



### CSSA Affiliate

**Next Meeting**  
**Thursday**  
**January 5, 2017**

**16633 Magnolia Blvd.**  
**Encino, CA 91346**

**Doors Open**  
**at 6:15 pm**

**Meeting begins**  
**at 7:00pm**

**Refreshments for:**  
**January**

**Last names**  
**starting with "S"**

**Happy New**  
**Year**  
**2017**

#### WEBSITE:

Visit us at:  
[Lacactus.com](http://Lacactus.com)

#### EMAIL:

[lacss.contact@gmail.com](mailto:lacss.contact@gmail.com)

#### Editor

**Jose J Villarroel**  
[jo.villa818@gmail.com](mailto:jo.villa818@gmail.com)



### Mission Statement:

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

### January Program:

**“Desperately Seeking Succulents, in the San Francisco Mountains of Baja California”**

**Presented by: Jim and Roxie Esterle**

Jim and Roxie Esterle bought their first succulent, a *Bursera fagaroides*, from Manny Singer in 1992. Little did they know then that collecting succulents would become a shared, lifelong passion for them. After each retired, Jim from education and human resources and Roxie from science education, they discovered LACSS and were hooked. In addition to learning about these fantastic plants, they have accumulated over 1000 cacti and succulents which Roxie tracks on a 50+ page spreadsheet.



Finding plants in the wild and seeing their natural and full-size glory has been a tremendous source of excitement for the Esterles, taking them to Madagascar, Ethiopia, and other exotic lands. One of their favorite travel destinations in Baja California, so easily accessible and such a treasure trove of plants. In the past years, the Esterles have driven to central Baja several times and have been able to locate many species of Cactus, Agave, Yucca, Dudleya, Fouquieria, Jatropha, and Bursera. In this presentation, they will share their discoveries and the joy of the hunt.

## 2017 Officers

### **President**

Joyce Schumann

### **1<sup>st</sup> VP, Programs**

Ron Behar

### **2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Plant of the Month**

Manny Rivera

### **3<sup>rd</sup> VP, Special Events**

Diane Miller

### **Secretary**

Matthew Gaskill

[LACSS.contact@gmail.com](mailto:LACSS.contact@gmail.com)

### **Treasurer**

Gretchen Davis

### **Director 1 Odd Years**

### **Membership**

Iлона Buratti

### **Director 2, Even Years**

Ron Behar

### **Past President**

Roxie Esterle

### **LACSS Show Chair**

Jim Esterle

### **Show Committee**

Joyce Schumann

Kim Thorpe

Rosemary Polito

### **Webmaster**

Kim Thorpe

### **Librarian**

Susan Phillips

### **Historian**

Nils Schirmmacher

### **Cactus Chronicle Editor**

Jose J Villarroel

### **Inter-City Show Liaison**

Artie Chavez and Steve Frieze

### **CSSA Representative**

John Matthews

### **Education Chair**

Kyle Williams

### **Drawing & Plant Procurement**

Richard Roosman

### **Mentor Program Chair**

John Suci

### **Member at Large**

Kathleen Misko

### **Cactus Garden Chair**

Chris Rogers

### **Cactus Chronicle Distribution**

Richard Roosman

John Matthews

### **Holiday Party Chairpersons**

Kandi and Don Soderstrom

### **Holiday Party Awards**

### **Procurement**

Gerald Reichert

### **Cactus Garden**

Chris Rogers

### **Meeting Refreshments**

Lisa Gailey

Linda Holub

### **Publicity**

Kim Thorpe

### **Monthly Drawing**

Leah Imamura

Juana Williams

## President's Message

January, 2017

Greetings to all,

At the beginning of each year, it is natural to wonder what happened to last year. Is it gone so soon? I still have things to do! I also wonder how I will fill the coming year. Sooo much time and so little to do... Yeah, Right!!...

It may not come as a surprise to you that the Festival committee has had their first meeting already. The Board of Directors and the Strategic Planning Committee each will have a meeting in January. So, we are Off and Running – gearing up for things to come in this New Year.

In retrospect, our Holiday Awards Dinner was a super success. Good food, good friends, and good times for all. See a summary of the award winners in a separate posting in this Chronicle. Kandie and Don Soderstrom did a fantastic job in organizing, decorating, and overseeing every detail to insure the event was enjoyed by all. Kudos to them. We look forward to their return as Holiday Chairs for next year!!

How are your plants doing? Any frost bite? The Dec. 15/16 rain may have left some of your potted plants standing in a saucer full of water. This is not a good time for that to happen so check your potted plants to make sure they are not in standing water. Just remove the pot/plant and let it drain for a minute or so and then set it down on a surface that will allow for further draining. Use the standing water for other plants that did not benefit from the rain. The summer growing plants are dormant now and their roots do not like to be soggy or cold, or both. How do we know what is a summer growing plant? (FAQ # 2017-1) We have a hand out listing summer and winter growers. Be sure to ask Nancy Neymark for a copy if you do not have one yet.

