

South Coast  
Cactus & Succulent Society

# Newsletter

## June 2011

### GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, June 12, 1:30 pm

### PROGRAM:

Dexter Friede of Grow More, Inc. will be our presenter.

### GARDEN TOUR

June 18, 10:00AM - 1:00PM

Jim & Jan Gardner's - See Page 2 for information.

### NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

This will be the last issue of the Newsletter mailed through the Post Office unless you have paid the additional \$6.00 to receive it by snail mail. With the July issue, we begin distribution by email.

The June issue has also been sent by email to all members for whom we have an email address. If you DO NOT receive the email version and have chosen email as your method of receipt, please let Melinda Hines know your correct email address.  
[mel.mindy@verizon.net](mailto:mel.mindy@verizon.net)

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## President's Message for June 2011

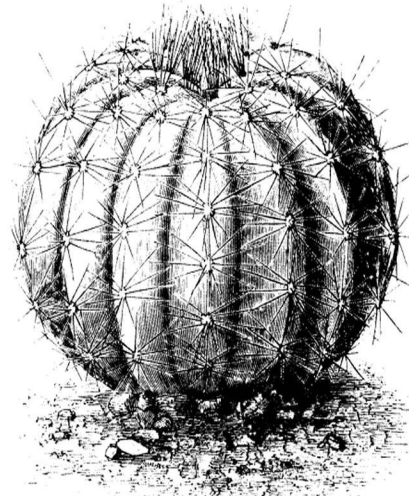
It's election time, when you get a chance to express your feelings on how the Club is being run. As usual there isn't much competition. That can be interpreted in two ways; either you're satisfied that all is going well or you don't care . . . and in fact it is probably a combination of the two. We have several members who are officers of other Clubs who know full well the amount of time and energy it takes to keep things running smoothly and even more so to make progress. We haven't had a Nominating Committee since I joined in 2002, but I am determined to make it work this time. Hank Warzybok accepted the challenge to be our Nominating Committee Chair and even though he knew that Philip Johnston Ross would accept another term as Secretary and I would accept a nomination to be President, his task of finding a new Treasurer and Vice President hasn't been a walk in the park.

I am grateful that the Chairs of the Standing Committees, Coordinators, and Liaison members have agreed to continue, giving us a sense of stability and continuity.

The June meeting is the last one of our Fiscal Year and while the occasion may pass unnoticed by most members, it is a one more small step in the process of becoming an "official" non-profit 501(c)3. Although progress is slow, I am making progress on the revision of our Bylaws - the last major hurdle in this long drawn out process.

Finally, dues become delinquent at the June meeting. If you plan on paying at the meeting remember to print out the Renewal form - fill it out - and bring it with you to the meeting or mail it to Bernard Johnson. If you bring it to the meeting, please staple your check to the Renewal form or better yet, put them in an envelope. Thanks.

Dale La Forest  
President



## GARDEN TOUR AT THE GARDNER'S!!

Jim & Jan Gardner invite members of the South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society and their families and friends to a tour of our garden and greenhouse on Saturday, June 18, from 10:00AM to 1:00PM.

We are located fairly close to the South Coast Botanic Garden.

The address is:  
3 Ponderosa Lane  
Rolling Hills Estates  
telephone 310-378-1953.

**DIRECTIONS** from Torrance, Lomita, Long Beach, etc.: Get to the intersection of Hawthorne and Palos Verdes Drive North. Go west on PVD North, Stop at Silver Spur, continue on about 0.3 miles and turn right on Ponderosa Lane. We're the second house on the left.

**DIRECTIONS** from Palos Verdes Estates, Redondo beach: Come east on PVD North, stop at Via Campesina, then go about 0.1 miles and turn left around the tip of the island into Ponderosa Lane. We're the second house on the left.

Irene Brenner added that Jim and Jan's large beautiful garden has recently been redesigned with pools, waterfalls and a great variety of cacti, succulents and other mature plants. Bring your camera. You don't want to miss this one! Light refreshments will be served. Free.

## BOARD MEETING

Although we cleared the agenda at the March meeting, a number of issues need Board attention. I hope we can adjourn our regular meeting before 3:30 PM to deal with these pressing matters. I would appreciate Board members taking some time to think about the issues in the Agenda I have sent you before the June meeting and contacting me to discuss items that you think are debatable.

## MEMBERSHIP

A hearty **WELCOME** to our two new members!!

