

SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER | FEB 2023



It was so great seeing everyone who attended in January. The space was a bit small and I will talk to the Garden liaison about having a larger space available. Dylan Hannon's talk on seldom featured Othonna was interesting and gave me a lot of new information. I bought plants from Dylan and was happy

that my new plants like winter rain! I look forward to their daisy-like flowers.

SHOW AND SALE: The Show and Sale will be at the Palos Verdes Art Center on April 15th-16th. There will be postcards to publicize the event available at the next meeting. Please distribute the cards to your friends and neighbors. I will have some small pots available at the next meeting to encourage you to pot cuttings for the Society Sale table. Plan ahead and mark your calendars!

**DUES:** It's Dues Time! (\$20 per person) Please submit the membership form that is on the link on our website: https://southcoastcss.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/membership-Application-2022-ms-20211209.pdf

You may complete the form on your computer which will make it more legible for Sally, our membership chair, to read. Then print and mail it to our Treasurer (address on the form) or bring to the meeting with your payment. Dues are not pro-rated and are for each individual.

**Board Report:** The Board accepted the final version of the Operating Procedures for the Society which after a small verbiage change, will be posted on the website The financial report was accepted from Bernard Johnson, Treasurer, and we discussed probable expenses for the upcoming year.

The Show and Sale in April should be able to accommodate 16 vendors, depending on number of tables requested. Any members interested in selling plants, please contact Jim Hanna well ahead of the date of the sale.

February 12th Meeting: John Trager, Curator of Desert Collections at the Huntington Botanical Garden in San Marino will bring us up to date on "Huntington Happenings". He will explain the exciting renovations planned for the garden and present unusual and exotic plants from the collection. John will be bringing lots of hard to find plants to sell.

I hope you will join us, Maria Capaldo



### GUEST SPEAKER OF THE MONTH John Trager February 12, 1:30 pm



### "Huntington Happenings"





To learn more visit southcoastcss.org



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### "Huntington Happenings"

### BY JOHN TRAGER



This program will bring you up to date on new developments at the Huntington, notably the upper Desert Garden renovation. This includes new, accessible paths opening another half-acre of garden to the public. Also, the Desert Garden Conservatory renovation will have been completed in late 2022. Plants will be moving back in before winter after their summer vacation back in the nursery. Meanwhile, the collections have been carrying on with their usual, and some not-so-usual, activities. This program documents some highlights of all this activity with fascinating flowers and forms of some of your favorite plants as well as some that may be new to you. I look forward to taking you on the tour.

**John Trager** is the Bernie and Miyako Storch Curator of Desert Collections at the Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California where he has worked since 1983. Prior to that he worked with master propagator Frank Horwood at Abbey Garden Nursery when it was located in Carpinteria. Trager's horticultural writings have appeared in the Cactus and Succulent Journal, the Euphorbia Journal, and various other horticultural publications. He is also known for his photography — over 3000 of his images have been published in numerous textbooks and horticultural journals. Book projects include co-authorship and photography for *Dry* Climate Gardening with Succulents produced by the Huntington (1995), principal photographer for The Genus Conophytum (1993) and a contributor to other works by Steven Hammer: Lithops, Treasures of the Veld (1999) and Dumpling and His Wife (2002, a revision of the The Genus Conophytum) and Mesembs of the World (1998, Smith, Hammer et al.). He has also contributed photographs to works by Gordon Rowley: The Succulent Compositae (1994), Anacampseros, Avonia, Grahamia: a grower's handbook (1995), Crassula, A Grower's Guide (2003), as well as the multi-authored six-volume reference The Illustrated Handbook of Succulents (2001-2003). He continues to contribute images for new editions and new publications as opportunity and demand arises. The annual ISI introductions published in the C&S Journal also provide a venue for his writing and photography. John has traveled widely in search of plants (and insects) including China, Costa Rica, Israel, Mexico, Namibia, South Africa, Thailand, and Venezuela. He holds a bachelor's degree in Horticulture from Cal Poly Pomona (1992) and earlier studied Botany at Santa Barbara City College and UCSB.

