

# SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Number 3

March, 2007

**GENERAL MEETING:** Sunday, March 11, 1:30 P.M.  
South Coast Botanical Gardens Classroom  
26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA

**PROGRAM:** GARY DUKE will conduct a HANDS-ON Staging Demonstration to get our plants ready for our April show. Everyone (that means you) is to bring:

- 1) a bare root plant (succulent or cactus).
- 2) a pot (if unsure, bring two pots and we will help you decide)
- 3) your favorite top dressing, if you have one.

Gary will furnish:

- 1) cactus potting mix from Home Depot (you are welcome to bring your own mix if you prefer)
- 2) 10" x 12" x 2" aluminum trays to put soil in
- 3) pumice
- 4) sand
- 5) a couple of top dressings
- 6) some other helpful potting tools

Gary and other members of the Club will help you stage your plant for the Show. Bring a bare root plant, a pot, and let's have some fun! You are sure to learn something new!!

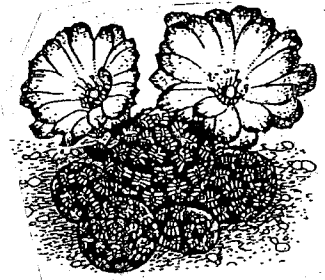
**MEMBERSHIP: NEW MEMBERS:** A hearty WELCOME to the five new members that joined SCC&SS in January!! This will be their first opportunity to participate in our Show so be sure to encourage and help them in becoming involved!

Hector Delgado (joined in 9/2006) (562) 630-7802 (Ethan Pearson) was listed in the February newsletter  
1717 Oklahoma Avenue  
SouthGate CA 90280

Doris Russell  
16711 Walpi Road  
Apple Valley, CA 92307

Barbara Stengel, (310) 372-2235, [stengelb@mattel.com](mailto:stengelb@mattel.com)  
2007 Huntington Lane, #2  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

Karenn Ohlinder, [johnkarenn@yahoo.com](mailto:johnkarenn@yahoo.com)  
3340 W. 152nd Street  
Gardena, CA 90249



**CONDOLENCES:** Last month, one of our members passed away. We will miss the quiet demeanor and friendly smile of MARGARET ADAMS, Sandra Fletcher's grandmother. The Club extends its sympathy and best regards to Sandra and her husband, Harry.

**SUNSHINE REMEMBRANCE:** Our Sunshine Chair, IRMA RENNIE, has sent cards to families. If you know of a member who is ill and might be cheered by a card, please notify our President, DALE LAFOREST..

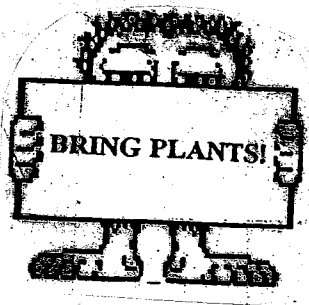
**MEMBER UPDATE:** GIL SCHWERDTFEGER, (a long-time member) had three hospital stays in 2006, and although currently unable to attend meetings, is now in much better health.

**UPDATING OUR MEMBERSHIP ADDRESSES:** If you have decided to add your phone and/or e-mail address to our membership list or your e-mail address has changed because AT&T bought out Comcast and Verizon, please send this information to our Membership Chair: LUCY HEMINGWAY, [lucyhemingway@juno.com](mailto:lucyhemingway@juno.com)

**MARCH REFRESHMENTS:** The following people are to bring refreshments to the March II meeting. Their contribution is appreciated by all!!

Rose Arbuckle  
Anita Caplan  
Lupe Hulett/Ethan Pearson

Martha Ponce  
Laurel Woodley  
Ed Curlee



South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale  
April 7 and 8 ———— 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

South Coast Botanical Gardens  
26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA

Our show and sale date is quickly approaching and we are anticipating a spectacular turnout. Let's show our gorgeous cacti and succulents at their best! Club members will be setting up Truly creative table displays and we have our spectacular club table exhibit of different genera As well. Our sales plants and pottery will be as exciting as ever. We need everyone's assistance to make this year's show and sale as enjoyable and successful as it has been in the past.

Set-up time will start April 5<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 P.M. to 5 P.M.

April 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

On April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, participants can start at 8:00 A.M. for show/sale preparation. Everyone Should bring 4-6 plants for our Club's table exhibit of different genera. Plant tags will be Available to label your display plants as needed.

