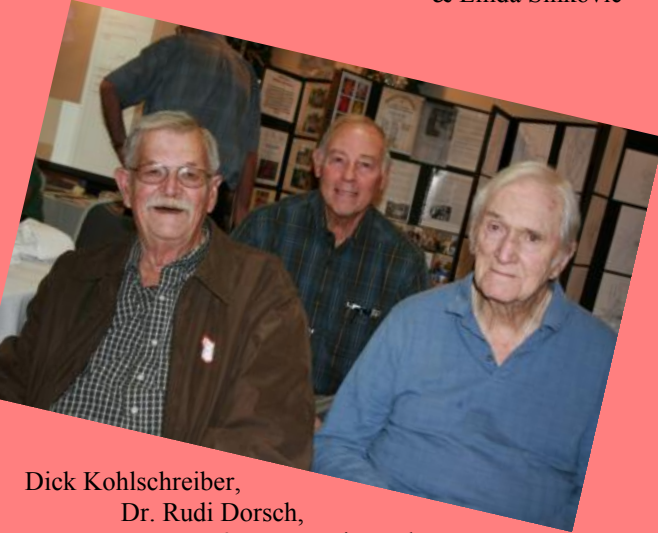
Photos by Jerry Moreau



Beth Jackson
& Linda Sinkovic



Gerry & Mildred Mikas



Dick Kohlschreiber,
Dr. Rudi Dorsch,
& Myron Kimmach

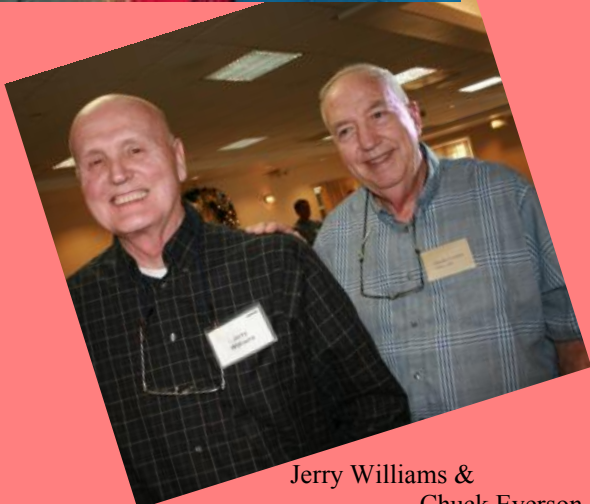


Chuck Everson
& Michele Davis



Rose West
Don Patterson
Daughter of Rose (Eileen)

Rose West
Jerry Moreau
Velma & Ron Crain



Jerry Williams &
Chuck Everson



Jerry Moreau & Don Patterson

Now is the Time

- ✓ Begin to feed with low or no nitrogen fertilizer such as “Hi Bloom” or “Bloom”. Low/no nitrogen fertilizers will have label ratings around 0-10-10 or 2-10-10. Either liquid or time-release granules can be used. If liquid is used, another application may be needed in a month. Plants that are not large enough to support blooms can be fertilized with a higher nitrogen content, such as 5-10-10.
- ✓ Watch for pests. Keep plants free of debris where pests can breed and hide. Wet weather is snail and slug weather.. Bait or hand pick them. Spray with insecticides only when necessary and follow directions carefully.
- ✓ Protect epis from freezing temperatures. New tender growth is especially susceptible to cold temperatures and winter winds.
- ✓ Prune out unproductive and unsightly growth to allow more energy to be used by newer and healthier branches. However, if you live in an area where your epis will be exposed to more freezing nights, this unproductive or damaged growth will help protect the healthier growth from the elements. You may want to forego pruning a bit longer.
- ✓ Let epis enjoy the winter rains. As long as your epis are in loose, draining soil, the rains won't hurt them and will help wash out the fertilizer salts that can build up in potted plants. If you have epis sitting on shelves or tables, make sure they are not sitting in puddles of water after heavy rains. If you collect rain water for future use, store in covered, opaque containers to prevent algae build-up and mosquito larvae infestation.
- ✓ Pick ripe apples (seed pods). After removing the seeds from the pod, they can be planted immediately without having to be dried out. However, artificial light and heat may be needed to encourage germination.
- ✓ Do not repot plants that you want to bloom this spring. Some buds are already starting their earliest formative stages. Once buds set, don't rearrange your plants. Moving plants can cause forming buds to drop. If you want to rearrange them, do it now.
- ✓ Start planning you display for the Mother's Day Show. You can enter a full, half, or mini table display or flower arrangement based on the theme, “California Dreaming”.