### **Monthly Cactus: Epiphytic Cacti**

**Epiphytic cacti** have a place in every collection. They are easy to grow, requiring remarkably little in the way of care, in general have few spines, and many reward the grower with either a spectacular show of flowers, or a year round display of gracefully curving foliage. Epiphytic cactus like a richer mix than most ground loving cacti. A frequently used potting mix includes equal parts of potting soil, bark and pumice. Good drainage in the mix is important for good growth. Regular feeding, and a constant supply of moisture, particularly during the growing season are also important. They all like moving air, and do best outdoors, particularly in the summer. Many will get tip damage if left in temperatures below freezing. In a protected area, they can be left outdoors all winter, and do well with our winter rains.

**Epiphytic cacti** are all easily propagated from either cuttings or seed. Cuttings can be taken any time the plant is in active growth, spring being best, but any time during the summer and early fall will also work. Thin stemmed epiphytes, such as most of the Rhipsalis can be planted immediately. Thicker leafed genera should be allowed to dry for a day or two before planting. Cuttings must be placed in moist potting mix, and kept in the shade for at least a month, but best until active new growth appears. When taking cuttings, remember that the plant will have to live on the stored energy in the stem, and a larger piece, within reason, is better than a small one. Schlumbergia (Zygocactus) can be easily propagated from cuttings, but for successful rooting, two segments need to be used rather than one.

Seed from many of the epiphytic cacti are hard to come by. One or two species are occassionally offered by the CSSA seed bank. For those with an interest in hybridization, many epiphytes are easily pollinated and cross pollinated both within genera, and across genera. Fruit set is frequent. When the fruit turns color and hardens, it can be harvested, the seeds removed, cleaned, and stored until the following spring.

### Some choice genera:

**Disocactus** is a small genus, with flat stems. Native to Guatemala and Honduras. This species can remain small and produces beautiful flowers. It is cold sensitive. The genus has recently been expanded to include other genera.



Disocactus phyllanthoides



Disocactus





Epiphyllum anguliger 'Acapulco Sunset'







Epiphyllum guatemalense

Epiphyllum hybrid







Epiphyllum 'Lemon Custard'

Epiphyllum oxypetalum



By Tom Glavich

Monthly Cactus: Epiphytic Cact

### FEBRUARY

### Monthly Cactus: Epiphytic Cacti

**Epiphyllum** is a genus that has been the source of hundreds if not thousands of colorful hybrids. The basic night blooming summer blooming species have been hybridized with Aporocactus and Trichocereus to produce a dazzling array of colorful species. The first big hybridization effort took place in the 1890s, with others following in the 1920s and 1930s. Many spectacular hybrids were created, most lost during World War II. Southern California has been one of the recent hotbeds of hybridization of this species, with spectacular hybrids appearing from the backyards of some gifted plantspeople in San Diego, Palos Verdes and Los Angeles.

**Rhipsalis** is a species native to Central and South America, Tropical and West Africa, Madagascar and Ceylon. It is the only genus of cacti native to the Old World and Asia. The Old World populations are a separate subspecies of R. baccifera, and differ in the number of chromosomes. This is an incredibly variable genus, with flat leafed forms, twisting thick stems, pencil thin stems, seaweed like forms, all with small white flowers and small white berries. It is easy to grow, and is tolerant of Southern California outdoors conditions all year, with protection required only from the coldest nights and hot sun. Particularly good species include R. mesembryanthemoides, which resembles the growth of the shrubby mesembs of South Africa. R. quellebambensis is a narrow stemmed, frequently branched species, resembling the splashes from a waterfall more than a plant. (It is now a subspecies of R. baccifera.) R. purpusii has long flat leaves, decorated for a good part of the year with either white flowers or white fruit.

Schlumbergia are the Christmas Cacti, popular the world around, easily grown indoors and out. This genus has seen the work of many hybridizers, and spectacular reds, whites, pinks, and mixes of the three can be found every year near the holidays. Other great genera include Aporocactus, Hatiora, Hylocereus, Wittia, Nopalxochia. There are dozens of obscure genera (many now moved into Disocactus) that are uncommon except among the specialist collector. They all have their charm, and an opportunity to collect any epiphytic cactus with a generic name you are unfamiliar with should never be passed up.

