



SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 4

APRIL, 2009

GENERAL MEETING: Sunday, April 12, 1:30 P.M., South Coast Botanical Gardens

PROGRAM: Our own 1st V. President, HANK WARZYBOK, will present a program entitled: COSTA RICA; PEOPLE, PLACES, PLANTS, AND VOLCANOS. Hank has traveled widely and is also the past President of the Long Beach C&SS. He is a member of San Gabriel, Orange County, and Long Beach Cactus Clubs as well as South Bay and Saddleback Valley Bromeliad Societies. This will undoubtedly be a very interesting program so plan to come—and BRING A FRIEND!!

President' Message for April 2009

IT'S POST SHOW TIME AND WE'RE ALL WINNERS!

Once more I am amazed and proud of this year's show/sale. I'll let Jim Gardner report in full here in the newsletter and verbally at the next meeting, but I heard nothing but positive comments and saw nothing but smiles all weekend. Congratulations to you all.



It wasn't until Monday, after the show weekend, that I learned our April meeting was scheduled for **Easter Sunday**. I apologize to those of you for whom this presents a dilemma. I'll try to be more careful about our meeting schedule next year, although we should expect at least one meeting to be preempted by some organization's show/sale and our contract says they have precedence.

Be sure to read the articles for the **Plant of the Month** (POM) contest (Mini-show). As I said at the last meeting, some of these categories may change because I'm struggling with the NEW taxonomy changes. In the event a plant genus has changed, I will try my best to state or list these changes in the article. Old names, including the label that came with the plant are always acceptable at our POM competition, although judges may disqualify plants that NEVER were in the genus. We will try to address major changes in taxonomy after judging and are always open to questions.

Finally welcome to our **new members**, Don La Forest (not a close relative), Roger Claassen, Lynne Van Dusen, and C.J. Crockett all of whom joined our club at the show. I am told that a number of visitors expressed an interest in joining us; it will be exciting to see how many decide to attend the April meeting. As usual, I encourage **"old timers" to introduce themselves to visitors and new members.**

Annual Show and Sale, 2009

Our annual show and sale, March 7 and 8, was a great success thanks to the enthusiastic participation of a great many of our members. Total receipts were up over 50% from last year. Public interest in succulent plants was greater than ever, and a large number of people signed our signup sheet at the information/hospitality desk, indicating in interest in our club.

The club show was open to vendors and club members alike, with no specific theme. Most display tables were mixed collections of plants. The public was invited to vote on their favorite table. Many commented that it was hard to choose a favorite because of the quality of the displays. The public's choice was: 1st place, **Peter Walkowiak**, 2nd place, **Jim Gardner**, 3rd place, **Peter Walkowiak**. The public also liked the club table very much. The show was such a success because of the efforts of a great many people, which I'll attempt to list here. My apologies to anyone I've missed.

Kitchen: **Anita Caplan** on Saturday and **Rose Arbuckle** on Sunday. **Danny Westall** made coffee and brought donuts both days, and **Maria Capaldo** brought bagles. These were eagerly scarfed down by all. Many people brought potluck as well for the lunches.

Hospitality: **Irene Brenner**, **Judy Unrine**, **Diane Connell**, **Lucy Hemingway** and **Bob Lewis** and many of the rest of us as well answered questions and encouraged visitors to join our club.

Publicity: **Ed Curley** placed several newspaper ads. The **Fletchers** designed the mailer, and **Dale La Forest** designed our flyers. **Dick Kohlschreiber** saw to it that the SCBG marquee advertised our show, and **Meredith Grenier** of the Daily Breeze wrote a lovely article about our show, which I'm sure brought many people to our show.

Checkout: **Ed Curlee**, **Philip Ross**, **Sandra and Harry Fletcher**, **Roberta Hanna**, **Sigrid Nikara** and **Philip Pacheco** worked very hard pulling tags, working the cash registers, and keeping the crowd moving. **Evelyn Stevens** of the San Gabriel club worked the credit card machine, a vital job which brought in about half of the Gross receipts.

Club table was done beautifully by **Lupe Hulett**.

