



South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter

June 2017

Click here to visit our web site: http://www.southcoastcss.org

Click here to visit our Facebook page

NEXT MEETING

Gary Duke: "Bolivia - Part I"

Sunday June 18, at 1:00 pm (Program starts at 1:30pm)

NOTE: 3rd Sunday of June

REFRESHMENTS FOR JUNE

Thanks to those who helped in May:

M. A. Bjarkman Joann Frisch Marie Bowers Jim Gardner Carol Causey Nancy Mosher

Volunteers for June refreshments are:

M.A. Bjarkman Joann Frisch
Martha Bjerke Leigh Kennedy
Maria Capaldo Hank Warzybock

Carol Causey

If you would like to bring something to the meeting please do so - thanks!

Kitchen Volunteers – Please see Carol Causey after the meeting if you are able to help with cleanup.

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Volunteering for a leadership position in any non-profit for a long time has to be a labor of love, and I have loved being President. Over the past ten years, I have witnessed the growth of many facets of our club: variety and quality in our speaker program, our excellent mini-show competitions (visiting judges often remark on this), landscaping awards for member gardens, and strong volunteerism for our Board and other functions

such as the Annual Show and Sale. Proceeds from our annual Show & Sale have continued to net sufficient funds to pay speakers fees, pay the rent for use of South Coast Botanic Garden (SCBG) facilities, provide free plants to members, and cover miscellaneous expenses, with enough left over to make substantial donations to the Cactus & Succulent Society of America for research and conventions, the SCBG Foundation for improvenment of the Desert Garden, and the California Garden Clubs, Inc. irrigation project at Anza-Borrego Desert State Park.

Our Board of Directors has been invaluable in facilitating these activities. Board members were also of critical assistance in helping revise our Bylaws and create our Operational Procedures and Standing Rules. These documents allow all members to know how we do things and use them as guides when we want to make changes to improve our Society.

The Society had about 40 members when I first became president over ten years ago. We have more than tripled membership, now at 137 members. It is gratifying to see our outreach increasing the number of people who share our interest in succulent plants, have the opportunity to increase their knowledge though our programs, and socialize with others at our meetings and annual party.

I expect to remain active in the Society and wish my successor every success. I look forward to seeing future changes in our Society that new leadership will bring. And I am excited about having more time to get to know all of you, especially our many new members.

REMEMBER the June meeting will be on the 18th (3rd Sunday) as we have been pre-empted by a Fuchsia Society Show & Sale. Dale LaForest, President.



! NOTICES!

CSSA Convention, July 26-31 - Submitted by Bill Wilk

As CSSA Affiliate Representative, I encourage all SCCSS members to check out the web sites below.

To get information and to register for the 37th CSSA Biennial Convention in Tempe, Arizona go to: http://cssaconvention.com
The following video on YOUTUBE (prepared by Bob Jewett) has samples of three presentations from the 2015 Convention of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. Brian Kemble of the Ruth Bancroft Gardens talks about agaves, Michelle Cloud-Hughes shows how a new opuntia was found, and Stephen McCabe from UC Santa Cruz discusses conservation of dudleyas. The 5-day Convention was held at Pitzer College in Claremont, California in June 2015. This video gives you an idea what to expect at lecture presentations at a CSSA convention: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLSOm2xWoD8

CSSA 52nd Show & Sale - Submitted by Bill Wilk

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 Setup**: Thurs. June 29 th, 9am-1pm

Enter Plants: Thurs., June 29th 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: Saturday, July 1, 6:00 p.m. 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 a 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.

Barbara Hall, CSSA Show Chair, Email: lbcjhall@aol.com, Phone: 818-368-6914

PRESENTER FOR JUNE: Gary Duke - Bolivia - Part I

Gary describes his travel with Guillermo Rivera through the Bolivian altoplano via La Paz, Cochabamba, Sucre, Potosi, Carmago to Tarija. He has pictures of over 50 species of Echinopsis, Lobivia, Weingartia, Rebutia, Sulcorebutia as well as several tall columnar species. He even found Cintia and Blossfeldia along with several species of Puya, Dykia and Tillandsia. Gary took a drone to Bolivia so he has some unique aerial videos as well as other scenic views of the Bolivian Andes and a bit the Bolivian culture.

