



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

An Affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America
October 2016—Volume 49, Number 10

The next meeting of the SGVCSS will be Thursday, October 13th at 7:00 pm in Ayres Hall at the Los Angeles County Arboretum.

Mini-Show Plants for October

Parodia & Notocactus
Haworthia

Next C&S Workshop:
Wednesday, October 19th
at 7:30 pm in the Palm Room

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President's Message

It's hard to believe that fall has arrived. A few more hot days and then we're good to go. I know our plants will appreciate cooler days.

The October meeting will be the last one before our Winter C&S Show on November 5th and 6th. The Winter Show is our club's major fund raiser and membership builder. If you held off showing your plants at the Inter-City show, now is the time to join in. We especially welcome novice entrants. Please bring some friends to the show and spread the word. Our longtime Winter Show chairperson, Manny Rivera,

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could use more volunteers. If you are interesting in helping, please see him at the meeting. Finally, the very best vendors will be at the show. Plants, pots, and books-- it's all here. Please support them. As usual, we will have a dinner and auction on Saturday evening. You may purchase tickets at the meeting. We will also have T-shirts and plant tags at the meeting.

It is getting close to our 2017 Election. The slate of officers will be presented at the October meeting. Our election will take place at our November meeting.

Finally, mark your calendars for our Annual Holiday Party, Sunday, December 4th, in Ayers Hall. It is always lots of fun, camaraderie, and good food. As we have done in the last few years, we will have a live band to add to the festivities. If this is your first time, you'll love it. Setup starts at 3:00 p.m. and dinner starts at 5:00 p.m.

See you at the meeting!

Gunnar Eisel

President, SGVCSS



Regular Club Meeting Thursday, October 13

The San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society meets
at **7:00 pm**
on the second Thursday of the month
in Ayres Hall at the Los Angeles County
Arboretum in Arcadia.
Visitors are welcome.

Cactus and Succulent Workshop Wednesday, October 19

Topic: Ariocarpus

The C&S Workshop will meet on in the Palm Room at the Los Angeles Arboretum at 7:30 pm

The workshop is an informal, hands-on learning experience that is fun for the expert and novice alike. Come and learn from the experience of others. We are happy to share our knowledge.

Workshops are held the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Palm Room at the Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia.

Your 2017 Club membership renewal may be paid at the next meeting or mailed direct to Mary Brumbaugh,
2123 Pinehurst St.,
Glendora, CA 91741.

Regular membership is still \$20 per year or \$30 if you request the Communique by mail. Make checks to SGVCSS.

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM
Guillermo Rivera
 "An exploratory trip to
 Northwestern Argentina"

Guillermo was born in Argentina. He is the owner of South America Nature Tours (former Cactus Expeditions), a company dedicated to the organization of botanical, birding, and nature tours for the last 15 years, throughout South America (Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador), Mexico and South Africa, Namibia, and Madagascar, with emphasis on plants (bromeliads, cacti, and orchids), and birding.

He is a former researcher at the University of Cordoba, Argentina. He has a BS degree in Biology from the University of Cordoba, a MS in Marine Biology from Northeastern University and a PhD in Botany from the University of Cordoba.



The presentation will cover the habitats of several provinces from central and Northwestern Argentina, from salt flats to high elevation Puna habitats. *Gymnocalycium*, *Echinopsis*, *Parodia*, among many others, will be well represented, as well as some bromeliads and some wildlife.

This presentation is more than a simply travel log as it addresses the importance of habitat knowledge in order to determine the validity of plant names and the issue "too many names for the same plant." Diversity and variability of plants in habitat within populations and between populations will be addressed. The importance of habitat knowledge will be discussed and its significance in plant taxonomy.

Next year Guillermo is planning trips to Namibia, Mozambique, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Southern Patagonia. All these trips will focus on the succulent and bromeliad flora of these places. (except Southern Patagonia).

