

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY  
CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

# Communiqé



## UPCOMING EVENTS

\* **Club Meeting June 11**  
Ayres Hall of the  
LA Arboretum:  
Meeting 7:30 PM  
Gates open at 6:00 PM

\* **C&S Workshop June 17**  
**Topic: Adenium**  
Palm Classroom of the  
Arboretum. 7:30 PM  
Gates open at 6:00 PM

### ABOUT SGVCSS

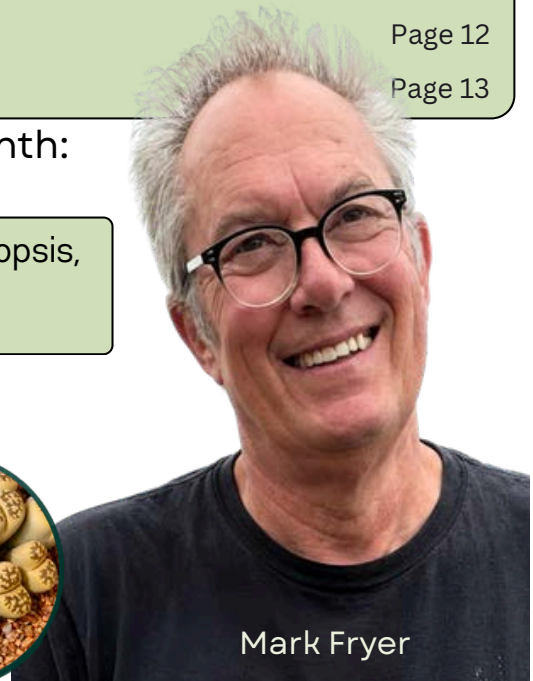
Chartered in 1967,  
San Gabriel Valley  
Cactus & Succulent Society's  
objectives are to promote  
knowledge, study, and interest  
in cacti and other succulent  
plants through educational  
programs, public exhibits, & the  
sharing of these interests to the  
general public.

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## Plants of the Month:

Trichocereus, Echinopsis,  
and Lithops



Mark Fryer

**President’s Message**



I want to extend a big thank you to all the members who showed up at the May general meeting to give longtime members Jim and Roberta Hanna a proper send-off. It was wonderful to see so many members from our club and other SoCal clubs stop by to bid them farewell. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors. And thank you to Amanda Gerberich and her crew for putting together a great party!

Believe it or not, we’re halfway through the summer show and sale season but still have the two largest events of the summer coming up. First off, we have the CSSA Show and Sale at The Huntington on June 12, 13, and 14.

Secondly, we have the Inter-City Show, of which our club is a co-sponsor, at the Los Angeles County Arboretum on August 7, 8, and 9. Stay tuned for more information on the Inter-City Show in this newsletter and at the June and July general meetings.

Speaking of general meetings, our June meeting will feature guest speaker Mark Fryer, who will share his experience growing cacti and succulent plants from seed to flower. And don’t forget to attend our June workshop, which will showcase the ever-popular fat plant, Adeniums. Looking forward to seeing everyone at one or more of the many events scheduled for this month.

Warm regards,  
Nick Renteria

We’re moving to a new Instagram page and would love for you to join us there. This will be our new place to share meeting updates, show announcements, special events, and everything happening in our SGVCSS community. Be one of the first to follow along and stay connected.

[instagram.com/sgvcss\\_org](https://www.instagram.com/sgvcss_org)



**NEW HOME. SAME PASSION.**

— CHACTUS —

Welcome to our new Instagram home!