Gary Duke has been collecting cacti and succulents since he was 10 years old. He is a retired Air Force officer with a doctoral degree in physics. During his military career, he moved his original and ever expanding collection of less than about 30 plants from Illinois, where he grew up, to Omaha, NE, Dayton, OH (where he started their first C&S Society, which is now defunct), San



Pedro, CA, Montgomery, AL and Albuquerque, NM where he had been show chairman. He has also been President of the South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society and the Long Beach Club in the southern California area. He is presently serving on the Board of Directors of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America.

Following his military career, he worked as a program manager for Boeing for 16 years. He's an avid collector of cacti and also collects Tylecodons and Dudleyas. He has over 1000 different species in his private collection and enjoys propagating them. He frequently gives slide presentations throughout southern California.

CACTUS OF THE MONTH: Opuntia, Tephrocactus

Submitted by Jim Tanner

Opuntia is a genus in the cactus family, Cactaceae. The most common culinary species is the Indian fig opuntia (*O. ficus-indica*). Most culinary uses of the term "prickly pear" refer to this species. Prickly pears are also known as tuna (fruit) or nopal (paddle, plural nopales) from the Nahuatl word nopalli for the pads, or nostle, from the Nahuatl word nochtli for the fruit; or paddle cactus

Prickly pears typically grow with flat, rounded cladodes (also called platyclades) armed with two kinds of spines; large, smooth, fixed spines and small, hairlike prickles called glochids, that easily penetrate skin and detach from the plant. Many types of prickly pears grow into dense, tangled structures.

Like all true cactus species, prickly pears are native only to the Americas, but they have been introduced to other parts of the globe. Prickly pear species are found in abundance in Mexico, especially in the central and western regions, and in the Caribbean islands (West Indies). In the United States, prickly pears are native to many areas of the arid Western United States, including the lower elevations of the Rocky Mountains, where species such as *Opuntia phaeacantha* and *Opuntia polyacantha* become dominant, and especially in the desert Southwest. Prickly pear cactus is also native to the dry sandhills and sand dunes of the East Coast from Florida to



Opuntia polyacantha



Opuntia microdasys

Connecticut/Long Island (*Opuntia humifusa*). Further north, Opuntia occurs in isolated areas from the southern Great Lakes to southern Ontario. *O. humifusa* is also a prominent feature of the flora at Illinois Beach State Park, in Winthrop Harbor, Illinois, north of Chicago, and of Indiana Dunes State Park southeast of Chicago.

In the Galapagos Islands, six different species are found: *O. echios, O. galapageia, O. helleri, O. insularis, O. saxicola*, and *O. megasperma*. These species are divided into 14 different varieties; most of these are confined to one or a few islands. For this reason, they have been described as "an excellent example of adaptive radiation". On the whole, islands with tall, trunked varieties have giant tortoises, and islands lacking tortoises have low or prostrate forms of Opuntia.

Click here to see the same with more photos on our website

The first introduction of prickly pears into Australia are ascribed to Governor Philip and the earliest colonists in 1788. Brought from Brazil to Sydney, prickly pear grew in Sydney, New South Wales, where they were rediscovered in a farmer's garden in 1839. They appear to have spread from New South Wales and caused great ecological damage in the eastern states. They are also found in the Mediterranean region of Northern Africa, especially in Tunisia, where they grow all over the countryside, and arid southern Europe, especially on Malta, where they grow all over the islands, in the south-east of Spain, and can be found in enormous numbers in parts of South Africa, where it was introduced from South America.

Opuntia species are the most cold-tolerant of the lowland cacti, extending into western and southern Canada; one subspecies, O. fragilis var. fragilis, has been found growing along the Beatton River in



Opuntia macrocentra

central British Columbia, southwest of Cecil Lake. Prickly pears also produce a fruit, commonly eaten in Mexico, known as tuna; it also is used to make aguas frescas. The fruit can be red, wine-red, green, or yellow-orange.

Charles Darwin was the first to note that these cacti have thigmotactic anthers: when the anthers are touched, they curl over, depositing their pollen. This movement can be seen by gently poking the anthers of an open Opuntia flower. The same trait has evolved convergently in other cacti (e.g. Lophophora).



