



CACTUS CHRONICLE

CSSA Affiliate

**Next Meeting
Thursday**

May 5, 2016

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

**Doors Open
at 6:15 pm**

**Meeting begins
at 7:00pm**

**Refreshments for
May
I-M**

New Members

Ana Fernandez
Estrid Gamonal
Rosela and Frederick
Leight
Parisa Namdari
Jemina Norman
Marvin Retsky
Ryan Tucker
Ronnie Tucker

Editor

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May Program: Cycads the Ancients

Presented by: Jeff Chemnick

In our gardens we frequently couple our cactus and succulents with cycads. But, how much do you know about them? Jeff Chemnick is an authority on Mexican cycads and is a research associate at Lotusland. He has published numerous articles and has described new species of cycads genera to science. Jeff is owner and operator of Aloes-in-Wonderland, a specialty nursery in Santa Barbara where he has an amazing collection of cycads, agaves, aloes, and similar beautiful plants with radial symmetry. In addition to his nursery and field research he leads botanical and ornithological ecotours throughout the country with focus on the State of Oaxaca. He is also on the IUCN's Cycad Specialist Group which determines the status of endangered species.



His presentation will not only cover cycads but also recap his recent trip to Oaxaca, Mexico.

2016 Officers

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Joyce Schumann

1st VP, Programs

Marquita Elias

2nd VP, Plant of the Month

Manny Rivera

3rd VP, Special Events

Diane Miller

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Cheryl White

LACSS.contact@gmail.com

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Gretchen Davis

Director 1 Odd Years

Membership

Danielle Duboff

Director 2, Even Years

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LACSS Show Chair

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Cactus Chronicle Editor

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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

May 2016

Getting back to a topic we touched on earlier. We still are blessed with new members and visitors each month. No complaints there. However, to assist the newcomers in understanding the organized chaos we call our meetings, it is incumbent on all of us to make certain they are welcomed and to offer a few words of encouragement, direction, and insight into the workings of our club and meetings. So, please make sure you introduce yourself to anyone you haven't met before. Remember, that new face may someday be your president.

I still am amazed with the active level of participation in the POM! The Rookies and Novices are certainly astute collectors as reflected in the quality of plants they bring for competition. However, the Advanced class have dwindled in numbers. Where are you? We know you have the plants. We saw some of them in competition when you were Novices!! The POM categories are listed for a year in advance so there is plenty of time to obtain a plant if not already in your collection. Refer to the POM guidelines published in the March Chronicle. If you still have questions, feel free to ask Manny or anyone else.

We continue on schedule with our Festival plans. The inside floor plan has been developed and each space has been dedicated to a specific topic. The outside space will be much the same as last year with the major change being the swapping of the positions of the Kid's Day tent and the Speaker's tent. Again, success is dependent on our member's volunteering. As was announced at the April meeting, volunteers who work four hours will be given a voucher for lunch at the Kiwanis' lunch tent. Details on that are still being worked out and we will keep you apprised as things firm up.

It is not too early to start planning your participation and/or attendance at the Intercity Show and Sale on August 13 & 14. Artie Chavez is our representative to that event and will be offering tips on preparing your plants for the competition and ways that you can volunteer. This event is the largest cactus and succulent show in the U.S. (and probably the world). Tom Glavich of the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society has done an exceptional job as Show Chair in making sure that all visitors have a positive experience and will come back the next year. As 1/3 of the sponsoring Clubs*, it is important that we participate at least at that level. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Artie or Tom.

The Third-Saturday-of-the-month programs have proven to be a useful time to feature a "bonus" speaker, have a workshop, or an open forum for sharing ideas and issues. However, due to the busyness of the next few months, we agreed to not have a 3rd Saturday get together for May or June. And since the summer is filled with other cactus and succulent shows that most of us want to go to, I think we will have our next 3rd Saturday in September. Program to be determined later.

See you soon.

Joyce

**FAQ opportunity: Who are the three sponsoring clubs for the Intercity Show and Sale?*

Garden Tour Review

by M A Bjarkman

What fun we had today! Bonnie and I, who were garden hosts for LACSS's first Garden Tour back in February, went to visit Marquita and Cheryl's gardens.

The photos of Marquita's back yard did not begin to prepare us for the reality there! Her entire huge back yard was landscaped to house her Canary Islands aeoniums and other compatible succulents. She has two greenhouses, heating pads in one for starting plants from seed and lots of fans to control air flow. She also has a larger one for the babies' next stage of growth - and at one end of it Marquita has plants for sale at very reasonable prices.