Photographer / Display Case: **Laurel Woodley** photographed many of us as we worked with the public, and also put together a beautiful display case in the pation in advance of the show.

Cleanup: **David Okihara** and **Dale La Forest** helped with cleanup after the show.

Vendors: The following vendors contributed enormously to our successful show: **Tom Glavich** of Skyview Succulents, **Dean Hart** of Sunrise, **Hank Warzybok**, **Patty & Rene Caro** of Caro Desert Nursery, **Bill Baker** of California Gardens, **Peter**

Walkowiak, Bill Hagblom, Gary Duke, Jim Hanna, Lupe Hulett, Rainbow Gardens and SCBG Roundation (Dick Kohlschreiber and Jim Gardner)

Above all, **Dale La Forest** with his organization skills and sense of humor created the environment for all this to happen, and guided me in assuming the role of show chair.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Gardner

MEMBERSHIP: WELCOME to our four newest members who joined The Club while at the March Show and Sale. If you haven't met them, please take time to get acquainted !

Claassen, Roger , 902 N. Mohawk, Anaheim, 92801-3508, (714)635-6628, rokecia@earthlink.net
 Crockett, CJ, P.O. Box 3602, Long Beach, 90803, (562)619-0825, siege29@verizon.net
 LaForest, Don, 1536 W. 25th Street, San Pedro 90732, (310)832-4064, laforest@earthlink.net
 Van Dusen, Lynne, 629 Roycroft Ave., Long Beach 90814, (562)618-0161, lynne@vandusen.ws

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.

**SOUTH COAST
2009 PLANTS OF THE MONTH**

<u>ADVANCED CACTUS</u>	<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>NOVICE CACTUS</u>	<u>JANUARY</u>
Capaldo	9	Caplan	6
Duke	5	Ross	2
<u>ADVANCED SUCC.</u>	<u>January</u>	<u>NOVICE SUCC.</u>	<u>january</u>
Duke	4	Mason	6
woodley	10		

Month CACTI SUCCULENT



APRIL Echinocereus Haworthia and Astroloba

South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society

Cacti of the Month April 2009 - *Echinocereus* *

Echinocereus range throughout the American west and through Northern and Central Mexico to about Mexico City. As might be expected from a genus covering such a large range, *Echinocereus* are extremely varied in form, ranging from nearly spineless green balls such as *E. knippelianus*, to very spiny short columnar species such as *E. engelmannii*, to pencil thin sticks such a *E. poselgeri*.

In general, *Echinocereus* is an under appreciated genus. Most growers have one or two, but having killed a few in their early collecting days, usually because of over watering, concentrate on other genera. Most of the species are in fact easy to grow. Many of the species are quite variable, and exhibit different spination and flower colors depending on the local environment. As a result, a large number of species were named – about 70 in total. These

are being reduced by taxonomists to 30 to 50 species. The varieties and local growth forms provide an enormous range of interesting plants to grow.

Most *Echinocereus* have spectacular flowers, giving rise to such common names as Claret Cup, Strawberry Cactus, Calico Cactus. These common names are often attached to more than one species. *Echinocereus* flowers erupt through the skin, leaving scars. Offsets also erupt through the skin. The most widely used common name is hedgehog cactus. But I suppose one needs to know what a hedgehog looks like for this to be useful.

Propagation from cuttings is relatively easy, but attention needs to cleanliness is important. Use of Rootone, or another rooting compound containing a fungicide helps ensure success.

