

SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER | JULY 2020

ZOOM PRESENTATION Sunday, JULY 12, 2020 @ 1:30 pm (Members watch for an email invitation)

Northwest Argentina Places and Plants



Gary

Duke

Greetings from Home, still!

The Society has received communication from the South Coast Botanic Garden that all public large gathering events have been cancelled for the remainder of the year. So the Board decided that there will be no in-person meetings for the remainder of 2020.

PLAN FOR REMAINDER OF 2020. There will be monthly Zoom meetings with speakers on our usual meeting day (second Sunday of every month) starting this month. There will also be an opportunity to attend webinars and online information provided through e-mail and the Society's Newsletter. The Newsletter will continue to provide photos of members' gardens when submitted. Mini Show photos will be sent to me and submitted to the Newsletter. I hope you enjoy all the photos of our Mini-show plants and members' gardens.

Dues: All members that are current will continue to be on the roster until January 2021 when dues will be paid.

2021: The Society was unable to obtain a contract with the South Coast Botanic Garden for meetings for the upcoming year (2021). The Society's Board is considering alternative locations for 2021 in case the Garden is unavailable for us for meetings and Show and Sale.

CALL FOR PHOTOS: The Mini-show categories have been published online with information about each genera. Our genera for July is Cactus: Melocactus and Succulent: Bromeliaceae (other than Tillandsia). Photos from your collection will be published and you will be given one Mini-show point each for a submitted photo of your cactus and succulent (up to 2 points). Please include your plant's full name if you know it (and if you don't, I will seek advice for you just as we do during meetings). Let me know if you would prefer not to have your name published with the photos. The photos don't have to be professional quality but as high resolution as possible so they will publish well. This is for fun and to have a chance to learn from one another and show off your plants. You may send as many photos as you like. Please e-mail them to me at minniecap@ icloud.com. by July 18, 2020.

SHARE YOUR GARDEN: Please e-mail me with photos of your garden and/or interesting plants that we can publish as a way of staying connected. Please also let me know if you have any suggestions or questions. I have decided to award up to 2 points for those submitting garden photos if you had not submitted Mini-show photos.

I look forward to hearing from you. MARIA CAPALDO

aria

SHARE YOUR GARDEN



Email me with photos of your garden and/or plants that we can publish as a way of staying connected.

minniecap@icloud.com

VIDEO PRESENTATIONS:

CSSA (Cactus and Succulent Society of America), is sharing the complete video

resentations of the lectures from the 2015 and 2017 Conventions. This is a chance to hear from world renowned lecturers and experience the high level information received at the Conventions.

Please go to this website to access the videos. https:// cactusandsucculentsociety. org/



To learn more visit southcoastcss.org

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Follow us on Instagram, _sccss_

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Northwest Argentina – Places and Plants







BY GARY DUKE

Gary's presentation shows 26 cacti genera and 14 succulent genera, to include many species of Gymnocalycium, Lobivia, Echinopsis and Tillandsia. He also shows some very interesting geological sites, churches and markets. A short drone video of a site with the rare Neoporteria umadeave is included.

Gary Duke is an incumbent on the Board of Directors to the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. He currently assists with auditing the CSSA finances each year and also is a member of the Honors Committee. He has been collecting cacti and succulents for over 50 years. He's an avid collector of cacti and also collects Tylecodons and Dudleyas. 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 Cactus Society. Following his military career, he worked as a program manager for Boeing for 16 years. He has over 1000 different species in his private collection and enjoys propagating them. One can view some plants in his collection on his Instagram site: garyduke53. He frequently gives slide presentations throughout southern California, including being invited to speak at the Huntington Botanical Gardens and at the Denver Cactus and Succulent Society. He has traveled to Aruba, Peru, Baja Mexico, Bolivia twice and just returned from Argentina and Chile to see cacti and succulents in habitat.

Author of *Landscaping and Micro-climates For Small Gardens*. "The fun and great enjoyment in doing it yourself is in allowing your creative juices to flow in your own front or backyard experiment."







