



DRY TIMES

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No. 2

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HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!!

February meeting
Tuesday, February 7, 2017
7:30 pm

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

PROGRAM

Looking for Succulents in all the Wrong Places
Panayoti Kelaidis

PLANT OF THE MONTH

CACTUS:
Columnar cacti

SUCCULENT:
Succulent as Bonsai



Panayoti's presentation will acquaint us with some succulent plants native to Asia, North America and the cold parts of South Africa.

Panayoti Kelaidis is a plant explorer, gardener and public garden administrator associated with Denver Botanic Gardens where he is now Senior Curator and Director of Outreach. He has designed plantings for many of the gardens at DBG, he is particularly noted for the plantings of the Rock Alpine Garden. He has introduced hundreds of native ornamentals from throughout the Western United States to general horticulture. He has taken seven collecting trips to Southern Africa researching the high mountain flora there, as well as travels to the Andes, the Himalaya (from both Pakistan and China) as well as travels throughout much of Europe, and Turkey. Many of his plant introductions are available through Plant Select®, (a plant introduction program he helped launch along with staff from Colorado State University and nurseries across America). He has lectured in over 130 cities in seven countries, and has been featured in dozens of television, newspaper and magazine pieces. He has published widely in popular and technical horticultural journals.

In recent years Panayoti has been honored with the Boulder History Museum’s 60 Year Living History award in 2004, in 2003 by being inducted into the Garden Club of America as Member-at-Large, in 2002 he received the National Garden Clubs Medal of Honor and in 2000 he received the Arthur Hoyt Scott Medal from the Scott Arboretum at Swarthmore College. He has received four awards from the North American Rock Garden Society. In 2004 he was inducted into the Colorado Nursery and Greenhouse Association’s Hall of Fame. In 2009 he received the Liberty Hyde Bailey Award of the American Horticultural Society.

Panayoti’s presentation will cover succulent plants native to Asia, North America and the cold parts of South Africa.

In January Ernesto Sandoval gave an animated program about Succulent Garden Projects.

**** If your last name begins with *L - P* please bring in goodies for the refreshment table.**

2017 Plant of the Month

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>CACTUS</u>	<u>SUCCULENT</u>
February	Columnar	Succulent as bonsai
March	<i>Mammillaria</i> (hooked spine)	<i>Aloe</i> hybrids
April	<i>Astrophytum</i> , <i>Ariocarpus</i>	<i>Kalanchoe</i> , <i>Graptopetalum</i>
May	<i>Parodia</i> , <i>Notocactus</i>	<i>Euphorbia</i> – African continent
June	<i>Gymnocalycium</i>	Succulent crests
September	<i>Ferocactus</i> , <i>Echinocactus</i>	<i>Adenium</i> , <i>Pachypodium</i>
October	<i>Opuntioids</i> , <i>Pereskia</i>	<i>Agave</i> , <i>Calibanus</i> , <i>Nolina</i> , <i>Yucca</i>
November	Epiphytic cacti	<i>Deuterocohnia</i> , <i>Dyckia</i> , <i>Puya</i>

January 2017 Plant of the Month Winners

Junior Cactus

1 st Place	Kal Kaminer	<i>Astrophytum caput-medusae</i>
2 nd Place	Kal Kaminer	<i>Puna bonnieae</i>

Senior Cactus

1 st Place	Karen Ostler	<i>Pelecypora assilliformis</i> Crest
2 nd Place	Karen Ostler	<i>Mammillaria huitzilopochtli</i>
	Karen Ostler	<i>Turbinicarpus schmiedickeanus</i> ssp. <i>polaskii</i>
3 rd Place	Brian Gold	<i>Cephalocereus senilis</i>

Junior Succulent

1 st Place	William Wilk	<i>Tricodiadema bulbosum</i>
2 nd Place	M.A. Bjarkman	<i>Pachypodium brevifolia</i>
3 rd Place	William Wilk	<i>Ficus palmeri</i>

Senior Succulent

1 st Place	Jim Hanna	<i>Fockea edulis</i>
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2 nd Place	Jim Hanna	<i>Pachycormus discolor</i>
	John Matthews	<i>Operculicarya decaryi</i>
3 rd Place	Rosalie Gorchoff	<i>Pseudobombax elliptica</i>
	John Matthews	<i>Pachycormis discolor</i>

The January POM judges were Bonnie Ikemura and Martin Ostler accompanied by Ernesto Sandoval.

Plant of the Month, Cactus: Columnar Cacti:

Columnar or cereoid cacti are not a closely related set of genera, but a lumping together of all the cacti that are much longer than they are around. Columnar cacti vary in size from a few inches, as in the aptly named, *Pygmaeocereus* to the giants like *Pachycereus* and *Carnegiea* (Saguaro). Most are robust growers, given adequate water, fertilizer, root room and support. They expect more nitrogen in their soil (or plant food) and more water than most globular cacti. They do well in normal cactus soil, as long as they get additional fertilization.

Propagation is generally by cuttings or seed. Cuttings need to be dried well before planting. A few weeks is the minimum for some of the larger columnar species. They do best if dried in an upright position. If placed on their sides the cut end rots easier. Seed of columnar cacti are readily available, and are particularly enjoyable to grow. While all of the globular cacti are the size of a pea, many of the columnar cacti are filling the pot, and an inch or more high. If grown from seed, many will not tolerate crowding for long, and demand their own pot. This is particularly true of *Oreocereus*, which will quickly stop growing if there is more than one plant per pot.

