

COMMUNIQUE

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

An Affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America, Inc.
Meetings are held at **7:30 PM** on the 2nd Thursday of the month
in the Lecture Hall, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia
December 2007 Volume 40 Number 12

Annual Holiday Party

December Meeting: Instead of our usual meeting we will be having our annual Holiday Party & Potluck Dinner on *Sunday, December 9th*. It will be held at the Los Angeles County Arboretum in Ayers Hall (where our Winter Show and the Inter City Show are held). Park in the side parking lot and enter through the gate next to the hall rather than the main entrance. Setup starts at 3:30 pm. **Martin and Karen Ostler** and **Calvin and Cindy Arakaki** have volunteered to help in the kitchen. However, we can always use a few people to help set up tables and decorate. Dinner will start at 5:00 pm. The club will be providing turkey, ham, plates and eating utensils (please remember to bring serving utensils for whatever dish you provide). **Tommy Dodson, Rita Gerlach,** and **Buck Hemenway** will be bringing the turkey and gravy. **Horace Birgh** will be bringing a Honey-Baked ham and providing punch. The remaining side dishes will be potluck, provided by our club members. Please bring a hot dish such as mashed potatoes, stuffing, yams, hot vegetables, a casserole or your own specialty that goes with ham or turkey or bring a salad or dessert to share with other club members. The suggested potluck food to bring is as follows (according to your last name initial):

A-M – Hot Side Dish

N-R – Salads, Bread

S-Z – Desserts

If someone has a specialty dish they are welcome to bring it instead. Be sure to tag your container so that it gets back to you. Thanks in advance to everyone for making this special event possible each year. There are some great cooks in our club and the meal is always outstanding! If you have any questions please call the Dinner Coordinator, Tommy Dodson, at (323) 259-5900

Holiday Auction: Bring Money!! This is a great opportunity to purchase (or sell) rare or specimen sized plants. Auction Rules: Limit your total plants and/or items to 3 (you must be a club member to sell). Finances; club gets 30%, seller gets 70%. Plants should be mature, well-grown specimens rather than small immature plants. Other items may include succulent related artwork, such as paintings, line drawings, pottery or other crafts. Or maybe you have come across some neat items with cactus or succulents on them, so bring them in. Please label your items with your name and a minimum bid or if the item is a donation just your name and a note that it is a donation. The plants will be auctioned by some of our knowledgeable club members.

Gift Exchange: Anyone may participate in this *optional* activity. Bring a cactus or succulent (or related item). It should be in good condition (something you would like to receive). Attach a label with your name on one side and, if it's a plant, write the species on the other side. The plant or item that is deemed most desirable will be auctioned during the party. Then, the person who brought in that selection gets the first pick from all the remaining items. Whoever's gift is then picked gets next choice and so on (the more desirable the item you bring, the earlier you will get your chance to pick). Only one item per person please!

Holiday Plants: Every year, each member receives a Holiday gift plant from the Club. The plants are, as much as possible, identical. Members are invited to bring in all surviving plants from previous Holiday Parties, to see how well they have been grown. Here's your chance to show how good a grower you are! So, remember to bring in your plants from years gone by. As a reminder, the plants for the last few years have been:
2006 – *Euphorbia Obesa*, 2005 - *Uebelmannia Pectinifera*, 2004 - *Lithops dortheae*, 2003 - *Discocactus bueneckeri*, 2002 – *Adenia glace.*, 2001 – *Echinocereus festinates v. raisins.*, 2000 - *Euphorbia aerations minor*, 1999 – *Mammillaria deheardtiana*, 1998 – *Raphionacme flanaganii*, 1997 – *Ortegocactus macdougalii*, 1996 - *Euphorbia bupleurifolia*, 1995- *Sulcorebutia candiae*.

Plant of the Month: No mini-show this month, just the party!

For those of you who receive your Communique via snail mail, attached for your reading enjoyment are Tom Glavich's write ups on Turbinicarpus and Stem Succulent Euphorbias.

Study Group: No meeting this month. Everyone is too busy with the Holidays!

SGVCSS extends it deepest sympathies to the family and friends of **Antoinette Koltaj** who passed away on October 29, 2007. We will remember Antoinette for her generosity in donating plants for the raffle and for the delicious apple strudel she shared with us.