Mini - Show Plant Calendar



Mini-Show Plants for 2020-2021

July	Melocactus	Bromeliaceae (other than Tillandsia)		
August	Astrophytum	Sedum, Pachyphytum, Sempervivum		
September	Ariocarpus, Obregonia	Adenium, Adenia		
October	Соріароа	Graptopetalum, Graptoveria, Pachyveria		
November	Crested and Monstrose	Crested and Monstrose		
December	Lobivia saltensis	Lobivia saltensis		
January 2021	Mammillaria - Hooked Spines	Caudiciform (Beaucarnia, Calibanus, Dioscorea, Fockea, etc.)		
February 2021	Eriosyce, Neoporteria, Neochilenia, Islaya	Crassula		
March 2021	Echinocereus	Gasteria and hybrids		
April 2021	2021 Show and Sale	2021 Show and Sale		
May 2021	Coryphantha, Escobaria, Acharagma	Dudleya, Cotyledon		
June 2021	Gymnocalycium	Pachypodium		



Melocactus are immediately recognizable by the large cephalium that develops on mature plants. Melocactus grow as normal appearing, but flowerless, globular cacti until they reach maturity. This can take from 6 to 15 years in cultivation, with a greater range in habitat. Once they reach maturity, the body stops growing vigorously (it still grows slowly). Most of the plant energy goes into producing a cylindrical flowering and fruiting structure known as a cephalium. This is usually white, with short hairs of yellow, orange or red. As the years go by, the cephalium becomes more cylindrical, with the base becoming more colorful The flowers are usually a red-purple, and the fruits are almost always a bright red, to attract birds. With age, the cephalium can grow to 18 inches or more in height.

Melocactus are native to a large region, Brazil to Southern Mexico, including a good part of the Caribbean. As might be expected, cacti from the tropical regions, particularly coastal regions are sensitive to cold and wet. Cold and wet conditions can cause scarring of the body, which usually appears as brown or tan lesions on the skin. A few of these are unavoidable, but a badly scarred plant quickly becomes unsightly. At the same time, almost all of the Melocactus expect high humidity and a higher moisture level than might be expected. Many grow within sight of the ocean, or in some of the more tropical and humid regions of Brazil. They like water, but demand good drainage.

Melocactus are generally solitary, so the only means of propagation is through seeds. Fortunately they produce plenty of seed, and these germinate readily, particularly when the weather is warm. Keep the seedlings protected from direct sun, and moist until fairly large. It takes several years from seed to a flowering plant.



By Tom Glavich

Monthly Cactus: Melocactus



Melocactus azureus





Melocactus intortus



Melocactus matanzanus

Melocactus peruvianus



Melocactus zehntneri



Ed: The following is the abstract from an interesting article in *Biotropica Vol. 26, No. 3 (Sep., 1994), pp. 295-301.* Where "Saurocory" means seed dispersal. According to the article, to successfully propagate *M. violaceus* from seed we need to keep lizards, and follow them about hoping for seeds.]

Saurocory in *Melocactus violaceus* (Cactaceae)

Tropidurus hygomi ingesting a fruit of Melocactus. The button cactus, Melocactus violaceus (Cactaceae), occurs in open, sandy soils in southern Brazilian coastal areas. The fruits of this species are pink, coneshaped, and have a high water content and low sugar concentration. The fruits of *M. violaceus* develop while completely protected inside the cephalium and are driven out by internal pressure when ripe. Fruits can be exposed in only a few minutes during the hottest part of the day, and they become easily visible over the cephalium. They are expelled more quickly when temperature is high and lizards are more active. During the dry season these fruits appear to be eaten exclusively by the lizard Tropidurus torquatus (Tropiduridae). The cephalium is positioned close to soil level and the bright color of the fruits apparently improves fruit detection.