Member Benefit

Plants For Sale

SDES is offering plants for sale as a member benefit. Most are 1 gal established plants some are larger. The price for each plant is starting @ \$15.00. We are taking requests by hybrid name. We currently do not have a list of the plants. If we do have it, we will confirm by e-mail with a picture, plant cost, & estimated shipping cost and reserve it for you for ten days. By the tenth day payment is expected before shipping. This payment can be done by return mail, on our web site, or at a meeting in cash. Shipping will be from Escondido, CA most likely USPS. If interested, requests should be sent to: Gerry Mikas at Mikas@cox.net or phone 858 381 7535

Blooming in December

Don Burnett: *D. macranthus*, *E. anguliger*

Sandra Chapin: ‘Jalisco disco’, ‘Jalisco flirt’, ‘Jalisco Grace’, ‘Jalisco Passion’

Cindy Decker: ‘Fluid Orange’, ‘Gold Charm’, ‘Harald Knebel’, ‘Herbert S. Irwin’

Dick Kohlschreiber: ‘Christmas Elf’, ‘Jalisco Grace’, ‘Jalisco Joy’

Mildred Mikas: ‘Beautie Wegner’, ‘Kami’, ‘Light & Bright’, ‘Red Sails’

Jerry Moreau: ‘Marmalade ‘N’ Honey’

Don Patterson: ‘Herbert S. Irwin’, ‘Jalisco Star Flight’, *E. anguliger*

Allen Pellymouter: ‘George's Favorite’, ‘Herbert S. Irwin’, ‘Something Special’

Mark Piette: ‘Ruby Tuesday’, ‘Wachsenburg’

Safari Park: ‘Beautie Wegener’, ‘Cattelya’, ‘George's Favorite’, ‘Knebel's Gluck’, ‘L.K. Williams’, ‘Margarita’, ‘Rose Tornado’, ‘Wedding's Bells’

Janice Wakefield: ‘Janice’



‘Gold Charm’
Photo by Jerry Moreau

Get Your Facts First

— Linda Sinkovic

"Get your facts first, then you can distort them as much as you please..."

-Mark Twain

(Article reprinted from Epi News vol 38 no. 1 and updated.)

If you belong to this club, there's a good chance you like epiphytic cactus. You might only be interested in epi hybrids or maybe you are interested in the whole range of epiphytic cactus species. In either case, a useful item to have in your library is the ESA Registry.

The official name is *Registry of Hybrids and Species* published by the ESA. The latest edition is the 6th edition. There are currently five addenda, the latest being number 37. The addenda contain information such as new hybrid registrations. As each new edition is published, existing addenda are incorporated.

If you've seen the copies of the ESA Registry we have in the library, you might wonder what's the big deal? After all there are no photos so how can it be useful identifying a mystery plant?

Well, there are descriptions of each

flower, and often the plant shape is mentioned as well. Though it can be somewhat maddening trying to figure out exactly what color is "carmine" *1 or "cyclamen purple" *2, the Registry can be useful. For example, the Registry can help you

cactus species you can consult the Cactus Lexicon *5 but the descriptions in the Registry are enough to get you started.

Everyone who is interested in epiphytic cactus should have a copy of this in their library. Unfortunately the copies in the SDES library are for reference only and cannot be checked out, so if you want to consult the Registry at home you'll need your own copy. You can get a copy of the latest edition plus all the addendum from the Epiphyllum Society of America.*6

Enjoy your offseason flowers!