SGVC&SS Election: Club officers for 2008 were elected at the November meeting. The slate put forward by the nominating committee ran unopposed, and was elected by unanimous decree. The officers will be:

President	Tom Vermilion	Board Member	Cindy Arakaki
Vice President	Buck Hemenway	Board Member	John Matthews
Treasurer	Bill Gerlach	Board Member	Manny Rivera
Secretary	Evelynn Stevens		

Board Members serve a 2 year term. Carryover Board Members are Jim Hanna, Mike Wisnev and Jean Mullens.

Say Hello to our newest members: Kim and Ron Lingo, Ronnie and George Lewis, Minh Au and Pete Kimbrell, Dee Johnson, Bill Baker and Bill Hagblom. Be sure to take a look at the Club’s website <http://www.sgvcss.com>. If you wish to receive your COMMUNIQUE on-line please notify the editor at sgv_css@prodigy.net.

2008 Plant-of-the-Month Topics

	Cacti of the Month	Succulent of the Month
Jan	Hook Spined Mammillaria	Bulbs
Feb	Copiapoa	Sansevieria
Mar	Stenocactus & Thelocactus	Miniature Aloe
Apr	Coryphantha & Escobaria	Miniature Agave
May	Opuntiaceae	Stem Succulent Euphorbia
Jun	Astrophytum	Pachypodium
July	Variegates	Variegates
Aug	Favorite	Favorite
Sep	Crests & Monstrose	Crests & Monstrose
Oct	Monotypic Cacti	Lithops
Nov	Ariocarpus	Asclepiads

CALENDAR OF UP COMING EVENTS FOR 2007

Dec. 1 st -2 nd	Orange County Show and Sale – Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road Fullerton, CA 92831 For Information Call #714-870-4887 Show and Sale Open from 10am TO 4pm
Dec 9 th	Holiday Party

THIS A TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
ANY CHANGES-PLEASE E-MAIL TO ALOECATS1@AOL.COM
CACTUS AND SUCCULENT
CALENDAR OF UP COMING EVENTS FOR 2008

- FEB. 9th** **SAN DIEGO WINTER SHOW AND SALE 9AM to 4PM**
RM. 101 CASA DEL PRADO, BALBOA PARK, SAN DIEGO
- APR. 12th - 13th** **SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE AT SO. COAST**
BOTANICALGARDENS 26300 CRENSHAW BL., PALOS VERDES, CA # 310-832-2262
- APR 19th - 20th** **GREEN SCENE PLANT SALE—AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM**
1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831
- APR. 27th** **SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLIUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**
SOUTH COAST BONTANICAL GARDENS INFO. CALL-310-833-6823
- MAY 3rd - 4th** **SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**
VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, GARDEN ROOM
4117 OVERLAND AVE. CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. #310-822-1783
- MAY 18th** **HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 10 TO 5 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL**
GARDEN 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA 626-405-2160
- MAY 18th** **EPIPHYLLIUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**
LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM, ARCADIA, CA 310-670-8148
- JUNE 7th - 8th** **SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY –SHOW AND SALE**
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO.--#619-477-4779
- JUNE 14th** **GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 29th SHOW AND SALE----SAT. 9 TO 4**
JURUPA MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTER, 7621 GRANITE HILL DRIVE, GLEN AVON, CA
INFO. 909-360-8802
- JUNE 14th - 15th** **LOS ANGELES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BL., ENCINO, CA.
SHOW INFORMATION-CALL 818-363-3432
- JUNE 27-29th** **CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE –HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL**
GARDENS AT 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.
626-405-2160 or 2277 PLANTS SALES START JUNE 27TH THRU JUNE 29th
THE SHOW OPENS ON THE JUNE 28^H THRU JUNE 29th TO THE PUBLIC
- AUG. 16th - 17th** **23rd ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW AND SALE-LA COUNTY ARBORETUM**
301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA,CA. INFO. CALL TOM GLAVICH
AT 626-798-2430 or BARBARA HALL AT 818-368-6914
- AUG. 30th** **HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM**
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON
- NOV. 8th - 9th** **SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY**
SHOW AND SALE---LA COUNTY ARBORETUM ADDRESS ABOVE.
- DEC. 6th - 7th** **ORANGE COUNTY SHOW AND SALE AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM**
1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831
SHOW AND SALE OPEN FROM 10AM TO 4PM
FOR INFORMATION CALL 714-870-4887

UPDATED 10/23/07

CSSA Promotional Article (2007, No. 2)

The major events on the 2007 Calendar for the CSSA are now past, the CSSA biennial convention in Seattle in late May and the annual CSSA Show and Sale at the Huntington Botanical Garden in late June. The convention, though not well attended, was greatly enjoyed by attendees and was clearly a success in many ways. We can't thank the Cascade Society enough for all they did to make the convention successful. The CSSA Show was the most spectacular in many years and the accompanying sale broke all previous records.