Remember to bring your dish of choice for our pot luck lunch on April 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Event I.D. badges will be available for those who do not have their regular club member badge To wear during this event. On April 8<sup>th</sup>, the show ends at 4:00 P.M. and the break-down must Conclude by 6:00 P.M.

Let's all share the experience and remember to have lots of fun!

Harry Fletcher  
Show Chairman

PLANT OF THE MONTH RULES

- \* A maximum of three plants may be entered in each category (cactus and succulent).
- \* There will be two classes of entrants: novice and advanced.
- \* Intermediate entrants must have had the plant in their possession for at least six months; beginners, for three months.
- \* Entrants will receive 6 points for first place, 4 points for second place, 2 points for third place, and 1 point for third showing a plant that does not place.
- \* There may be up to three third places in a category. If plants are not deemed to be of sufficient quality, no place will be awarded.
- \* Entry tags must be collected by the person in charge of recordkeeping
- \* At the annual Christmas party, award plants will be presented to the ten highest cumulative point holders, regardless of class.

PLANT OF THE MONTH TOTALS

CACTUS		TOTALS		CACTUS		TOTALS	
ADVANCE	CACTUS FEB			NOVICE	CACTUS FEB		
Causey		2	2	Capaldo		10	14
Duke	12		20	Thompson		6	6
Warzybok			4				

SUCCULENTS				SUCCULENTS			
ADVANCED	FEB			NOVICE	FEB		
causey		3	6	Capaldo		1	6
Duke		4	12	Caplan		4	10
Gardner		7	10	Hemingway		3	5
Hanna		3	11	Hulett		9	13
LaForest		2	2	Pearson		1	3
Warzybok		6	10	Ponce		1	5
woodley		4	4	Thompson			8

**CACTUS AND SUCCULENT  
CALENDAR OF UP COMING EVENTS FOR 2007**

- FEB.10<sup>th</sup>      SAN DIEGO WINTER SHOW AND SALE 9AM to 4PM  
                  RM. 101 CASA DEL PRADO, BALBOA PARK, SAN DIEGO
- APR. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>      SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW &  
                  SALE AT SO. COAST BOTONICAL GARDENS  
                  26300 CRENSHAW BL., PALOS VERDES, CA # 310-832-2262
- APR 21 & 22      GREEN SCENE PLANT SALE—AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM  
                  1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831
- APR. 29      SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLIUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE  
                  SOUTH COAST BONTANICAL GARDENS  
                  INFORMATION CALL-310-833-6823
- May 5 & 6th      SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE  
                  VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, GARDEN ROOM  
                  4117 OVERLAND AVE. CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. #310-822-1783
- MAY 20      HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 10 TO 5 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL  
                  GARDEN 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA 626-405-2160
- MAY 20      EPIPHYLLIUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE  
                  LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM, ARCADIA, CA 310-670-8148
- MAY 25-30      CSSA 32<sup>ND</sup> BIENNIAL CONVENTION—SEATTLE, WASHINGTON
- JUNE 2 & 3rd      SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY —SHOW AND SALE  
                  BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO.--#619-477-4779
- JUNE 9th      GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 29<sup>th</sup>  
                  SHOW AND SALE---SAT. 9 TO 4  
                  JURUPA MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTER, 7621 GRANITE HILL DRIVE  
                  GLEN AVON, CA INFO. 909-360-8802
- JUNE 9 & 10      LOS ANGELES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE  
                  SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BL., ENCINO, CA.  
                  SHOW INFORMATION-CALL 818-363-3432
- JULY 6,7 & 8      CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE —HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL  
                  GARDENS AT 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.  
                  626-405-2160 or 2277 PLANTS SALES START JULY 6<sup>TH</sup> THRU JULY 8<sup>TH</sup>  
                  THE SHOW OPENS ON THE JULY 7<sup>TH</sup> THRU THE 8<sup>TH</sup> TO THE PUBLIC
- AUG. 18 & 19      22<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW AND SALE-LA COUNTY ARBORETUM  
                  301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA,CA. INFO. CALL TOM GLAVICH  
                  AT 626-798-2430 or BARBARA HALL AT 818-368-6914
- SEPT. 2      HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM  
                  ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON
- NOV. 10&11      SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
                  SHOW AND SALE--- LA COUNTY ARBORETUM ADDRESS ABOVE.
- DEC. 1 & 2      ORANGE COUNTY SHOW AND SALE AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM  
                  1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831  
                  SHOW AND SALE OPEN FROM 10AM TO 4PM  
                  FOR INFORMATION CALL 714-870-4887

