



***San Gabriel Valley
Cactus & Succulent Society
COMMUNIQUE***

An Affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America
February 2017—Volume 51, Number 02

**The next meeting
of the San Gabriel
Valley Cactus and
Succulent Society
will be Thursday,
February 8
at 7:30 pm
in Ayres Hall at the
LA County Arboretum
in Arcadia.**

**Cactus and Succulent
Workshop
Wednesday, February 21.
Topic: Pelargonium**
The C&S Workshop will meet on
in the Palm Room
at the Los Angeles Arboretum
on Wednesday, 21 at 7:30 pm

**Mini –Show Plants
for February
Single head
Mammillaria
Pelargonium**

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This Month's Presentation:

Rob Roy MacGregor; Alternative propagation of cacti and succulents

I started this hobby later in life after my family and I bought our house in Riverside. With the ample space our new backyard provided, I began creating a cactus landscape. I gathered plants from local box stores and building supply yards. In order to acquire more plants, in various varieties, I began volunteering my time at Jurupa Mountain cactus gardens. It was there that I met my mentor who aided in my cactus education by insisting I learn the correct scientific names and spelling of plants. On top of helping me learn the naming of plants he encouraged me to make observations on the plants and how they grow. In doing so I was led down the path of propagation. By then, I had joined a few cactus clubs further exposing me to plants and expanding my collection to new heights. Today, I have 5 small structures filled with plants in addition to my front and backyard landscapes designed with my cacti and succulents.

My talk will be a discussion of methods used to save damaged plants, in addition to methods that intentionally inflict damage to promote offsetting. The discussed methods include: bisection, decapitation, and hot nailing. I will also incorporate a hands-on demonstration of each of the previously listed methods. The goal of this discussion is to demonstrate the additional benefits of these procedures beyond forced offsetting.

Note**

Join the San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society.

Membership dues are \$20 per year.

Your dues can be paid at the next meeting or mailed directly to:

Tori Wilson
501 San Luis Rey Road,
Arcadia, CA 91007

Make checks payable to SGVCSS



Top photo:
Rob Roy MacGregor
in one of his
greenhouses.

Side photo:
*Pelargonium
echinatum*
from pinterest
(see page 7)



San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society
Cacti of the Month January 2012
Single Headed Mammillaria
by Tom Glavich

Mammillaria is one of the larger genera in the Cactus family and one of the most variable, with some members remaining as solitary columns for their entire lives, some remaining as fingernail size solitary globulars, and some clumped and heavily spined with hooks. This month the plant of the month is Single Headed Mammillaria, regardless of size.

Although most Mammillaria are native to Mexico, some species in the genus can be found from Columbia to Kansas and California. With this wide distribution the cultivation requirements obviously vary considerably. The species from the tropics and warmer areas are rarely tolerant of cold and damp. Those from the drier desert regions are also intolerant of continued damp but can take considerable cold. With these restrictions aside, most Mammillaria are easy to grow.

The secrets to good growth are a continued supply of fertilizer during the growing season, strong light, and maintenance of a clean and insect free growing environment. White mealy bug egg cases (Mammillaria's worst enemy) on the tips of the spines or the appearance of ants around the plants means that mealy bugs are sucking the sap and life of the plant. Immediate treatment is required with a thorough washing, and spraying with an insecticide.

Propagation of single headed Mammillaria is almost exclusively by seed. Fortunately, Mammillaria are one of the easiest species to grow from seed. The seeds are simply placed on top of a damp potting mix, covered with a light coating of gravel, placed in a plastic bag in bright light, but out of direct sun, and allowed to germinate. Germination usually occurs in a week or 10 days. The seedlings can stay in the plastic bag for several weeks until they get large enough to survive unprotected and should then be removed to a still shaded but brighter and drier environment. Most will survive, and grow quickly.

One of the rarely told secrets of Mammillaria is their beauty as seedlings. Seedlings a year or two old are amazingly beautiful plants with all of the wool and spination that they will have as adults, but in miniature form. Color in seedlings is often much more intense than it will be in older plants. Given the ease of germination, everyone should try a few.