Selected Species

- Echinocereus chloranthus* var. *chloranthus* (Engelm.) Haage f. – brown spine hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus berlandieri* (Engelm.) Haage f. – Berlandier's hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus chisoensis* W.T. Marsh. – Chisos Mountain hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus chisosensis*
- Echinocereus coccineus* Engelm. – scarlet hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus dasyacanthus* Engelm. – spiny hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus engelmannii* (Parry ex Engelm.) Lem. – Engelmann's hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus enneacanthus* Engelm. – small spine pitaya
- Echinocereus fendleri* (Engelm.) F. Seitz – fendler cactus, pinkflower hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus nicholii* (L. Benson) Parfitt – Nichol hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus papillosus* Linke ex Ruml. – Allicoche hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus pectinatus* (Scheidw.) Engelm. – rainbow cactus
- Echinocereus pentalophus* (DC.) Lem. – ladyfinger cactus
- Echinocereus polyacanthus* Engelm. – Mojave mound cactus
- Echinocereus poselgeri* Lem. – dahlia hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus pseudopectinatus* (N.P. Taylor) N.P. Taylor – devil thorn
- Echinocereus reichenbachii* (Terscheck ex Walp.) Haage f. – lace hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus rigidissimus* (Engelm.) Haage f. – rainbow hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus X roetteri* (Engelm.) Ruempler
- Echinocereus rusanthus* Weniger – brownspine hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus stramineus* (Engelm.) F. Seitz – Órgano-pequeño sanjuanero, strawberry hedgehog cactus
- Echinocereus triglochidiatus* Engelm. – claretcup hedgehog, kingcup cactus, Mojave mound cactus
- Echinocereus viridiflorus* Engelm. – green pitaya, nylon hedgehog cactus

NOTE: When looking at species lists you will often find the name of the original collector and/or author (the person who wrote the official description) appended. This is useful because occasionally different collectors find a plant and either duplicate an existing name or name it after a similar plant that has been collected and not described or published. It can take many years (decades in fact) for these things to get sorted out, causing confusion not only among taxonomists, but growers, seller's, and collectors.

* Based on a Tom Glavich article

South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society

Succulent of the Month April 2009 – *Haworthia* * & *Astroloba*

Haworthia are native to South Africa, and grow in a winter-rainfall, Mediterranean environment not very different from Southern California. Most are easily grown, preferring some shade and growing mostly in the winter and spring. Many will grow year round, if given sufficient water. They are in flower now, and some species will remain in flower into the summer. However, the flowers are small and generally off-white and not particularly notable. *Haworthias* are grown for their beautiful leaf shapes and colors.

Haworthia in general are tolerant of almost any potting mix, and success has been reported with everything from straight pumice to potting soil-pumice or perlite mixes, to plain potting soil, and even garden soil. They like light fertilization when growing, any balanced fertilizer will do. An application of time release fertilizer in late winter will improve growth from late winter and early spring rains. Healthy *Haworthia* generally have stiff thick white roots. When repotting, it's important to inspect the roots for mealy bugs, and for old, dried brown or hollow roots, which are often the source of infection or rot. These should be removed back to healthy tissue.

According to the Bayer & Hammer reference; the *Haworthia* genus is divided into three subgenera, and these further divided into 8 sections. One of these, Section *Retusae*, contains the many of the best known plants including, *H. retusa*, *H. comptoniana*, *H. magnifica*, and *H. reticulata*. These are all characterized by thick fat leaves, with intricate patterns, usually in a lighter green than the main leaf color.

Section *Arachnoideae* includes *H. cooperi*: a wonderful species with windowed tips that vary in shape from points to rounds and *H. lockwoodi*. In the summer the leaf ends dry almost half way, and curve inward to protect the growing tip. A spectacular plant.

Section *Fenestratae* includes *H. maughanii* which looks like a spiral clump of stems sliced clean with a knife and *H. truncata* whose leaves grow in rows

Section *Coarctatae* includes *H. reinwardtii* and *H. coarcta* which both grow in clumps of offsetting long triangular leafed stems

Section *Margaritiferae* contains *H. marginata* with stiff leaves, similar to a small *Agave*.

Astroloba

It should come as no surprise that the genus *Astroloba* is closely related to *Haworthias* since they also inhabit South Africa and look similar to the columnar *Haworthia*, but are separated by the fact that their flower is regular shaped instead to have the characteristic 2-tipped corolla of the *Haworthias*. There is no evidence that the two genera have natural hybrids.

Cultivation is similar to *haworthia*, although perhaps slightly drier. Many *Astroloba* are slow to grow and to offset. They take very little frost, and need a good drainage. They are also notorious for some species habits of dropping leaves from segments of the stem, seriously damaging their look.