UPDATED 1/25/07

**SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT  
SHOW AND SALE FOR 2007**

**SAT. & SUN. APRIL 14th & 15th, 9am to 4pm**

**SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS — 26300 CRENSHAW BLVD.  
PALOS VERDES PENINSULA**



**SEE**

*outstanding displays by selected growers!*

**ASK**

*experts how they grow their plants!*

**BUY**

*plants from top growers!*

**VOTE**

*for the best display!*

For more information contact:

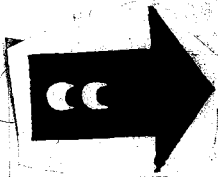
Dale La Forest 310-618-9886

Jim Hanna 562-920-3046

Harry Fletcher 310-538-4078

***Visa and Mastercard Accepted***

SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
2007 PLANTS OF THE MONTH



CACTI

SUCCULENTS

Mar Parodia/notocactus

Sansevieria

April

SHOW TIME

May Variegates

Variegates

June Mammillaria

Euphorbia

July Favorite 3

Favorite 3

Aug Cereu (columnar cactus)

Xeric bromeliads

Sept Gymnocalycium

Agavaceae family

Oct

BREAK

Nov Miniature (under 3 inches)

Miniatures (under 3 inches)

Dec

CHRISTMAS PARTY



OH, YOU SAY IT WAS COLD AT YOUR HOUSE. TOO?

How soon we forget. After at least three mild winters, I have to admit I had gotten a bit lazy about preparing my plants for cold weather, even though we all know that we get whacked with freezing weather at least every decade, or so. With the warning of sub-freezing temperatures coming up, I had to dash around and wrap plastic around my patio and lath house—something I did routinely for years until I goofed off a few years ago. I moved pots into more protected locations. Pots that weren't moveable were covered with whatever I had on hand: frost cloth, floating row cover, landscape fabric, and a fabric that I found at Orchard Supply. When I ran out of that, I ransacked the linen closet for old sheets, towels and pillow covers. It took several days to get my courage up to check under the covers. As I suspected, the hanging plants took quite a hit (putting them down on the ground would have mitigated the cold damage somewhat.) A lot of succulents were top-killed but will survive. Don't be in a hurry to throw out a plant or to cut back those that have been top-killed. Cutting back a plant will just encourage it to grow and you don't want it to do that until we're truly past any threat of frost. Think of it as Mother Nature's own bonsai class, trimming back your plants to reveal their basic shapes. And if you do have to toss plants that are well and truly dead, just think of all the space this opens up in your collection and all the fun plant shopping you can do to replace them!

Fresno  
Sue newsletter

*May the luck of the  
Irish be with you!*





**THE CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA**  
(INCORPORATED)

**A Message from the President**

February 14, 2007

Dear Members and Former Members:

I would like to tell you about the future of The Cactus and Succulent Society of America. As a long time member and now your new president, I want you to know that I will dedicate my tenure in office to the 4 principles that I know are important to you. They are of course Education, Information, Conservation and Discovery. These have always been the foundation of our Society but perhaps not as directly presented.

We have a responsibility to educate ourselves and others about these unique plants that are our passion. Public shows and sales, school science fairs, presentations open to the public have been our most common methods to educate others about succulent plants. We now have many new tools using the internet's vast quantity of information from all over the world and CSSA is beginning a process to develop educational programs for classroom use and more slide and new DVD programs for meetings and individuals.

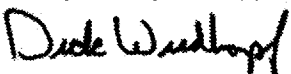
We have the finest and longest continuously published journal on succulent plants in the world. We have now completed our 12<sup>th</sup> Haseltonia, an excellent reviewed technical journal that bring you state of the art information. Our bimonthly newsletter, "To the Point" is filled with practical article for the hobbyist and will provide more of this type of information to compliment what is found in the journal. We have the first 20 years of the Journal on a CD and are ready to release the next 15 years. Over the next few years the first 70 year of the journal will be available in digital form. Our new website is in its infancy but more and more information will be available about plants, nurseries, pots, books and activities of interest to you. Using experts in our affiliate societies, Can provide regional or local information on cultivation and other aspects of growing succulent plants to each other and the general public. The CSSA Library, located at the Huntington Botanical Gardens, is almost completed and plans for its use by members and researchers are being developed.

