



Prickly News

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter - June 2014

June 8 at 1:30 p.m.

Presentation by Ernesto Sandoval "Plant Hormones & Why Our Plants Look the Way They Do!"

Have you ever wondered why your plants have a sudden burst of growth after transplanting? Or how a plant "knows" to grow new parts when pruned, or to flower, or how a cutting knows to make roots? Or why you bury tomato plants? Find answers to these questions and others about why your plants grow the way they do during this informative but not so technical presentation by Ernesto Sandoval, Director of the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory. Ernesto will also talk about some options for using hormones to manipulate your plants.

Ernesto will also be bringing a diversity of succulents for members to buy as part of a "Green for Green" offering to benefit activities at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory and your collection and garden.



"Quartering" *Aloe pillansii* for a propagation experiment.

REFRESHMENTS FOR JUNE

Volunteers for June refreshments are:
Carol Causey Laurel Woodley
Lupe Hulett Danny Westall
Dale La Forest

If you would like bring something to our next meeting, please feel free to do so – thanks!

Kitchen Volunteers – Please see Carol Causey after the meeting if you would like to help with kitchen cleanup.

President's Message



It's election time. As Chair (and only member) of our Nominating Committee, Jim Tanner had a relatively easy task. Unless he surprises us at the June meeting, the officer nominees for FY 2014 are myself as President, Maria Capaldo for Vice President, Bernard Johnson as Treasurer, and Philip Johnston Ross as Secretary. Phyllis DeCrescenzo (new), Mike Short, and Bob Caplan are the At-large nominees.

I continue to be grateful that the Chairs of the Standing Committees, Coordinators, and Liaison members have agreed to continue. And while continuing service results in experienced people, the amount of time and energy it takes to keep things running smoothly is not insignificant. So . . . I want to thank and acknowledge the time and effort all our Officers, Chairs, and Coordinators have spent this past year. On behalf of the Club and myself, thank you all.

It's also Dues time. Dues become delinquent upon adjournment of the June meeting, if you plan on paying at the meeting, checks are preferred. If you plan on paying with cash, please put the money in an envelope with the renewal form. There is no penalty for late renewals, but because we are **only accepting INDIVIDUAL memberships**, we are asking everyone to submit a Membership application. This form will not only allow us to confirm your contact information but allow you to delete it from the roster. For **COUPLES**, it will allow them to submit their own telephone and/or email addresses.

Dale La Forest
President

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JUNE'S PRESENTER: ERNESTO SANDOVAL



Ernesto Sandoval has been wondering and seeking questions to why plants look the way that they do for a long time. When he was about 13 he remembers asking his dad why one tree was pruned a particular way and another tree another way. His dad answered bluntly “because that’s the way you do it.” Since then he’s gotten answers to those and many other questions by getting a degree at UC Davis in Botany and working from waterer to Director over the last 22 years at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory. He’s long left the “mow blow and go” monoculture landscape gardening world and has immersed himself in the world of polyculture and biodiversity by growing several thousand types of plants at the Conservatory, many of them tropicals and subtropical plants including many succulents. He likes to promote a better understanding of how plants work to help growers be more successful with their plants. Ernesto loves the precision of the technical language but prefers to relate information in more understandable methods of communication! By helping people to understand plant hormones, he hopes to help us better understand how to and why our plants do what they do.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS for FY2013-2014

Officers

President

Vice President

Treasurer

Secretary

Parliamentarian

Standing Committee Chairmen

Show & Sale Chair

Programs Committee Chair

Finance Committee Chair

Communication Committee Chair

Membership Committee Chair

Liaisons

CGCI

CSSA

At Large Members

Dale La Forest

Maria Capaldo

Bernard Johnson

Philip Johnston Ross

Judy Unrine

Jim Gardner

Gary Duke

Jim Hanna

Anita Caplan

Sally Fasteau

Lynda Johnson

Laurel Woodley

Mike Short

Bob Caplan



On the left is a grafted and crested Epithelantha micromeris and on the right is a grafted Strombocactus that's multi headed on account of also being grafted.