Margaret Brennan  
26328 Senator Ave  
Harbor Pines CA 90710  
310-326-4843

Mike Brennan  
26327 Belle Porte  
Harbor City CA 90710  
310-619-0076  
[mjbrennan1@yahoo.com](mailto:mjbrennan1@yahoo.com)

## NEWSLETTER NAME RUN-OFF VOTE

The ballot has been narrowed down and we'll vote again at the June meeting. The member who submitted the name that wins will receive this plant.



*Euphorbia milii variegated*

## MAY POM First Place Winners

<b>Open—Cactus</b> Maria Capaldo <i>Astrophytum capricorne</i>	<b>Open—Succulent</b> Jim Gardner <i>Euphorbia aeruginosa</i>
<b>Novice—Cactus</b> Jim Tanner <i>Astrophytum myriostigma</i>	<b>Novice—Succulent</b> Jim Tanner <i>Euphorbia pubiglans</i>



Jim Gardner's  
1st Place Winner  
*Euphorbia aeruginosa*

## REFRESHMENTS

Many Thanks to Maria Jenkins, Mary Lopez, Jade Neely and any others who contributed refreshments for the May meeting.

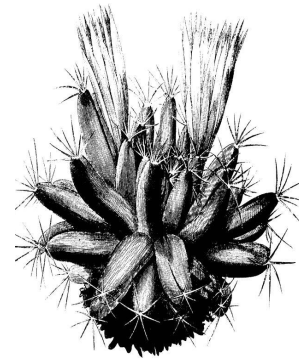
Jackie Johnson, Philip Johnston Ross, Ana MacKenzie, and Hank Warzybok have volunteered to bring refreshments for the June meeting.

## SCC&SS OFFICERS

President:	Dale LaForest	310-618-9886
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Hank Warzybok	562-429-7110
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Gary Duke	714-377-0064
Treasurer	Nanette Fazio	310-561-9526
Secretary	Philip Ross	310-378-5748
Show Chair	Jim Gardner	310-378-1953
Sunshine Chair	Lupe Hulett	310-832-2262
Refreshments:	Carol Causey	310-675-5843
Newsletter	Melinda Hines	310-540-6951
	<a href="mailto:mel.mindy@verizon.net">mel.mindy@verizon.net</a>	

## 2011 Mini Show Plant List

MONTH	Cactus Genera	Succulent Genera
JUNE	<b>Gymnocalycium</b>	<b>Pachypodium</b>
JULY	<b>LECTURE</b>	<b>LECTURE</b>
AUGUST	Miniatures	Miniatures
SEPTEMBER	Discocactus/Melocactus	Haworthia/Gasteria
OCTOBER	Crested All	Variegated All
NOVEMBER	Opuntia	Crassula
DECEMBER	<b>PARTY</b>	<b>PARTY</b>



<http://www.garden-services.com>

### South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Mini Show Final Results As of May 8, 2011

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents
Arbuckle	2		Capaldo	39	21
Angulo	6	1	Causey	11	17
Beckdach	2		Duke	21	3
Caplan	11	7	Hanna	3	14
Fazio	18		Kohlschreiber	2	2
Hines	2		Gardner	4	25
Hemingway	1	13	Dale La Forest	3	8
Hutchison	4		Woodley	3	8
Johnson	6	22			
Kuprenas	4	1			
Neely	5				
Ross	4	5			
Shearer	3				
Tanner	15	24			
Unrine	3	1			
Veits		5			
Williams	3				

#### PLANT OF THE MONTH RULES – revised January 2010

Up to 3 plants may be entered in each of the two categories: Cactus and Succulent

Entries may be in either the Novice or Open Class

**Novice** entries must have been held by the owner for at least 3 months. Only plant condition will be judged, not the pot or other enhancements.

**Open** entries must have been held for at least 1 year. All aspects of the entry will be judged, including plant condition, and pot.

**Note:** Members showing in the Open class may not enter plants in the Novice class during the year, but may re-enter the Novice class starting in January.

#### JUDGING

Entrants will receive 6 points for first place, 4 points for second place, 2 points for third place and 1 point for showing a plant that is not disqualified.

The judge may award one 1<sup>st</sup> place and up to two 2<sup>nd</sup> and two 3<sup>rd</sup> places in each category. If plants are not deemed to be of sufficient quality, no place will be awarded.

At the discretion of the judge and/or Mini-show Chair, a plant may be disqualified or removed due to disease or infestation or because it is not the correct genera.

## Gymnocalycium

*Gymnocalycium* is the genus made up of 70 small South American globular cacti species known for their flowers. Commonly called the chin cactus, the *Gymnocalycium* genus was first named in 1845. Its species are found wild in the grasslands of Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia and Brazil. The size of these cacti is about 1.5 to 7 inches (5 to 17.5 cm) in height, with diameter on the largest species reaching 12 inches (30 cm).