Tephrocactus articulatus var. strombiliformis



Tephrocactus articulatus var. papyracanthus



Tephrocactus articulatus



Tephrocactus articulatus var. diadematus

Tephrocactus is a small genus in the subfamily Opuntioideae which is endemic to Argentina. Like other members of this group,
Tephrocactus does have glochids, however, they are uniquely sunken into the areoles in this genus. Spines may be long, dense and needle-like or thin and papery or absent. The stems grow in very distinct segments, but unlike the flat-pads found on the genus Opuntia, the segments of Tephrocactus are round. This can be either in short cylinders, egg shaped, or even spherical. These segments typically grow in a slightly zig-zagged stack. Flowers are white in most species or pinkish, sometimes yellow, and in one case red.

Some species in this genus are very popular in cultivation. Grown for their alien-looking stems and dramatic spines. Flowers are less common in cultivation as the segments often detach with the slightest touch. Plants that are only a couple segments high tend not to flower. As such, a flowering Tephrocactus is a special delight to the hobbyist.



Tephrocactus geometricus f. inermis

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY2016-2017 Standing Committee Chairs: Officers: Refreshments Committee Carol Causey President Dale La Forest **Programs Committee** Gary Duke Vice President M.A. Bjarkman Membership Committee Sally Fasteau Treasurer Bernard Johnson Finance Committee Jim Hanna Secretary Maria Capaldo Show & Sale Committee Heidi Husnak

CSSA Bill Wilk **Other Positions:**

At Large Members:Anita CaplanNewsletterMike ShortBob CaplanWebmasterMike Short

Martha Bjerke Facebook Laurel Woodley

Communication Committee

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH: Cissus, Cyphostemma Submitted by Jim Tanner

Cissus is a genus of approximately 350 species of lianas (woody vines) in the grape family (Vitaceae). They have a cosmopolitan distribution, though the majority are to be found in the tropics.

Lou Hagemeier

Medicinal

Liaisons:

CGCI

Cissus quadrangularis has been evaluated for potential medical uses. As a source of carotenoids, triterpenoids and ascorbic acid the extracts may have potential for medical effects, including "gastroprotective activity" and benefits in terms of "lipid metabolism and oxidative stress". Cissus quinquangularis was used by the Maasai people of Kenya to relieve some of the symptoms of malaria.

Ornamental

Cissus antarctica, Cissus alata and Cissus incisa are cultivated as garden plants, depending on area of the world. Succulent members of the genus such as Cissus quadrangularis are also found in the nursery trade but tend to be frost tender and are thus not widely cultivated.

Ecology

Cissus species are used as food plants by the larvae of some Lepidoptera species including Hypercompe eridanus and Hypercompe icasia.

Taxonomy

The generic name is derived from the Greek word κισσος (kissos), meaning "ivy". In the 1980s the genus was split according to some details of the flower. The large caudiciform species were moved to the new genus Cyphostemma. The genus name was established by Carl Linnaeus who used species epithets that are adjectives with feminine grammatical gender in Latin (e.g., *C. trifoliata* L.). This matches the pattern that names of trees ending in -us in Latin have feminine gender, although other plant names ending in -us are usually masculine.



Cissus subaphylla



Mike Short

Cissus tuberosa



Cissus quadrangularis



Cissus cactiformis

Cyphostemma is a member of the Vitaceae or grape family. The members of this genus span the range of extremely easy to grow plants to real challenges. Most of the species will grow large, given time, good root room, lots of fertilizer, and water during the growing season.

Most Cyphostemma will set fruit. In almost all cases, the fruit is toxic to humans and most pets, although freely eaten by birds. The seeds in the fruit are ripe when the fruit turns color (usually red).

The key to success with these plants is to pay attention to the native habitat. *Cyphostemma juttae*, common in many collections, comes from South Africa. It takes some frost with no damage, and grows in the ground in Southern California, putting on bulk and character in just a few years.

Cyphostemma seitziana, on the other hand comes from Namibia, and is much less tolerant of unprotected cold and overwatering.