**South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society
MINI SHOW FINAL RESULTS - (as of May 11, 2014)**

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents
Arbuckle	2		Caplan	20	14	Capaldo	19	17
Bjerke		1	DeCresenzo	24	19	Duke	41	14
Holloway		7	J Johnson	22	15	Gardner	2	14
Jengo	1	7	C Knight		11	Hanna		32
B. Johnson	8		Neely	30	18	La Forest	12	7
J B Johnson	1		Ross	1		Warzybok	1	
B. Kelly	33	8						
Shearer	5	2						
Short		2						
Tanner		30						
G. Unrine	2							
J. Unrine	5							
J Williams	4							
Wood	11	4						

**May
Mini Show**

**FIRST PLACE
WINNERS**

CACTUS

Open Class

Gary Duke
stenocactus crispatus

Intermediate Class
Jackie Johnson

*stenocactus
multicostatus*

Novice Class
Bill Kelly

*echinofossulocactus
multicostatus*

SUCCULENT

Open Class
Gary Duke

gasteria baylissiana

Intermediate Class
Jackie Johnson

gasteria aloë

Novice Class
Jim Tanner

gasteria

2014 PLANTS OF THE MONTH (POM)

	Cactus	Succulents
January	Mammillaria straight spines	Adenia, Cissus and Cyphostemma
February	Rebutia	Sansevieria
March	Gymnocalycium	Crassula
April	PLANT SHOW AND SALE	
May	Stenocactus	Gasteria
JUNE	CRESTS / MONSTROSE	ECHEVERIA
July	Coryphantha	Mesemb
August	Ferocactus	Agave / Yucca
September	Ariocarpus	Haworthia
October	Cactus dish gardens	Succulent dish gardens
November	Eriosyce	Winter Bulbs
December	HOLIDAY PARTY	

MINI-SHOW RULES

Exhibitors must be club members in good standing and must be present at the meeting in order to receive points. One name representing the same household must be used unless plants are grown separately. Mini-show coordinator will be consulted if there is any question of entry identity.

Any container may be used, including plastic, as long as it is clean. All plants must be groomed and free of pests and disease.

There are two plant categories, "Cactus" and "Succulents". Up to three plants per individual may be entered in each category.

There are three entry classes: "Novice", "Intermediate" and "Open". Only members new to the hobby would be expected to be in the novice class. After the December meeting, members' point total will be reviewed by the Programs Committee Chair and Mini-show Coordinator. Novice members awarded more than 64 points or winning at least 6 first place awards will be asked to move to the Intermediate class in both categories. Intermediate Members awarded more than 64 points or winning at least 6 first place awards, will be asked to begin showing in the Open class. Members will not be allowed to regress to a lower level.

All plants must be grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of six months for novice and intermediate and one year for open class. An individual plant may be entered only once a year.

Scoring:

First Place: 6 points; Second place: 4 points; Third place: 2 points
Placement: all entries that are not disqualified receive one point

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2014

(06/01/2014)

- JUNE 7-8 SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY –
SUMMER SHOW AND SALE
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA.
INFO: 858-382-1797
- JUNE 14-15 LOS ANGELES CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY
PLANT SHOW AND SALE 14TH 9-5, 15th 9-3:30
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BLVD.
ENCINO, CA INFO. E-MAIL www.lacss-show.com
- JUNE 27-29 CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE
HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.
PLANT SALES 27TH -29TH, THE SHOW OPENS ON 28TH