However, the CSSA Journal, lavishly illustrated in full color, keeps appearing every other month and according to recent survey results, it is the most valuable asset of membership for most CSSA members. Journal editor Russell Wagner continues to do a superb job with the Journal and I would like to briefly review the contents of Volume 78 (2006) so all you affiliate club members who don't yet belong to CSSA can see what you are missing by not having your own personal copy.

A feature article in the January-February issue is a special conservation report by Jan Emming entitled "The Threat that Invasive Weeds and Wildfires Pose to Our North American Desert Biomes." Part 2 of this series deals with the Saguaros of the Sonoran Desert, the quintessential North American cactus. The same issue also contains two articles on terrestrial bromeliads (a recent interest of mine), Hechtias in Mexico and Dyckias and other genera in Brazil. These plants fit nicely into any succulent collection.

Much of the March-April issue is devoted to John Lavranos and his legacy of botanical discoveries. A wonderful cartoon of John by Gerhard Marx graces the cover. This issue is traditionally eagerly awaited by subscribers, as it contains the ISI plant offerings for the year.

The lead article in the May-June issue discusses the succulent riches of the Ankarana Special Reserves in Madagascar. Irwin Lightstone discusses new technologies for close-up photography of succulents and Brian Kemble shares some stunning photos of *Agave guadalajarana*. The first article in a new series by Elton Roberts entitled "Home Grown: Cactus Tips from a Master Grower" appears in this issue. This well-illustrated series discusses the horticultural requirements of various (mostly cactus) genera, some of which are notoriously difficult to grow successfully in cultivation.

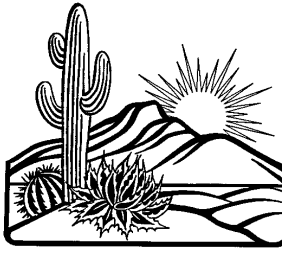
In addition to another article in the "Home Grown" series, the July-August issue features two articles by Root Gorelick on cactus localities in New Mexico, and a description of an extraordinary new species of *Rhytidocaulon* from Somalia whose flowers have strange spider-web-like hairs across the corona.

In the September – October issue we find a delightful South African travelogue by Sue Hakala, winner of a Schwartz travel grant, which allowed her to visit that land of succulent riches for the first time. Another major article in this issue covers the diverse globose cactus community of a site in Argentina's Cordoba Province. The November – December issue is a special issue twice the size of a normal issue devoted to pendent and cliff-dwelling succulents from all over the world, many of which do beautifully in cultivation in hanging baskets.

Features appearing in most issues include the Research and Conservation Report by Donna Woodward, Succulents on Stamps by Peg Spaete, and book reviews by various authors. A number of important succulent publications were reviewed in the Journal in 2006, including *Ferocactus* by John Pilbeam and Derek Bowdery, *Grass Aloes in the South African Veld* by Charles Craib, *Echeveria Cultivars* by Lorraine Schulz and Attila Kapitany, *Stapeliads of Southern Africa and Madagascar* by Peter Bruyns, *Teratopia: the World of Cristate and Variegated Succulents* by Gordon Rowley, and *The New Cactus Lexicon* by David Hunt and others. All of these volumes are valuable additions to anyone's succulent library.

Good growing,

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COMMUNIQUE
Newsletter of the San Gabriel Valley
Cactus and Succulent Society
C/o Evelyn Stevens
10119 ½ E Olive Street
Temple City, CA 91780

FIRST CLASS MAIL

If you have a cactus or succulent related event that you'd like to have announced in the **COMMUNIQUE**, please forward the information to the address given below. Please verify event dates - sometimes events are rescheduled or canceled without adequate advance notice. Articles, Notices and Corrections can be sent via E-mail to: sgv_css@prodigy.net or via post to: San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter Editor, c/o Evelyn Stevens, 10119 ½ E. Olive St., Temple City, CA 91780-3345. Material must be received by the last Thursday of the month to be considered for publication in the next issue of the **COMMUNIQUE**

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