



DRY TIMES

VOL. 117

JUNE 2017

No. 6

President: Rosalie Gorchoff
(310) 822-1783

Editor: Nels Christianson
(310) 396-1231
nelsico@gmail.com

June meeting
Tuesday, June 6, 2017
7:30 pm

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

PROGRAM

Show and Sale Debrief and Plant Clinic

PLANT OF THE MONTH

CACTUS:

Gymnocalycium

SUCCULENT:

Succulent crests

This month we'll have some fun. Gretchen Davis describes what our meeting will be about:

"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, the wretched refuse of your teeming shore." Not to be disrespectful of those who are our ancestors, but please bring those plants that need attention to the June meeting. After our Raffle Plants and the judging of Plants of the Month, we will debrief the annual Sunset SS Show and Sale and then have a Plant Clinic.

Show and Sale Debrief: Visitors, vendors and volunteers seemed to have a good time at our annual Show and Sale. We thank all those members who volunteered to make the event a success. Each two-day vendor sold at least \$1000 in plants and pots, even our newest vendors June, Kal and Brian. Profits will exceed last year's, always good news. What went well? What can we do better next year? Are there changes to be made?

Plant Clinic: We ask you to bring in a plant or two about which you want to learn more. The plant could be one that is not thriving, a challenge to maintain, or just one that needs identification. In addition, you are encouraged to bring a healthy plant that makes you proud. We hope that you will speak-up and offer suggestions or share your experiences with particular plants. (We will rearrange the room to place the "ill" plants away from PoM entries, the raffle plants and Jim Hanna's sale plants.)

So, are you willing to share your plants and suggestions? We hope so!

Last month Laurel Woodley showed pictures taken by herself and other members who made the club trip to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Laurel’s talk was especially appreciated for being broad in its presentation of desert flora of all types.

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

2017 Plant of the Month

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>CACTUS</u>	<u>SUCCULENT</u>
June	<i>Gymnocalycium</i>	Succulent crests
September	<i>Ferocactus, Echinocactus</i>	<i>Adenium, Pachypodium</i>
October	<i>Opuntioids, Pereskia</i>	<i>Agave, Calibanus, Nolina, Yucca</i>
November	Epiphytic cacti	<i>Deuterocohnia, Dyckia, Puya</i>

May 2017 Plant of the Month Winners

Junior Cactus

1 st Place	Christine Kaunitz	<i>Parodia magnifica</i>
2 nd Place	Gretchen Davis	<i>Parodia magnifica</i>
3 rd Place	William Wilk	<i>Notocactus</i>
HM	William Wilk	<i>Notocactus schlosseri</i>

Senior Cactus

1 st Place	Karen Ostler	<i>Notocactus mammulosa</i>
2 nd Place	none awarded	
3 rd Place	Nels Christianson	<i>Parodia schwebsiana</i> var. <i>applanata</i>

Junior Succulent

1 st Place	William Wilk	<i>Euphorbia horrida</i> var. <i>striata</i>
2 nd Place	Christine Kaunitz	<i>Euphorbia esculenta</i>
3 rd Place	William Wilk	<i>Euphorbia valida</i>
HM	Lee Freehling	<i>Euphorbia horrida</i>

Senior Succulent

1 st Place	Laurel Woodley	<i>Euphorbia schoenlandii</i>
2 nd Place	Jim Hanna	<i>Euphorbia stellata</i>
3 rd Place	Jim Hanna	<i>Euphorbia knuthii</i>

The April POM judges were Lee Freehling and Paul Cooley accompanied by Karen Ostler.

Plant of the Month, Cactus: *Gymnocalycium*:

Gymnocalycium is a globular, relatively small, cactus with species native to Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia and Argentina. Flowers can be white, grayish white, yellow, pink or red. In Greek *Gymnocalycium* means “naked calyx” and in all species flowers are smooth and scaled, without spines. Many species, such as *G. bruchii* of the province of Córdoba are quick to pup whereas others, such as *G. stellatum* of Catamarca, Argentina typically do not. Spines can be thin or thick and prominent, making beautiful geometric patterns such as in *G. saglionis* of Salta south to La Rioja and *G. spegazzini* of Salta, Jujuy and southern Bolivia. Most species inhabit rocky, gravelly or thorn forest locations but *G. ragonesei* grows in mud flats in Catamarca. *Gymnocalyciums* are popular among cactophiles due to their ease of culture. Species with less spination fare better without afternoon sun. Overhead spraying should be avoided because it causes scarring. The members of the 2012 CSSA trip to Argentina had the privilege of seeing more than 15 species in habitat.



Gymnocalyciums at Córdoba, Argentina Botanical Garden



Gymnocalycium quehlianum



photos by N. Christianson

Plant of the Month, Succulent: Succulent crests

The three most common types of mutation are crests, monstrose growth and variegation. All of these are mutations of the cellular structure of the leaf or stem growth tip (apical meristem) of the plant. In normal plants the growth tip is a point, and the biochemistry of the plant forces one tip to be dominant or at least locally dominant. In crests the genetic mutation removes this dominance, and instead of a single growth tip the area of active cell growth degenerates into a line. Crests are found in many genera of non-succulent plants, including conifers and many common garden plants.

