

Epi News

San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc.

September, 2016

Volume 41 Number 9

'Crystal Flash'

Parentage: 'Pink Plumes' x 'Elinor Victoria Latimer' Size: Large Hybridizer: Evelyn Shiraki

Photo by Jerry Moreau





President's Corner

"The glory of gardening: hands in the dirt, head in the sun, heart with nature." Alfred Austin, English poet (30 May 1835 – 2 June 1913)

It certainly has been a struggle this summer to keep my epies from drying out due to all of the hot weather we have been having. I've been trying to repot everything in 4" pots into new 5" ones that are also 5" deep to keep them from drying out so fast. They seem to be doing better now, but I have a lot more to do. I hope the weather will be turning cooler soon. I haven't had any more epi blooms lately, but I'm still getting a few blooms on the dragon fruit. Barb Alvarez has been sharing dragon fruit at our work parties at Safari Park - Yum!!

Sandra Chapin shared with us her method of making holes in the plastic pots for hanging by using a wood burning tool. We purchased one for the Park from Harbor Freight and it works really well. It makes a nice smooth hole of a size that makes it easy to install the wires. If any of you have clever tricks like this, please share them with Jerry Moreau so he can put them in the newsletter.

Be sure to read the information on page 7 about the end of summer bash. I hope you will all come and share the fun and food.

See you at the September meeting in room 104.



September General Meeting to be Held in Room 104

- Ron Crain

Ikebana International, one of the forty plus groups that shares the Casa del Prado with SDES, contacted me two weeks ago with a problem. They had been asked to host an international meeting on very short notice to be held on September 14th, the same day as SDES's September General Meeting. They are expecting as many as 100 attendees, so they need a large space. They asked me if we would be willing to give up Casa del Prado, Room 101 on that date so they can use it. After checking with the rest of the SDES Board and in the spirit of cooperation, we decided to accommodate this request. So, we will be gathering in the smaller Room 104 for our September meeting. I will therefore, not be conducting a Pre-Meeting Workshop in September.

Society Officers and Directors

President	Janice Wakefield jwakefield@cox.net (619) 464-1086
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Director (2015-16)	Ron Crain hikerron@cox.net
Director (2015-16)	Mildred Mikas <u>mvmikas@cox.net</u> (760) 690-1124

Coordinators & Committee Chairperson:

Open

Librarian Garden Caravan Installation Banquet Pre-Meeting Workshops Ron Crain Safari Park **EpiNews** Co-Editor **EpiNews** Co-Editor Hospitality Refreshment Historian Internet / Web

Sales Events

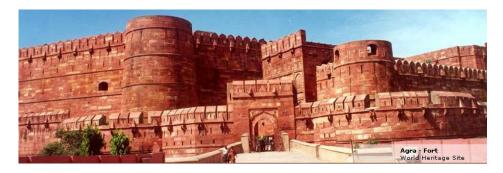
Cindy Decker Marie Dempewolf dempemom@aol.com (619) 573-5060 Mildred Mikas Mildred Mikas Jerry Moreau Jerry Moreau Linda Sinkovic linda@cruzware.com Open Open Open

Meeting Programs

Pre-Meeting Workshop: In August Ron discussed potting soils, ingredients, and potting mix recipes. There will be no pre-meeting workshop in September.

August Program: Don Patterson delighted us with a program of his magnificent array of terrestrial cacti, epiphytic cacti, and Central and South American Bromeliads.

September Program: This month Ron Crain will be presenting a collection of photographs of plants and animals from Mildred and Gerry Mikas' 2015 trip to India, where they visited Ranthambore National Park and the Agra Fort, and to Sri Lanka, where they visited Yala National Park and Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage. So come out and join us for an enjoyable evening on Wednesday, September 14 at 7:30 p.m.