There are only a few species and little taxonomy work has been done recently. The valid species in Pilbeam's old book include: *aspera*, *bicarinata*, *congesta*, *deltoidea*, *dodsoniana*, *foliolosa*, *herrei*, *pentagona*, and *spiralis*.

References

- Bayer & Hammer, *Haworthia revisited*, 1999
- Pilbeam, *Haworthia and Astroloba*, 1983

Dale La Forest, 2009

**CACTUS AND SUCCULENT
CALENDAR OF UP COMING EVENTS FOR 2009**

- MAR. 7 & 8 SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE AT SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS
26300 CRENSHAW BL., PALOS VERDES, CA INFO. 310-832-2262
- APR. 10-15 CSSA CONVENTION, WESTIN LA PALOMA RESORT & SPA,
TUCSON, AZ. FOR MORE INFO. GO TO- WWW.CSSAINC.ORG
- APR 18 & 19 GREEN SCENE PLANT SALE—AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM
1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831
- May 2 & 3 SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE
VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, GARDEN ROOM
4117 OVERLAND AVE. CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. 310-822-1783
- MAY 3 SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE—9am to 4pm
SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS
INFORMATION CALL-310-833-6823
- MAY 9 GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 29th
SHOW AND SALE—SAT. 9 TO 4
JURUPA MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTER, 7621 GRANITE HILL DRIVE
GLEN AVON, CA INFO. 909-360-8802
- MAY 17th HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 10 TO 5 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL
GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-2160
- MAY 17th EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM, ARCADIA, CA 310-670-8148
- MAY 23 & 24 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 6 & 7 SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY –SHOW AND SALE
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO.—#619-477-4779
- JUNE 13 & 14 LOS ANGELES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BL., ENCINO, CA.
SHOW INFORMATION-CALL 818-363-3432
- JUNE 26-28 CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE –HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.
626-405-2160 or 2277 PLANTS SALES START JUNE 26TH THRU JUNE 28th
THE SHOW OPENS ON THE JUNE 27th THRU JUNE 28th FREE TO THE PUBLIC
- JULY 24-26 ORANGE COUNTY SUMMER SHOW AND SALE—AT THE FULLERTON
ARBORETUM, 1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA
SHOW AND SALE FRI 12pm to 4pm SAT. & SUN. 10am to 4pm. INFO. 714-870-4887
- AUG. 15 & 16 24th 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
- AUG. 29 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON
- SEPT 27 LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION
18127 SOUTH ALAMEDA ST., RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, CA—12PM
- NOV. 7 & 8 SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
SHOW AND SALE—LA COUNTY ARBORETUM ADDRESS ABOVE.
- DEC. 5 & 6 ORANGE COUNTY SHOW AND SALE AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM
1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831
SHOW AND SALE OPEN FROM 10AM TO 4PM, FOR INFO. CALL 714-870-4887

FORTHCOMING BOOKS FOR 2009

ADENIUM BOOK (Title to be determined later)—Authors: Mark Dimmitt, Gene Joseph, David Palzkill. Information on species, hybrids, culture, propagation, history in cultivation. Hundreds of color photos. Targeted at less than \$25.00 retail. Will include a CD. Sales distribution to be determined at a later date. Due to be released early April 2009.

ALOE BOOK – Authors: John Lavranos, Susan Carter, Len Newton. Title to be determined later. With additional information by Colin Walker. To contain information on all aloes of the world. To be a major book. Due out in 2009 (?).

PORSLINSBLOMMOR (Porcelain Flowers) by Wennstrom & Stenman. On Hoyas – in English.

INDONESIAN HOYAS – by Yayuk

BORNEO HOYAS - by Tony Lamb

HOYAS – by Christine Burton

CACTUS OF ARIZONA – A FIELD GUIDE. by Rick & Nora Bowers. 228 pages. 5" x 6", softcover. \$14.95. Available in early 2009 at: Amazon.com. Actually, this title just came out 3 weeks ago.