The Club's goals for 2017 are to continue our fantastic Monthly Programs, increase participation in the POM competition (come on Advanced members – rookies are outnumbering you. Don't let that happen!) and offer Mentoring sessions that will appeal to everyone. If you have a subject or topic that you would like to see offered, please let us know.

The Membership Chair (Iлона Buratti) will be asking for you to confirm your current information for inclusion into the club records and roster. We will include in the roster only the personal information that you want posted. So make sure you inform Iлона of your wishes.

The New Year brings us the opportunity to reflect on the past year's achievements. To change what needs to be changed, to improve on the good stuff and to continue to serve as a conduit for learning more about our favorite hobby.

May the New Year also bring you peace, good health, and prosperity. See you soon.

Joyce

## President's Blurb for December 2016



The annual Holiday Party held on Saturday, December 10th, 2016 has come and gone. For a brief pause in our busy lives, we were able to share in a tasty catered meal supplemented with potluck dishes. Thanks to Cheryl, Danielle, and Gretchen who were available for the business of check-in, raffle tickets, and membership. New and old friends were able to enjoy a variety of programs for the evening. 28 members participated in the gift exchange with some lovely gifts changing hands. Members that showed a cactus or succulent for the plant of the month for 2016 were rewarded with a bonsai pot, ranging from the highest point person to the person that received a single point. We had a drawing for a cactus and succulent arrangement provided by Desert Creations and one for early membership courtesy of John Matthews. We gave away the centerpieces; thanks to some talented members who filled the donated pots with plants from their collections. At the end of the program, a very entertaining auction was held with Steve Frieze and Tim Harvey as our auctioneers. Don and I enjoyed putting together the evening with the help of some key people holding our hands: Joyce Schumann, Rose Polito, Kim Thorpe, Artie Chavez, Gretchen Davis, and Barbara Hall.

New ideas and help wanted for the 2017 Holiday Party. We hope to see you all in the New Year.

Thanks again, Kandie and Don Soderstrom

Joyce



**T H E H U N T I N G T O N**  
LIBRARY, ART COLLECTIONS, AND BOTANICAL GARDENS  
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California 91108 (626) 405-2100

BOTANICAL GARDENS

## **DESERT FORUM** *Saturday, 14th of January 2017*

### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

- 9:00 – 9:45      **Registration**  
Please bring your CSSA or affiliated club badge or membership card for admission  
  
In order to receive free admission, you **MUST** arrive by 9:45 A.M.  
Late arrivers will need to pay for Huntington admission.
- 9:00 – 11:00      **Desert Garden**  
Knowledgeable staff and docents will be stationed throughout the  
Desert Garden and Desert Conservatory  
Aloes will be flowering
- 11:00 – 1:00      **Plant Sales – (exclusively for CSSA and club members)**  
Gate opens by the Teaching Greenhouse at 11:00 for plant sales -  
*please, no early bird shopping, and no shopping after 1:00.*  
Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted
- 1:00 – 5:00      **Free Time**  
Attendees are welcome to tour the gardens and galleries as of 10:00 am

#### **Lunch:**

The Café in the visitor center features a variety of sandwiches, salads, and grilled items

The tea room at Liu Fang Yuan is a nice option for fresh Chinese food

The coffee shop by the bookstore offers a small selection of pre-made options.

## Plant of the Month: Copiapoa



*Copiapoa* is a genus of spectacular cacti from the Atacama Desert along the north coast of Chile. *Copiapoa* were first collected in the 1840s, and described as *Echinocactus*, then the home to any of the more or less globular cacti. The genus *Copiapoa* was named by Britton and Rose in 1922 in their great work **The Cactaceae**. The name derives from Chilean province of Copiapo, home of many of the species. Currently 26 species of *Copiapoa* are generally recognized. Species of this genus are relatively small, though they can form large clumps. The largest species rarely surpass three feet in height, while the smallest species, *C. laui*, rivals *Blossfeldia* for the title of world's smallest cactus

***Copiapoa coquimana* in habitat: Left**

The habitat of *Copiapoa* is incredibly dry, even by desert standards. They occur in the Atacama, the world's driest desert. The average rainfall in the region is 1mm/year (0.04 inches). Many areas get rainfall only once every four years and some weather stations have never recorded a single drop of rain! Interestingly *Copiapoa* thrives in these extreme conditions to the extent that the genus peters out at the northern and southern ends of its range because these areas are where rainfall starts to become more regular and predictable.