Colors can vary widely — from light greens to nearly gray — in *Gymnocalycium*, and their textures can be shiny or mat. Some of the species grow flat to the soil, and other produce small shoots or “puppies” from the main plant. Most of the species have cylindrical stems. The ribs of the cacti create the appearance of chins, giving the plant its nickname.

*Gymnocalycium* species are known for their white, cream, pink and yellow flowers. The flowers range in size from 1 to 1.5 inches (2.5 to 3.8 cm). The flowers do not have spines or bristles but are smooth. Species of the *Gymnocalycium* genus flower easily, but plants must receive at least a half a day of bright light to bloom.

Popular for cultivation, plants in the *Gymnocalycium* species are among the most popular houseplants

and often part of rock garden displays. *Gymnocalycium* species often can be found in department stores for a very low price. They frequently are sold as novelty items.

Among the most popular of the cultivated species is the *Gymnocalycium mihanovichii*, a mutant often called the moon cactus.

This species lacks chlorophyll and is colored in brilliant reds, oranges and yellows. It lacks chlorophyll, so it cannot complete photosynthesis. It will die as a seedling unless it is grafted to another cactus that has chlorophyll and is capable of photosynthesis. The display usually is a vertical-growing green cactus on the bottom with a round, brilliantly colored red or yellow cactus on top.



*Gymnocalycium mihanovichii*

In winter months, *Gymnocalycium* plants should be kept in a warm, sunny area indoors but not in direct sunlight. In the summer, *Gymnocalycium* cacti do best when kept in a sheltered location outdoors, but where they can receive plenty of sunlight. In hot weather, they need water every few days but should be watered only enough to keep soil from drying out during the winter.

These plants are propagated by seed, stem cutting or offset. The cacti are susceptible to mealy bugs and red spider mites, and the sciara fly sometimes attacks seedlings. If over-watered, these cacti are prone to fungal disorders.

Thanks to Jim Tanner for researching the POM articles.



*Gymnocalycium baldianum*



*Gymnocalycium stellatum*



*Gymnocalycium horstii*



*Gymnocalycium piltziorum*



## Pachypodium

*Pachypodium* is a genus of spiny trees and shrubs native to Africa, with 20 of 25 known species native to Madagascar. The other five species are native to continental southern Africa. The genus name means "thick-footed," referring to the thick, succulent trunks that serve to store water and nutrients for times of drought. The trunks of all *Pachypodium* species are covered with spines growing in bunches of two or three, though the spines may be worn away and do not regenerate, leaving a smooth trunk. The spines, like the thickened trunk, are an adaptation allowing the trees to survive very dry climates, as they serve to collect moisture from dew and mist.

Outside of thick, spiny trunks, *Pachypodium* species exhibit great variety. Some species are flattened dwarf trees, and some have no branches. Some species have bottle shaped trunks, thick at the bottom, but thinning near the top.

*Pachypodium baronii*, commonly called Madagascar palm or bontaka, grows only on the western side of Madagascar on gneiss, granite, or calcareous rock. It has a short, bottle-

shaped trunk, cylindrical branches, and red flowers with a yellow center. The spines are red and hairy when young, maturing to brown, smooth structures.

*Pachypodium lamerei* may also be called Madagascar palm. It features fragrant, white blooms, though it rarely flowers when kept indoors.



*Pachypodium lamerei*

Some other *Pachypodium* species endemic to Madagascar are *Pachypodium ambongense*, *Pachypodium bicolor*, *Pachypodium brevicaule*, and *Pachypodium geayi*. *Pachypodium ambongense*, also called *songosongo* or *betono* in the Malagasy language of Madagascar, is one of the rarest species. *Pachypodium bicolor* grows on sandstone and has greenish red, hairy flowers. *Pachypodium brevicaule*, which also grows on sandstone, is a dwarf species with a very flat trunk. *Pachypodium geayi* is one of the tallest *Pachypodium* species, featuring a metallic gray trunk and white flowers.

*Pachypodium lealii*, commonly called bottle tree due to its bottle-shaped trunk, is endemic to southern Angola and Namibia. It produces white flowers and a toxic, watery latex sap used by indigenous people to poison arrows for hunting. *Pachypodium namaquanum*, with the common name Halfmens,



*Pachypodium namaquanum*

grows in Namibia and South Africa. It is one of the branchless species of *Pachypodium* and features red, velvety flowers that bloom in the fall.