If you wish to be kept informed about his future trips contact him directly at rivera@intecar.com.ar or info@cactusexpeditions.com or please join Facebook Groups: "CACTUS AND SUCCULENT FIELD TOURS" <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1066757093389430/> and/or BROMELIAD FIELD TOURS <https://www.facebook.com/groups/190792077971404/>

San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society

Cactus of the Month October 2016 –
Parodia and Notocactus

Notocactus and *Parodia* are now generally considered to be the same genus, and in modern references all *Notocactus* have been moved into *Parodia*. The original distinguishing characteristic was the red stigmas in the flowers of *Notocactus*, and the yellow stigma in those of *Parodia*. The distinguishing characteristic between the two genera were redefined over time as more and more intermediates were discovered, eventually becoming a minor difference in the attachment of the seed to ovary. If you have a *Notocactus*, you can enter it this month labeled as a *Parodia*!

Parodia has swept up several other genera, and is likely to grow and swallow a few more as botanical and genetic studies continue.

Parodia are South American Cacti, with the center of the genus in Brazil and Argentina, but with members throughout the Eastern side of the Andes. Most are easy to grow, growing freely in the spring through the fall, and going more or less dormant in the fall. Some will flower in mid-winter, and given their native environment, most do better given a little water year around. Some of the more tropical species need protection from colder weather to prevent scarring, but most will take normal Southern California winters without protection.

Parodia are easy to grow from seed. Seed is available for nearly all the species, generally with variants from specific localities. It's worth exploring the differences in form and spination by growing the same species from multiple locations. The seedlings look very similar, but diverge more and more as the plants mature. The seed germinates readily and can grow into a show quality plant in just a few years. Vegetative propagation of the clustering types is easy as well. Cuttings taken during the late spring and early summer root readily and show new growth before the season is over.

The main difficulties encountered with these plants are the ones common to all cacti: mealy bugs, spider mites, and fungal spots. Mealy bugs can be kept away by keeping the plants clean and keeping ants away from the pots. Spider mites can appear anytime. They can do a lot of damage during the winter when plants are kept dry, and less attention is paid to them. A periodic hosing of the plants will help keep them away as well. A rose miticide will kill them, as will the much less poisonous vlok oil. Soaking the entire plant for a few hours in water with dish detergent will take care of them, but this is not a recommended treatment if the plants are dormant.

Fungal spots and creeping crud (also a fungus common to many South American cacti) growing from the base can be kept at bay by keeping the plants in growth as much as possible, by fertilizing regularly, and keeping the growing area clean and debris free to allow as much free air movement as possible.

Great Parodias

Parodia chrysacanthion from Jujuy, Argentina is a solitary globose species with great spines.

Parodia (Notocactus) leninghausii from Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil, is easy to come by and with patience and care becomes a very impressive species. It is nearly columnar, offsetting from the base, with short yellow spines. The growing tip always leans towards the sun (much more so in California than in its native Brazil). Give it root room and lots of fertilizer to grow and spread.

Parodia maassii has dense spination, often colored. It is native to Southern Bolivia and Northern Argentina.

Parodia penicillata from Northern Argentina has very dense radial spines that stick out from the body. A very unusual species that is easy to grow. This is another species whose growing point always points towards the sun, giving the plant a leaning appearance. This can be avoided by frequently turning the plant, or it can be emphasized as part of the unique character of the species.

Parodia schummaniana grows to more than a foot in diameter. This is an extremely variable species, always having deep ribs, but very different spination.



Parodia Mueller-melchersii



Parodia turecekiana, (shown above) named after the late Victor Turecek, a long time club member, comes from western Uruguay, and Northern Argentina. A great species that is readily available.

Article and photos by
Tom Glavich October 2016

Succulent of the Month

October 2016

Haworthias

Haworthia, along with *Aloe* and *Gasteria*, are part of the *Aloaceae* family. Almost all *Haworthia* come from South Africa and most from a Mediterranean environment not that different from Southern California. Most species are easily grown, preferring some shade and growing mostly in the winter and spring.

Haworthia in general are tolerant of varying potting mixes, and success has been reported with everything from straight pumice to potting soil - pumice or perlite mixes, to plain potting soil, and even garden soil. They like light fertilization when growing, any balanced fertilizer will do.