Lizards defecate viable *M. violaceus* seeds. These seeds germinated quickly under laboratory conditions, while seeds collected directly from ripe fruits did not germinate under the same conditions. Cactus and fruit morphology, and the diurnal pattern of fruit release, may represent a suite of adaptations for dispersal by Tropidurus torquatus. Cactus: Melocactus

Monthly Cactus: Melocactus



Trepidurus hygomi ingesting a fruit of Melocactus



By Tom Glavich

Succulent: Bromeliads



The Bromeliads, like Cacti and Agavaceae are a New World family. Like the Cacti they have evolved to cover a range of environments, from the Coastal Mountains of Chile, to the plains of Argentina, to the Amazon, the dry scrub and Montane forests of Brazil, all of Central America and Mexico, the off-shore Islands, and even the temperate regions of Argentina and the United States.

There are at least three regions where gradual climatic change forced some Bromeliad genera (and some species of other genera) to become succulent. The best known of the succulent genera are Dyckia, from Brazil and the surrounding countries, Puya, which are mostly Andean plants, Hechtia, largely confined to Mexico, and the Tillandsia, which inhabit regions from Virginia to Argentina. However there are some spectacular succulents in other genera as well.

Dyckia and Hechtia have similar cultural requirements, even though they are a hemisphere apart. Both like well draining soil. Most species can tolerate some cold, and light frosts are generally not a problem. A heavy frost will cause some tip damage, but is usually not fatal. They can take full sun when planted in the ground, but prefer some protection from the worst of the heat during the day.

Dyckia has been extensively hybridized, and choice cultivars have been selected from some of the more showy species. Bill Baker, well known to many club members, was one of the best hybridizers. Dyckia is also the best behaved of all of the succulent genera, some of the other genera can be aggressive spreaders, producing many offsets, but taking up more room than the average grower can tolerate.





Dykia estevesii



Dykia Brittle Star



Dykia platyphylla



Dykia fosteriana Star of Brazil



Dykia remotiflora



Hechtia scariosa



Dykia platyphylla Cherry Coke



By Tom Glavich

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Monthly Succulent: Bromeliads



Monthly Succulent: Bromeliads

A less known genus with a significant number of succulent species is **Orthophytum**. This genus comes from Brazil, and the genus for the most part occupies a warm and humid environment. Many of the Orthophytum are spectacularly flocked with special cells (trichomes) that pull moisture directly out of the air. Bands of trichome rich and trichome poor regions on the leaves give these plants a spectacular coloring. As with Dyckia, there are a wealth of hybrids, many being created in Florida, which is really more to their liking than the dry inner valleys of California.

Another succulent genus is **Puya**, largely from the Andes, with the largest number of species on the Western side of the mountains. Many of the Puya species are gigantic, some reaching tree-like dimensions before flowering. Others can be kept in a pot, at least for a few years. Many Puya have leaves that carry seedling leaf impressions, much like the Agave.

Also popular is **Deuterocohnia** (=Abromeiteilla). Members of this genus are found in Argentina and Bolivia. The multiple small rosettes form spreading mounds. If they are grown in enough light, the rosettes are very tight and at some of the shows there are often large dome shaped specimens. In the wild, they can grow over and on rocks. The readily available species are: D. brevifolia grows outdoors at the Huntington Botanical Garden and forms a nice mound about 3 feet across. The triangular leaves have margins that are spineless. The flowers are tubular in shape and greenish in color. D. brevifolia subs. chlorantha is an even smaller species with rosettes only 30 mm across. The leaves have a small terminal spine and the leaf margins have tiny teeth. This is the smallest of all terrestrial bromeliads. D. lorenziana is a larger growing species but similar to the above.