Crests are grown exactly as normal plants of the same species. Some have weak roots, and only grow well as grafts. However, others are robust growers, and do perfectly well on their own. Careful observation of the health of the plant, and comparison to healthy non-crested plants of the same species will quickly show whether grafting is necessary. Mutant plants tend to be more sensitive to poor growing conditions, getting sunburn quicker, and getting unsightly brown spots more easily than normal plants of the same species. This is one of the many reasons they are often grown as grafts. Some have weak roots, and only grow well as grafts, although, others are robust growers, and do perfectly well on their own. Careful observation of the health of the plant, and comparison to healthy non-crested plants of the same species will quickly show whether grafting is necessary. Mutant plants tend to be more sensitive to poor growing conditions, getting sunburn quicker, and getting unsightly brown spots more easily than normal plants of the same species. This is one of the many reasons they are often grown as grafts.

Crests flower and produce seed, just as other plants do, but less often. Good strong growth is probably the best way to produce a flowering plant. Mutations are not generally transmitted by seed; however, seed from a mutant plant is much more likely to be a genetic mutant than that from a normal plant. The genetic mutation is more likely to be the same as the mother plant, but monstrose and variegated plants are also possible.

The most common method of propagation of these plants is vegetative. Cuttings of are often grafted to speed growth and to preserve special growth forms.

Tom Glavich, October 2002



Pachypodium crest at UC Berkeley Botanical Garden



Echeveria runyonii crest

UPCOMING EVENTS

- JUNE 3-4 SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY—SUMMER SHOW & 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 9-4—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: 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
- SEPT. 2 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON 626-405-3504
- SEPT. 17 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 17TH STREET

BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304 FREE ADMISSION & PARKING, INFO 661-8318488

OCT. 28-29 PALOMAR SHOW AND SALE SAT 9-5, SUN 10-4, SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDENS
230 QUAIL GARDENS ROAD, ENCINITAS, CA
INFO hciservices@gmail.com. 858-382-1797

NOV. 4-5 SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 9am-4pm BOTH DAYS
SHOW AND SALE---LA COUNTY ARBORETUM 310 NO. BALDWIN, ARCADIA, CA MANNY RIVERA
626-780-6957 or JOHN MATTHEWS 661-714-1052

**52nd ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE, CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA
HUNTINGTON LIBRARY & BOTANICAL GARDENS**

Dates: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, June 30, and July 1---2, 2017

Location: The Huntington: 1151 Oxford Drive, San Marino, CA

The Botanical Center. Contact 626---405---3504

Show & Sale Hours: Sale: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, 10:00am---5:00pm

Show: Saturday & Sunday, 10:00am---5:00pm

Show Set---up: Thurs., June 29, 9am---1pm

Enter Plants: Thurs., June 29, 1pm---8pm & Friday, June 30, 10:00am---4:00pm. Judging starts at 5:00pm Friday

Auction: Items need to be registered by 3pm, Saturday, July 1

There will be a Silent Auction during dinner and a Live Auction (35 items max.) after dinner. Auctioneers will decide placement of items: 2 items per person/business marked as donation or split.

Dinner: HBG's Bon Appetite: \$30 per person (\$35 after June 19). Mail checks, made out to CSSA, to Bonnie Ikemura, 8400 Bleriot Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90045; Reserve spot by Phone: 213---305---1421 or email Bonnie at bikemura@hotmail.com Reservations must be made by June 19, 2017 Teardown: Sunday, July 2, 5:00pm

Be sure to pick up a Show Schedule, Index and entry tags from your CSSA Club Affiliate at your next club meeting if you are interested in entering plants in the Show or in the Auction.

All Cactus & Succulent Club members, CSSA members, vendors, volunteers or show participants need to wear their club badges (if you have one) AND a special CSSA/HBG pass that reads "Annual CSSA Show Participant" to enter the HBG for free. If you are an HBG member, this doesn't apply. Please obtain a pass from your CSSA Affiliate at your club meeting or contact Barbara Hall, Show Chair, before the event. We are not permitted to hand out passes at the HBG entryway.

There are opportunities to participate/volunteer in this year's show, even for a couple of hours in the showroom or sales areas, hospitality (food) area, information table, holding area, welcome table at the HBG entry & setup/teardown. All participants receive a show T-Shirt as a thank you.

See you at the Show!

Barbara Hall, CSSA Show Chair

Email: lbcjhall@aol.com Phone: 818---368---6914

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

President	Rosalie Gorchoff	(310) 822-1783	Vice Pres.	Laurel Woodley, Plant of the Month
Secretary	Peggy Oberg	(310) 645-7946	Treasurer	Gretchen Davis
Membership: Coni Nettles				

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.