



# Prickly News

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter - March 2012

## GENERAL MEETING

Sunday, March, 11 1:30 pm

### PROGRAM SPEAKER:

Woody Minnich will give a presentation titled "New Namibia." Woody is a world traveler and has spoken to our society before. He always gives a very interesting presentation. Let's welcome our old friend back to southern California from New Mexico. Woody will also bring some of his rare plants for sale so be sure to bring your pocket book/billfold.

## A NOTE FROM JIM GARDNER

### SC C&SS APRIL SHOW & PLANT SALE

Dear cactophiles,  
Please check out the assignment sheet on **Pages 2, 3 & 4** that we worked out Sunday, Feb. 12. Please come to the March meeting prepared to work out any errors, changes, etc.

## REFRESHMENTS FOR MARCH

Thanks to Bernadette Hertel, David Okihara, Ana Mackenzie and Jade Neely for bringing the February treats!

Volunteers for March refreshments are: **Stella Prole, Carol Knight, and Akemi Kayleng Knight**. Anyone else contributing would be a welcome addition.

Many thanks,  
**Carol Causey**

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## President.'s Message

I think the February meeting in the hall went quite well. I enjoyed Brian Kemble's presentation on Fero-cactus and other flora of the Baja. I hope you did too. Thank all of you who helped set up and put away the chairs and tables. We'll have to do the same thing for the March meeting when our speaker will be Woody Minnich. We invite Woody to speak about once a year and I never get tired of his lively and informative presentations.

April is our Annual Show & Sale. I hope you all are planning on attending. Start saving your pennies, and by all means, create a shopping list. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered (or will be volunteering) to work at the show. Proceeds from the sale contribute about 75% of our operating income; that pays speakers, buys free plants, pays Newsletter costs, and many other expenses. There will be show flyers available at the meeting and I hope some of you will take a few to places you shop, like nurseries, libraries, and stores.

There is a lot going on outside of our meetings. The Board will be discussing and making decisions about our relationship with CGCI now that they have closed access to 501c3 status under their aegis. We may or may not pursue options. That's about all I can say right now, but I'll do my best to keep you informed.

Dale La Forest  
President SC C&SS

## BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Right now I have no agenda items for the Board. But as usual, if Board members have issues they would like to put on the Agenda, please let me know as soon as possible. Normally new items will be placed at the bottom of the Agenda, but can be expedited if time is an issue.

## HELP WANTED

Open positions include

Communications Committee Chair - this is a Board position that basically ensures there is a consistent message in our publicity, website and newsletter.

CGCI Liaison - This is also a Board position and asks the Liaison to become knowledgeable about CGCI and suggest ways it can help our club to be better.

**JOB ASSIGNMENTS - 2012**  
**SC C&SS ANNUAL SHOW AND PLANT SALE**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Activity Coordinator</b>	<b>Contact #</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Friday Setup</b>			
	1. Jim Gardner		
	2. Jim Hanna		
	3. Carol Knight		
	4. Dale LaForest		
	5.		
<b>Public Sales</b>			
Vendors	Jim Hanna		
Table fees	Jim Hanna		
<b>Publicity</b>			
Multimedia	Anita Caplan		
Flyers	Dale La Forest		
Marquee			
<b>Kitchen</b>			
Coordinator	Carol Causey		
Bkfst Saturday	Carmen Shearer, Anita Caplan		
Lunch Saturday	Carmen Shearer		
Bkfst Sunday	Snow Dunn & Jade Neely		
Lunch Sunday	Snow Dunn & Jade Neely		
Purchase meat?			
Purchase Chicken	Jim Tanner		
<b>Photography</b>	Laurel Woodley		
<b>Cashiers</b>			
Saturday AM	1. Nancy Jengo		
	2. Carol Knight		
	3. Maria Jenkins		
Saturday PM	1. June Trehearn		
	2. Jade Nealy.		
Sunday AM	1. Nancy Jengo.		
	2. Jade Neely		? Conflicts with Lunch setup?
Sunday PM	1. Carol Knight		