Two very similar species, *Pachypodium gracilius* and *Pachypodium horombense*, are both found in Madagascar and Africa. They have short, fat trunks and large, yellow, bell-shaped flowers. Both plants are sometimes considered to be varieties of the species *Pachypodium rosulatum*.



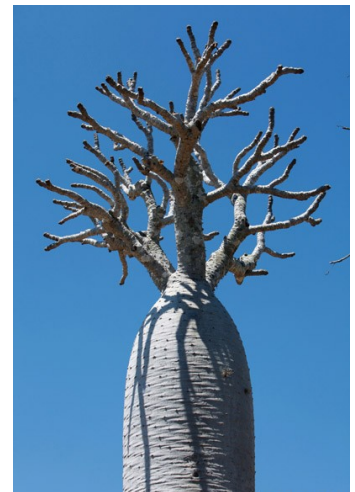
*Pachypodium rosulatum*  
'Gracilis'



*Pachypodium ambongense*



*Pachypodium brevicaule*



*Pachypodium geayi*



**CACTUS AND SUCCULENT  
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2011  
UPDATED 02/19/2011**

- JUNE 4- 5**      **SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY –SUMMER SHOW AND SALE**  
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO. 858-382-1797
- JUNE 11-12**    **LOS ANGELES CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY**  
PLANT SHOW AND SALE 11<sup>th</sup> 9-5, 12<sup>th</sup> 9-3:30  
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BLVD.  
ENCINO, CA INFO. E-MAIL [LACSS.Contact@gmail.com](mailto:LACSS.Contact@gmail.com)
- JULY 1-3**      **CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE –HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.  
626-405-2160 or 2277 PLANTS SALES START JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> THRU JULY 3<sup>RD</sup>  
THE SHOW OPENS ON THE JULY 2<sup>ND</sup> THRU JULY 3<sup>RD</sup> FREE TO THE PUBLIC
- JULY 29-30**    **ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND**  
**SALE. FRIDAY JULY 29<sup>TH</sup> Noon until 7pm, SATURDAY JULY 30<sup>TH</sup> 9am to 5pm**  
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA  
CONTACT VINCE BASTA 714-267-4329
- AUG. 13-14**    **26<sup>th</sup> 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 661-297-  
5364
- SEPT. 3**        **HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM**  
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON
- SEPT. 25**      **LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION**  
18127 SOUTH ALAMEDA ST., RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, CA----12 PM
- NOV. 5-6**      **SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY**  
SHOW AND SALE---LA COUNTY ARBORETUM ADDRESS ABOVE.
- Pending**      **ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS & SUCCULENT WINTER SHOW AND SALE**  
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA  
CONTACT VINCE BASTA 714-267-4329



**Rainforest Flora Giant Fathers' Sale!**

Hello to All,

This is the first of hopefully two Email notices that Rainforest Flora will be having a spectacular Fathers' Day Sale on Saturday and Sunday, June 11th and 12 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Saturday and 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Sunday. Our address is 19121 Hawthorne Blvd, Torrance 90503 (310) 370-8044 and we're 100 yard south of 190th St., three miles south of the 405.

We've got some exciting new plants and plenty of exquisite specimens.

All of us at the nursery appreciate your patronage and we will always strive to help you build horticultural collections and memories that will last you for years, if not a life time.

See You in June,

*Paul T. Isley III*  
President  
*Rainforest Flora, Inc.*

(310) 370-8044  
(310) 370-8044 Fax  
[PTI@RainforestFlora.com](mailto:PTI@RainforestFlora.com)  
[www.RainforestFlora.com](http://www.RainforestFlora.com)



*"Full many a flower is  
born to blush unseen,  
And waste its sweetness  
on the desert air"*

Thomas Gray  
(1716-1771)  
English Poet

## PROPAGATING ECHEVERIAS

By Dick Kohlschreiber

Several months ago, one of our newer members asked me how to get her Echeverias to pup. At the time I didn't have time enough to really talk to her about this subject so I decided that I'd write an article about it.

Everyone likes Echeverias because they have such wonderful forms and colors in their leaves. Echeverias were the plant that got me interested in succulents and when I get interested in a certain plant, I want to have every one that I can find. I soon had a large collection of Echeveria plants whether they were attractive or not. In the second South Coast Cactus and Succulent Show that I ever entered, I won best Succulent in the Show with a wonderful Dick Wright hybrid called 'Strawberry Heart'. It was one of Wright's *Echeveria gibbiflora* hybrids that was a dark maroon color and it was a big plant with undulating edges on the leaves. I have never won another high award at a Cactus and Succulent Show since then. Unfortunately, I lost most of my collection to a virus or bacterial infection. I used to get out several large tubs and fill them with water and a fertilizer and would soak each pot in that fertilizer water. Little did I know that I was spreading the virus infection to each plant. Infected plants would show distorted leaves and color variations and I ended up trashing most of the plants. I once again have a pretty good collection of Echeverias but I don't think I'll ever be able to match the collection that I used to have.

