



# DRY TIMES

VOL. 111

FEBRUARY 2011

NO. 2

President: Rosalie Gorchoff  
(310) 822-1783

Editor: Nels Christianson  
(310) 396-1231

nchristianson@mednet.ucla.edu

**February meeting  
Tuesday, February 1, 2011  
7:30 pm**

**Burton W. Chace County Park  
13650 Mindanao Way, Marina del Rey**

## **PROGRAM**

***Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands on the Equator***  
Stan Kamin

## **PLANT OF THE MONTH**

***CACTUS:***  
Parodia

***SUCCULENT:***  
Sedum, Aeonium

Sunset member Stan Kamin will show pictures he took on a trip in early December 2010. The Galapagos are right on the equator 600 miles off the coast of Ecuador and have some interesting succulents. He toured the islands aboard an 18-passenger ship. Later, he flew to Ecuador's capital Quito, the second highest capital city in the world. He traveled by bus to Cotopaxi, one of the Earth's tallest active volcanoes at 19,347 feet. Stan also visited the indigenous town of Otavalo, famous for its Saturday market and surrounded by mountain peaks. A member of CSSA, Stan has been collecting succulent plants for ten years. He is a proud UCLA graduate. Now retired, he worked for thirty years as a salesman in the printing business for large multi-national firms. Stan has been a potter for 15 years and sells his creations at club meetings. He has traveled extensively throughout the world. In 1994 he and his wife Patricia traveled west around the world for one entire year.

**\*\* If your last name begins with letter N-S, please bring goodies to munch on at the break. Thank you!**

Last month Duke Benadom gave a presentation on the plants and geology of the area of Tanzania's unusual salt lake known as Lake Natron, a major breeding ground for flamingos. Duke has an enduring interest in African genera.

## **A PERSONAL HISTORY OF SUNSET SUCCULENT SOCIETY *on its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary*** **by Judy Campbell**

When Bill and I celebrated our 13th anniversary in 1986 I asked him for an unusual gift. Since we had first met at folk dancing, I had continued to accompany him with good will to dances, even though I now had rheumatoid arthritis which caused me to sit a lot and just watch him. I asked if he would also, with good will, join a horticultural group since that had been my bliss always. We picked Sunset Succulent Society only because it was nearby in Santa Monica's Lincoln Park. Bill liked the cacti because he had grown up in Texas and Arizona so we became members.

The following year Bob Carr as editor of "The S.S.S. Slightly Skinny Sheet", asked me to replace him. I served for 6 years. (The Skinny Sheet was a name chosen by John Bleck, member and renowned hybridizer of many small aloes; it was changed to "Dry Times" by vote in the 90's.) As editor I also served on the Board of Trustees and got to know several of the inspiring, generous curmudgeons who had kept a tight rein on Sunset's finances and activities. To this day Sunset has been solvent and yet able to provide great treats for its members and contributions to the Huntington Symposium and other causes.

When the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our club came around. I researched a brief history of its founding by visiting Bob McClurkin, our erstwhile historian and logo designer, collector and librarian. In one of his thick scrapbooks (which are available in our library) was a newspaper article from 1961 about Robert V. Stern, a realtor, who lived on Princeton Street in Santa Monica. Robert offered to share cuttings of succulents from his 6'x12' plot. Those who gathered decided to form a new club asking \$6.00 as dues.

The first official meeting was on February 14, 1961 in a card room at Lincoln Park. Franklin D. Crosby who owned the "Cactus Ranch" in Malibu was speaker. Next month's talk was by Ed Gay, secretary of the L.A.C&SS. Among charter members were Maria Wilkes and Gil Daniels – both eventually important horticulturists. In November 1961 Vern Cadieux became the first President; there were 50 members by December.

In 1962 Sunset won First Prize at its first participation in a garden show. That December, Millie Stern organized the bringing of 400 "living gifts" of potted succulents to the Veterans Administration and L.A. County General hospitals. By 1964 Sunset held its premier annual exhibit chaired by John Bleck in Joslyn Hall, Lincoln Park. As it was held in various parks year after year, our annual show and sale piqued the public's interest. One rainy year the show was unsuccessful and the usual income for our club was missing. The lesson of thrift from early board members like Fred Lenert, Fred Hutfletzt, Bill Paylen and Jean Woodbury, and later Ellen Low, Annette Needleman, Artie Chavez and the devoted Life Member Seymour Linden and unparalleled Rosalie Gorchoff kept us in the black. Sunset's 20<sup>th</sup> show in 1983 settled at its present central location in the Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Culver City.