**SHARING**  
Shows & Events
 **LEARNING**  
Workshops
 **GROWING**  
Community

*Let's grow together.*

**SAN GABRIEL VALLEY**  
CHARTERED 1967  
CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

[instagram.com/sgvcss\\_org](https://www.instagram.com/sgvcss_org) | [sgvcss.com](https://www.sgvcss.com)

## SPEAKER OF THE MONTH: MARK FRYER

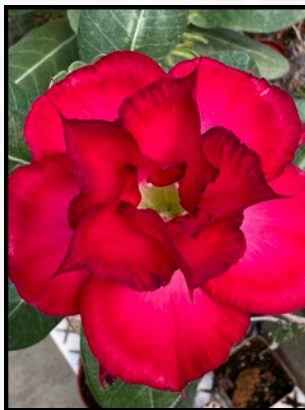
### *A View From the Bench*

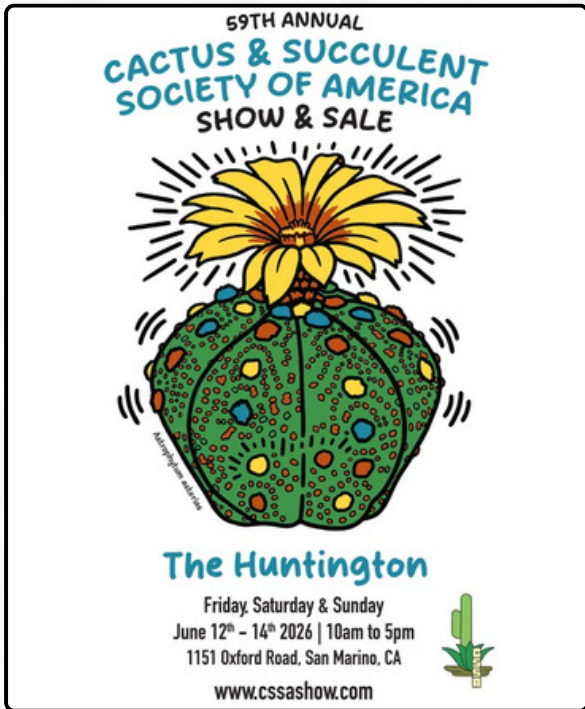


Mark Fryer is the Cactus Production Manager at Western Cactus in Vista, California. Previously, he worked at C&J Cactus Nursery in Vista as a lead propagator. Before moving to Southern California in 2000, Mark spent a couple of decades as a dedicated hobbyist in Oregon, building a reference collection of Echinocereus and Opuntia and working occasionally with Rare Plant Research, the Oregon Cactus and Succulent Society, and various horticultural organizations dating back to the early 1980s. Mark is currently a Fellow of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society, where he served two terms as President, and he is a Life Member of the CSSA.

Mark's presentation is on growing cacti and succulent plants from seed to flower, and back again. Western Cactus has always been committed to automating processes, and that is a large part of what attracted him to work there.

Mark will discuss and present some of the processes that help ensure reliably consistent plants, and how those processes can be translated into even the smallest windowsill collections. Mark also enjoys hybridizing and selecting numerous cactus species and cultivars.





Hundreds of award-winning specimen plants will be on view as the Cactus & Succulent Society of America presents its 59th Annual Show and Sale

Dozens of vendors will sell ethically propagated rare plants – many not widely available elsewhere,

RESERVE HUNTINGTON ADMISSION



Open to the public with paid Huntington admission or Huntington membership. Advanced online timed entry tickets to the Huntington are required for all visitors, including CSSA and Huntington members.

No Walk-ins

## 59TH ANNUAL CSSA SHOW & SALE

GROWING THE FUTURE  
JUNE 12, 13, AND 14, 2026

10 AM – 5 PM DAILY

THE HUNTINGTON  
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA 91108

LIMITED DAILY CAPACITY – HUNTINGTON

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

### Workshop Schedule

#### Saturday

11-11:30am - Tim Harvey  
*Cyphostemma: The Grapes of Wrath*

1-1:30pm – John Martinez  
*Pruning Your VERY Prickly Plants*

3-3:30pm – John Trager  
*What it Takes to be a Winner*

#### Sunday

11-11:30am – Tom Glavich  
*Joys of Germination – Growing From Seeds*

1-1:30pm – Cole James  
*Hand-Building Pots with Personality*

3-3:30pm – John Trager  
*What it Takes to be a Winner*



# THE 40TH INTER-CITY SHOW AND SALE

**SALE: AUGUST 7-9 | SHOW: AUGUST 8-9**



The event runs from **8:00 AM to 5:00 PM** at the Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA.