Up Coming Events

September

- 14 General Meeting (Room 104)
- 17 Safari Park Work Party
- 23-25 Del Mar Fall Home and Garden Show
- 24 Safari Park Work Party
- 28 Board Meeting

October

- 1 End of Summer Party
- 12 General Meeting
- 15 Safari Park Work Party
- 26 Board Meeting
- 29 Safari Park Work Party

November

- 9 General Meeting (Photography Contest)
- **12** Safari Park Work Party
- 26 Safari Park Work Party

December

14 Holiday & Installation Banquet

Inside This Issue

President's Corner	
Officers, Directors, & Coordinators	
Meeting Program	
Calendar of Events	
Safari Park Report	
SDES Election	5
Photography Contest	
Remembering Mary Peebles	6
End of Summer Epi Bash	
Donation Thank You	
Off-Season Blooms List	
Botanical Alert	8
Get Your Facts First	9
Now Is The Time	10
Keeping in Touch	
Holiday/Installation Banquet	
CSSA 2017 Convention	
Become a SDZSP Volunteer	

Please Note: The September General Meeting will be in Room 104

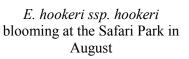
by Patricia Frank

Safari Park Epi Display House

Great work party! We accomplished a lot yet there is always more to do. The plants need our love and care and we are happy to oblige. We were able to move out all the duplicates from the display house. We have over 1,000 different hybrids in the display plus 50 or so species. We are creating a section to put in the small flowering hybrids. They need a little more care, so this will help us keep an easier eye on them. One of the goals for the collection is to have all or at least most of the hybrids from SDES hybridizers. We have actually had quite a few hybridizers here in San Diego over the years. Our collection include hybrids by local hybridizers such as Don Patterson, Derek Obayashi, Phyllis Flechsig, Barb Alvarez, Mildred Mikas, and Don Francis. Other local hybridizers represented in our collection are George French, Richard Latimer, Richard Chadwick, Owen Hamilton, Howard Jones, Dr J. W. Troxell, Joe Quang Tran, and Greg Balvin to name a few. We are fortunate to have so many wonderful hybridizers representing San Diego.

Helping out these past work parties were Barb Alvarez, Sandra Chapin, Ron & Velma Crain, Cindy Decker, Jerry & Betsy Markle, Mildred Mikas, Jerry Moreau, Tim Paule, Paul Vandepbloeg, and Janice Wakefield. Your effort is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

The next work parties will be September 17th & 24th.



Betsy Markle helping out repotting plants at the August work party at the Safari park

Photos this page by Jerry Moreau



Cindy Decker repotting some duplicate plants from the Safari Park. Some will end up at the raffle table and others at a sale





Tim Paule & Sandra Chapin working in the display house checking for duplicate hybrids.



Jerry Markle and Janice Wakefield taking a well deserved break from weeding and feeding in the work house.



by Jerry Moreau



SDES needs your help!!

These are positions that need to be filled

It Is Election Time

"Many hands make for light work" John Heywood

The society has been doing well and is fortunate to have so many people volunteer to make it successful. However to make this happen takes effort. Please consider volunteering to a position — the more people involved the less any one person has to do. If interested or have questions you can speak with any board member or contact the chair of the nomination committee Gina Contreras at ginaecontreras57@gmail.com

President: position open 1st VP: Patricia Frank 2nd VP: position open Recording Secretary: Dennis Hughes Corresponding Secretary: position open Membership Secretary: position open Treasurer: position open



'Norwood' - FRE 1987 Orange with magenta edge and solid magenta throat. Outer petals jasper red. Double, wide form. thick, triangular growth. {XL} 'Ming Gold' × 'Herbert S. Irwin'. Reg. #10388



'Yellow Paetz' - HP 2007 Inner and outer petals brass yellow. Wheel shaped, wide form. Flat tall growth. {S-M} 'Natasha Paetz' × 'Diana Paetz'. Reg. #13171

Directors:

Director (2016-17) Sandra Chapin Director (2016-17) Cindy Decker Director (2016-17) Jerry Moreau Director (2017-18) Ron Crain Director (2017-18) position open Coordinator positions open: Hospitality, Refreshments, Historian, Internet



'Snow Owl'- GS 1996 White with crimped tips. Outer petals greenish-yellow. Overlapping, funnel form. Thick flat and 3-angled growth {XL} 'Christmas Red' × 'Amber Queen'. Reg. #12026



'Great Waltz' - FOB(STEP) 1952 Light purple with orange midstripe. Wide petals. Opens flat. {XL} 'Pegasus' × 'Annie P. Williams'. Reg. #07077 Photo on this page by Jerry Moreau

Annual Photography Contest! Bring your favorite Epi Photo(s) to the November general meeting!