Conservation is a tough concept to get our collective hands around. We know that many of the good intentioned laws have not had the outcomes that we hoped for and we have to be a catalyst for changes to these laws. We know that habitat preservations is important but difficult in many places around the world including the United States, but working together with other larger organizations, who have similar interests, we can have successes. We know that sometimes the legal rescue of plants is the only way to preserve them and in my hometown Tucson, Arizona this has worked extremely well. It has gain national attention which brings conservation issues into public light and debate. We will reach out to groups throughout the world who have good ideas and plans to save unique plant and their environment.

We have an active research grant program from money contributed by you and money raised at rare plant auctions at our biennial conventions and annual plant show and sales. These grants fund new field or laboratory research expanding our knowledge and leading to new discoveries. We will continue to invest in these activities because we know that our money is necessary to continue many of these projects. Discovery is more than research findings, habitat expansions or new species. It is new growing techniques, insecticides or potting material and many more useful outcomes that are very important to you.

We need your support. Continue or renew your membership in CSSA and encourage a friend to join, Plan to attend our 32nd Biennial Convention in Seattle and be inspired by a great list of knowledgeable speakers and a have a wonderful adventure with the help of the Cascade Cactus and Succulent Society. Purchase your copy of Haseltonia 12 (see insert) and be a part of a new direction for CSSA. This is your society and I hope you will find the benefits exciting and useful.

Thank you for your support.



Richard M. Wiedhopf, President

The genus *Parodia* was named in honor of the Argentinean botanist Lorenzo Raimundo Parodi (1895-1966), and the genus *Notocactus* comes from the Greek word 'notos', meaning south. All species of the two genera come from neighboring countries in South America.

Plants in the genus *Parodia* and *Notocactus* are native to the countries of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay. The majority of the plants are found in the Andean regions of Argentina and Bolivia and includes many of the choicest and most sought after species of small growing, free flowering globular cacti.

It is difficult and confusing to say just how many species names exist within the genus *Parodia*. Many names have been accumulated in the last 50 years or so due to the incredible variation, particularly in the color, of the flowers and spination of individual species both within and between populations in habitat. As a result of this variation, many of the natural variants have been described as new species or varieties by past authors of cactus literature, adding to the confusion. For the genus *Notocactus*, about 30 species exist in Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Uruguay.

To reduce the confusion within the genus *Parodia*, the Argentinean botanists Roberto Kiesling and Omar Ferrari reviewed the genus *Parodia* and published an outline classification of the species endemic to Argentina. In their article, which appeared in the *CSSA Journal* in 1990, the authors reduced over 50 species to just one species, *P. microsperma* (the type species of the genus), recognizing two subspecies (*ssp. microsperma* and *ssp. horrida*).

Recently, it has been proposed that the genus *Parodia* should include all the species of *Notocactus*. The trend to lump the two genera was recently published in the *CSSA Journal*, Vol. 67, No. 1. "Argentine Notocacti of the Genus *Parodia*". The article also describes club member Victor Tureceks' discovery of a new Argentine species which is named after him, *Parodia turecekiana sp. nova*.

*Parodias* are very beautiful and desirable plants which deserve space in everyone's collection. Because these plants come from a tropical climate, warmth and a moist atmosphere are required throughout the year. *Parodia* flowers range in color from red, orange, and yellow and open during the day. The norm for *Notocactus* flowers is yellow, but there are exceptions. Spination is a distinct characteristic of *Parodias* varying in color, length, hooked, and straight. Combine these characteristics with wool and you have something to please every collector!

#### **Recommended species:**

- P. nivosa* - Globose green body, thick white wool on apex, spiralling ribs, areoles white, with about 18 snow white radial spines, and 4, pure white long central spines, red flower, Argentina.
- P. schwebsiana* - With age, one of the most woolly members of the Cactaceae, spiralling ribs, hooked spines, Bolivia.
- P. scopa v. nova*. - Long snow white spines, yellow flowers, floral remains conspicuous, clusters.
- P. turecekiana sp. nova*. - Much like *P. mammulosus* but has more character. Argentina.
- P. aureispina* - Green globose body, white areole, hooked tan spines, clusters. Argentina.

#### Literature:

Innes & Glass, *CACTI*, 1991.

Brickwood, John., *The Cactus File*, Vol. 1. No's 2, 3, & 12, 1994 and Vol. 2. No. 4, 1995.

Kiesling, Roberto, *CSSA Journal*, Vol. 67, No.1, 1995.