The Inter-City Show and Sale is one of the premier cactus and succulent events in the country.



Celebrating its 40th anniversary, the 2026 event will feature more than **2,000 exceptional plants** from six continents, along with vendors, exhibits, educational programs, and activities for all ages.



## ENTERING PLANTS

You do not need to be a member of a cactus and succulent club to enter plants. Entry tags will be available when you arrive, and volunteers will be happy to assist you.



Day	Date/Time	Event
Wednesday	August 5	Plant drop-off and setup
Thursday	August 6	Plant drop-off and setup
Friday	August 7	Plant drop-off
Friday	4:00 PM	Judging Begins
Sunday	August 9	Plant Pick-Up*

\* Plants must remain for the entire show.

## WALKS AND TALKS



Featuring world-class growers, collectors, and horticultural experts. Learn from presentations and demonstrations throughout the weekend.

## KIDS' DAY

### Planting the Seeds of Curiosity!

Bring the whole family on Sunday for Kids' Day. Enjoy hands-on activities celebrating plants, creativity, learning, and discovery.



More than 2,000 plants 🌵 Vendors from across the country 🌍 Educational exhibits 🌱 Family activities



[www.intercityshow.com](http://www.intercityshow.com)

Presented by the Long Beach Cactus Club, the Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society, and the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society.

[Visit the InterCity Website for Details](http://www.intercityshow.com)

# A FOND FAREWELL TO JIM AND ROBERTA HANNA



Cheers!



Angela, Roberta, Manny, Amanda



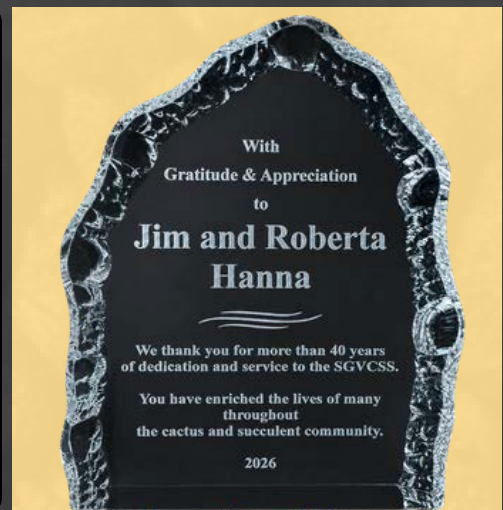
Tom presenting the plaque



Angela's memorable cake



Roberta bids farewell



YouTube Slide Show

## PLANTS OF THE MONTH: Cacti: *Echinopsis* and *Trichocereus*, including *Lobivia*



*Echinopsis* is a genus of easily grown South American cacti. The genus has expanded to encompass *Trichocereus* and *Lobivia*. The discriminators between *Lobivia* and *Echinopsis* and *Trichocereus* and *Echinopsis* are fuzzy at best. Plants labeled *Trichocereus* and *Lobivia* are welcome in this month's Plant of the Month. Most botanists would recognize these as *Echinopsis*. All of the local shows still treat these as separate genera, as do many plant catalogs and older publications.

*Echinopsis* grow well in a general cactus mix that is fast draining, with more pumice than potting soil. The standard 80% pumice, 20% potting mix is excellent for steady growth. They are tolerant of nearly everything, including cold weather, hot weather, and underwatering.

They are the perfect entry-level plant for the novice cactus grower. They have spectacular flowers, with flower size often greatly exceeding plant size. They also do well when planted in the ground.