Some Mammillaria, normally single headed in habitat, will offset with age in cultivation. It is not unusual for some species to suddenly start a second head, sometimes in an unusual location.

Magnificent Mammillaria

Mammillaria chionocephala comes from Coahuila and Nuevo Leon. It grows to about 4 inches in diameter and eventually gets to 6 or so inches tall. It's a beautiful species from the start.

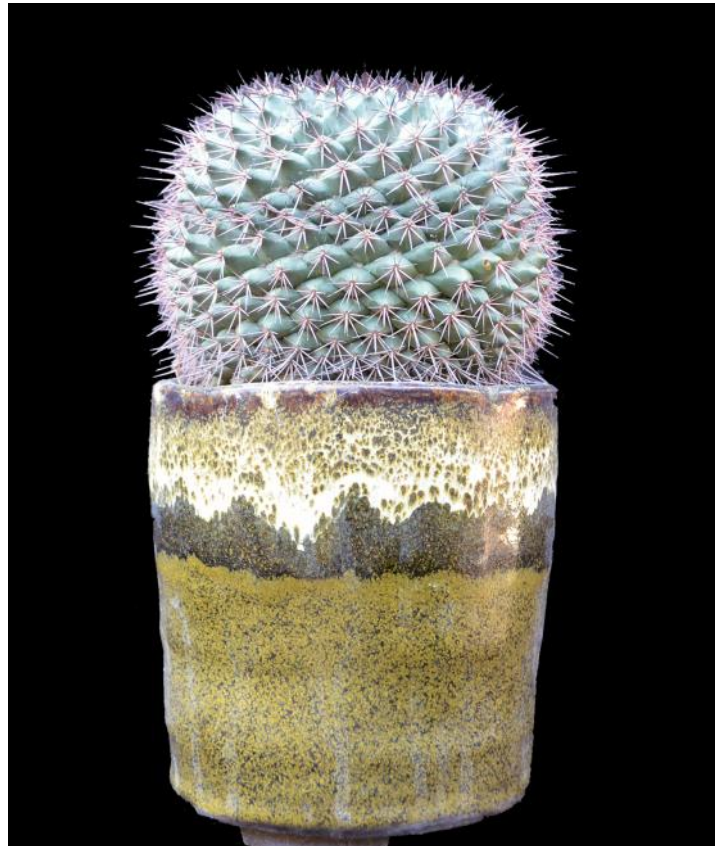
Mammillaria dixanthocentron has long golden yellow central spines that make a graceful drooping arc. It grows to nearly 10 inches high and 3 inches in diameter. The spines can add an additional inch and half to the appearance of the body. It is found in Oaxaca and Puebla. With age this will offset

Mammillaria gigantea is one of the largest solitary growing species growing to 10 inches or more in diameter. It is wider than it is high and has a woolly center. It is easily grown. It is widespread, reported from many central Mexican states.

Mammillaria sempervivi from Hidalgo, San Luis Potosi, and Nuevo Leon grows at altitudes of 4000 to 6000 feet. It is slow growing, and eventually gets to 4 or 6 inches in diameter. The white wool between the areoles makes this species a pleasure to look at and grow. It stays flat.

Mammillaria supertexta from Oaxaca comes in several forms with varying spination. All of them are worth cultivating. This is one of the species that will offset with age in cultivation, but is normally singular in habitat.

Tom Glavich
January 2018



Mammillaria tesopacensis
Photo by Tom Glavich

San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society
Succulent of the Month February 2018
Pelargonium and Sarcocaulon

By Tom Glavich

Pelargonium and Sarcocaulon are two succulent genera of the *Geraniaceae* family. *Sarcocaulon* is native to South Africa and Namibia, and *Pelargonium* is centered there, but with outlier species appearing as far away as Kenya, Yemen and Turkey. Almost all the succulent species come from South Africa or Namibia.