Schlumbergera truncata



Selenicereus anthonyanus



Epiphyllum



Hatiora salicornioides



Rhipsalis baccifera



By Tom Glavich



### **Monthly Succulent: Haworthia**

[Ed: Some members of the genus Haworthia have recently been renamed as Haworthiopsis or Tulista. Plants with either name will be accepted in the Mini-Show.]

### Haworthia Family: Asphodelaceae

The Haworthia group 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. The species are variable, perennial succulent plants displaying a wide range of shapes, sizes, colors and textures. Their beautiful leaf shapes and colors make them a desirable plant for the collector. The plants may be few to many-leaved, and either be stemless (with their rosettes and cryptic stems sunken below ground level) or stemmed with the leaves compactly arranged around the elongated stem. In some species the plants are solitary and rarely if ever offset, whereas other species proliferate from the base to form dense clumps. In some species the plants also spread by sending out underground stolons, with offsets emerging a short distance away. The roots of the species vary from being filiform [thread-like] to swollen and thickened fusiform [tapered at both ends] roots which aid in retaining moisture.

# Monthly Succulents: Haworthia



Haworthia bayeri



Haworthiopsis (=Haworthia) coarctata var. tenuis



Haworthia magnifica



Haworthia cymbiformis



Haworthiopsis (=Haworthia) fasciata



By Tom Glavich



### **Monthly Succulent: Haworthia**

They usually start to flower in the early Spring via thin wiry inflorescences, but in cultivation, flowering is variable, and will continue into the summer. The flowers are small and usually offwhite, with some species showing a greenish to grey stripe. The dried inflorescences may be picked off by holding the stem firmly.

Haworthia, in general, are tolerant of almost any potting mix, and success has been reported with everything from straight pumice to potting soilpumice 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. 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.

Intergeneric hybrids occur with Haworthia and Haworthiopsis and the genus is compatible with Aloe, Gasteria and Astroloba.

### Haworthiopsis

The Haworthiopsis species may be distinguished from the species retained in Haworthia, which tend to have softer leaves, while Haworthiopsis generally have harder and tougher leaves with a thicker epidermis, occasionally also having leaf fibres. The exceptions include *Haworthiopsis* tessellata, H. koelmaniorum, and H. bruynsii. Floral and seed morphology [structure and form] distinguishes these from Haworthia.

Species included in the Haworthiopsis genus: Section attenuate: attenuata Section Haworthiopsis: coarctata, fasciata, glauca, longiana, and reinwardtii Section Limifoliae: limifolia Section Koelmaniorum: koelmaniorum Section Tesellate: granulata, tessellata, venosa, and wooleyi



Haworthia mirabilis var. paradoxa



Haworthia truncata



Haworthia retusa



Haworthia decipiens var. xiphiophylla



Big Haworthia for fun



Haworthia mirabilis



By Tom Glavich



### **Monthly Succulent: Astroloba**

### 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.



Astroloba spiralis



Astroloba bullulata



Astroloba bullulata



Astroloba congesta





Astroloba corrugata 'Aspera'



Astroloba flowers



Astroloba foliolosa



Astroloba herrei



By Tom Glavich



### **Monthly Succulent: Tulista**

### Tulista

This acaulescent [stemless] genus, is closely related to Astroloba and behaves similarly in its ability to accept pollen from other Aloe-like genera. Four species have been identified (*T. pumila, marginata, minor,* and *kingiana*). They are characterized by a large size (relative to other Haworthias), by their stemless rosette growth form, and by their distinctive flowers with robust peduncles. It has been observed in nature that *X Astrolista* hybrids produce plentiful seedlings with whichever of the parent genera is present.

## Monthly Succulent: Tulista



Tulista pumila (=Haworthia maxima)



Tulista (=Haworthia) marginata



By Tom Glavich



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

### Cactus

**anguliger** [an-GYOO-lih-ger] Bearing hooks. **baccifera** [bak-IF-er-uh] Bearing berries.

**Disocactus** [dy-soh-KAK-tus] From the Greek dis (twice) isos (equal) and cactus; referring to the equal number of sepals and petals of the flower.

