

SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Number 5

May, 2007

BOARD MEETING: Sunday, May 13, 12:30 P.M., S. C. Botanical Gardens Classroom
SUBJECT: Critique of the Show and Sale (non board members who were show
Chairs are invited and encouraged to attend.

GENERAL MEETING:

Gary Duke will lead another seed planting party. This will be a hands-on seed planting demonstration. Be sure to bring any seed you have collected this year to trade with your friends. Gary will have the following seeds for sale (first 3 he received from a German nursery). You can view pictures of these plants at this link:

<http://www.koehres-kaktus.de/index1qb.htm>

Agave stricta var. rubra - \$0.25 for 5 seeds (nice red leaves)

Euphorbia primifolia - \$2.00 for 5 seeds (grows a large caudex)

Astrophytum asterias cv. Superkabuto - \$1.00 for 5 seeds (super flecked with wool)

Agave striata - Free

Agave victoria-reginae - free.

We had quite a few contributed seeds last year. Gary will also furnish (same as last year):

2"x2" square black pots (4 pots per member or you can bring your own)

cactus potting mix from Home Depot (You are also welcome to bring your own sterilized mix if you wish)

10"x12"x2" aluminum trays for putting soil in

plastic sandwich bags

sand blasting grit for topping

Also bring the seedlings you planted last year (or bring an older plant you have grown from seed) so we can discuss successes and failures

NOTICE: The June SCC&SS meeting will be the third Sunday, June 17, instead of June 10. The classroom is not available for us on the usual second Sunday.

WELCOME TO TWO NEW MEMBERS:

Mr. and Mrs. John Torstenson (310)378-2337
4016 Via Valmonte
Palos Verdes Estates, CA90274

Al Palacio (310)560-4096
4503 W. 137th Street
Hawthorne, CA 90250

Melinda Hines (310)540-6951
520 S. Gertrude Ave.
Redondo Beach, CA

90277 mel.mindy@verizon.net

REFRESHMENTS: Only Dale LaForest has signed up to bring refreshments May 13. We all enjoy snacks at our meetings so --- Fruit, crackers, cheese, cookies, cake ETC will be appreciated.

SCC&SS OFFICERS: President, Dale La Forest (310)618-9881; 1st V. Pres., Hank Warzybok, (562)429-7110; 2nd V. Pres., Gary Duke, (714)377-0064; Treas., Marsha Huebner, (310)834-0263; Sec., Phillip Ross, (310)378-5748; Show Chr., Harry Fletcher, (310)538-4078; Sunshine Chr., Irma Rennie, (310)375-3790; Refreshments, Carol Causey, (310)675-5843; and Newsletter Ed., Vera Thaxton, (760)564-3285.

SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
2007 PLANTS OF THE MONTH

CACTI

SUCCULENTS



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)

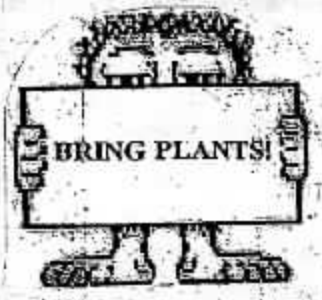
Miniatures (under 3 inches)

Dec

CHRISTMAS PARTY

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.



MEMBERSHIP: Do you have a cactus or succulent currently blooming? Do you have a plant whose name is "anonymous"? or do you need advice about a problem plant? If your answer to any of the questions above is "yes", **BRING THE PLANT TO THE MEETING!!** Specifically, bring it to the BRAG TABLE. This will give all of us opportunity to learn more about cacti and succulents.

PLANT OF THE MONTH TOTALS

CACTUS ADVANCE	CACTUS MARCH	TOTALS	CACTUS NOVICE	CACTUS MARCH	TOTALS
Causey	1	3	Capaldo	9	23
Duke	12	32	Caplan	2	2
Warzybok		4	Ohlinder	7	7
			Ponce	1	1
			Thompson		6

SUCCULENTS ADVANCED	MARCH	TOTALS	SUCCULENTS NOVICE	MARCH	TOTALS
causey	6	12	Capaldo	6	12
Duke		12	Caplan	1	11
Gardner	4	14	Hemingway		5
Hanna	11	22	Hulett	9	13
LaForest	5	7	Pearson		3
Warzybok		10	Ponce	7	12
woodley		4	Thompson		8

Designing with Succulents

Debra Lee Baldwin

Beginners and experienced gardeners, landscapers, and collectors will find what they need to create and nurture a succulent garden.

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Succulent of the Month
Cacti of the Month

- *Variegates*
Variegates

Variegated plants are mutants. Something has gone wrong with the cellular structure of the leaf or stem growth tip (apical meristem) of the plant. For this month's plants, the mutation results in a change in the pattern of the skin of the plant that can be beautiful, bizarre, or ugly.