Propagation is easy from cuttings and seeds. Seed of all the common and even some of the truly rare species is sometimes available through the CSSA or through some of the better South African and US seed dealers. Germination is erratic (days to months), and only one seed should be sown per pot. The seedling mix should be sterile and organic, and hold a lot of water. Scarring the seeds to allow water penetration helps. The seeds should be completely buried to provide uniform moisture. A plastic bag over the mix will help keep everything uniform.

The bag should be removed as soon as any sign of green appears, the seedling leaves are large, and will rot if they touch the plastic. Softwood cuttings should be taken when active growth is occurring. Rooting does not require or even seem to benefit from hormones. Tom Glavich.

Click here to see the same with more photos on our website



Cyphostemma juttae







Cyphostemma currorii



Cyphostemma juttae

Click here to see the

calendar on our website

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2017

JUNE 3-4 San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society – Summer Show & Sale

Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA. INFO: 858-382-1797

JUNE 10-11 Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society - Plant Show & Sale

June 10th, 9am-4pm June 11th, 9am-3pm

Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA. INFO: http://www.lgcss-show.com

JUNE 10 Cerritos Lutheran Church Fundraising Succulent Sale

June 10th, 8am-Noon, St. John's Lutheran Church, 18422 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703

Succulents for sale by church members. Call Pastor Carl Bernal for details: 562-865-5646.

JUNE 30-JULY 2 CSSA Annual Show & Sale

Huntington Botanical Gardens. 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. INFO: 626-405-3504 Plant Sale June 30th thru July 2nd 10am to 5pm. Show open July 1st thru July 2nd 10am to 5pm.

JULY 20-22	Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society - Summer Show & Sale.
	Thurs. July 20th 6-8pm, Fri. 21st 9am-7pm, Sat. 22nd 9am-5pm
	1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA. INFO: Call 949-212-8417
JULY 26-31	CSSA Convention, Tempe, AZ.
AUG. 12-13	32nd Annual Intercity Show & Sale
	9am-5pm Daily. LA County Arboretum, 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA.
	INFO: Call Tom Glavich 626-798-2430 or Artie Chavez 818-482-8795
SEP. 2	Huntington Botanical Gardens - Succulent Symposium
	All day at the Huntington 626-405-3504
SEP. 17	Long Beach Cactus Club - Annual Plant Auction
	12am-5pm. Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA 90615, INFO: 562-631-5876
OCT. 7-8	Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society - Show & Sale
	Sat 10am-5pm - Sun 11am-3pm. St. Paul's Church, 2216 17th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304
	Free Admission & Parking, INFO: 661-8318488
OCT. 28 -29	Palomar Show & Sale
	Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm, San Diego Botanic Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Road, Encinitas, CA.
	INFO: hciservices@gmail.com. 858-382-1797
NOV. 4-5	San Gabriel Cactus & Succulent Society - Show & Sale
	9am-4pm Both Days. LA County Arboretum 310 No. Baldwin, Arcadia, CA.
	Manny Rivera 626-780-6957 Or John Matthews 661-714-1052



MINI-SHOW RESULTS - May 14, 2017					
Open Cactus	1st	Jim Gardner	Mammillaria parkinsonii		
	2nd	Gary Duke	Mammillaria geminispina		
	2nd	Gary Duke	Mammillaria crinita f. monstrosa		
	3rd	Maria Capaldo	Mammillaria bocasana		
Open Succulent	1st	Jim Hanna	Euphorbia stellata	Click here for photos	
	2nd	Jim Gardner	Euphorbia lactea f. cristata	of the winning plants	
	2nd	Maria Capaldo	Euphorbia pubiglans	on our website	
	3rd	Laurel Woodley	Euphorbia schoenlandii		
Intermediate Cactus	1st	Dale LaForest	Mammillaria bocasana		
	2nd	William Wilk	Mammillaria karwinskiana subsp	o. collinsii	
	2nd	William Wilk	Mammillaria plumosa		
	3rd	Dale LaForest	Mammillaria geminispina		
Intermediate Succulent	1st	William Wilk	Euphorbia horrida var. striata		
	2nd	William Wilk	Euphorbia meloformis subsp. vali	da	
	3rd	Mike Short	Euphorbia anoplia		
Novice Cactus	1st	M.A. Bjarkman	Mammillaria decipiens		
	2nd	Sally Fasteau	Mammillaria bocasana		
	3rd	Sally Fasteau	Mammillaria plumosa		
	3rd	M.A. Bjarkman	Mammillaria plumosa		
Novice Succulent	1st	Sally Fasteau	Euphorbia mammillaris f. variego	nta	
	2nd	Sally Fasteau	Euphorbia bupleurifolia		
	3rd	Bernard Johnson	Euphorbia Medusoid Hybrid		