Best vegetative growth and best flowering will be found on plants that are fed continually throughout the growing season, starting in April and continuing into early October. They should be allowed to go dormant in November but will sit out the winter without cover as long as they are in a fast-draining mix. They are sensitive to the usual pests of succulent plants, including mealybugs and spider mites. Plants should be inspected frequently and insects removed as they appear. Many *Echinopsis* do well when grown in the ground in Southern California. with fantastic flowers.

Propagation of *Echinopsis* is easy.

Cuttings or offsets can be taken, left for a few weeks, and then repotted.

Rooting is rapid, and new growth will usually be seen in a couple of months.

Seeds are readily available and are easy to germinate using the same procedures as for any cactus. The seeds are long-lived, germinate quickly, and are rapid growers.

*Echinopsis* and related genera have been used to make hybrids with large colorful flowers for many years. The 1930s saw the rise of Harry Johnson's Paramount Hybrids, colorful plants with moderate-sized flowers. These hybrids were created in Los Angeles, and many are still available, although separation of labels from plants makes most of the named plants suspicious at best.

Photos by Gunnar Eisel

**PLANTS OF THE MONTH:**  
*Cacti: Echinopsis and Trichocereus, including Lobivia*



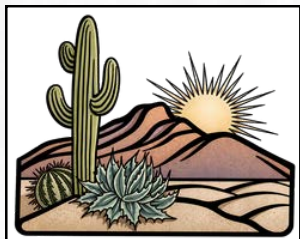
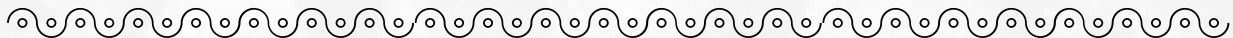
More recent hybrids have been made by Bob Schick at the Huntington. These are based on the Paramount Hybrids with additional genetic inputs and are renowned for their extremely large and colorful flowers. The Huntington is keeping the entire set of named hybrids in production. These are available through the Huntington's sales and web page and are guaranteed to be true to name.

Other hybridizers have been and are working with this flexible genus to create their own mix of genes and colors. Miles Anderson of Miles' To Go Nursery in Tucson produces some wonderful plants.

There are some remarkable plants coming out of Germany with great flowers. The hybrids are as easy as the species to grow, often easier, and reward their growers.

-Tom Glavich, May 2026

[HUNTINGTON LINK TO SCHICK HYBRIDS](#)



Rewind:  
Communiqué  
June 2007



## PLANTS OF THE MONTH: Succulents: *Lithops*

Lithops are the most remarkable of all the succulent plants. At a gross level, they are very simple. All you get are two fat leaves, each mostly filled with water-holding cells. They are dormant when the weather is too hot or too cold and grow most in the spring.

On a fine level, no other genus has such a wealth of variation in color, shape, texture, and pattern, except maybe *Conophytum*.

There are just under 60 species, about 800 or so known local variations of the species, and a few hundred named and unnamed cultivars.

No two *Lithops* plants look the same, yet a knowledgeable grower can identify most species.

There are as many successful ways of growing *Lithops* as there are growers, with the cultivation practices modified to fit individual habits and local microclimates. The basic cultivation routine is: Stop watering after flowering or at the end of November, except for *L. optica*, which needs water until the end of December. Start watering after the old leaves completely dry, usually late March or early April. Water freely during the summer. Grow them in an open, fast-draining mix. Most growers use at least 50% pumice, some sand, and little organic material. Keep peat out of the mix. Some good growers fertilize frequently, some hardly ever. Keep them dry during the winter.

*Lithops* are small. They don't take up much room. They are easy to grow from seed, with seed planting best in either October or April. There are good growers who do it both ways, and some who do it both times. A flowering plant can be raised from seed in two seasons.

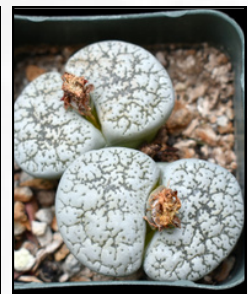
Because they are small and inexpensive, it's best to grow them in quantity. Most of the people who think they can't grow *Lithops* have killed a few one by one and then given up. They are best grown by the dozen.