Diane treated us with the perfect morning refreshments - and it was noted that our group seems to prefer doughnut holes to bagel quarters with cream cheese!

Next, we drove to Cheryl's breathtaking landscaped home, and for a moment I felt transported to the Huntington because her cactus area was modeled after the Huntington's design. So many exquisite mature plants - no way to take it all in on one day. Several days are required to be able to see everything. Of course it has been growing for over a decade.

Refreshments at Cheryl's home included fresh guacamole, cheese, crackers, fresh fruit and cookies. Not only was there food, beautiful gardens *plus* pots she was GIVING away!

So Bonnie and I returned home with new plants and pots to play with.

Thanks Marquita, Cheryl, and Diane for creating such a perfectly satisfying day!





**Saturday, June 11, 2016
9am to 4pm**

**Sunday, June 12, 2016
9am to 3pm**

Free Event

Annual Drought Tolerant Plant Festival

Saturday June 11, 2016

10:30am Lili Singer *"The Joys of Gardening with Native Plants"*

12:30pm Sandy Chase *"Propagating and Repotting Succulents"*

2pm Matt Maggio *"Landscaping with Aloes"*



Sunday, June 12, 2016

Kids' Day events start at 10:30am

Speaker

11:30 Deborah Lee Baldwin *"Succulents and More"*

(Book signing to follow)



**Sepulveda Garden Center
16633 Magnolia Blvd Encino, CA 91316**

Available for sale lots of cacti and succulents from all over the world, bromeliads, California and Australian natives, top dressing, staging rocks, pottery, crystals, gems, books, landscape plants, crafts, and silent auctions.



**For more info call 818 749 5346 or visit our website
www.lacactus.com**

PLANT OF THE MONTH POLICIES for 2016

Competition Divisions:

- Rookie:** 0 to 25 combined points from 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place “rookie” awards
Novice: 1 to 100 combined points from 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place “novice” award points
Advanced: 100 or more combined points from 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place “advanced” award points
Master/Open: Any experienced grower may compete in this division, but entry is required for individuals who sell at shows outside of LACSS.

Plant Entries

Members may enter up to three plants in each designated monthly cactus and succulent category. In the Advanced and Master/Open divisions, members must have cared for their plants for at least 1 year. In the Novice division, the ownership requirement is 6 months. Rookies may show newly purchased plants. Entries should be labeled and placed on the display table by 7:00 pm.

Judging Criteria

Plants are evaluated according to the following guidelines:

Condition (health, form, damage-free)	50%
Maturity and size	25%
Staging (complementary container, top dressing, composition)	20%
Nomenclature (identification and label)	5%

Other factors include rarity, growing difficulty, and whether or not the plant is in flower.

Awards

First place	6 points
Second place	3 points
Third place	2 points
Other entries	1 point per plant to acknowledge entry

Entry slips are collected by the 2nd Vice President in charge of Plant of the Month who coordinates tabulation, record keeping, and publication in the Cactus Chronicle.

Annual cumulative prizes are awarded at the Holiday Party in December to the top three scorers in each division for cacti and for succulents. Additional prizes are awarded for overall total scores from highest to lowest across all divisions. Every individual who has brought plants during the year is acknowledged with a prize. Individuals who “graduate” from one division to the next for the following year will also be recognized.

**Plant of the Month
2016**

May

Small cactus staged as a miniature
Small succulent staged as a miniature

June

Favorite

July

Rebutia, Sulcorebutia
Weingartia
Euphorbia
Non-endemic to Madagascar

August

Astrophytum
Adenium

September

Turbinicarpus
Gymnocactus
Cyphostema
Cissus

October

Mammillaria with hooks
Asclepiad

November

Variegated

December

Holiday Party

**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

Plant of the Month

Cactus — Parodia, Notocactus

Rookie

First	Sean Barth	Parodia chrysacanthion
Second	?	?
Third	Kim Greenblatt	Parodia marianana

Novice

First	Linda Holub	Parodia leninghausii
Second	Linda Holub	Parodia leninghausii
Third	Linda Holub	Notocactus herteri

Advanced

First	Kathryn Boorer	Parodia magnifica
Second	John Martinez	Notocactus leninghausii
Third	Barbara Hall	Parodia magnifica

Succulent — Haworthia

Rookie

First	?	?
Second	Lisa Gailey	Haworthia cymbiformis
Second	Lisa Gailey	Haworthia attenuata
Third	Nicki Larson	Haworthia concolor
Third	Nancy Neymark	Haworthia limifolia