Pelargoniums are mostly winter growing succulents. They are dormant in the summer and at this time some look like dead sticks. Most species are very easy to grow as long as attention is paid to providing an environment very similar to their South African home. Some species, such as *P. echinatum* and *P. triste*, are tolerant enough to be naturalized in the ground in Southern California when given good drainage and protected from summer watering. Many species will not go dormant if watered all summer but the plant health and appearance both suffer.

Sarcocaulon is a small genus of about 14 species. All *sarcocaulon* have been moved into *Monsonia*, although it is still not clear if they will stay there. Growing conditions for *Sarcocaulon* are identical to those for *Pelargonium*.

The potting mix for *Pelargoniums and Sarcocaulon* should be well drained with only small amounts of organic matter. Fertilizer should be applied sparingly and only during good (bright and warm) growing weather. A potting mix recommended by Michael Vassar is 50% pumice, 35% washed builders sand and 15% leaf mold based planter mix. Many growers use straight pumice with good results. Plants growing under these conditions will stay compact, have thick leaves, and a healthy appearance. A well grown *Pelargonium* will have leaves that appear to float near thick, rugged stems. If given too much water and fertilizer they will grow leggy, and the leaves will become soft, large and droop. Plants grown hard will be healthier and better able to survive hot summers undamaged. All *Pelargoniums* need pruning to maintain size and shape. Pinching new growth will make the plants bushy and develop good trunk structure.

Many are self fertile, and seed is easily collected after flowering. Most are promiscuous and garden hybrids are easily produced if more than one species is in flower at a time. Seed collected in the spring and planted in late September to November germinates quickly, and will have an entire winter to grow before going dormant during the summer.

Pelargonium and Sarcocaulon (continued)

Favorite species include:

Pelargonium alternans gets thick grey-green branched stems quickly. The leaves are scented with the scent varying from clone to clone, varying from apple to soap to various indescribable and unpleasant odors. The oils that give the scent keep most grazing animals from eating the leaves.

Pelargonium auritum v. carneum is a geophytic species, disappearing entirely when dormant.

Pelargonium crithmifolium is a species that gets fat and shrubby. It's a fast grower.

Pelargonium echinatum has leaves that look like and are scented like the common *geranium*. It has small flowers that rise above the leaves on a long branched peduncle. Flower colors vary from white to purple, with dark centers and appear over several months.

Pelargonium ellaphiae is a geophytic species, with most of its storage underground. If the top is removed by a grazing animal, the tuber below will resprout to form new plants.

Pelargonium laxum has a leaves similar in appearance to carrot leaves. During active growth they are a dark green, with a narrow white edge that glows in early morning and evening light.

Pelargonium xerophytum is a stem succulent, with thinner stems than the caudiciform types described above. The leaves stay close to the stem. It makes a nice bonsai even as a young plant.

Sarcocaulon multifolium all of the Sarcocaulons are wonderful plants. This is just one of the many varieties available. Notice the flower of the Sarcocaulon is much rounder than its Pelargonium natives.

Tom Glavich
January 2018

**San Gabriel Valley
Cactus & Succulent Society
Workshops**

February Pelargonium
 March Rebutia, Sulcorebutia, and Weingartia
 April..... Spring Seed Workshop
 May..... Vegetative Propagation
 June..... Coryphantha and Escobaria
 July..... Staging and Show Preparation
 AugustSansevieria
 September Ariocarpus
 October.....Winter Seed Workshop
 November.....Conophytum and flowering Mesembs

Plant of the Month: Cacti

Plant of the Month: Succulent

Feb	Single Head Mammillaria	Pelargonium
Mar	Rebutia, Sulcorebutia, and Weingartia	Aeonium
Apr	Small cactus staged as mini	Small succulent
May	Buiningia and Uebelmannia	Gasteria
June	Coryphantha and Escobaria	Euphorbia not endemic to Madagascar
July	Echinocereus	Sansevieria
Aug	Favorite cactus	Favorite succulent
Sept	Ariocarpus	Fouquieria
Oct	Parodia and Notocactus	Conophytum and flowering Mesembs
Nov	Best staged Cactus	Best staged Succulent