By 1988 Lincoln Park had become too downriden for meetings so I suggested to Rosalie a move to the place where Bill and I now danced. Under her guidance Sunset moved to Felicia Mahood Senior Center and from there, a few years later, to our present location at Burton Chase Park in Marina Del Rey. Through the years our locations have made it easily possible for local experts like Joe Clements, Myron Kimnach, Woody Minnich, John Trager, David Verity and Laurel Woodley to present monthly talk/slide programs of outstanding quality. We have long had a fine creative editor in Nels Christianson. The story of all the fabulous members in recent years who have worked so hard to create a solid educational gathering of lovers of all things succulent is yet to be told. Today many younger and newer people of various experience and backgrounds mix with the

long-time supporters of our 50 – year old club to give Sunset Succulent Society its present strength, endurance and fun-filled atmosphere. Yea, Sunset!

**SUNSET SUCCULENT SOCIETY CELEBRATES 50 YEARS IN 2011 !!**



Parodia aureispina, photo by N. Christianson

**Upcoming Events**

February 12, San Diego Winter Show and Sale, Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, info 858-382-1797.

April 9-10, South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale, South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes, information, 310-832-2262.

April 16-17, Green Scene Plant Sale, Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Rd., Fullerton CA 92831.

**April 24-29, CSSA Convention, San Diego CA, Marriott Hotel Mission Valley, [www.cssainc.org](http://www.cssainc.org)**

May 1, South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale, 9 am-4 pm, South Coast Botanical Garden, information, 310-833-6823.

**May 7-8, Sunset Succulent Society Show and Sale, Veterans Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City. Info 310-822-1783.**

May 15, Huntington Plant Sale, 10 to 5, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino Ca

May 15, Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia, 310-670-8148

May 14-15, Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, 10-4 pm, Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo CA, info.: 805-237-2054, [www.centralcoastcactus.org](http://www.centralcoastcactus.org)

May 20-21, Gates Cactus and Succulent Society show and sale, 9 am – 4pm. Jurupa Mountain Cultural Center, for info call 909-360-8802.

June 4-5, San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society Show and Sale, Balboa Park, Rm. 101, San Diego, Info.: 858-382-1797.

June 11-12, Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society Show and Sale, June 11 9-5, June 12 9-3:30, Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, info Sandy Chase, 818-367-0864.



Sedum stahlii, near Tehuacán, Puebla, photo by N. Christianson

**Sunset is sponsoring a trip to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park on March 12-13. There is limited space available. The Club will provide transportation and a partial payment of the room. If interested, call Rosalie by February 15 at 310-822-1783.**

**PLANT OF THE MONTH 2011**

Cactus

Succulent

**CACTUS**

**SUCCULENT**

February	Parodia	Sedum, Aeonium
March	Mammillaria, straight spine	Tylecodon, Cotyledon
April	Uebelmannia, Buiningia	Deuterocohnia, Dyckia, Puya
May	Lobivia, Echinopsis	Euphorbia – Africa
June	Ferocactus, Echinocactus	Euphorbia – Madagascar
September	Copiapoa, Matucana	Bursera, Operculicaria, Commiphera
October	Melocactus	Succulent Crests
November	Ariocarpus	Pelargonium, Sarcocaulon

**January 2011 Plant of the Month Winners**

**Junior Cactus**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Robert Trichter	Gymnocalycium cardenasianum
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place		

**Senior Cactus**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Brian Gold	Gymnocalycium spegazzinii
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Darlene Weld	Gymnocalycium Crest
	John Matthews	Gymnocalycium obductum
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Karen Ohlinder	Gymnocalycium nigriareolatum
	Karen Ohlinder	Gymnocalycium obductum

**Junior Succulent**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Lee Freehling	Echeveria cv.
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place		

**Senior Succulent**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	John Matthews	Echeveria agavoides cv. Ebony
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Nels Christianson	Echeveria harmsii hybrid
	Brian Gold	Echeveria cv. Lava
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Jim Hanna	Echeveria agavoides cv. Lipstick
	Nels Christianson	Dudleya brittonii

The November POM judges were David Verity and William George accompanied by Jim Hanna.

Juniors and new members, notice the empty spaces in the winning plants above. Bring your plants to the Plant of the Month mini-show!