Criteria are as follows:

- \Rightarrow Any size photo can be entered
- \Rightarrow Photos should be matted (not framed).
- \Rightarrow Write your name and the flower name (if known) on the back of the photo.
- ⇒ Categories will be single flower, multi-flower, "People's Choice", and judges' choices.
- \Rightarrow Winners of the single and multi flower category photos will be featured on the covers of *Epi News*.

Help Wanted To Grow Cuttings!

SDES is looking for a few members to help grow cuttings for next years' Mother's Day sale. If you have a small spot in your garden to put one or two flats of 4" pots please contact Cindy Decker. They will be all potted and ready for your "tender loving care". They can be delivered or can be arrange to bring them to the next general meeting. Contact Cindy Decker at (619) 972-9664 or email at ddecke@juno.com



Remembering Mary Peebles

by Betsy Markle

Sadly, one of our long time SDES members, Mary Peebles, recently passed away. She and her husband Sam have been members of our society since 1998, although recent health conditions did not allow active participation in the last few years. Mary and Sam's garden have been included in SDES Epi Photo Caravans. Members enjoyed their garden filled with epiphyllums plumeria trees, and organic vegetable garden. They exhibited at the Mother's Day Show for many years. Mary was mostly a "behind the scenes" helper in

the society, contributing many healthy and tasty items to our refreshment table. She supported Sam's passion for epies and SDES participation. Mary's passion was for Plumeria. She and Sam were very

involved in the Southern California Plumeria Society (SCPS), where they won many awards. Mary and Sam generously contributed large plumeria trees from their yard to SCPS, to serve as the cornerstone for the new Plumeria Collection Display at the San Diego Botanical Garden. I was able to talk to Mary a few weeks before she passed and she remained sharp and alert, sharing sage advice about gardening and healthy eating. We will remember Mary fondly in our hearts. We encourage you to visit this display – a testament and memorial to her love of plumeria, her husband and family, and friends in the Societies they both enjoyed.



End Of Summer Epi Bash — It's A Party!!!!

What a busy spring. Epies bloomed early and late. It was a great season, but busy. At the end of summer our epi lives slow down some, so it is the time we get together with our fellow epi lovers for the annual End of Summer Epi Bash.

On October 1st all members are invited to a party where we can relax, talk about epies, gardening or whatever and really get to know each other. Everyone is encouraged to come. It doesn't matter if you are new to the society or a long time member— everyone is welcome.

The society will provide the main course and beverages. This year we will be having an amazingly delicious grilled cheese sandwich bar with lots of fixings. We ask that those attending to bring appetizers, side dishes, or desserts to share.

There will be a sign up sheet at the September meeting or you can contact Sandra Chapin at 858-451-1744 or <u>sandraleewc@gmail.com</u>

This year the party will be at the lovely home of Dan and Barbara Paicopulos in Rancho Bernardo. Their address is 11957 Adorno Place San Diego 92128

Save the date: October 1st at 4:00pm



End of Summer Epi Bash 2008 at Larry Taylor's home. L to R Irene Sias, Mildred Mikas, Jerry Moreau, Cindy Decker, and Jill Rowney



Marj & R. Myers at another End of Summer Bash Photos by Jerry Moreau

A Generous Donation to SDES



The San Diego Epiphyllum Society's

laptop computer, the one we use to drive all of our slide shows at the monthly General Meetings, has developed a couple issues of late. It's not unusable at this point, but we have had to devise some workarounds to get it to function properly.

One of the newest members of our Society, Mike Gray, became aware of this issue and has helped us out by donating a spare laptop computer to the SDES as a backup system. This gives us some flexibility in case the old laptop continues to malfunction. I would like to thank Mike on behalf of the SDES for his thoughtful and generous donation. Thanks, Mike!