Most of the smaller Echeverias (both species and hybrids) will send out pups very readily. *E. elegans*, *E. prolifica*, *E. stolinifera* and *E. peacockii* are examples of Echeveria species plants that pup very easily and you'll soon have a nice mound of the plants. You can remove these pups very easily but I like to wait until they are at least half the size of the original plant. 'Doris Taylor', 'Ramillete' and 'Dondo' are some of the small hybrids that will pup easily. When you remove these off sets, be sure to let them callous for at least a week before you place them in soil.



*Echeveria elegans*

Wikipedia

Of the medium sized plants, *E. agavoides* and most of its forms will pup readily. Of course, the one form that everyone would like to have is *E. agavoides* 'Ebony' and it seldom puts out pups.



*Echeveria agavoides*

<http://www.faroutflora.com>

What most of our members would like to have off sets of are the large *E. gibbiflora* hybrids, especially the ones with the caruncles (bumps) on the leaves. Many of these plants will have off sets develop on the stems. What you may not realize is that most of these plants will have longer stems and smaller heads as they get older. Most of the books say that this happens when the plant is about 3 years old but I have seen some of the hybrids get leggy much quicker

than that. When you see this happening, the plant needs to be beheaded. I like to cut the stem at a point about 1.0 to 1.5 inches below the bottom leaves of the head. I take the heads and put them in an empty gallon pot and put them on my back porch where they get some light but no direct sun. In a week, the heads are ready to be replanted. If you wait a little longer, the heads will develop roots just sitting in the gallon pot. I keep the headless stems in their same pot and continue watering them. Usually off sets will develop on these headless stems. Leave these pups develop until they are a fairly good size before you remove them and plant them.

If you are determined to get pups off a plant like *E. agavoides* 'Ebony', you can try cutting out the very center of the plant (the growing point) and that will often force the plant to put out off sets. I have never had the guts to try this method because I never wanted to lose or mutilate my plant. But some of the growers are getting \$50.00 - \$60.00 for a plant of 'Ebony' so it may be worth taking a chance.

You also might want to try propagating Echeverias from their leaves. The leaves should be removed as close the stem as possible. I like to let these callous also. Then lay them on a sand bed and keep the sand damp but not too wet. You can also use the leaves that develop on the flower stem.

If you really like Echeverias, there are two new books available that I think you should have. They are "The genus Echeveria" by John Pilbeam and "Echeveria Cultivars" by Lorraine Schulz and Attila Kapitany. Both of these books are full of pictures and I never get tired of looking through them.

## Due\$ Renewal Time

Most members haven't been required to pay dues since last October because we changed our fiscal year to start July 1. It's now time to "pay the piper".

### **Everyone must use this form.**

We want to make sure our roster is up to date. The dues are now \$12.00 for an individual, \$6.00 for each individual family member. If you want the Newsletter delivered by US Postal Service, there is an additional cost of \$6.00 per year to cover printing and postage.



If you have questions about this, feel free to call or email me:

Dale La Forest at (310) 618-9886 or

[dlaforest@socal.rr.com](mailto:dlaforest@socal.rr.com)

## South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Membership Dues Renewal

Annual Membership Dues are payable starting with the May meeting and become delinquent after the June meeting. There is no penalty for delinquent dues, but our Membership Committee will contact you. Use the email address to which you want your Newsletter sent. However, if you want hard copy mailed, we would still like to have an email address. **NOTE:** All members listed must reside at the same residence.

**Instructions: Please fill out the form, attach check, and mail it to SCC&SS Treasurer, c/o Bernard Johnson, 629 18<sup>th</sup> St., Manhattan Beach, CA 90266. Or bring to him at the June meeting.**

### PLEASE PRINT

Name (of Principle member)		
Additional members		
Mailing Address		
Street, Unit #		
City, State, Zip code		
Email		
Alternate Email		
Home phone		
Cellphone		

Month Joined (2011 only)		Enter amount below
Individual Membership Dues	\$12/year	\$
Additional Family Members	\$6/year	\$
Send Newsletter by Mail	\$6/year	\$
Note: NOT selecting this method means you will receive the newsletter via Email at no cost	Total	\$
	5/23/11	



Celebrate Flag Day - June 14