A look through any of the references listed below gives many genera names that are rarely seen in cultivation. This is because the plants take many years to reach flowering size, are only really happy in the ground, and get too big for pots in any case. Some genera are very popular, and these are described below.

Popular South American Cereoids:

Cereus are found in much of South America. *Cereus peruvianus*, found in many Southern California gardens, has been cultivated for over 400 years, and is not known in the wild!

Cleistocactus is one of the most beautiful genera of the columnar cacti. These slender plants branch from the base, and have dense spination. They are easy to grow, and quickly set flowers that are usually long red tubes sticking out through the spines. Some of the best are *C. smaragdiflorus*, with red flowers, a yellow band near the tip, and a bright green tip. *C. strausii* is a fuzzy white marvel, and often seen at sale tables at shows.

Espostoa come from Ecuador and Peru. Most of these are covered with a dense white wool that entirely hides the plant body.

Haageocereus come from Peru and Chile. They stay short (for a cereoid), rarely exceeding 3 or four feet, and have dense spines, and showy red flowers.

Micranthocereus is a small genus of Brazilian cacti. All of the species branch from the base, and make densely spined clusters. They stay small, and are happy as pot plants. Quite a few of these have been in the shows in the past few years.

Oreocereus are beautiful hairy plants, with wicked spines hidden in the hairs. Some branch from the base. They prefer outdoor air to a greenhouse, and need frequent turning to keep symmetrical growth.

Pilosocereus is a largely Brazilian genera, almost all of which are worth growing. It has a wide distribution, stretching into central Mexico. Many of the species are a glaucous blue with bright yellow spines and hairy areoles. *Pilosocereus magnificus* is one of these, with 4 to 12 deep ribs. The outer edges are covered with short yellow spines. *Pilosocereus aureispinus* has very 18 to 20 shallow ribs, and distinct areoles, that make dense yellow spirals around the plant on a dark green background.

References:

W. Cullmann, E. Gotz, G. Groner, **The Encyclopedia of Cacti**

E. Haustein, **The Cactus Handbook**

D C. Zappi, *Pilosocereus*

Tom Glavich November 2004



Cleistocactus smaragdiflorus, photo T. Glavich



Cereus hildmannianus varieg.



Arrojadoa marylandae, photos by N.C.

North American Cereoids:

Carnegiea gigantea (saguaro) is a denizen of the Sonora Desert with large stands in Arizona and the northern Mexican state of Sonora with small populations in San Bernardino and Imperial Counties, California. Saguaros can exceed 70 feet in height. Commonly, the first arm does not appear until the plant is around 75 years old.

Cephalocereus is a Mexican genus composed of five slow growing species. Among these are *C. columna-trajani* and *C. senilis*. *C. senilis* is known for its long white hairs and is usually unbranched. It is native to Hidalgo and Guanajuato and its population is threatened.

There are about ten species in *Pachycereus*, a Mexican genus. Well known are *P. pringlei* and *P. weberi* which are tall, voluminous plants. *P. pringlei* grows in Baja California and Sonora and is locally known as *cardón*. *P. weberi* is found in Guerrero, Morelos, Oaxaca and Puebla. Other well-known species are *P. gaumeri*, *P. marginatus*, *P. pectin-aboriginum* and *P. schottii*.

Species of *Stenocereus* are found from the southwestern United States and Mexico to Colombia, Venezuela and the ABC islands of the Dutch Caribbean. Organ Pipe Cactus National Park was formed in part to protect *Stenocereus thurberi*. The flowers are mostly nocturnal. The fruit of most species is popularly eaten by locals. The 2015 CSSA Pre-Convention Tour of northeastern Mexico participants were delighted to tasted the sweet fruit of *S. queretaroensis*. The Seris of Sonora enjoy the acidic fruit of *S. gummosus*, known in Spanish as *pitaya agria*. Many collectors enjoy growing Baja California Sur native *S. eruca*, also known as Creeping Devil because of its sprawling horizontal growth habit.



What's left after a long life as a cereoid.
Photos by N. Christianson



Eulychnia saintpieana



Pilosocereus leucocephalus

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 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. 23RD 6PM-8PM -- FRI. MAR. 24TH 9-7PM---SAT. MAR. 25TH 9-5
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA INFORMATION CALL 562-587-3357
- APR. 8-9 SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS, 26300 CRENSHAW BLVD., PALOS VERDES, CA INFO: 310-378-1953 <http://www.southcoastcss.org>
- APR. 29 HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 1 TO 5 PM HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-3504
- MAY 6-7 SUNSET 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 35TH 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
- 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 10 9-5—11th 9-3 SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BLVD., ENCINO, CA. INFO. www.lacss-show.com
- JUN 30-JUL 2 CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE –HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-3504 PLANTS SALES START JUNE 30TH THRU JULY 2ND SHOW OPENS JULY 1ST THUR JULY 2ND
- JULY 20-22 ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND SALE. THURS. 20TH 6-8pm, FRI. JULY 21ST 9am-7pm, SAT. 22ND 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 32ND ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW AND SALE AT THE LA COUNTY ARBORETUM, 9am-5pm daily, 301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA.
INFO. CALL TOM GLAVICH 626-798-2430 or ARTIE CHAVEZ 818-482-8795

Sunset Succulent Society Membership Form 2017

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Additional Member(s): _____

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Santa Monica, CA 90403

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

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Secretary	Peggy Oberg	(310) 645-7946	Treasurer	Gretchen Davis

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