Novice

First	Kim Jacobi	Haworthia reinwardtii
Second	Kim Jacobi	Haworthia attenuata
Third	Linda Holub	Haworthia arachnoides

Advanced

First	Scott Schaffer	Haworthia truncata variegata
First	Sylvia Strehlo	Haworthia cooperi var. obtusa
Second	Scott Schaffer	Haworthia truncata var. araiso
Second	Barbara Hall	Haworthia bolusii
Second	John Suci	Haworthia limifolia-striata
Third	Scott Schaffer	Haworthia maughanii
Third	Sylvia Strehlo	Haworthia kegazato
Third	John Martinez	Haworthia truncata

Note: The cards for First Place Rookie Succulent and Second Place Rookie Cactus are missing. If you inadvertently took your card home, please bring them back for Cheryl White so you can get credit for your points!

Cactus & Succulents of the Month: *Miniatures*



This month we aren't focusing on a specific genus or family of plants. Instead we will look at a growth form that everyone has space to grow, miniatures! It is important to note that because we are dealing with a descriptive term, not a botanical one, there is no hard and fast rule for what a miniature plant is. The closest we have is the rule for the Intercity Show, which limits the maximum pot size to 3 inches and requires the plants to be naturally small, not just a juvenile. For our meeting we'll be a little more relaxed and allow juvenile forms and pots slightly bigger, within reason of course.

Blossfeldia lilipuntiana

A miniature is not necessarily the same thing as a dwarf plant. For example, a number of *Agave* species are considered dwarf sized because they only get a couple feet in diameter. That is very small compared to a huge *A. americana* that can be 10 feet or more across, but isn't really what we mean by miniature. Another example would be a *Bursera microphylla*, the Elephant Tree, which can form a huge shrub or small tree. It is often grown as a caudiciform bonsai just a couple feet tall. That plant has been dwarfed but it still is not a miniature!



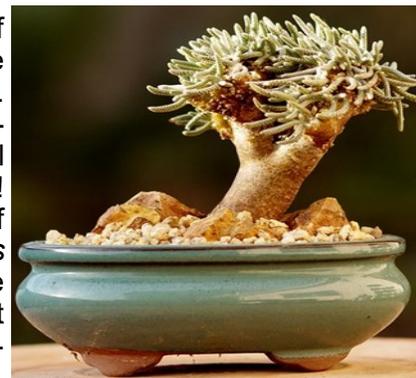
Neohenricia sibbettii



Conophytum pellucidum

So what are some examples of true miniatures? Another great example of cacti is *Copiapoa laui*, in addition to *Blossfeldia lilipuntiana*. They both form small clumps, but individual heads are usually 1/2" or less in diameter. Even slightly bigger species such as *Ortegocactus macdougallii*, *Mammillaria theresae*, or *Puna clavarioides* are ideal miniatures so long as the clump hasn't become too big.

While there are quite a number of miniature cacti, the number of miniature (non-cactus) succulents is even bigger. One of the best places to look for miniatures is among the mesembs. Some species of *Conophytum* are the very definition of miniature, in that some species such as *C. pellucidum* are so small that you could have upwards of 100 heads in a three inch pot! Many species of *Lithops* work well too. Also consider some of the mesembs that aren't living stones types such as *Titanopsis* or *Aloinopsis* species. Outside mesembs, consider some of the smallest *Crassula*, *Haworthia*, *Sedum*, or *Avonia*. These are just suggestions, but if you have a plant that looks good and proportional in a three inch or smaller pot then you have a miniature!



Avonia alstonii

-Kyle Williams

Interior Show – 2016 Drought Tolerant Plant Festival

It is an honor and a privilege to co-chair the interior show for the third straight year! Look below for the many exciting activities that are scheduled during the Festival. Participation is critical to the success of the show so LACSS members are highly encouraged to be active. Creating an educational display, entering plants into the show or volunteering to help are just a few ways you can be involved in our spectacular Festival!

Educational Theme Displays

Our Festival offers a unique opportunity to educate the general public on the conservation and study of cacti and succulents. Educational theme displays give members the freedom to express their love and passion of the hobby by creating themed exhibits using a variety of mediums that includes live plants, poster boards, pictures, maps, drawings etc. Topics can range from repotting techniques, medicinal uses of certain plants, landscaping techniques, staging plants or the habitat and care of a specific genus. If you are interested in creating an educational theme display then please don't hesitate to contact me.