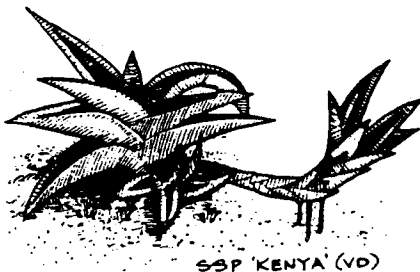
# SANSEVERIA

## INTRODUCTION

Sansevierias are among those plants considered easy and hard to kill. True, they are tough survivors; but, as with all such "easy" plants, growing them well takes a little effort. Let them go, and they may survive, but will tend to go dry on the tips and look for ways out of the pot. The entire plant may raise up as the rhizomes curl around the pot bottom. They may emerge through drainage holes or suddenly erupt at the side of the pot. Some species "walk out" of their pot & go traveling, looking for new "digs." If kept too cold in winter they may sulk. If too wet, they may rot. If suddenly thrust into sun, they can bleach and burn.

Treat them right, however, and you will be rewarded with handsome, dignified plants with tough, mottled, shiny or variegated foliage, tolerant of lower light than most other succulents, and happy with people conditions in the house, the office, the greenhouse, or outdoors. Sansevierias may occasionally surprise you with fragrant nocturnal flowers in a spiky raceme, charming in their own spidery way, and they will provide you with lots of vegetative preparations to share. Many are variations on a theme (ie. *S. trifasciata* cultivars); others display interesting variety as they grow from juvenile through adult stages. All in all, Sansevierias make good companions.

So naturally the genus is often taken for granted and many species and cultivars will be hard to find in the trade. Literature is scant, and much taxonomic work remains to be undertaken. As Sanseveria aficionado and nursery woman Hermine Stover writes in her 1986 The Sanseveria Handbook, "Ever since Sansevierias were discovered over 200 years ago, the horticultural world has been underwhelmed by them. Not a year goes by that anyone who is capable of writing a book about them, doesn't." But a few brave souls, in fact, have done so. There is hope!



## DESCRIPTION

Gordon Rowley in his 1980 book, Name That Succulent, says Sanseveria is a "medium to large genus from Africa to India including many (more or less) succulent species familiar as tough, long-lived house

plants. Leaves flat, channeled, semiterete or terete. Flowers mostly whitish, tubular, often scented, with copious nectar. Like Agave, some species are grown commercially for fiber."

Depending on the expert, Sanseveria has been placed in the Amaryllis and Lily families as well as the *Agavaceae*, along with *Calibanus*, *Dracaena*, *Yucca*, *Hesperaloe*, *Nolina*, *Dasyilirion* and *Furcreaea*. They may best belong in the *Liliaceae*.

Sansevierias "are not prolific bloomers ..... while individual flowerets are small, many of them bear a very strong resemblance to our garden lilies or Easter lilies to which they are distantly related. Each trumpet-shaped flower, varying from about one inch to 4 inches in length, has 6 petals, 6 stamens and a single style ..... Many of the flowers are intensely fragrant ..... Some (inflorescences) are simply elongated towers, others have spreading branches which may be vase-shaped or an inverted vase with the bottom much wider than the top. One in particular, on which we have the name *S. kirkii* v. *pulchra*, displays a sphere of about 5 inches in diameter, resembling an explosion of fireworks, with each flower radiating from a common point on a relatively tall flower stalk" (Fred von Behren, "Sansevierias" The Baltimore Areole, newsletter of the C&S Soc. of Maryland, March 1990).

Sansevierias are "herbaceous perennials with short, thick, sometimes stoloniferous rhizomes. The leaves may be solitary, arranged in a fan or a rosette.....Some species have sharp tips, so watch out, but none are as dangerous as some of the yuccas or agaves.....The closest succulent relatives are probably the *Dracaenas*. The genus is named for Raimond de Sangro, Prince of San-Severo (born Naples 1710; died 1771), although some believe the honor belongs to Pietro Sanseverino, Prince of Bisignano in whose garden the plant may have been the first to have been observed with both flower and fruit" (Rick Latimer, Succulent of the Month, May 1990 Espinas y Flores).