Even the best growers have plants that mysteriously dry up or leave during the night.

Tom Glavich  
May 2026



Top: *Lithops lesliei v marie*



Right Top: *Lithops schwantesii ssp schwantesii var urikenensis*



Right Middle: *Lithops lesliei v marie*



Right Bottom: *Lithops lesliei* near Heidelberg, ZA



# MAY MINI-SHOW: STAGED AS A MINIATURE

## Novice

Cacti

- 1st – **Diana Galindo, *Mammillaria duwei***
- 2nd – Charlene Sandoval, *Gymnocalycium mihanovichii*

Succulents

- 1st – **Tom Blanton, *Euphorbia melaformis***
- 2nd – Ron Broussard, *Euphorbia mammillaris* (variegated)
- 3rd – Samantha Powell, *Ledebouria socialis*

## Intermediate

Cacti

- 1st – **Tricia Kangraga, *Tephrocactus minor***
- 2nd – Daniel Veelik, *Escobaria vivipara*
- 3rd – Mary Jo Mateer, *Astrophytum ornatum*

Succulents

- 1st – **Nick Renteria, *Ornithogalum sardienii***
- 2nd – Nick Renteria, *Adenium obesum*

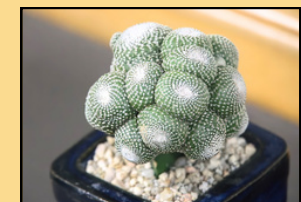
## Open

Cacti

- 1st – **Manny Rivera, *Blossfeldia liliputana***
- 2nd – Manny Rivera, *Ferocactus gracilis* var. *gracilis*
- 3rd – Manny Rivera, *Escobaria sneedii* ssp. *leei*

Succulents

- 1st – **Manny Rivera, *Corallocarpus bainesii***
- 3rd – Manny Rivera, *Crassula conjuncta*



## PLANT OF THE MONTH AND WORKSHOPS

Jun	Trichocereus, Echinopsis Lithops	Adenium
Jul	Echinocactus Adenium	Grafting
Aug	Favorite Cactus Favorite Succulent	Ariocarpus
Sep	Ariocarpus Bursera	Madagascan Pachypodium
Oct	Melocactus, Discocactus Madagascan Pachypodium	Winter Seed Workshop
Nov	Crest and Monstrose	Tips and Tricks

**Welcome New Members:**  
Esmeralda Arias and Audrey Han

### Snack Schedule

June	U-Z
July	A-D
August	E-H
September	I-L
October	M-P
November	Q-T

**SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY**  
**SUMMER SHOW & SALE**  
Sat June 6<sup>th</sup> & Sun June 7<sup>th</sup> 2026  
at the Casa del Prado in Balboa Park

Experience incredible out-of-this-world **SUCCULENTS & CACTI** from around the globe and shop for unique plants from dozens of vendors and local artisans. Enjoy **FREE ADMISSION** with extra special early-bird shopping access on Saturday for SDCSS members!

**TIMES & DATES**

<b>SATURDAY</b>	9am – 11am members-ONLY sale hours 11am – 5pm sale open to the public show times
<b>SUNDAY</b>	10am – 4pm sale open to public show times

The show is open to anyone who grows succulent plants, and there is no limit to the number of entries per class or number of classes entered!

Detailed show and membership info available at upcoming meetings, in our newsletters, and at our website [www.SDCSS.net](http://www.SDCSS.net)

**SANTA BARBARA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY**  
**SHOW & SALE**  
JUNE 27<sup>TH</sup> 2026  
10AM - 3PM

**SANTA BARBARA WOMAN'S CLUB**  
670 Mission Canyon Road

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
[www.sbcactus.org](http://www.sbcactus.org)