If you don't collect stamps, please save the envelope you received this newsletter in for Nels. Thank you.



Aeonium 'Bronze Medal', photo by N. Christianson

*Mark your calendar now!*

## CSSA 2011 CONVENTION



**April 24 - April 29, 2011**  
 Marriott Hotel - Mission Valley  
 San Diego, California

**Watch for future updates**  
[www.cssainc.org](http://www.cssainc.org)

**Hosted by the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society**

**Confirmed Convention Speakers**

Myron Kinnach – Banquet	Tom Knapik	Jackie Poole
Debra Baldwin	Julia Etter/Martin Kristen	Guillermo Rivera
Tom Glavich	Marlon Machado	Karen Zimmerman
Andrew Hankey	Todd Masilko	

***About DRY TIMES***

*DRY TIMES* is published monthly by the *Sunset Succulent Society* (SSS), whose officers are:

<b>President</b>	<b>Rosalie Gorchoff</b>	<b>(310) 822-1783</b>	<b>Vice Pres.</b>	<b>Brigitte Williams</b>	<b>(818) 455-1246</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Peggy Oberg</b>	<b>(310) 645-7946</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Brigitte Williams</b>	
		<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres., Plant of the Month</b>		<b>Laurel Woodley</b>	

Material for publication in the newsletter must be in the Editors' hands by the 1st day of the publication month (e.g., by Aug. 1 for the next issue). Articles and letters may be edited for space and clarity. Editorial comment and signed articles are the opinions of the Editor or author(s) and do not necessarily represent the views of the Board of Directors of the Society, an affiliate of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Inc. Unless expressly denied in a note with the article, all material in the newsletter may be reprinted by non-profit organizations, provided that proper credit is given to the SSS and the author, and that one copy of the publication containing the reprinted material be sent to the Editor. Reproduction in whole or in part by any other organization or publication without the permission of the SSS is prohibited.

# Caro Desert Nursery

PRESENTS

## ANNUAL POTTERS SALE & MASTER GROWERS INVITATIONAL AUCTION MARCH 19TH, 2011

### **Come and Buy from First Of The Year's Fine Ceramic Pottery**

Come and be the first to acquire the new pots of the 2011 year. Many of these potters create new and gorgeous pots over the fall and winter. Be among the first to see and buy their new creations.

#### **Joe Wujcik**

A talented potter with his signature pottery pleasing for any plant. Joe is introducing some great new colors and patterns. I saw some of the new glazes in Orange County - you must get a few of these new colors!

#### **Debbie & Charlie Ball**

These one of a kind creations are great for any succulent plant. Each pot has a unique feel with creative patterns and glazes. If you visit the website [www.ankhworks.com](http://www.ankhworks.com) you will see the great new sizes being introduced this year - really fantastic!

#### **Karenn Ohlinder**

Dark and almost ancient civilization is the feel one gets from Karenn's pottery. A real So. Cal favorite! Karenn does not attend many shows so this is a rare opportunity to get her great pottery.

#### **Steve Pate**

Always an eye catcher and not seen often here in Southern California, as he resides in Stockton. Steve creates beautiful pottery which range from small bonsai shapes to deep large pots. I have been lucky enough to sell with Steve, but only in San Francisco and San Jose.

(Tentative list of potters)

### **Introducing a "Master Growers Invitational Auction"**

This year there will be an Invitation Only Master Grower Specimen Plant Auction. You are being given an opportunity to buy plants that prior to now have been hidden away in a special spot in a special greenhouse taken care of by a Master Grower.

This will be a great time to not only see these spectacular plants but to be able to win them at auction.

You have been to individual Master Grower auctions, now we are gathering several Master Growers into one location for one spectacular auction. A tentative list of Master Growers will be: Vince Basta, Larry Grammer, Karen Ostler, Elton Roberts, Dave Tufenkian, Rene Caro and Tom Glavich.

#### **Date:**

**Saturday March 19th, 2011**

**Potters Sale & Plant Viewing: 9:00 a.m.**

**Auction begins: 1:00 p.m.**

**Location: Caro Desert Nursery,**

**9607 E. Avenue S12**

**Littlerock, CA 93543**

**Phone: 661-456-0787**

**Web Site: [www.CaroDesert.com](http://www.CaroDesert.com)**

**Email: [PattyCC4@yahoo.com](mailto:PattyCC4@yahoo.com)**

Mark your calendar and plan to attend!