SGVC&SS LEADERSHIP TEAM**2018**

Tom Vermilion, President
Gunnar Eisel, Past President
Vince Basta, Vice President
Louise Guerin, Secretary
Margie Wilson, Treasurer
Irene Chew, Director 2018 \$ 2019
Richard Salcedo, Director 2018 & 2019
Donn Muhleman, Director 2018 & 2019
Gunnar Eisel, Director 2017 & 2018
Sharon Sedillo, Director 2017 & 2018
Kal Kaminer, Director 2017 * 2018
Manny Rivera, Winter Show Chair
John Matthews, Winter Sales Chair
Tom Glavich, Inter-City Show Chair
Jim Hanna, CSSA Affiliate Rep
Gunnar Eisel, Website Chair
Woody Minnich, Program Chair
Tori Wilson, Membership Chair
Cindy Arakaki, Librarian
Richard Roosman, Newsletter Editor

There will be a board meeting in the back of Ayres Hall at 6:30 pm on February 8th before the regular meeting.

If you can enlarge the picture of the InterCity Show flyer (by Tom Glavich) (on page 15), you will be able to read the name of the plant featured on the flyer

REFRESHMENTS

It's a New Year!!

out with the old way — in with the new way

The membership list has been divided into ten lists.

If your last name begins with **A** or **B**, it's your turn to bring refreshments on **Thursday, February 8.**

Please have snacks ready by 7 pm.

Some ideas: brownies, burritos, chips & dip, cookies, pizza, sandwiches, trail mix.



Pelargonium paniculatum (see page 7)

Photo by Tom Glavich

2018 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**SAN DIEGO Cactus & Succulent Society SHOW & SALE****SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10****1548 El Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA****Information: 619-990-2051****ORANGE COUNTY Cactus & Succulent Society SHOW & SALE****THURSDAY, MARCH 22 from 6 pm to 9 pm****FRIDAY, MARCH 23 from 9 am to 7 pm****SATURDAY, MARCH 24 from 9 am to 6 pm****Anaheim United Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd. in
the city of ANAHEIM****Information: 562-587-3357****SOUTH COAST Cactus & Succulent Society SHOW & SALE****SATURDAY, APRIL 7 from 9 am to 4 pm****SUNDAY, APRIL 8 from 9 am to 4 pm****South Coast Botanical Gardens****26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes****Information: 310-378-1963 or www.southcoastcss.org****THE GREEN SCENE SALE at the Fullerton Arboretum****including the EPIPHYLLUM Society of America****SATURDAY, APRIL 21****SUNDAY, APRIL 22****Cal State Fullerton, 800 North State College Blvd, Fullerton****Information: fullertonarboretum.org/event_green.php****EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY OF AMERICA****THURSDAY, APRIL 26****FRIDAY, APRIL 27****SATURDAY, APRIL 28****SUNDAY, APRIL 29****sale at the Spring Garden show, South Coast Plaza, 3333 Bristol St,
Costa Mesa**

2018 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS (continued)**HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE****SUNDAY, APRIL 29 from 9 am to 5 pm****Huntington Botanical Gardens****1151 Oxford Road, San Marino****SUNSET Cactus & Succulent Society SHOW & SALE****SATURDAY, MAY 5****SUNDAY, MAY 6****Veterans' Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Ave,
Culver City. Information: 310-822-1783****SOUTH BAY Epiphyllum Society SHOW & SALE****SUNDAY, MAY 6 from 9 am to 4 pm****South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd.,****Palos Verdes. Information: 310-833-6823****GATES Cactus & Succulent Society SHOW & SALE****FRIDAY, MAY 11 from 9 am to 4:30 pm****SATURDAY, MAY 12 from 9 am to 4:30 pm****Land Scapes Southern California Syle, 450 East Alessandro Blvd.,
Riverside. Information: 909-626-4197****LONG BEACH Cactus Club SHOW & SALE****SATURDAY, MAY 19 from 10 am to 4 pm****SUNDAY, MAY 20 from 10 am to 4 pm****Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach
Information: 562-621-5876****EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY OF AMERICA****SATURDAY, MAY 19 SALE from 9 am to 4 pm (no show Sat.)****SUNDAY, MAY 20 SHOW AND SALE (both show & sale Sun.)****Los Angeles County Arboretum, Ayres Hall,
301 North Baldwin Ave, Arcadia**

