



CACTUS CHRONICLE



MISSION STATEMENT

The Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society (LACSS) cultivates the study & enjoyment of cacti & succulent plants through educational programs & activities that promote the hobby within a community of fellow enthusiasts & among the greater public.



IT'S PARTY TIME!

- WHAT:** LACSS HOLIDAY AWARDS PARTY
- WHEN:** SATURDAY DECEMBER 8, 4:30-9:00
- WHERE:** THERAPEUTIC LIVING CENTER FOR THE BLIND
7915 LINDLEY AVENUE, RESEDA 91335
**Entrance to party is at back of building off Arminta Street
Limited parking in back, Lots of parking on Lindley Ave

PLEASE REMEMBER:

- Seating is limited, be sure you RSVP and sign up for a potluck dish if you have not already done so!
Contact: Debi Heaps -heapsgasgirl@gmail.com or text 818-207-0254
- Bring your potluck dishes between 4:30-5:00.
- If you would like to participate in the voluntary gift exchange, just bring a gift priced up to \$15.

**WE ARE ALL LOOKING FORWARD TO A FUN, RELAXING EVENING!
COME JOIN US!**

Debi Heaps

A Word From Our President



Happy Holidays to all!

I am very excited for the Holiday Awards Banquet. There are a lot of surprises and I hope you all will be there. If you need to RSVP, please contact Debi Heaps: (heapsgasgirl@gmail.com)

January 3, 2019, our general meeting will be at the Sepulveda Garden Center. Starting in February, we will have a new spot. We will be meeting at One Generation, 18255 Victory Blvd Reseda CA 91335. One Generation has 2 locations, we are meeting at the one next to Reseda Park. It is on the north side of the street. It is between Lindley and Reseda.

I have been working outside at Universal at night and I have noticed a major cool down in the weather. This is great for our winter growers. I hope you are taking time to go out and see your plants. It is so nice seeing the leaves popping out of my Othonna cremnophila. I love this plant so much.

I would like to congratulate the slate of Eboard members and welcome them to a two year term starting in January.

1st Vice-President, Programs
2nd Vice-President, Plant of the Month
Secretary
Director 1, Membership

Ron Behar
Manny Rivera
Ron Cooper
Ilona Buratti

We are very lucky to have such a wonderful and hardworking board. If you weren't at the meeting, you missed hearing about the wonderful check for \$5000 from the Inter-City Show. This is the largest check I have seen come into the club from that show. Thank you to all of our members that showed your wonderful plants and to everyone that volunteered.

Lots of good info in the Newsletter, so keep reading. We are making a few changes for Plant of the Month Program.

Wishing all of you an exciting Holiday with lots of Joy!

Kim Chavez

2018 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Kim Chavez

1ST VP, PROGRAMS
Ron Behar

2ND VP, PLANT OF THE MONTH
Manny Rivera

3RD VP, SPECIAL EVENTS
Diane Miller

SECRETARY
Matt Gatskill
LACSS.contact@gmail.com

TREASURER
Gretchen Davis

FALL SALE CHAIR
Kal Kaminer

DIRECTOR 1 (2017-2018) ODD YRS.
Ilona Buratti

DIRECTOR 2 (2018-2019) EVEN YRS.
Artie Chavez

PAST PRESIDENT
Joyce Schumann

HISTORIAN
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newsletter@lacactus.com

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DRAWING & PLANT PROCUREMENT
Richard Roosman

PUBLICITY
Roxie Esterle

CACTUS GARDEN CHAIR
Chris Rogers

CACTUS CHRONICLE DISTRIBUTION
Richard Roosman & John Matthews

HOLIDAY PARTY CHAIRPERSONS
Debi Heaps

MEETING REFRESHMENTS
Sylvia Strehlo

MONTHLY DRAWING
Leah Imamura & Juana Williams

KIDS OUTREACH
Nicolene Bova

MEMBER AT LARGE
Collin O'Callaghan

PLANT^{OF} THE MONTH

NEW PLANT^{OF} THE MONTH POLICIES for 2019

At our upcoming Holiday Awards Banquet on December 8, we will be announcing and giving prizes for the **PLANT^{OF} THE MONTH** Competition. This is always a highlight of the evening. It sometimes takes a lot of effort to submit plants for the competition, especially large plants or delicate plants that need to be packed up carefully. Seeing mature plant is incredibly valuable and helps us discover what we aspire to achieve in well-grown specimens. Thank you to everyone who submitted plants in 2018.