Sincerely,

Ron Crain

Off-Season Blooms

This month we will start again to list what has been blooming in member's gardens. This list is a bit of informal research of off-season epi blooms. Here you can track which epis have been blooming consistently offseason over the years.

If you would like to add to the research and list what epies have been blooming in your yard, email the editors with your list of off-season blooms and species. There are two list because the hybrids are off-season bloomers and the species usually bloom this time of year.

Blooming Off-Season

Don Burnett: 'Connie Mayer' Victoria Chapman: 'Mrs. Beardsley' Patricia Frank: 'George's Favorite' Bob Holzinger: 'One in a Million', 'Vanilla Sunset' Jerry Moreau: 'Snowflake', 'French Gold' Allen & Camilla Pellymounter: 'C'est Magnifique', 'Gladys Jones', 'Queen Lamoni', 'Smarty Pants', 'Something Special', 'The Volunteers' Safari Park: 'Allice Emmons', 'Babalon', 'Carmen', 'Hidden Treasure', 'King Midas', 'La Anna', 'Lila', 'Tulip', 'Knebel's Farbenwunder'

Blooming Species

Safari Park: E. hookeri ssp hookeri, H. undatus Linda Sinkovic: E. hookeri ssp hookeri, E. pumilum Don Burnett: D. macranthus, E. pumilum



• 'Something Special'

Photos by Jerry Moreau

'E. hookeri ssp. hookeri' 🛔



Botanical Alert!

by Linda Sinkovic

Researcher at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México have described a new species of Weberocereus.

The new species *Weberocereus alliodorus* is similar to *W. glaber* (Eichlam), the only other *Weberocereus* found in Mexico. *W. alliodorus* is found at two locations in southeastern Oaxaca, Mexico. These locations are on the southern slopes of the Sierra Madre de Sur at altitudes of 3100 feet to 4000 feet.

Weberocereus alliodorus has more spines and slightly larger flowers than *W. glaber*; both species have white, fragrant, nocturnal flowers. What I find interesting is that the edible fruit of *W. alliodorus* has an onion-like smell when ripe.

Although *Weberocereus alliodorus* has a small geographical range, it can be propagated easily by cuttings. If this plant becomes available for hobbyists to grow, it would be an interesting addition to our gardens.

My thanks to Dr. Héctor M. Hernández for sending me a copy of the paper.

<u>References</u>: Gómez-Hinostrosa C, Hernández HM. 2014. Studies on Mexican Cactaceae. VI. A new species of *Weberocereus* (Cactaceae) from Oaxaca, Mexico. *Brittonia* 66(3):250-255.

Get Your Facts First

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

How about some news about name changes? If you were at EpiCon this May,^{*1} you may have heard Dr. Rudi Dorsch mention something like there were *Epiphyllum* species that were actually *Disocactus* species according to some DNA testing. Or maybe you read about it in July's Epi Gram. So what happened, and The information from this study indicates there are now what does it mean?^{*2}

In 2014, botanists at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México^{*3} conducted a DNA study. They tested samples of ten of the eleven *Disocactus* species as well as samples from the *Epiphyllum*, *Hylocereus*, *Pseudorhipsalis*, *Selenicereus* and *Weberocereus* genera.^{*4} There were also samples from non-epiphytic, more distantly-related cacti genera.*5

They found that *Epiphyllum crenatum* and *Epiphyllum crenatum* ssp *kimnachii* are closely related to Disocactus macranthus, and therefore should be renamed to Disocactus crenatus and Disocactus crenatus ssp kimnachii. They also found that Epiphyllum anguliger and Epiphyllum lepidocarpum are closely related to Disocactus biformis and therefore should be renamed to Disocactus anguliger and Disocactus lepidocarpus.