How can any plant, even a cactus, survive in a climate where years can go by without rain? They do it by living off the fog that regularly covers the coastal regions of northern Chile. Anyone living in coastal California in June knows this gloomy fog all too well. Surely we've all noticed our plants, and pretty much any outside surface, covered in moisture condensed from the fog on overcast mornings. Without this fog, even *Copiapoa* could not survive in the Atacama Desert.



*Copiapoa* live along the coast and through the river valleys cut through the coastal mountains. The hills and valleys of Northern Chile are still not well explored from a botanical point of view. When these areas have been explored new species have been found, and it is likely more will be found in the future.



Given these extremely dry conditions, one would expect cultivation to be difficult in our comparatively wet Southern California winters. Fortunately, this is not so, and *Copiapoa* are relatively easy to grow. They respond happily to the same potting mix, watering, and fertilization as most cacti. When given favorable growing conditions these plants develop many times faster than they would in their native habitat. Some species can even be grown in the open ground in the Los Angeles area, as long as the soil is well drained. They do tend to grow slower than some other cacti of similar size.

*Copiapoa* are easily propagated from cuttings or division of clumps. Seed is available from the CSSA seed bank, and most cactus seed nurseries. These seeds germinate quickly in the spring. They should be started in a moist potting mix, and moved to drier media after germination. They do very well in a mineral potting mix with almost no organic matter.

**Kyle Williams**

## Mentoring Session Review: Aeoniums

### Aeonium Workshop

On November 20th, my daughter and granddaughter came to the house to stay with Ernie so I could attend Marquita's Aeonium workshop. At a previous Festival I had obtained every variety that she was selling and they all had survived. I was curious to see how they should be planted. I put mine all together, thought they would like the company.

The day was grey and cloudy which made the drive to Camarillo epic for me. I enjoyed the openness and Marquitas hacienda captures the beauty of the area. She had a display table of her aeoniums and I pulled a chair up front row.

What I love about workshops is the information that is given from real conditions. Marquita shared with us her success and losses which, for me, makes this hobby more bearable. The stack of plastic pots from my losses don't seem as daunting when I see others.



Marquita is a dedicated collector with a beautiful vision for her garden.

These workshops are wonderful. Don't miss the next one.

Thank you, Marquita, for your generosity.

**Kathleen Misko**

**Plant of the Month  
2017**

**January**

Copiapoa  
Tylecodon

**February**

Escobaria  
Acharragma  
Aloe Clusters  
(no larger than 6" pot)

**March**

Echinopsis  
Euphorbia Caudiciform

**April**

Mammillaria  
w/out hooks  
Bromeliad

**May**

Small cactus  
staged as miniature  
Small Succulent  
staged as miniature

**June**

Favorite

**July**

Stenocactus  
Echinofossulocactus  
Pachypodium/Africa

**August**

Melocactus  
(Subject to Change)

**September**

Opuntia N. America  
Sanseveiria

**October**

Grafted Cactus  
Grafted Succulent

**November**

Ariocarpus  
Agave

**December**

Holiday Dinner Party

**LACSS 2016 Plant of the Month Results**

**Graduated from Rookie to Novice > 25 points**

Sonia Villarroel	65
Kim Greenblatt	53
Lisa Gailey	50
Kai Kaminer	36
MA Bjarkman	27
<b>Total Points</b>	
Kathryn Boorer (Advanced)	108
John Matthews (Open)	66
Kim Jacobi (Novice)	59
<b>Total Points Cactus</b>	
Kathryn Boorer (Advanced)	66
Linda Holub (Novice)	33
Kim Greenblatt (Rookie)	31
<b>Total Points Succulent</b>	
Kathryn Boorer (Advanced)	42
Kim Jacobi (Novice)	41
Lisa Gailey (Rookie)	32
Barbara Hall (Advanced)	32
<b>Rookie Cactus</b>	
Kim Greenblatt	31
Kal Kaminer	29
Sonia Villarroel	17
<b>Novice Cactus</b>	
Linda Holub	33
Kim Jacobi	18
Roxie Esterle	17
<b>Advanced Cactus</b>	
Kathryn Boorer	66
Kim Thorpe	25
Barbara Hall	23
<b>Open Cactus</b>	
John Matthews	41
Karen Ostler	28
Kyle Williams	12
<b>Rookie Succulent</b>	
Lisa Gailey	32
Sonia Villarroel	28
Kim Greenblatt	22
<b>Novice Succulent</b>	
Kim Jacobi	41
Roxie Esterle	23
Linda Holub	16
<b>Advanced Succulent</b>	
Kathryn Boorer	42
Barbara Hall	32
Kim Thorpe	26
<b>Open Succulent</b>	
John Matthews	25
Manny Rivera	21
Kyle Williams	15