2018 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS (continued)**CENTRAL COAST Cactus & Succulent SHOW & SALE****SATURDAY, MAY 26 from 10 am to 4 pm****SUNDAY, MAY 27 from 10 am to 4 pm****Ludwich Center, 864 San Rosa, San Luis Obispo****Information: 806-237-2054 or www.centralcoastcactus.org****SAN DIEGO Cactus & Succulent SHOW & SALE****SATURDAY, JUNE 2****SUNDAY, JUNE 3****1548 El Prado, Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego****Information: 858-382-1797****LOS ANGELES Cactus & Succulent Society SHOW & SALE****SATURDAY, JUNE 9 from 9 am to 4 pm****SUNDAY, JUNE 10 from 9 am to 3 pm****Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Ave, Encino****Information: www.lacactus.com****CSSA ANNUAL SHOW and SALE****FRIDAY, JUNE 29 from 10 am to 5 pm (SALE ONLY)****SATURDAY, JUNE 30 from 10 am to 5 pm (SHOW & SALE)****SUNDAY, JULY 1 from 10 am to 5 pm (SHOW & SALE)****Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino****Information: 626-405-3504****ORANGE COUNTY Cactus & Succulent SHOW & SALE****THURSDAY, JULY 19 from 6 pm to 9 pm****FRIDAY, JULY 20 from 9 am to 7 pm****SATURDAY, JULY 21 from 9 am to 5 pm****Anaheim United Methodist Church****1000 South State College Blvd. in the City of Anaheim****Information: 949-212-8417**

2018 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS (continued)**ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW & SALE****SATURDAY, AUGUST 11 from 9 am to 5 pm****SUNDAY, AUGUST 12 from 9 am to 5 pm****Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 North Baldwin, Arcadia****Information: Tom Glavich 626-798-2430****or John Martinez 805-390-2139 or john6425@gmail.com****HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDEN SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM****SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1 all day at the Huntington****Information: 626-405-3504****LONG BEACH Cactus Club ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION****SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 from noon to 5 pm****Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach****Information: 562-631-5871****BAKERSFIELD Cactus & Succulent Society SHOW & SALE****SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6 from 10 am to 5 pm****SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7 from 11 am to 3 pm****St. Paul's Church, 2216 17th Street, Bakersfield****Free admission and Parking Information: 661-831-8488****PALOMAR Cactus & Succulent Society FALL SHOW & SALE****SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 from 10 am to 5 pm****SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6 from 10 am to 3 pm****San Diego Botanic Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Road, Encinitas****Information: brita_miller@yahoo.com or 858-776-7216****SAN GABRIEL Cactus & Succulent Society SHOW & SALE****SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 10 from 9 am to 4 pm****SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11 from 9 am to 4 pm****Los Angeles County Arboretum, 310 North Baldwin Ave, Arcadia****Information: Manny Rivera 626-780-6957****John Matthews 661-714-1052**

33rd Annual InterCity
Cactus and Succulent Show
and Sale



August 11 and 12, 2018 9 AM to 5 PM
LA County Arboretum 301 N Baldwin Arcadia
www.intercityshow.com
626-821-3222



COMMUNIQUE

Newsletter of the San Gabriel Valley
Cactus and Succulent Society
c/o Richard Roosman
P.O. Box 5222
Huntington Park, CA 90255

FIRST CLASS MAIL

If you have a cactus or succulent related event that you would like to have announced in the **COMMUNIQUE**, forward the information to the address below. Please verify the event date. Articles, Notices and Corrections can be sent via email to: richardinwalnutpark@msn.com or via mail to:

San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter Editor, c/o Richard Roosman,
P.O. Box 5222, Huntington Park, CA 90255. Material must be received by the 20th of the month to be considered for publication in the next issue of the **COMMUNIQUE**.