**FEATURING**  
Extensive plant selection • Pottery • Silent auction  
Plant displays • Free admission • Free parking

CASH / CARD / CHECK / VENMO ACCEPTED

**2026 SAN FRANCISCO**  
**SUCCULENT EXPO**  
June 19-21 | County Fair Building

BEYOND THE DESERT

Time to join or renew your SGVCSS Membership!  
Membership is still \$20 per year.  
You may pay at the meetings or use the QR Code below:



Join



Renew

## 2026 C&S AND EPI EVENT CALENDAR

**June 6-7:**

**San Diego C&S Society  
Summer Show and Sale**

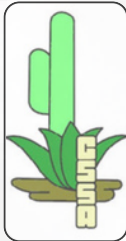
Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm,  
Info. 619-990-2051  
Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA



**June 12-14:**

**CSSA Annual Show and Sale**

- Reservations Required  
Fri.-Sun. 10am-5pm daily.  
Reservations:  
[www.huntington.org](http://www.huntington.org);  
Info: Nick Renteria 1-323-428-2215  
Huntington Botanical Gardens  
1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA



**June 13-14:**

**Fresno C&S Society  
Annual Show and Sale**

Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm, Info.  
rob\_scott85@yahoo.com  
Fresno Fairgrounds, Commerce  
Bldg., 1121 S. Chance Ave., Fresno, CA



**JUNE 19-21:**

**San Francisco Succulent Expo**

Friday member-only preview.  
Info, schedule, and details:  
[www.sfsucculent.org](http://www.sfsucculent.org)  
San Francisco County Fair Building, 1199 9th  
Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122



**JUNE 27:**

**Santa Barbara Cactus and  
Succulent Society Show and Sale**

More information:  
<https://sbcactus.org/show-and-sale/>  
Santa Barbara Woman's Club, 670 Mission  
Canyon Rd., Santa Barbara, CA 93105



**JUNE 28:**

**Sunset Succulent Society Sale**

One day only, 10:00 AM-3:00 PM.  
Info: 310-822-1783  
Veterans Memorial Center, Teen Center,  
4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA



**JULY 17-18:**

**Orange County Cactus and  
Succulent Society Summer Sale**

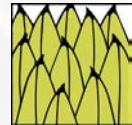
Friday, noon-5:00 PM; Saturday,  
9:00 AM-5:00 PM.  
Info: 657-549-0702  
Anaheim United Methodist Church,  
1000 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim, CA



**JULY 18-19:**

**Central Coast Cactus and  
Succulent Society Show and Sale**

Saturday, 10:00 AM-5:00 PM;  
Sunday, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM.  
Info: rheskillin@gmail.com or  
[www.centralcoastcactus.org](http://www.centralcoastcactus.org)  
Nipomo High School, 525 N. Thompson Ave.,  
Nipomo, CA



**AUGUST 7-9:**

**Inter-City Show and Sale**

Reservations required.  
Info: [www.intercityshow.com](http://www.intercityshow.com)  
**Friday: Sale only 8:00 AM-5:00 PM**  
**Saturday and Sunday: Show and Sale,**  
8:00 AM-5:00 PM  
LA County Arboretum,  
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA



Download  
Year at a Glance

## LEADERSHIP TEAM 2026



Nick Renteria, President  
Amanda Gerberich, Vice President  
Charlene Sandoval, Secretary  
Margie Wilson, Treasurer  
Gunnar Eisel, Past President

Margie Wilson, Director  
Manny Rivera, Director  
Sharon Sedillo, Director  
Angela Clubb, Director  
Mike Pearson, Director  
Liz Wagner, Director

Gunnar Eisel, Program Chair  
Cindy Arakaki, Club Librarian  
Social Media Chair, Open  
Newsletter Editor, Gunnar Eisel  
Membership Chair, Keiko Doi

Manny Rivera, Winter Show Chair  
James Lemos, Winter Sales Chair  
Gunnar Eisel, Inter-City Show Chair  
Tom Glavich, Inter-City Sales Chair  
Amanda Gerberich, CSSA Representative

Got News or Comments?

Contact us at: [editor@sgvcss.com](mailto:editor@sgvcss.com)