The **PLANT^{OF} THE MONTH** competition is an important educational component of our monthly meetings. By showing your specimens, you learn tips about their care and staging, and gain recognition for a job well done. The 2018 year brought a record number of entries into the monthly POM contests, as total entries for the year exceeded 700!

The most intense competition has been in the "Rookie" division, with exceptional entries from many new members. In order to elevate the levels of competition in the more experienced divisions, the LACSS Board has initiated some new policies that will move people into higher levels of competition and increase the number of entries in the Advanced and Masters divisions. In addition, point counts will begin at 0 in each category, with 6 points for a first place, 4 points for a second place, 2 points for a third place, and 1 point for each plant entered.

New Competition Divisions:

- Rookie: 0 - 50 combined 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place "rookie" award points
- Novice: 0 - 100 combined 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place "novice" award points
- Advanced: 0 to 200 combined 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place "advanced" points
- Master/Open: Experienced growers who have earned 200 "advanced" points along with vendors who sell at shows outside of LACSS.

PLANT^{OF} THE MONTH 2019

JANUARY

Epiphytic Cacti
Dudleya

FEBRUARY

Echinocactus
Sarcocaulon

MARCH

Epithelantha, Encephalocarpus
Pelecypora, Aloe Hybrid

APRIL

Gymnocalycium
Haworthia

MAY

Small cacti & succulent staged as
miniature

JUNE

Favorites

JULY

Mammillaria with hooked spines
Lithops

AUGUST

Rebutia
Commiphora

SEPTEMBER

Astrophytum
Euphorbia from Madagascar

OCTOBER

Opuntiod from South America
Adromischus

NOVEMBER

Variegated
Variegated

DECEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY

PLANT OF THE MONTH

NOVEMBER RESULTS

CACTUS - CRESTED & MONSTROSE

ROOKIE

FIRST	MONVILLA SPEGAZZINII CRISTATA	AMANDA ERLANSON
SECOND	CEREUS PERUVIANUS MONSTROSE	RON COOPER
SECOND	MYRTILLOCACTUS GEOMETRIZANS CREST	RON COOPER
THIRD	MYRTILLOCACTUS GEOMETRIZANS CREST	DAN CURRAN
THIRD	NOTOCACTUS CRISTATA	COLLIN O'CALLAGHAN & KIMBERLY TONG

NOVICE

FIRST	LOBIVIA FAMATIMENSIS CRISTATA	AL MINDEL
SECOND	CEREUS PERUVIANUS MONSTROSE	RON BEHAR
THIRD	CEREUS PERUVIANUS MONSTROSE	DIANE CABANNE

ADVANCED

FIRST	OBREGONIA DENEGRII CREST	KATHRYN BOORER
SECOND	CYLINDROPUNTIA CALIFORNICA CREST	KATHRYN BOORER
THIRD	COPIAPOA HUMILIS	ROXIE ESTERLE
THIRD	CEREUS SPEGAZZINII FMA CRISTATA	BARBARA HALL

OPEN

FIRST	??	??
SECOND	MAMMILLARIA HUITZILOPOTCHLLII CREST	KAREN OSTLER
THIRD	MAMMILLARIA CRUCIGERA SSP. MINNICHII CREST	KAREN OSTLER

SUCCULENT - CRESTED & MONSTROSE

ROOKIE

FIRST	EUPHORBIA SP. CRISTATA	FELIPE DELGADO
SECOND	AEONIUM SUNBURST CREST	ILONA BURATTI
THIRD	GRAPTOPETALUM	MELINDA HIPZES

NOVICE

FIRST	EUPHORBIA LACTEA VARIEGATA CRISTATA	RON BEHAR
SECOND	EUPHORBIA LACTEA CRISTATA	AL MINDEL
THIRD	GRATOPETALUM PARAGUAYENSE CREST	GRETCHEN DAVIS
THIRD	ECHEVERIA RUNYONII CREST	GRETCHEN DAVIS

ADVANCED

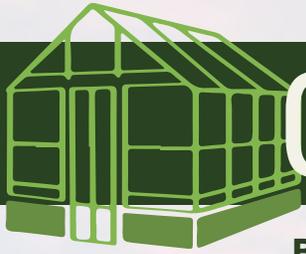
FIRST	AGAVE TITANOTA	ROXIE ESTERLE
SECOND	EUPHORBIA SP. CREST	KATHRYN BOORER
THIRD	PEDILANTHUS MACROCARPUS	ROXIE ESTERLE

OPEN

FIRST	PELARGONIUM CARNOSUM	MANNY RIVERA
SECOND	ARIOCARPUS RETUSUS	KIM & ARTIE CHAVEZ
THIRD	??	??