INFO: 626-405-2160 or 2277
<http://www.cssainc.com/>
- JULY 25-27 ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER
SHOW AND
SALE. FRI. JULY 25TH 9am-5pm, SAT JULY 26TH 9am-5pm,
SUN 27TH 12-4pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church)
Anaheim, CA
INFO: 949-212-8417
- AUG. 9-10 29th 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 JOHN MATTHEWS 661-714-1052
- AUG 30 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON
- SEPT. 7 LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION -12-5PM
RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS, 6400 BIXBY HILL ROAD,
LONG BEACH, CA 90615
INFO: 310-922-6090
- NOV. 1 & 2 SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
9am-4pm both days
SHOW AND SALE–LA COUNTY ARBORETUM ADDRESS ABOVE

THE CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA (CSSA)

*The 49th Annual Show & Sale will be held June 27-29, 2014 at the Huntington, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA. All Affiliate Clubs are encouraged to enter show plants which need to arrive at the Botanical Center on Friday, June 27 between 10:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. as judging will commence at 5:00 p.m. Also, plant sales will begin at 10:30 and continue to 4:30 p.m. with lots of fine vendors selling plants, containers, books and supplies. The show opens on Saturday June 28 at 10:30 a.m. and the sales area will be open during the same hours. The Annual Meeting of CSSA is open to all and will commence at 5:00 p.m. in the Danner Conference Room. Following the meeting is a dinner in the lower level of the Botanical Center. The cost is \$25 and dinner reservations need to be made by 12:00 noon, June 28 with checks made out to CSSA and mailed to: Kathleen Misko, 21341 Kickapoo Trail, Chatsworth, CA 91311. After the dinner there is a rare plant auction which may also have containers, art and books, all of which serves as a fund raiser for the Research Grants awarded by CSSA each year. Both show and sale continue on Sunday June 29 10:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with the take down of the show beginning at 4:00 p.m. All members of the CSSA and its Affiliated Clubs are invited to participate in the national open one class Show. NOTE: The HBG has recently changed its policy regarding free admission to the event and HBG/CSSA nametags MUST be worn along with the club badge by all members. The HBG/CSSA name tags will be available at the June meeting. The HBG will no longer allow the public into the Show & Sale for free and there will be no registration table at the entrance as there was last year.
Laurel Woodley, CSSA Affiliate Rep.*

CACTUS OF THE MONTH – CRESTS / MONSTROSE

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. For monstrose growth, the local dominance is lost, and every growth tip tries to grow as if it were the dominant point.

Cresting and monstrose growth is not unique to succulent plants. Crests are found in many genera of non-succulent plants, including conifers and many common garden plants.

Crests and monstrose plants 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.

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 are often grafted to speed growth and to preserve special growth forms.

Tom Glavich March 2004



Lophocereus Schottii monstrose



Trichocereus bridgesii forma monstrosa



Trichocereus bridgesii forma monstrosa



Crests/Monstrose



Crests/Monstrose



Crests/Monstrose

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH – ECHEVERIA

Echeveria is a large genus of succulents in the Crassulaceae family, native from the mountains of Mexico to northwestern South America. The genus is named after the 18th century Mexican botanical artist, Atanasio Echeverría y Godoy. Many of the species produce numerous offsets, and are commonly known as 'Hen and chicks', which can also refer to other genera such as Sempervivum that are significantly different from Echeveria.

Many Echeveria species are popular as garden plants. They are drought resistant, although they do better with regular deep watering and fertilizing. Most will tolerate shade and some frost, although hybrid species tend to be less tolerant. They can be propagated easily by separating offsets, but may also be propagated by leaf cuttings, and by seed if they are not hybrids.

Echeverias are polycarpic, meaning that they may flower and set seed many times over the course of their lifetimes.

Most lose their lower leaves in winter; as a result, after a few years, the plants lose their attractive, compact appearance and need to be rerooted or propagated. In addition, if not removed, these shed leaves may decay, harboring fungus which can then infect the plant.

Wikipedia, 2009



Echeveria 'Blue Curls'



Echeveria afterglow



Echeveria Black Prince



Echeveria agavoides



Echeveria imbricata



Echeveria pulvinata



Echeveria derenberaii