ALL ABOUT SAGUAROS . Facts, Lore, Photos. by Leo W. Banks. Arizona Highways book. \$19.95 available January 2009 from Amazon.com at \$13.59. Actually, this title just came out a week ago.

THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO GROWING CACTI & SUCCULENTS by Miles Anderson. Reprint of Miles' very popular book, but with a different title. Hardbound. Due out in early 2009. Regularly \$29.95 – www.amazon.com has it for \$19.79. Actually, this title just came out a week ago.

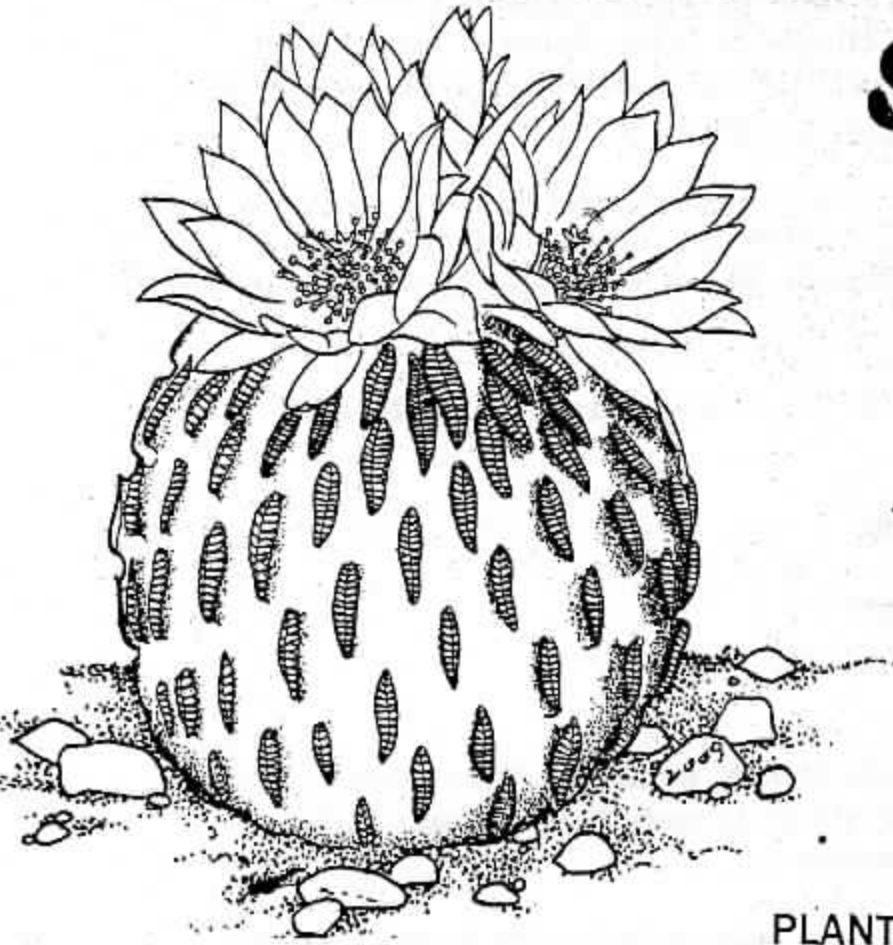
SARCOCAULON BOOK. By Charles Craib & John Lavranos. Title to be: "The Bushman Candles". Publisher is Penrock Publications in Tygerpark, South Africa. Due out mid-late 2009.

SANSEVIERIA BOOK. Another book on Sansevierias by Juan Chahinian. No information on the progress of this book at this time.

HAWORTHIA BOOK. By Rudolf Schulz. On cultivation and care. Supposed to have lots and lots of color pictures. Due out by the end of 2009.

GYMNOCALYCIUM BOOK. Title to be determined at a later date. by Graham Charles. Supposed to be very thorough.

CACTUS & SUCCULENT SHOW & SALE



MAY 2-3
... free admission ...

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

PLANT SALE: SATURDAY 10 - 5
SUNDAY 10 - 4

SHOW: SATURDAY 12 - 5
SUNDAY 10 - 4

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

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