MINI-SHOW PLANTS OF THE MONTH (POM) 2017					
	Cactus			Succulent	
June	Opuntia, Tephrocactus		Cissus, Cyphostemma		
July	Epiphytic Cactus		Bromeliaceae (other than Tillandsia)		
August	Ariocarpus	Click here to see complete		Sedum, Pachyphytum, Sempervivum	
September	Astrophytum	lists on our website		Adenium & Adenia	
October	Copiapoa			Lithops, Conophytum	
November	Crest and Monstrose			Variegated	
December	HOLIDAY PARTY				

MINI-SHOW PLANTS OF THE MONTH (POM) 2018				
	Cactus	Succulent		
January	Mammillaria - Hooked Spines	Kalanchoe		
February	Variegated Cacti	Euphorbia with Caudex		
March	Crested / Monstrose	Dudleya		
May	Opuntia, Tephrocactus	Tylecodon		
June	Gymnocalycium	Pachypodium		
July	Lobivia / Echinopsis	Senecio		
August	Echinocactus	Variegated (All)		
September	Favorite Cacti (3)	Favorite Succulent (3)		
October	Cereus / Columnar Cactus	Pelargonium / Sarcocaulon		
November	Miniature (3in or less)	Miniature (3in or less)		

SCCSS MINI-SHOW STANDINGS (as of May 14, 2017)

Open Class	Cactus	Succulent	Total
Capaldo, Maria	19	13	36
Duke, Gary	38	16	54
Gardner, Jim	9	22	31
Hanna, Jim		29	29
Woodley, Laurel		13	13

Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulent	Total
Caplan, Anita	11	11	22
DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	19	18	37
Knight, Carol	4		4
LaForest, Dale	22	3	25
Neely, Jade	11	8	19
Short, Mike	11	19	30
Wilk, William	26	31	57
Wood, Jim	9	7	16

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulent	Total
Bjarkman, M.A.	15	2	17
Bjerke, Martha		2	2
Fasteau, Sally	25	41	66
Hulett, Lupe	1		1
Johnson, Bernard	20	18	38
Straub, Terri	7		7
Tanner, Jim	3	16	19
Unrine, Judy	2	5	7

Click here to see the standings on our website

MEMBERSHIP NEWS - Submitted by Sally Fasteau

Membership renewals are now being accepted. Please complete the membership form (attached) and return it to us either at a meeting or by mail. Checks or exact change are preferred. If you cannot print the form there will be some available at the meetings.

Please welcome new members

Isabel Cedra from Eastvale Gloria Diaz from Los Angeles Suzette Diaz from Los Angeles Greg Horn from Hawthorne

Membership Form South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Make Check payable to: SCCSS Instructions: Mail Form and Check to: Either: Bernard Johnson 629 18th Street Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 Submit form and payment at a meeting. (checks preferred) Or: Please Read: The membership year begins July 1st and ends June 30th. Please provide the following information to the membership committee. Unless you indicate that you do not wish to include any or all of this information, it will be published in the membership directory. Renewing members may write "SAME" in the spaces where information has not changed. New Member Membership Renewal Date: *Prorated see below Renewals are not Prorated Please Print Name: One name per form please. Please exclude my address from the Directory Mailing Address: City, State, Zip code: Please exclude my email address from the Directory Email for newsletter: Please exclude my phone number from the Directory Phone: I give my permission to publish the Sign here: above information with the exception of any exclusions indicated. Membership Chair: *New memberships are prorated. Sally Fasteau Contact Membership Chair for 310-544-1313 amount due. Enter amount below sallyfasteau@cox.net Member's Dues \$18/year \$ \$12 Additional fee for hard \$12/year \$ For hard copy of newsletter copy of newsletter to be mailed to the above address. (Free newsletter \$ Total delivery by email only.)

Revised: May 2015

Renewal Dues are not prorated.