Orthophytum gurkenii

Orthophytum amoenum



Puya mirabilis



Deuterocohnia lorentziana



Deuterocohnia brevifolia



By Tom Glavich



Monthly Succulent: Bromeliads



Acanthostachys strobilacea



Aechmea chantinii



Aechmea recurvata



Aechmea 'Blue Tango'



Aechmea orlandiana



Aechmea recurvata



Ananas comosus



Canistropsis billbergiodes



Ananas bracteatus var. tricolor



Canistrum seidelianum



Guzmania tricolor



By Tom Glavich



Monthly Succulent: Bromeliads



Neoregalia ampullacea



Neoregelia 'Perfection'



Neoregalia pendula



Nidularium fulgens



By Tom Glavich



Fascicularia bicolor



Pseudananas sagenarius



Aechmea "Skotaks Wild Ace'



Loquerisne Latine (Do you speak Latin)? The meanings of latin plant names on the previous pages – from http://davesgarden.com/guides/botanary/

azureus [a-ZOOR-ee-us] Sky blue.

intortus [in-TOR-tus] To twist in and out; to twine. **Melocactus** [mel-oh-KAK-tus] From the Greek melo (apple-shaped melon) and cactus; refers to the shape of these cacti.

peruvianus [per-u-vee-AN-us] Of or from Peru.

Acanthostachys [a-kan-tho-STAK-iss, a-kan-tho-STAY-kiss] From the Greek kantha (thorn) and stachys (spike); the flower spikes are spiny.

Aechmea [EEK-mee-uh, EK-mee-uh]

From the Greek aikhme, meaning point of a spear.

amoenum [am-oh-EN-um] Delightful.

ampullacea [am-pul-uh-KEE-uh, am-pul-uh-SEE-uh] Flask-shaped.

Ananas [A-nan-as, AN-uh-nus] Pineapple.

bicolor [BY-kul-ur] Of two colors.

bracteatus [brak-tee-AY-tus] Having bracts (modified leaves directly beneath the flower).

brevifolia [brev-ee-FOH-lee-uh] Short leaves.

Canistrum [kan-NIS-trum] From the Latin canistrum, (basket), referring to the cluster of flowers appearing as a flower basket.

chantinii [chan-tee-nee-ee] For Antoine Chantin, 19th century french horticulturist.

comosus [kom-OH-sus] Hairy.

Deuterocohnia [doo-ter-oh-KON-ee-uh] Second Cohnia (acknowledging the existing genus Cohnia); named for Ferdinand Julius Cohn, 19th century German botanist.

Dyckia [DY-kee-uh, DIK-ee-uh] Named for Prince Joseph Salm-Reifferscheid-Dyck, 19th century botanist and author of book on succulents.

estevesii [es-teh-VEZ-ee-eye] Named for Eddie Esteves Pereira, 20th century Brazilian researcher and cactus collector.

Fascicularia [fas-sik-yoo-LAR-ee-uh] Banded, bundled.

fosteriana [fos-ter-ee-AY-nuh] Named for Mulford Bateman Foster, 20th century American horticulturist who provided many specimens to the botanist Lymen B. Smith. fulgens [FUL-jenz] Shining, shiny.

Guzmania [guz-MAN-ee-uh] Named for Anastasio Guzman, an 18th century Spanish naturalist.

Hechtia [HEK-tee-uh]

Named for Julius Gottfried Conrad Hecht, 19th century counsellor to the King of Prussia.

lorentziana [lor-ent-zee-AH-nuh, lor-ent-zee-AY-nuh] Named for 19th century explorer H. A. Lorentz, who explored New Guinea.

macedoi [ma-SAY-do-eye] Named for Amaro Macedo, 20th century Brazilian botanist and collector.

mirabilis [mih-RAB-ih-liss] Wonderful.

Neoregelia [nee-oh-reg-EL-ee-uh, nee-oh-re-JEE-lee-uh] New Regelia (genus named for Eduard August von Regel, 19th century German botanist superintendent of the botanic garden at St. Petersburg, Russia).

Nidularium [nid-yoo-LAY-ree-um] From the Latin nidus (nest); referring to the short cluster of inner leaves surrounding the flower.

Orthophytum [orth-oh-FY-tum] Straight plant.

pendula [PEND-yoo-luh] Pendent, hanging. platyphylla [plat-TY-fil-uh] Broad leaved.

Pseudananas [soo-do-AN-a-nas] From the Greek pseudo (false) and Ananas (pineapple genus).