Haworthia can be naturalized as a ground cover, placed under shrub cover in shadier parts of California gardens. They really appreciate natural rainfall, the low pH of the water helps wash any residual salts from the potting mix. Control of the pH (acidity of the water) and regular fertilization during growing periods will really pay off in the quality and speed of growth.

Most of the plants in this genus offset easily, and propagation is simple from offsets. Seed is sometimes available, and easily germinates in cool weather, with best results coming in November and December. Seed is not long lived, and can be planted any time it becomes available, except the hottest months of summer. The plants do most of their growing in the spring, and flower mostly in the spring, but sporadically all year round. Some genera and some species tend to lose roots easily. If these are grown in pure pumice or pumice-perlite mixes, most root loss will stop. Plants grown in pure pumice or pumice perlite mixes need steady fertilization during peak growing periods. Most species have a summer dormant period, with low to no growth during hot weather. They are more sensitive to warm night time temperatures than day time highs.

Haworthia morphology ranges from grass like plants, to thin leaved plants, to those that grow in flat rosettes with hard, nearly shiny leaves. These are the retuse plants. They are the ones most favored by collectors, and have been used to make many hybrids and cultivars. For many years, *Haworthia* was divided into *sections*, one of which contained all of the retuse forms.

Two of the most popular species, *Haworthia truncata* and *Haworthia maughanii* (really a form of *H. truncata*) are not botanically retuse, but are often shown as if they were. The cultivation is the same. They will be allowed as retuse plants during this month's entries. The botanic division into *sections* is no longer in current use. *Haworthia* taxonomy has recently gotten more complicated with the genus being divided into three parts. We will ignore this for the near future.

The species most often seen as retuse *Haworthias* are *Haworthia retusa*, *Haworthia emelyae*, *Haworthia magnifica*, *Haworthia pygmaea*, *Haworthia truncata*, *Haworthia mirabilis*, and *Haworthia mutica*, all of which have numerous forms and cultivars, and many of which have been used to produce very interesting hybrids.

Retuse *Haworthia* make up most of the hybrids and cultivars coming from Japan and elsewhere.



Haworthia emelyae
GM Doring



Haworthia emelyae x *mutica*

Article and photos by
Tom Glavich October
2016

Plant of the Month Cacti		Plant of the Month Succulent
Jan	Hooked Spine Mammillarias	Pelargonium & Sarcocaulon
Feb	Echinocactus & Ferocactus	Othonna & Senecio
Mar	Rebutia, Sulcorebutia & Weingartia	Small Aloes
Apr	Discocactus & Melocactus	Kalanchoe
May	Stenocactus & Thelocactus	Millii type Euphorbias
June	Gymnocalycium	Ficus & Dorstenia
July	Blossfeldia & Frailea	Cucurbitaceae
Aug	Favorite cactus	Favorite succulent
Sept	U. S. Natives	Cyphostemma
Oct	Parodia & Notocactus	Retusa Haworthia
Nov	So. American Opuntieae	Adromischus & Avonia

2016 Cactus and Succulent Workshops	
Jan	Pelargonium
Feb	Plant Identification
Mar	Small Aloes
Apr	Spring Seed Workshop
May	Vegetative Propagation
Jun	Gymnocalycium
Jul	Staging Workshop
Aug	Stapeliads
Sep	Succulent Landscaping
Oct	Ariocarpus
Nov	Winter Seed Workshop
Dec	no workshop

October Refreshments
Tom & Nolda Howard
Mary Aparicio
Rosy Garcia
Fred Parrales
Yolanda Reybval
Walter Wisurol
Richard Salcedo
Una Yeh

September Mini Show Results

Open Cactus

John Matthews — 1st place — *Ariocarpus fissuratus*
Cindy Arakaki — 2nd place — *Ariocarpus fissuratus*
Cindy Arakaki — 3rd place — *Echinocereus stramineus*

Open Succulent

Cindy Arakaki — 1st place — *Cyphostemma betiforme*
John Matthews — 2nd place — *Cyphostemma* ‘fat bastard’
John Matthews — 3rd place — *Cyphostemma* ‘fat bastard’