*1 Carmine is a deep red

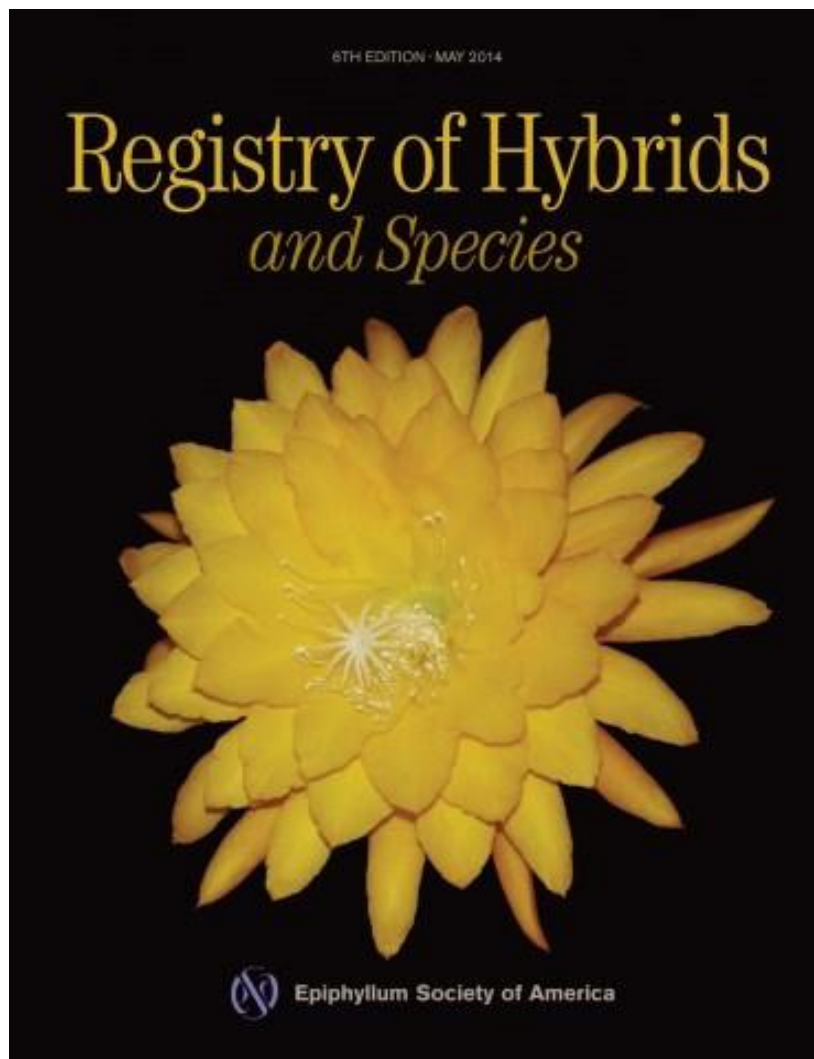
*2 Cyclamen purple is a reddish purple

*3 See page 26, 5th edition

*4 Unfortunately *Schlumbergera* and *Hatiora* hybrids are not covered in the Registry. There are other resources though.

*5 The New Cactus Lexicon, David Hunt, Nigel Taylor and Graham Charles; www.newcactuslexicon.org

*6 www.epiphyllumsociety.org



determine the size and shape of a flower, or the pattern of colors on a petal.*3 And that can help you narrow down the list of candidates for the identity of a mystery plant.

The Registry also has some short descriptions of epiphytic cactus species, including *Schlumbergera* and *Hatiora* species.*4 For fuller descriptions and photos of epiphytic

‘California Dreaming’

Is this year’s Mother’s Day Show theme
May 8, 2016



It is never too soon to start thinking and planning what you want to do for the show. There are many ways to be part of the show. You can create a display, themed or non-themed, large to small, a flower display, flowers to be judged individually, or an educational display. You can also volunteer. Help is always needed in the pre show/ sales planning, making cuttings, sales area, show set up, potluck lunch, and more. Gina Contreras, Mother’s Day Show Chair is on hand to help and will bring us an amazing show this year.



Many people venture to the Casa del Prado on Mother’s Day explicitly to purchase epi cuttings and plants. But many others come to revel in the array of magnificent color with hundreds of epies from all members’ collections making their way to room 101. The theme only adds to the fun. Figuring out a way to display the blooms in a thematic setting can really stretch your creativity and imagination.

EpiCon XV

Hosted by South Bay Epiphyllum Society
at the South Coast Botanic Garden on Saturday, May 28th, 2016.

Every two years one of the three Epiphyllum Societies of Southern California hosts Epi Con. This is an event where epicactus enthusiasts from all over the world gather to compare notes on all things epi-related. This all started back in the fall of 1987 where representatives of the ESA, SDES, and SBES met at the San Diego Botanical Gardens and decided that there should be a meeting open to the general memberships of the combined Societies. Thus, Epi Conference One, EpiCon I, was created. This is an event that should not be missed.



‘EpiCon VII’



‘EpiCon X’



‘EpiCon IX’



'Aida' - NIC c.1925 Rose inner petals with a purple throat. Deeper rose outer petals. {L}



'Degas Dancer' - RJC(SAGE) 2001 Pale fuchsia with a coral mid-stripe and a green throat. Overlapping funnel form with reflexed outer petals. Flat and 3-angled thick basket growth. {L} 'Gene Lund' × 'Ruby Snowflake'. Reg. #12705

'Vanilla Sunset' - MIY 2005 Inner petals pink with a white center. Outer petals golden orange with a gold center. Overlapping, cup and saucer form. Flat branched growth. {XL} 'Lily Dache' Ex Nat. Reg. #12943



Details of How To Become A Volunteer at the Safari Park

can be found on our website. Click on SanDiegoEpi.org

San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc (SDES)

P.O. Box 126127

San Diego, CA 92112-6127

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Editor– **Jerry Moreau & Linda Sinkovic:**

(619) 208-7654

jerrysdca@cox.net or linda@cruzware.com

SDES Web Site: www.SanDiegoEpi.org

Membership queries: sdes_roster@hotmail.com

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

January 13, 2016

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month
7:30 p.m. in Room 101, pre-meeting workshop 7:00 p.m.

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

Next Board meeting:

January 27, 2015

7:00 p.m. in Room 104,

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park.

Membership:

New memberships as well **Renewals** can be processed at our secure web site:

[Click here](#)

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If you have moved or recently changed your physical OR *e-mail address*, please let us know your new address so that you can continue to receive your newsletter without interruption.

Send it to SDES Membership – at:

PO Box 126127, San Diego, CA 92112-6127

OR sdes_roster@hotmail.com