



DRY TIMES

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No. 5

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**May meeting
Tuesday, May 1, 2012
7:30 pm**

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

PROGRAM

A Recent Expedition
Guillermo Rivera

PLANT OF THE MONTH

CACTUS:
Parodia (Notocactus)

SUCCULENT:
Euphorbia – Madagascar

Guillermo Rivera returns to Sunset for a surprise talk covering one of his recent expeditions. He is a former researcher at the University of Cordoba, Argentina, and holds a BS degree in Biology and a PhD in Botany from the same institution. He also received an MS in Marine Biology from Northeastern University. Guillermo was born in Argentina and is the owner of South America Nature Tours (formerly Cactus Expeditions). He will be leads tour to several South American countries and South Africa. In October of this year Guillermo will host the biennial CSSA tour, this time to Northwestern Argentina. His website is www.southamericanaturetours.com

Karen Ostler gave a hands-on program last month on how to prepare plants for the show. Karen focused on staging and grooming which included plant positioning when repotting, pot size and shape and how to determine the best color and consistency of top dressing to accompany pot and plant.

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

Rosalie and Karen encourage all members to enter at least one or two plants in the May 5-6 Sunset Show and to participate in any way you can to help make this the best show and sale ever!!!

PLANT OF THE MONTH 2012

CACTUS

SUCCULENT

May Parodia (Notocactus)
 June Echinopsis
 September Ariocarpus, Leuchtenbergia
 October Ferocactus, Echinocactus
 November Melocactus, Buiningia, Discocactus

Euphorbia – Madagascar
 Pachypodium, Adenium
 Stapelia, Fockea, Raphionacme
 Dudleya, Echeveria
 Crassula, Sedum

April 2012 Plant of the Month Winners

Junior Cactus – No awards

Senior Cactus

1 st Place	Laurel Woodley	<i>Astrophytum cv. Onzuka</i>
2 nd Place	Brian Gold	<i>Astrophytum myriostigma</i>
3 rd Place	Brian Gold	<i>Astrophytum myriostigma cv. Nuda Quad</i>

Junior Succulent

1 st Place	Peggy Oberg	<i>Pelargonium carnosum</i>
2 nd Place	William Wilk	<i>Pelargonium laxum</i>
3 rd Place	Peggy Oberg	<i>Pelargonium spinosum</i>

Senior Succulent

1 st Place	Rosalie Gorchoff	<i>Pelargonium triste</i>
2 nd Place	Nels Christianson	<i>Pelargonium cotyledonis</i>
3 rd Place	Brian Gold	<i>Sarcocaulon herrei</i>
	Brian Gold	<i>Sarcocaulon flavescens</i>

The April POM judges were Coni Nettles and Teresa Gold accompanied by Karen Ostler.



Notocactus magnificus, photo by N. Christianson

Cactus of the Month – May 2012 – *Parodia* (*Notocactus*)

The genus *Notocactus* is now synonymous with *Parodia*, and in modern references, all *Notocacti* have been moved into *Parodia*. The number of species has also been greatly reduced. The original distinguishing characteristic was the red stigmas in the flowers of *Notocactus*, and the yellow stigma in those of *Parodia*. The distinguishing characteristic between the two genera evolved over time, eventually becoming a minor difference in the attachment of the seed to ovary. *Parodia* has swept up several other genera, and is likely to grow and swallow a few more as botanical and genetic studies continue. Nonetheless, the two are separate in many seed catalogs, in older reference books, in our shows, and in most of our collections.

Notocacti are South American Cacti, with the center of the genus in Brazil and Argentina, but with members throughout the Eastern side of the Andes. All are easy to grow, growing freely in the spring through the fall, and going more or less dormant in the fall. Some will flower in mid winter, and given their native environment, most do better given a little water year around. If watering *Notocactus* in the winter, avoid fertilization or weak growth may result. Some of the more tropical species need protection from colder weather to prevent scarring, but most will take normal Southern California winters without protection.