Pronunciation of Sanseveria is "SAN-si-VAIR-ee-a," according to one writer. Or "SAN-se-VAIR-ee-a" or, better, "San-sev-ee-air-ee-a," according to another. Say it however you can. "Sans" for short. Nicknames are "snake plant" or "mother-in-law's tongue" for *S. trifasciata*, and Bird's nest for *S. trifasciata* 'Hahnii.' Sans are from varied habitats, some tropical and moist, others arid. Either way, they prefer to be warm. People comfortable temps suit them well, which brings us to:

## CULTIVATION

Regarding "rhizomes," these are described as underground stems. "Stolons" are above ground. When

a cluster flowers, that particular growth will come to an end, but normally many offshoots will be produced. Offshoots provide faster propagation, but seeds will also produce babies. Cuttings of leaves (about 3") "can be dried overnight ..... and planted up end up.

Cuttings of rhizomes take much longer..... Damp-cold is lethal.....Sansevierias like a part-shade, part-sun environment, but will grow in either full shade or full sun if acclimated.....Every now and then you can come by a sport that isn't in the books and if you save it, separated from its parent, and make it multiply, there is always the chance it will come true and there you would have a new one." (Stu Cramer, "Sansevierias for the Succulent Collector, S. Florida C&S Soc. Newsletter, Feb. 1983.)



The late Lillian True (who donated her Sans collection to Huntington Botanical Gardens) had several hundred individual Sansevierias. Every winter she and husband Otis brought them all in to their normally-sized house to stay warm indoors. They would completely take over one entire windowed bathroom (Otis') as well as parts of the living room and bedroom (in front of windows, of course). By about April when it warmed up, the Trues had the house to themselves again as the Sans went into their semi-protected locations outdoors.

I asked Lillian what happened when she left her Sans outdoors (Laguna Hills, CA) in winter, and she said they would experience setback, and it would take most of the growing season for them to get going again. I found she was right. However, they usually survive outdoors in the warmer spots, but they don't grow as they might have later, had they wintered in warmth. Once a Sans gets really big, slowing its growth isn't so bad, but eventually the Sans will need fresh soil, as all plants do, and like wide relatively shallow bowls.

Soil mix should drain well. Water & food during the growing season are fine, but don't overwater. Root rot can happen. Luckily, pests rarely do.

#### WHERE & WHAT TO BUY

Many nurseries carry a few Sansevierias. One which has been promoting them for years, often with data, is Grigsby's. Their current wish list includes six offerings, including *S. roxburghiana* from India, the very succulent *S. pinguicula* (with its stilt-roots), and *S. aff ehrenbergii*, Clone 1, Lavranos, with 4 foot fans when adult and a 6 ft. flower stalk.

Keep in mind that baby Sans may look totally different from the adult form. That's part of the fun. Another interesting aspect of looking for Sans to add to the collection are the "sports" these plants throw for fun. And variegation can be a way of life for them.

For example, the cultivar 'Lillian True' is described by Hermine Stover as "my (most) favorite plant in the world. First somebody made these smooth leaves almost black and without markings. Then they were dipped in a thin coating of ballpark-mustard-colored wax. Finally the master engraver, using ruling instruments, removed thin strips of wax, revealing thin green lines. The sword-shaped leaves are about 3/4 yellow and carried very vertically ..... It apparently arose spontaneously in a pot of *S. trifasciata laurentii* when Lillian True was not looking. She tells me that although she hauled pots of this plant to shows for a decade, the plant was met with overwhelming lack of attention; that I was the first person to ever crave it or love it as much as she did. I find this UNBELIEVABLE; that this plant could have remained unnoticed when publicly exhibited, like Liz Taylor at the supermarket." Since that time, the Sans 'Lillian True' has been an ISI offering. It's a fairly slow grower, and must be propagated by pups, not leaf cuts.

#### BOOKS

Books about and including Sans can be found at our booksellers, Rainbow Gardens & Myron Kinnach Books. B. Juan Chahinian's The Sansevieria trifasciata Varieties is still available, but Hermine Stover's Sansevieria Book may be out of print. If you find a copy, buy it. Catalogs often include growing information, and, for serious students, NE Brown's Sansevieria is recommended. Chahinian's excellent Sansevieria Journal is no longer being published I believe, as he has relocated to Florida, but should it be offered again, this is an important publication to support.

Carol Wujcik, 9-21-98

First illustration is by Hermine Stover for her *Endangered Species Nursery Catalog*, 12571 Redhill, Tustin, CA 92680. Second drawing is by Frank Bowman, for the March 1990 issue of "The Baltimore Areole," newsletter of the C & S Society of Maryland.