PLANT OF THE MONTH ENTRIES ARE LIMITED TO 3 SUCCULENT PLANTS AND 3 CACTUS PLANTS FOR EACH MEMBER. THIS APPLIES EVEN WHEN THERE ARE MORE THAN ONE GENUS OF SUCCULENT OR CACTUS. THE THEORY IS THERE WILL BE SPACE FOR EVERYONE.





GREENHOUSE NOTES

BY KAREN OSTLER

Root rot. A phrase that strikes a chill in both rookie and veteran growers. It happens to all of us. That prized plant. That cutting growing so well that suddenly isn't.

How do you diagnose it and why did it happen?

Here's the scenario. You notice a succulent with yellowing leaves or a cactus with a shriveled body. It's wintertime and you are doing the balancing act of just a little water to keep the plants alive. The first thought is that it needs water; so you water. Next time you look at it, the yellowed leaves have dropped, or the plant body seems to be collapsing.

Stop...before you water that first time.

Stick your finger down into the pot; is the soil hard to push into? Is it damp about an inch down? It's time to tip the plant out of the pot and inspect the roots. I will speculate right here and say it's probably not mealybugs, or sciarid flies (fungus gnats). Both of these irritating little pests prefer warmer weather. But if you find bugs; dose it. See last month's column.

Otherwise, how long has the plant been in the pot? Is it completely root-bound? Or most likely; has the soil broken down to the point that it is no longer draining freely?

Healthy roots are white or cream colored. If your plant's roots are dark brown or black; have a nasty smell or are slimy, it's time to take drastic action, before the plant makes a permanent exit.

This is the scary part for a novice: cut the damaged roots off. If it's a succulent, take a top cutting and set it aside; that gives you two chances to save the plant. I wouldn't do that with a woody plant; a *Bursera* or an *Operculicarya*. *Kalanchoes*, *Aeoniums*, *Sedums*; take a top cutting. *Haworthias*, *Gasterias*, *Aloes*; divide the plant. *Caudiciforms*, cut the roots back to healthy roots and cut the top growth equally. With *Euphorbias*, Tom Glavich advised that we shouldn't cut both roots and top growth at the same time, good advice from an expert, so just cut roots. If it's a cactus; cut the rotted roots off.

Now you have a plant without roots...now what?

Set the plant aside, the cuttings as well. That's right, just ignore it. I like to prop it up in an empty pot, non-existent roots down, so the plant hormones don't get confused. Put it out of the sun so it doesn't burn, somewhere it won't get cold, or get rained on. I use my laundry porch, there's light, but just a little, I don't want the top trying to grow when there are no roots; it's fairly warm and it's dry. After that...just walk away.

Check the plant once a week or so; even though it's winter many plants: once they have callused over; will begin to throw roots. If that happens, yay! Put a bed of pumice down in the pot and set your survivor on top. Don't try and bury it, the roots will go into the pumice. In a couple of weeks, give a little tug, if your plant tugs back, you have been successful and you have saved your plant. Now give it a little drink.

Happy growing!

Karen Ostler

MEMBERSHIP PAGE

BY ILONA BURATTI

To date we have 142 renewals...out of 341; we have quite a way to go. Dues are due, and delinquent on December 31st. We will collect dues at the Awards Party.

We had 105 members at the last meeting. There were 6 guests.

WELCOME!



NOVEMBER'S NEW MEMBERS:

DUSTIN BULAON
ERNESTINE SEGURA
JAKE BERKOWITZ
BRIAN PATALLA

**BE SURE TO BRING
A FLAT BOX FOR YOUR
GOODIES, PICK UP YOUR
NAME BADGE (IF ORDERED),
YOUR ROSTER,
MEMBERSHIP CARD &
WELCOME PLANT.**

JANUARY EVENTS

JANUARY 12-13

SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE

9:00AM - 4:00PM BOTH DAYS

LA COUNTY ARBORETUM

310 N. BALDWIN, ARCADIA CA.

FOR MORE INFO CALL MANNY RIVERA (626) 780 6957 OR JOHN MATTHEWS (661) 714 1052

25TH SAN GABRIEL VALLEY WINTER CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SHOW AND SALE

(Admission is free with PAID arboretum admission)



*Pelargonium carnosum
ssp feralaceum*

January 12 - 13 2019, 9am - 4pm
LA COUNTY ARBORETUM
301 N Baldwin, Arcadia

Information, please contact

www.sgvcss.com or (626) 821 3222

Sponsored by the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society