## **2017 CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

**UPDATED 11/7/16 ANY CHANGES please email: [aloescats1@aol.com](mailto:aloescats1@aol.com)**

- FEB. 11            **SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY, SPRING SHOW AND SALE**  
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA—INFO 858-382-1797
- MAR. 23-25       **ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SHOW AND SALE**  
THURS. 23<sup>RD</sup> 6-8PM---FRI. MAR. 24<sup>TH</sup> 9-7PM---SAT. MAR. 25<sup>TH</sup> 9-5  
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA  
INFORMATION CALL 562-587-3357
- APR. 8-9           **SOUTH COAST CACTUS AN SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE**  
SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS, 26300 CRENSHAW BLVD., PALOS VERDES, CA  
INFO: 310-378-1953 ; Website: <http://www.southcoastcss.org>
- APR. 23           **HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 10AM TO 4:30PM / HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS,**  
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-3504
- MAY 5-6           **SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**  
VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, GARDEN ROOM  
4117 OVERLAND AVE., CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. 310-822-1783
- MAY 7             **SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**  
-9am to 4pm SOUTH COAST BONTANICAL GARDENS, INFO. 310-833-6823
- MAY 12-13       **GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 35<sup>TH</sup> SHOW AND SALE**  
FRI & SAT 9-4:30 pm, at LAND SCAPES SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STYLE  
450 E. ALESSANDRO BLVD., RIVERSIDE, CA INFO. 951-360-8802
- MAY 20-21       **LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB PLANT SHOW AND SALE**  
10-4 pm RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS, 6400 BIXBY HILL ROAD, LONG BEACH, CA  
INFO. 562-631-5876
- MAY 27-28       **CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY**  
ANNUAL SHOW & SALE (10-4PM), LUDWICK CENTER,  
864 SANTA ROSA SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – INFO. 805-237-2054, [www.centralcoastcactus.org](http://www.centralcoastcactus.org)
- JUNE 3-4           **SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY-- SUMMERSHOW & SALE**  
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA INFO. 858-382-1797
- JUNE 10-11       **LOS ANGELES CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY PLANT SHOW AND SALE**  
JUNE 10th 9AM – 5PM and JUNE 11th 9AM - 3PM  
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BLVD., ENCINO, CA.  
INFO. [www.lacss-show.com](http://www.lacss-show.com)

## **2017 CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS**

**UPDATED 11/7/16 ANY CHANGES please email: [aloescats1@aol.com](mailto:aloescats1@aol.com)**

- JUN 30-JUL 2**      **CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE – HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. Info: 626-405-3504  
PLANTS SALES START JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> THRU JULY 2<sup>ND</sup>  
SHOW OPENS JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> THUR JULY 2<sup>ND</sup>
- JULY 20-22**      **ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND SALE**  
THURS. 20<sup>TH</sup> 6-8pm, FRI. JULY 21<sup>ST</sup> 9am-7pm, SAT. 22<sup>ND</sup> 9-5pm  
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA  
INFORMATION CALL 949-212-8417
- JULY 26-31**      **CSSA CONVENTION, TEMPE, AZ.**
- AUG. 12-13**      **32<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW AND SALE AT THELA COUNTY ARBORETUM**  
9am-5pm daily. 301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA.  
INFO. CALL TOM GLAVICH 626-798-2430 or ARTIE CHAVEZ 818-482-8795
- SEPT. 2**      **HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM**  
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON 626-405-3504
- SEPT. 3**      **LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION**  
12-5PM RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS, 6400 BIXBY HILL ROAD, LONG BEACH, CA 90615  
INFO. 562-631-5876
- Oct. 7-8**      **BAKERSFIELD CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE**  
SAT. 10-5---SUN. 11-3 ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, 2216 17<sup>th</sup> STREET  
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304 FREE ADMISSION & PARKING, INFO 661-8318488
- OCT. 21-22**      **PALOMAR SHOW AND SALE**  
SAT 9-5, SUN 10-4, SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDENS  
230 QUAIL GARDENS ROAD, ENCINITAS, CA  
INFO [hciservices@gmail.com](mailto:hciservices@gmail.com). 858-382-1797
- NOV. 4 - 5**      **SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**  
9am-4pm BOTH DAYS---LA COUNTY ARBORETUM 310 NO. BALDWIN, ARCADIA, CA  
INFO: MANNY RIVERA 626-780-6957 or JOHN MATTHEWS 661-714-1052

LACSS Cactus Chronicle



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## **January Program:**

**Desperately Seeking Succulents, in the San Francisco Mountains  
of Baja California**

**Presented by: Jim and Roxie Esterle**

## **January Events**

**DESERT FORUM**  
*Saturday, 14th of January 2017*

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LIBRARY, ART COLLECTIONS, AND BOTANICAL GARDENS  
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California 91108 (626) 405-2100