Culture of variegated plants

Variegated plants have areas with no chlorophyll. The same mass of tissue must be supported as a normal plant, but only the green part supports photosynthesis and produces the sugars necessary for growth. As a result, variegated plants always grow slower than their non-variegated siblings. Because the growth is slower, they are more easily over-watered, and more sensitive to disease. The larger the variegated area, the slower the growth will be.

Some variegates have little or no chlorophyll. A commonly seen example is the 'red caps' which are *Gymnocalycium mihanovichii* with no chlorophyll. These are always seen as grafts, with the green stock of the graft providing all of the nourishment for the plant. If they are removed from the graft, or the graft rots, the plant is doomed. Some *Gasteria* variegates occasionally throw all-white pups. These too get their entire nourishment from the mother plant, and when separated, soon die.

Many variegated plants occasionally produce a non-variegated offset. These offsets must be removed. They will grow much more strongly than the variegate, and eventually take over all growth.

Normal plants will also occasionally throw a variegated leaf or stem. *Sansevierias* are particularly prone to this. These must be removed from the main plant and grown separately to survive.

Propagation of variegated plants

Variegated plants flower and produce seed, just as other plants do, but less often due to the poorer growth. Variegation is not always transmitted by seed; however, seed from a variegated plant will have a much higher production of variegated seedlings than normal plants. In a recent planting of seeds from a collected from a variegated *Gasteria*, crossed with a normal plant, 8 out of 25 seedlings show definite signs of variegation. From a normal population, much less than 1% would be variegated.

The normal method of propagation of variegated plants is vegetative. This is the only method that preserves a particular pattern of variegation. It's important, when propagating variegates to propagate the apical meristem. This is the only place where the variegated pattern is preserved.

For *Sansevierias*, reliable production of variegates, with the same variegation pattern can only be produced by taking cuts from the tubers. The eyes of the tubers have dormant apical meristems which will start to grow when removed from the original plant. *Sansevierias* will produce variegated growth from leaf cuttings, occasionally, depending on the type of mutation in the original meristem, and what part of the leaf cutting regenerates a new root. The variegation will often be different than the variegation of the original leaf, and can be preserved. This is a good way of producing new variegated varieties.

Variegated *Gasteria* produce so many offsets, that they are most easily propagated this way. Variegated *Euphorbias* and *Cacti* are produced by stem cuttings, or offsets, both of which preserve the apical meristem.

Great Variegates

Sansevierias - There are dozens of named and unnamed varieties. Look for "Bantel's Sensation, Futura, Silver Moon, Silver Princess, and variegated varieties of some of the cylindrical forms." Unlike most *Sansevierias*, these can be difficult to grow.

Gasteria - Three readily available cultivars include "Platinum", with a silver-white leaf surface, a green *Gasteria lilliputana* is commonly found.

Haworthia - "Gray Ghost" is a *Haworthia retusa* variegate. There are several *Haworthia limifolia* variegates that look as if they were painted with mustard. All are beautiful.

Euphorbia - A number of columnar variegates are available, *E. ammak*, being the one most often seen. There are also some cristate and monstrose variegates as well.

Cacti - variegates can be found in many genera. *Gymnocalycium* are the most often seen, but some columnar variegates and some *Ferocactus* variegates are also common in cultivation.