So right about now you might be saying, "Yes, and so what? These are a bunch of species that I don't grow, so this doesn't affect me. What does this have to do with Epi hybrids?" Well, if you don't grow these species it's true you won't have to worry about updating tags. But this news does affect you. You see, the Epiphyllum species used in hybridizing Epi hybrids have been E. crenatum and E. anguliger. But these new findings show these species to actually be Disocactus species. Doesn't this mean there is little to no actual 'epiphyllum' in our Epi hybrids? So should our clubs actually be called 'Epiphyllum Societies'? Could it be time to rename our clubs to 'Epicactus Societies'?

I will leave those ideas to percolate for awhile and mention some of the other findings. Both Disocactus flagelliformis and Disocactus martianus are more closely related to Hylocereus, Selenicereus and Weberocereus^{*6} than to other *Disocactus*, though these two species are most closely related to each other. The authors therefore recommend the genus Aporocactus be reestablished and these two species placed there. In

addition, Disocactus speciosus ssp aurantiacus should be recognized as a separate species, as it does not have a lot in common with Disocactus speciosus and its other subspecies.

-Linda Sinkovic

14 species (and associated subspecies) plus a presumed hybrid (Disocactus ×kimnachii) listed under Disocactus. So if you do grow any of the affected species, should you change your plant labels? It's best to just add a label with the new name. When the word comes down^{*7} as to which name is the accepted one, then the incorrect labels can be tossed.

As far as changing the names of our clubs from 'Epiphyllum Societies'? This kind of change takes a lot of work and a lot of time. A change like this certainly needs to be discussed before any kind of action is taken. Given these new findings, perhaps now is the time to start talking.

Enjoy your garden.



Disocactus anguliger Photo by Jerry Moreau

Notes:

*1 If you weren't at EpiCon,

here is the news. Or possibly you were there and you still have no idea what I am talking about.

- *2 And should you change your plant labels? :)
- *3 A top tier research university located in México City, Mexico.
- *4 These are all cactus species with an epiphytic growth habit.

*5 The more distantly-related species are there to provide a control. Sadly I do not have a clear enough understanding of DNA testing to confidently explain how the study was done. The original paper, listed below, discusses the methodology.

*6 There are some indications that Hylocereus, Selenicereus and Weberocereus are actually all one genus. But a lot more DNA testing needs to be done.

*7 The ICSG (International Cactaceae Systematics Group) of the IOS (International Organization for Succulent Plant Study) is the naming authority for cacti.

References:

Cruz M. Á, Arias S. & Terrazas T. 2016. Molecular phylogeny and taxonomy of the genus Disocactus (Cactaceae), based upon the DNA sequences of six chloroplast markers. Willdenowia 46:145-164. www.bioone.org/doi/full/10.3372/wi.46.46112 South Bay Epiphyllum Society, The Epi Gram 31(6):6

Now is the Time

✓ Maintain good grooming by eliminating unsightly and non-productive branches. This directs the plant's energy into the healthier branches which will produce stronger blooms next spring.

✓ Protect plants from excessive direct sunlight. Although the end of summer is in sight, in Southern California we can still anticipate some very hot days.

✓ **Prevent soil from drying out.** However, keep an eye on the humidity. Even though it may be very hot, too much watering during humid weather can contribute to root rot. Make sure there is air circulation around your pots.

✓ Protect new growth from wind damage. Hot, dry Santa Ana winds blow in September. Keep an eye on your plants during these days.

 $\checkmark\,$ Protect apples (seed pods) from birds and rodents.

✓ Give plants final feeding of a balanced fertilizer for the fall growing season.

 \checkmark Mist or hose down branches to clean off dirt and pollutants.

✓ **Some die-back is natural** in epies and fall is a season you'll see this along with some new growth.

✓ Many species plants bud and bloom now. Remember to give them some fertilizer and don't move plants that are budding.

✓ Watch for pests. Late summer and early fall is an active time for snails. During dry weather, snails and slugs are drawn to moist, potted plants.



'Agatha' FAW 1898 Light rose-pink inner petals with a red throat. Deeper rose-pink outer petals. Rounded petals. Bell form. {L} Reg. #05591.