**Epiphyllum** [ep-ih-FYE-lum] Upon the leaf, referring to the flowers appearing to bloom on the leaves.

**guatemalense** [gwa-teh-mah-LEN-see] Of or from Guatemala, Central America.

Hatiora [hat-ee-OR-uh] An anagram of Hariota, another genus, named for Thomas Hariot, 16th century British mathematician and cartographer in America.

**hybrid** [HY-brid] A cross between two plants resulting in a plant that differs in one or more genes from the parent plants; sometimes Latinized to hybridus, -a, or -um.

oxypetalum [oks-ee-PET-al-um] Sharp petals. phyllanthoides [fil-lan-THOY-deez] Resembles Phyllanthus (from the Greek meaning flower leaf, as it appears to flower from a leaf like stem).

**Rhipsalis** [RIP-sa-lis] From the Greek rhips (wickerwork, plaiting) referring to the pliable branches.

salicornioides [sal-eye-korn-ee-OY-deez] Resembles Salicornia, (from the Greek sal, salt and cornus, horn; referring to the hornlike branches of the saline plants).

**Schlumbergera** [shlum-BER-ger-uh, shlum-ber-GER-uh] Named for Frederic Schlumberger, 19th century French gardener and cacti collector.

**Selenicereus** [sel-ee-nih-KER-ee-us, sel-ee-nih-SER-ee-us] From the greek selene (moon) and cereus (torch, candle), referring to its nocturnal blooming habit.

truncata [trunk-AH-tuh] Cut off

### Succulent

**Astroloba** [ass-TROH-low-buh] From the Greek astron (star) and lobos (lobe); refers to the star-spreading lobes of the perigon.

bayeri [BAY-er-ee] For M. Bruce Bayer, 20th century South African agricultural entomologist, Haworthia specialist, plant collector, gardener, and former curator of the Karoo National Botanic Gardens, Worcester, RSA.

coarctata [koh-ARK-tay-tuh] Crowded.

**congesta** [kon-JES-tuh] Congested, crowded.

**corrugata** [kor-yoo-GAH-tuh] Wrinkled.

cymbiformis [sim-BIH-for-miss] Boat-shaped.

**fasciata** [fash-ee-AY-tuh, fas-kee-AY-tuh] Bound together.

foliolosa [foh-lee-oh-LOH-suh] Having small leaves.

Haworthia [ha-WORTH-ee-a]

Named for Adrian Hardy Haworth, 19th century British botanist.

**herrei** [HER-ray-eye] Named for Dr. Hans Herre, 20th century botanist and expert on South African succulents.

magnifica [mag-NIH-fee-kuh] Magnificent.

marginata [mar-jen-AY-tuh, mar-jeh-NAH-tuh] Margined.

maxima [MAKS-ih-muh] Largest.

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

paradoxa [par-uh-DOKS-uh] Strange, anomalous.

retusa [re-TOO-suh]

Rounded and notched tip.

spiralis [spir-AH-liss] Spiralled.

tenuis [TEN-yoo-iss] Slender, thin.

truncata [trunk-AH-tuh] Cut off.

https://davesgarden.com/guides/botanary



### **SCCSS Mini-Show JANUARY Winners**

### Open Succulent



**1st: Maria Capaldo** Aloe 'Wunderkind'

### 2

**2nd: Jim Gardner** *Aloe conifera* 



3rd: Sally Fasteau Aloe 'Wily Coyotee'

### Intermediate Succulent



**Terri Straub** Aloe divaricata



**2nd: Bernard Johnson** Aloe, Kelly Griffin hybrid



**3rd: Jackie Johnson** *Aloe* 'Christmas Sleigh'

### Novice Succulent



**1st: Martin Dorsey** Aloe suprafoliata



**2nd: Martin Dorsey** Aloe fimbrialis



3rd: Martha Bjerke Aloe 'Kamikaze'