Public voting will be implemented once again this year. Members of the public will be given three voting tickets and will be encouraged to vote for their favorite educational displays. The tickets will be collected and totaled for both days. The winners will be announced and awards will be presented at the following July general club meeting.



Winners from the 2015 Festival include:

- 1st - Kim Thorpe - Echeverias
- 2nd - Karen and Martin Ostler – Mammallarias
- 3rd - Sandy Chase – A Study in Caudiciforms

Submit an educational display and show your creativity to the public!

Plant Show

Members may submit up to three plants in each cactus and succulent category (12 total plants). The show is open to all divisions (rookie, novice and advanced) and will be judged on the same criteria as the Plant of the Month. Here are the four plant categories for the show:

Cacti: *Crest/Monstrose* & *Variegated*
Succulents: *Crest/Monstrose* & *Variegated*

Members are also highly encouraged to submit the “non-crest/non-monstrose” or “non-variegated” plants. This will help to demonstrate the differences in normal and abnormal plant growth.

Important Dates

Set Up: Friday, June 10th
Festival: Saturday & Sunday, June 11th - 12th



Additional Interior Displays

- **San Fernando Valley Bromeliad Society:** Beautiful bromeliads will be on display from our active affiliate club.
- **Book Sale:** The fabulous Rose Polito and her team will be selling a wide variety of plant and garden books. Come say hello and buy a book or two or five.
- **Dinner Auction Plants:** See the amazing specimen plants that are available at the Saturday night dinner auction.



Volunteers Needed

Many volunteers are needed during both days of the Festival. Interior show duties include handing out voting tickets, answering questions from the public and monitoring doors. It would be greatly appreciated if members can donate some of their time to the club.

Please contact me if you would like to submit an Educational Theme Display; enter show plants; volunteer to help during the Festival or if you have any questions.

David Le
626-676-0301
davidlle@gmail.com

Photos by David Le

Cactus & Succulent - Calendar of Upcoming Events For 2016

- May 13-14** Gates Cactus & Succulent Society 34th Show & Sale Friday & Saturday 9-4:30
Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive Glen Avon INFO 951-360-8802
- May 21-22** Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show & Sale 10am-5 pm www.lbcss.org
Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach INFO 310-922-6090
- May 28-29** Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Sale & Show 10am-4pm
Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo
INFO 805-237-2054 www.centralcoastcactus.org
- June 4-5** San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society –Summer Show & Sale
Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego INFO 858-382-1797
- June 4-5** Fresno Cactus and Succulent Society- Summer Show Sale
- June 11-12** **Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society Plant Show & Sale**
Saturday, 11th 9am-5pm, Sunday, 12th 9am-3:30pm
Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Boulevard, Encino INFO www.lacss-show.org
- July 1-3** CSSA Annual Show & Sale –Huntington Botanical Gardens 1151 Oxford Road
Sales Start July 1-July 3 Show Opens on July 2nd INFO 626-405-2160
- July 22-23** Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale INFO 949-212-8417
Thursday, July 21 6pm-8pm, Friday, July 22 9am-7pm, Saturday July 23 9am-5pm,
- 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim
- August 13-14** 31st Annual Intercity Show & Sale LA County Arboretum, 9am-5pm Daily
301 No. Baldwin Ave INFO Tom Glavich 626-798-2430 or Artie Chavez 818-482-8795
- September 3** Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium **All Day at the Huntington**
INFO 626-405-3504
- September 10** Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction -12pm-5pm
Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach 90615 INFO 310 922-6090
- October 8-9** Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale INFO 661-831-8488
Mall View Road, Bakersfield, Saturday 10/8 10am-5pm, Sunday 10/9 11am-4pm
- October 22-23** Palomar Show & Sale at San Diego Botanic Gardens INFO hciservices@gmail.com

Huntington Fall Sale
- November 5-6** San Gabriel Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale 9-4 Both Days
LA County Arboretum 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia INFO Manny Rivera or John Matthews
661-714-1052

Mentoring Session Basic Cactus and Succulent Care

A Mentoring Session on **Basic Cactus and Succulent Care** is tentatively scheduled for the September/October time frame. This Session was discussed at the April Meeting but has been postponed due to busy May schedules.

This session should be of particular interest to our newer and less experienced members and will cover such basics as soil, light, watering/fertilizer and winter/summer growers.

Stay tuned for further details in late summer.



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May Program: Cycads the Ancients

Presented By: Jeff Chemnick

May Events

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