Puya [POO-yuh] The Chilean vernacular name.

recurvata [rek-er-VAY-tuh] Bent backwards.

remotiflora [re-mo-tee-FLOR-uh] Flowers apart from each other, presumably on stems.

scariosa [ska-ree-OH-suh] Thin, dry, shrivelled.

strobilacea [stroh-BIL-uh-say] Cone-like.

tricolor [TRY-kull-lur] Three color.

venusta [ven-NUSS-tuh] Beautiful, charming.

Attribution:

Deuterocohnia brevifolia: James Steakley / CC BY-SA (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0) Deuterocohnia_lorentziana: User:BotBln / CC BY-SA (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/)

https://davesgarden.com/guides/botanary

JULY

Tip of the Month



Plant of the year - Lobivia saltensis

Now is the time to repot your plant of the year. Also, don't forget to fertilize.

Thanks. *Maria*



PLANT OF THE

YEAR

Mine is happy too! Clif Wong



Virtual Mini-Show: NOVICE / SUCCULENT

SUCCULENT CATEGORY: NOVICE



Cyphostemma juttae by Cheryl Siever



Cyphostemma juttae with Opuntia background by Jim Tanner



Cyphostemma juttae by Jim Tanner



Virtual Mini-Show: **NOVICE / CACTUS**





Opuntia robusta by Terri Straub



Opuntia sp. by Jim Tanner



Opuntia sp. by Jim Tanner



Tephrocactus articulatus papyracanthus by Terri Straub



Cylindropuntia sp. by Jim Tanner



Opuntia sp. by Jim Tanner



Virtual Mini-Show: SUCCULENT / INTERMEDIATE

SUCCULENT CATEGORY: INTERMEDIATE



Cyphostemma juttae by Lemono Lott



Virtual Mini-Show: CACTUS / INTERMEDIATE

CACTUS CATEGORY: INTERMEDIATE



Tephrocactus articulatus var. *papyracanthus* by Mike Short



Opuntia sulfurea by Bernard Johnson



Virtual Mini-Show: OPEN / SUCCULENT

SUCCULENT CATEGORY: OPEN



Cyphostemma juttae by Laurel Woodley



Cissus quadrangularis by Maria Capaldo



Cyphostemma juttae by Laurel Woodley



Cyphostemma juttae FRUIT by Laurel Woodley



Cyphostemma juttae by Laurel Woodley



Virtual Mini-Show: **OPEN / CACTUS**



Airampoa picardoi (=Tunilla erectoclada) -Argentina, Bolivia by Laurel Woodley





Austrocylindropuntia sublata by Laurel Woodley



Austrocylindropuntia vestita -Argentina, Bolivia by Laurel Woodley



Cylindropuntia fulgida by .Phyllis DeCrescenzo

Open Cactus category continued on next page



Virtual Mini-Show: **OPEN / CACTUS**



Opuntia basilaris by Laurel Woodley.



Tephrocactus articularis papyracanthus by Maria Capaldo



Tephrocactus articularis polycanthus by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



Opuntia streptacantha by Laurel Woodley



Opuntia gomei 'Old Mexico' by Laurel Woodley.



Opuntia robusta by Laurel Woodley.



Tephrocactus articularis papyracanthus by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



Opuntia microdasys albata by Maria Capaldo



Opuntia engelmannii by Laurel Woodley.



Tephrocactus articularis papyracanthus by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



Opuntia santa rita by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



Opuntia monocantha variegata by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



Tephrocactus articularis var. *diatematus* by Phyllis DeCrescenzo

CACTUS CATEGORY: OPEN (Continued)



SCCSS Mini-Show JUNE 2020 Standings

Click here for sortable standings

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	
Bantad, Sonia	1	1	2	(
Bjarkman, MA	3	6	9	
Bjerke, Martha	0	2	2	
Cottrell, Diane	7	9	16]
Cozzolino, Karin	0	2	2]
Davis, Gretchen	1	1	2]
Diaz, Gloria	0	2	2]
Dorsey, Martin	1	9	10]
Nisewanur, John	0	10	10	Ī
Seiver, Cheryl	1	1	2	
Sover, Suzane	0	1	1	
Straub, Terri	18	9	27	
Straup, Matt	0	2	2	
Tanner, Jim	9	11	20	
Tillotson, Joseph	1	0	1	
Unrine, Judy	0	6	6	
Youssefzadeh, Aya	1	4	5	
Youssefzadeh, Jacob	5	15	20	

Mini-show Virtual Points

1 Mini show point each for a submitted photo of your cactus and succulent (up to 2 points)

Up to 2 points for those submitting garden photos if you had **not** submitted Mini-show photos.