**JOB ASSIGNMENTS - 2012**  
**SC C&SS ANNUAL SHOW AND PLANT SALE**

<b>Credit Cards</b>	Evelyn Stevens	626-442-1391	
	Maria Capaldo		
<b>Line Control</b>			
Saturday AM	Maria Capaldo		Conflict with Credit card reader Saturday AM
<b>Tag Pullers</b>			
Saturday AM	1. Martha Bjerke.		
	2. Rose Arbuckle.		
	3. Luda Kuprenas		
	4. Philip Ross.		
	5. Jim Tanner		
	6. Bernadette Hertel		
Saturday PM	1. Carol Knight		
	2. Philip Roth		
	3. Melinda Hines		
Sunday AM	1. Bob Caplan.		
	2. Anita Caplan		
	3. Jackie Johnson		
Sunday PM	1. Martha Bjerke		
	2. Jim Tanner		
<b>Tags/sales/holding</b>	Jim Hanna		
<b>Hospitality</b>			
Coordinator	Bob Lewis		
Sat. AM	Bob Lewis		
Sat PM	Bob Lewis		
Sun AM	Irene Brenner & Okemi Knight		
Sun PM	Irene Brenner & Okemi Knight		
<b>Member Badges</b>	Lucy Hemingway		
<b>Decorations</b>			
Display Window	Jim Gardner & Melinda Hines		
Club Table	Lupe Hulett		

**JOB ASSIGNMENTS - 2012**  
**SC C&SS ANNUAL SHOW AND PLANT SALE**

<b>Clean-up</b>	1. Jim Gardner		
	2. Dick Kohlschreiber		
	3. David Okihara		
	4.		
	5.		
<b>Rover</b>			
Sat AM	Laurel Woodley, Bob Lewis		
Sat. PM	Same		
Sun AM	Same		
Sun PM	Same		
<b>Show Table Exhibitor</b>			
	1. Jim Gardner		
	2. Maria Capaldo		
	3. Rob Quesada		
	4. Jackie Johnson		
	5. Laurel Woodley		
	6. Carol Knight		
	7. Peter W.		
	8. Jim Hanna		
	9. Dale Laforest		
	10. Hank Warzybok		
	11.		
	12.		
	13.		
	14.		
	15.		

**Photos from 2011 Show and Sale**



Club table with Jim Tanner and Carol Causey



Jim Hanna's table



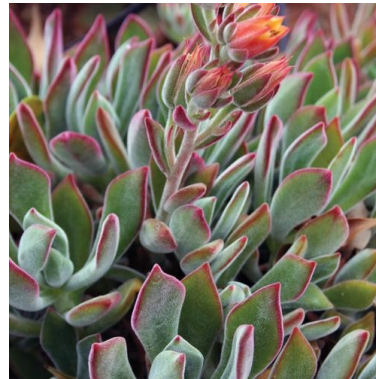
Jackie Johnson's table

**South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society  
Mini Show Final Results  
As of February 12, 2012**

<b>Novice Class</b>	<b>Cactus</b>	<b>Succulent</b>	<b>Open Class</b>	<b>Cactus</b>	<b>Succulent</b>
Caplan	6	16	Capaldo	12	5
DeCrescenzo		8	Causey		10
Dun		1	Duke	19	14
Bernard Johnson	2		Gardner	3	3
Jackie Johnson		6	Hanna		7
Knight		2	Kohlschreiber		8
Neely	9	6	Woodley		3
Ross	3	3			
Shearer		5			
Tanner	1				
Veits		3			

**February POM First Place Winners**

<b>Open - Cactus</b> Gary Duke <i>Turbinicarpus pseudomacrochele</i>	<b>Open - Succulent</b> Dick Kohlschreiber <i>Echeveria agavoides 'ebony'</i>
<b>Novice - Cactus</b> There were no entries for February	<b>Novice - Succulent</b> Phyllis DeCrescenzo - <i>Echeveria hybrid</i>



Jasper™ -*Echeveria pulvinata*  
<http://www.provenwinners.com>



*Black Knight*  
*Echeveria hybrid*  
<http://www.provenwinners.com>

University of California Irvine Arboretum Presents  
 Prelude to Spring  
 Winter Bulb Festival featuring African Bulbs  
 Saturday, March 3, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm.  
 Sunday, March 4, 11 am – 4:00 pm

The Arboretum nursery also hosts a plant sale featuring unique and easy to grow perennials, succulents, and blooming bulbs. Experienced gardeners are on hand to offer you advice on planting, selection and care.