Hybrids from the collection at the Safari Park. Photos on this pay by Jerry Moreau



'Carmen' HAAGE#91 Very bright red. {XL}



'White Splendor' - FRE 1986 First row petals white, yellow tips. 2nd row upper half yellow, 3rd row all yellow. Outer petals empire yellow. Loose double, opens wide. Stamens cascade, style white. Thick tall flat growth. {XL} 'Tele' × 'Jennifer Ann'. Reg. #10313

-Beth Jackson



Keeping In Touch

If you know of an older member who can no longer attend meetings and/or events, we can send them a cheery card to let them know we miss them. If there is a member who is having a milestone birthday we can send them happy birthday wishes. If there is member who is ill or a member who has passed away, we can send a get well or sympathy card.

Notify Your Corresponding Secretary Beth Jackson at bethjackso@yahoo.com or call 858-638-0956.



Holiday/Installation Banquet Wednesday December 14, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Let's start off the Holiday Season with SDES Installation Banquet! Join us for an evening of fun, fellowship, an (optional) gift exchange, and door prizes. We will be at <u>The Butcher Shop Restaurant</u> in Kearny Mesa.

Dinner choices are Filet Mignon, Salmon, or Vegetarian Option. Your dinner comes with salad, main course, dessert, coffee or tea, and wine.

Optional Gift Exchange

Bring a \$15.00 wrapped NEW garden related gift. Something you would like to receive.

The Dinner price is \$30.00 for members and \$60.00 for non members. SDES offsets the difference. It is our way of saying Thank You for a good year. Honorary Life Members are invited as our guest.

** PAY AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING & THE COST WILL BE \$25.00 **

A Suggestion - last year some members gave their family a holiday gift - tickets to our Installation Dinner. Why not consider this for your friends or family?

You can purchase your tickets at the September, October, or November meetings.

See Gerry Mikas - <u>all Credit Cards accepted.</u> <u>All reservations must be paid by Dec 1st!</u> That's when we pay the restaurant in advance and give them total count of those attending.

Make your check payable to SDES Dinner

Send your check with your dinner choices to:



Gerry & Mildred Mikas 3502 Avenida Amorosa Escondido CA 92029

Questions: just call Mildred @ 760-690-1124 Or email @ <u>mvmikas@cox.net</u>





SDES is an affiliate member of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. The CSSA founded in 1929, is a worldwide community of avid gardeners, hobby and commercial horticulturists, nurserymen, and professional scientists who all share an appreciation for cacti and other types of succulent plants. SCCS website— <u>http://cssainc.org/</u>



 'Baja' - WATTS(PITT) 2005 Inner petals red-orange with cerise edged throat. Next row red-orange with golden orange veining. Outer petals golden orange with slightly darker edges. Over-lapping bell-shaped form. Flat tall and basket growth. {XL} 'Reward' × 'Space Rocket'. Reg. #12960 Photo by Jerry Moreau



'Casino Royale' - WATTS (PITT) 2003 Inner petals cerise with a red midstripe and a lavender edge. Outer petals cerise with a red midstripe. Overlapping, cup and saucer form. Flat tall and basket growth. {XL} 'Show Boat' × 'Space Rocket'. Reg. #12775 Photo by Jerry Moreau

Details of How To Become A Volunteer at the Safari Park can be found on our website. Click on SanDiegoEpi.com

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NEXT GENERAL MEETING September 14, 2016

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in Room 101 no pre-meeting workshop this month Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

> Next Board meeting: September 28, 2016 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



Those who wish to receive Epi News via e-mail: Single Membership \$15.00 per year Dual Membership\$20.00 per year International Membership \$15.00 per year

Those who wish to receive a printed copy of Epi News: Single Membership \$30.00 per year Dual Membership \$35.00 per year

Have You Moved?

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 <u>membership@sandiegoepi.com</u>

Need to contact your Society? Keep up with events & happenings? Get involved?



SDES has a website — <u>www.SanDiegoEpi.com</u>

There you will find lots of information about what's going on.

Facebook — <u>San Diego Epiphyllum Society</u> on Facebook. Here you can keep up-to date with the society and members.





Call or Email the Officers, Directors, or Coordinators.

Stay up-to date Stay involved It is your Society!