Intermediate Cactus

Louise Stack — 1st place — *Ariocarpus fissuratus*

Intermediate Succulent

Sandy Chase — 1st place — *Cyphostemma laza*
Sandy Chase — 2nd place — *Cyphostemma pachypus*
Sandy Chase — 3rd place — *Cyphostemma seitziana*

Novice Cactus

Richard Salcedo — 1st place — *Echinocactus rigidissimus*
Sharon Sedillo — 2nd place — *Opuntia brachyclada*
Sharon Sedillo — 3rd place — *Grusonia species*

Novice Succulent

Jeff Delzell — 1st place — *Cyphostemma jutae*
Jeff Delzell — 2nd place — *Cyphostemma jutae*
Richard Salcedo — 3rd place — *Cyphostemma jutae*

The San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society presents

The 23rd Annual Winter Show

November 5 & 6, 2016

At the Los Angeles County Arboretum
301 N. Baldwin Avenue Arcadia, CA

Show Schedule

Thursday, Nov. 3th from 8:30 am to noon — Set-up tables, show & sales area.

Thursday, Nov. 3th from noon to 9 pm — Exhibitors & sellers may bring in plants

Friday, Nov. 4th from 9:00 am till 4 pm — Exhibitors & sellers may bring plants

Friday, Nov. 4th from 3 pm to 5 pm— Pre-sale: The sales area will be open for workers and participants

Plants bought during pre-sale must be paid for and removed from the show no later than 9 pm Friday Nov 4th or they will be placed back in the sales area.

Friday, Nov 4th from 5 pm till 9 pm — Judging

Saturday, Nov 5th from 9 am to 4 pm — Show and Sales are open

Sunday, Nov 6th from 9 am to 4 pm — Show and Sales are open

Sunday, November 6th from 4:00 pm till closing — take down

Dinner: Saturday evening, November 5th at 5:30 pm in Ayres Hall. Dinner will be a special meal, prepared by Richard Jones Pit BBQ Catering. The menu will include three meats: Chicken Breast, Beef Brisket (cooked for 16 hours) and Pork Spare Ribs. It will be accompanied by four side dishes including BBQ Beans, Green Beans & Almonds, Mixed Green Salad and Seasonal Vegetable Medley. Also included are Rolls, Butter, BBQ Sauce, Beverage and Apple Cobbler for dessert. Total cost is \$25 per person. There will be an awards presentation, auction and lots of fun! Please be sure to sign up at the October meeting! All reservations and payments must be in by Thursday, November 3th so the caterer will know how many to prepare for. Please pay Margie Wilson at the meeting.

Show Chairman: Manny Rivera (626) 780-6957

Sales Chairman: John Matthews (661) 714-1052

Treasurer: Margie Wilson (626) 821-9254

Publicity: Tom Glavich (626)798-2430

Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 8 & 9 — Bakersfield Cactus and Succulent Sale. Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm. Sunday from 11 am to 4 pm. St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2216 17th St., Bakersfield. Info: 661-831 -8488

October 22 & 23 — Palomar Show and Sale. Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm and Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm. San Diego Botanic Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Road, Encinitas. Info: hciservices@gmail.com or 858-382-1797

November 5 & 6 — San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale. Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 4 pm. Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia. Info: Manny Rivera 626-780-6957 or John Matthews 661-714-1052

December 4 — San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society holiday party. Setup starts at 3:00 p.m., and WE NEED YOUR HELP to set

SGVC&SS LEADERSHIP TEAM - 2016

Gunnar Eisel, President
 Buck Hemenway, Past President
 Horace Birgh, Vice President
 Louise Guerin, Secretary
 Margie Wilson, Treasurer
 Rebecca Mallonee, Director
 Mary Brumbaugh, Director
 Jean Mullens, Director
 Shaun Adams, Director
 Dean Elzinga, Director
 Tom Vermilion, Director

Manny Rivera, Winter Show Chair
 John Matthews, Winter Sales Chair
 Tom Glavich, Inter-City Show Chair
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 Gunnar Eisel, Website Chair
 Woody Minnich, Program Chair
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 Cindy Arakaki, Librarian
 Richard Roosman, Newsletter Editor



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 last Thursday of the month to be considered for publication in the next issue of the **COMMUNIQUE**.