### **SCCSS Mini-Show JANUARY Winners**

### **Open Cactus**



1st: Jim Gardner



**2nd: Maria Capaldo** *Mammillaria pringlei* 



**3rd: Jim Gardner** *Mammillaria haageana* 

### Intermediate Cactus

Mammillaria parkinsonii



**1st: Bernard Johnson** *Mammillaria karwinskiana* subsp. *nejapensis* 



**2nd: Bernard Johnson** *Mammillaria plumosa* 



**3rd: Anita Caplan** *Mammillaria gracilis* 

### **Novice Cactus**



**1st: MA Bjarkman** Mammillaria plumosa



**2nd: Shane Mullen** *Mammillaria mystax* 



**3rd: Shane Mullen** *Mammillaria compressa* 



### **SCCSS Mini-Show Standings**

### Click here for sortable standings

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total
Bjarkman, M.A.	6	O	6	Caplan, Anita	2	2	4	Capaldo, Maria	6	8	14
Bjerke, Martha	o	4	4	Johnson, Bernard	10	6	16	DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	3	3	6
Cottrell, Diane	О	3	3	Johnson, Jackie	1	4	5	Fasteau, Sally	3	4	7
Diaz, Gloria	1	2	3	Short, Mike	1	3	4	Gardner, Jim	9	6	15
Dorsey, Martin	О	11	11	Straub, Terri	3	8	11				
Galliani, Debra	О	1	1								
Mullen, Shane	6	3	9								

### Mini-Show Rules

Nisewaner, John

Tillotson, Joseph

Exhibitors must be club members 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.

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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 November meeting, members' point totals will be reviewed by the Board of the Society. 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.

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





### **Mini-Show Plant Calendar**



Mini-Show Plants for 2023				
February 2023	Epiphytic Cactus	Haworthia, Astroloba		
March 2023	Echinocactus	Agave, Manfreda, (inc. x Mangave)		
April 2023	2023 SCCSS SHOW & SALE	2023 SCCSS SHOW & SALE		
May 2023	Notocactus, Parodia	Euphorbia (not from Madagascar)		
June 2023	Opuntia, Tephrocactus, Cylindropuntia, Austrocylindropuntia	Cissus, Cyphostemma		
July 2023	Melocactus	Bromeliaceae (other than Tillandsia)		
August 2023	Astrophytum	Sedum, Pachyphytum, Sempervivum		
September 2023	Ariocarpus, Obregonia	Adenium, Adenia		
October 2023	Copiapoa	Graptopetalum, Graptoveria, Pachyveria		
November 2023	Crested and Monstrose	Crested and Monstrose		
December 2023	HOLIDAY POTLUCK	HOLIDAY POTLUCK		
January 2024	Mammillaria - Hooked Spines	Caudiciform (Beaucarnia, Calibanus, Dioscorea, Fockea, etc.)		



Make check payable to:

### **SCCSS Membership Application**

New and Renewing Members: You can either fill in the information on a computer then print, or print first then write in the information. Please sign after printing.

**SCCSS** 

Mail form and payment to: Bernard Johnson, 629 18 <sup>th</sup> Street, Manhatta	an Beach, CA 9	0266
Date mm/dd/yy:		
Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Email Address:	Phone:	
Our membership year begins January 1 and ends Dec	cember 31.	
<b>▼</b> \$20.00 Membership: Renewal or New Member		
☐ Lifetime Member Honoree: No Charge		
☐ I am a Member of CSSA – Cactus and Succulent S	ociety of Amei	rica
The above information will be included in our Membe only). If you wish to exclude any of the above information indicate your exclusions here.		
Do not publish my:	Address	
SCCSS is a 501 3C organization. In addition to your d charitable donation to support our philanthropic ende expenses of the organization. If you choose to do so You will receive a donation receipt. Thank	eavors as well , please indica	as the operating
I agree to have my information published in the Meml exceptions.	bership Directo	ory with noted
		Date:
Signature		
Sally Fasteau, Membership Chair		
<u>sallyfasteau@cox.net</u> 310-544-1313		ms-20220218
Date Check # Cash Amount	Donation	Receipt

### **Upcoming Events**

### Click here for Full List



SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

John Trager "Huntington Happenings"

February 12 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm PST

South Coast Botanic Garden, Frances Young Hall 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA



SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Jerry Robinson
"Bromeliads for the Home and Garden"

March 12 @ 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm PST

South Coast Botanic Garden, Frances Young Hall 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA



San Gabriel Valley C&SS Show and Sale 2023

Arcadia Masonic Center 50 W Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA MAR. 17-18 Daily 8am-5pm Info. Manny Rivera 626-780-6957 or James Lemos 626-201-5519 Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA

For more information and to learn more



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