All the species are easy to grow from seed. Seed is available for nearly all the species and from many localities. Fresh seed germinates readily and can grow to a show quality plant in just a few years. Vegetative propagation of the clustering types is easy as well. Cuttings taken during the late spring and early summer root readily and show new growth before the season is over.

References:

E. Anderson, **The Cactus Family**

J. Pilbeam, **Cactus for the Connoisseur**

C. Innes & C. Glass **Cacti**

Tom Glavich February 2003

Succulent of the Month – May 2012 – *Euphorbia* (Madagascar)

SOME MADAGASCAN EUPHORBIAS:

Euphorbia alluaduii, *E. ambovombensis*, *E. anahaka*, *E. beharensis*, *E. biaculeata*, *E. boissieri*, *E. brachyphylla*, *E. capareum*, *E. capsaintmariensis*, *E. croizatti*, *E. decaryi*, *E. dephinensis*, *E. duranii*, *E. eumyroides*, *E. finarantsoae*, *E. francoisii*, *E. geayii*, *E. genoudiana*, *E. guillemetii*, *E. horombensis*, *E. leptomyura*, *E. leuconeura*, *E. lophagona*, *E.*

mandrariensis, E. milii, E. millotii, E. moratii, E. neohumbertii, E. orthoclada, E. pachpodioides, E. pedilianthoides, E. perrieri, E. primulaefolia, E. quartziticola, E. razafinjohanii, E. rossi, E. solota, E. stenoclada, E. suareziana, E. thymifolia, E. tsimbazaza, E. viguieri, E. xylophylloides, E. zakamenae.



Euphorbia milii, photo by N. Christianson

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 6, South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale, 9am-4:30 pm, South Coast Botanical Gardens,

May 13, Huntington Plant Sale, 10 am – 5 pm, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino CA, info. 626-405-2160.

May 18 & 19, Gates Cactus and Succulent Society, 31st Show and Sale, Fri & Sat 9 am – 4:30 pm, Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive, Glen Avon, CA, info. 951-360-8802.

May 26 & 27, Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Annual Show and Sale, 10 am – 4 pm, Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, CA, info. 805-237-2054, www.centralcoastcactus.org

June 2 & 3, San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society Summer Show and Sale, Balboa Park, Room 101, info. 858-382-1797.

June 9 & 10, Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Plant Show and Sale, 9th from 9 am – 5 pm, 10th from 9 am – 3:30 pm, Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino CA, info.

lacss.contact@gmail.com

June 29 – July 1, CSSA Annual Show and Sale, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino

info. 626-405-2160 or 2277. Plant sales start June 29 thru July 1st, show opens June 30 thru July 1, free.

July 27 – 28, Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society Summer Show and Sale, Friday, July 27 noon to 7pm, Saturday, July 28, 9am to 5pm, 1000 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim (Anaheim United Methodist Church). Contact Vince Basta, 714-267-4329.

August 11 – 12, 27th Annual Intercity Show and Sale, LA County Arboretum, 9am-5pm daily, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Info. call Tom Glavich, 626-798-2430 or John Matthews 661-297-5364.

Sept. 1, Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium, all day at The Huntington.

Sept. 23, Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction, 18127 S. Alameda St., Rancho Dominguez, 12pm

November 3 – 4, San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale, LA County Arboretum.

November 9 – 10, Orange County Cactus and Succulent Winter Show and Sale, 9am-5pm, 1000 S. State College Blvd, Anaheim. Contact Vince Basta, 714-267-4329.



Euphorbia neohumbertii, photo by N. Christianson

About DRY TIMES

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

President	Rosalie Gorchoff	(310) 822-1783	Vice Pres.	Brigitte Williams	(818) 455-1246
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			2nd Vice Pres., Plant of the Month	Laurel Woodley	

APRIL IS NATIONAL POETRY MONTH, READ A POEM !

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.