	-		-				-
Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total
Caplan, Anita	1	1	2	Capaldo, Maria	18	12	30
Johnson, Bernard	12	23	35	DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	21	20	41
Johnson, Ted	5	14	19	Duke, Gary	15	14	29
La Forest, Dale	7	7	14	Sally Fasteau	5	17	22
Lott, Lemono	0	3	3	Gardner, Jim	10	5	15
Neely, Jade	3	3	6	Hanna, Jim	0	8	8
Nettles, Coni	22	15	37	Wilk, William	8	4	12
Mike Short	1	8	9	Woodley, Laurel	3	5	8

SCCSS Mini-Show Rules

A Mini-show is scheduled for all meetings except April (Show and Sale) and December (Holiday Potluck) as a way for members to show their prized plants and staging skills; and for everyone, especially novices to learn how to grow and show theirs. Lists of eligible plants are printed in the newsletter and on our Society's website.

There are three entry classes:

Novice, Intermediate and Open. New members may enter at any level, but once a level has been entered members may not regress to a less advanced class.

There are two plant categories, Cactus and Succulent. Up to three entries per member may be entered in each category.

Exhibitors must be club members in good standing and present at the meeting. One member's name representing a household must be used unless plants are grown and shown separately. We trust you.

Any container may be used, including plastic. The containers and plants must be free of pests and disease. Only one plant/container is permitted but this includes rosettes/offsets/ pups connected by rhizomes, stolens, and above ground clusters. Dish gardens are an exception if they are the category of the month. Novice and Intermediate entries must be grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of six months, and open class entries for one year.

Usually our speaker (as an unbiased expert) will be asked to judge, but if the speaker is a Society member, one or two members who are not showing will be asked to judge. Remember, judges may not be experts and usually judge based on how well the plant is grown and staged.

The following point system is used.

- 1st place= 6
- 2nd place=4

3rd place=2

Entries not disqualified receive 1 point. After the November meeting, point totals will be reviewed by the Board. Novice and Intermediate members with more than 64 points or with at least 6 first place awards may be asked to move to the Intermediate or Open class if their entries show them qualified. This is a subjective judgment.

Upcoming Events

Click here for Full List



SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

ZOOM MEETING

Northwest Argentina: **Places and Plants**

Sunday, July 12

Invitation will be sent by e-mail, and also will be available by streaming on U-tube.

Speaker: Gary Duke

Start time: 1:30 pm

Check all events for July, as they may have been

For more information and to learn more

CANCELLED

OFFICERS:

President Maria Capaldo

Vice President M.A. Bjarkman

Secretary Sue Wong

Treasurer Bernard Johnson

AT LARGE BOARD MEMBERS:

Terri Straub Clif Wong **Corey Zedler**



STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Communications **Mike Short**

Finance Jim Hanna

Membership Sally Fasteau

Programs Gary Duke

Show and Sale Open



COMMITTEE MEMBERS (TASKED):

Mini-Show Coordinator

Jim Tanner Publicity (Show)

Board of Directors 2020-2021

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Open Publicity (Monthly)

Ann Nye

Speaker Coordinator **Jade Neelv**



LIAISONS: CGCI Lou Hagemeier

CSSA M.A Bjarkman

OTHER POSITIONS:

Facebook

Laurel Woodley

Instagram **Caitlin Rubia**

Hospitality/Refreshments Volunteers

Newsletter **Clif Wong**

Webmaster **Mike Short**



Plant Man Jim Hanna