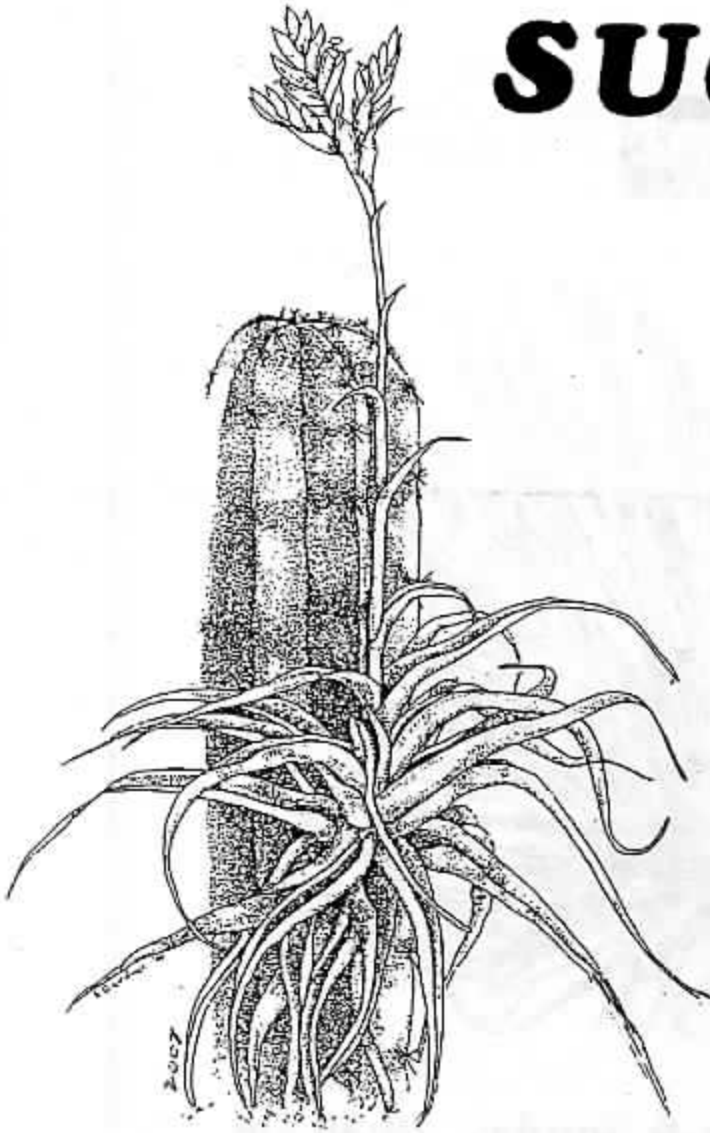
B. J. Chahinian, *The Sansevieria Journal*, Volume 2

P. Raven, *Biology of Plants*

M. Sajeve and M. Costanzo, *Succulents, The Illustrated Dictionary*

Tom Glavich March 1998

CACTUS & SUCCULENT SHOW & SALE



MAY 5 - 6

...free admission...

Information: 310/822-1783

Club Meetings: 1st Tuesday of each month
(except July & August) at 7:30 PM
Burton W. Chace Park, 13650 Mindanao Way
Marina Del Rey

PLANT SALE:

SATURDAY 10 - 5
SUNDAY 10 - 4

SHOW:

SATURDAY 12 - 5
SUNDAY 10 - 4



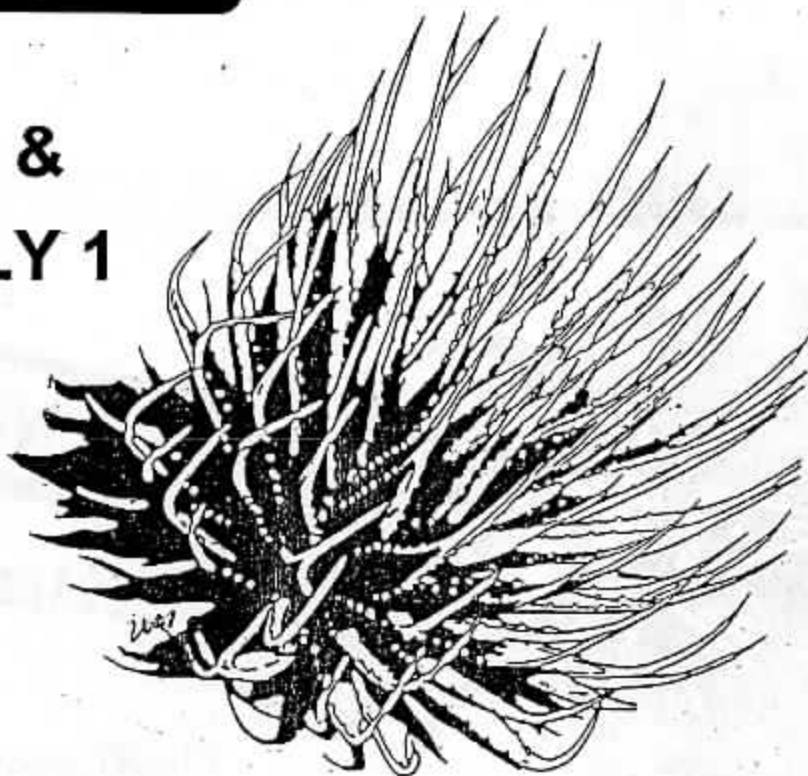
**SPECIAL: LA BALLONA BROMELIAD SOCIETY
SHOW & SALE**
(Auditorium) Same location/date.

**garden room, veteran's memorial bldg.
4117 overland (at culver), culver city**

The Cactus and Succulent Society of America

**Cactus and Succulent
SHOW & SALE**

**JUNE 29, 30 &
JULY 1**



SALE: Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10:30 am
SHOW: Saturday & Sunday 10:30am

Free Admission to Show & Sale

Huntington Botanical Gardens

1151 Oxford Rd. San Marino
For Information Call - (626) 405-2100