Admission \$2.00, free parking

For Information call Info call 949-824-833  
<http://arboretum.bio.uci.edu/calendar2.cfm>

**HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY**



**FYI: Board of Directors for FY2011-2012 are:**

President	Dale La Forest	Programs Committee Chair	Gary Duke
Vice President	Judy Unrine	Finance Committee Chair	Judi Woo-Sato
Treasurer	Bernard Johnson	Communication Comm. Chair	<b>OPEN</b>
Secretary	Philip Johnston Ross	Membership Comm. Chair	Lucy Hemingway
At Large Member	Maria Capaldo	Liaison, CGCI	<b>OPEN</b>
At Large Member	Jim Tanner	Liaison, CSSA	Laurel Woodley
At Large Member	Melinda Hines	Parliamentarian	Philip Johnston Ross
Annual Show & Sale Chair	Jim Gardner		



## 2012 PLANT OF THE MONTH (POM)

	SUCCULENTS	CACTUS
January	Dudleya	Eriosyce
February	Echevarias	Turbinicarpus to and include Aztekium, and Geohintonia
March	<b>Succulent Bromeliad</b>	<b>Mammillaria - Straight Spines</b>
April	<b>PLANT SHOW AND SALE</b>	
May	Haworthia / Astroloba	Feroactus
June	Pelargonium / Sarcocaulon	Coryphantha / Escobaria
July	Sansevieria	Copiapoa
August	Variegated ( All )	Variegated Cacti
September	Aloes	Ariocarpus
October	Agaves	Gymnocalycium
November	Crassula	Echinocactus / Stenocactus
December	<b>HOLIDAY PARTY</b>	



### 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.



## CACTUS OF MONTH Mammillaria - Straight Spines

Mammillaria is one of the larger genera in the Cactus family, and one of the most variable, with some members remaining as solitary columns for their entire lives, some remaining as fingernail size solitary globulars, some clumped and heavily spined with hooks. However, some of the most attractive are the straight spined clusters.

Although most Mammillaria are native to Mexico, some species in the genus can be found from Columbia to Kansas and California. With this wide distribution, the cultivation requirements obviously vary considerably. The species from the tropics and warmer areas are rarely tolerant of cold and damp. Those from the drier desert regions are also intolerant of continued damp, but can take considerable cold. With these restrictions aside, most Mammillaria are easy to grow.

The secrets to good growth are a continued supply of fertilizer during the growing season, strong light, and maintenance of a clean and insect free growing environment.

Propagation of Mammillaria clusters is easy. Cuttings can be taken at any time during the growing season (April to early November), left to dry for a few days and replanted in a clean potting mix. Rooting is rapid, with short white roots generally appearing after a couple of weeks. Mammillaria are one of the easiest species to grow from seed. The seeds are simply placed on top of a damp potting mix, covered with a light coating of gravel, placed in a plastic bag in bright light, but out of direct sun and allowed to germinate. Germination usually occurs in a week or 10 days. The seedlings can stay in the plastic bag for several weeks until they get large enough to survive unprotected, and should then be removed to a still shaded, but brighter and drier environment. Most will survive, and grow quickly.

Tom Glavich January 2005



*Mammillaria albilanata*



*Mammillaria spinosissima*



*Mammillaria nejapensis*



*Mammillaria geminisпина*



## SUCCULENT OF MONTH Succulent Bromeliad

The Bromeliads, like Cacti and Agavaceae are a New World family. Like the Cacti they have evolved to cover a huge 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 temperature 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) 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. *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.

Tom Glavich June 2005



*Dyckia-dawsonii*



*Hechtia scariosa*

### On Water pH

By Elton Roberts - August 2007

#### Extract\*

Plant collectors who live in areas where rainwater is scarce must rely on tap or well water. Often this water contains salts and minerals that make the water alkaline – often referred to as “hard water”. Over a period of several months, using hard water to irrigate plants (especially those in pots) turns the soil alkaline. Seeing white lime deposits outside of drain holes and plants that seem to be struggling is evidence that this condition is occurring. Other evidence is that the systemic poison you are using to control mealy bugs isn't effective. Alkaline deposits (think lime) encapsulate nutrients and make them insoluble in water, preventing plants from using them. Using water that has been made acidic corrects this condition by dissolving these deposits and releasing nutrients (or systemic poisons). Acetic acid is a safe acid to use – it doesn't harm skin or the plant in diluted amounts. A good inexpensive source of acetic acid is white vinegar. To make most tap water acidic, **use one tablespoon of vinegar to 5 gallons of water**. Continued use of vinegar water doesn't make the soil more acid every time it's used, it

just continues to flush minerals from the soil. Results can often be visible in a week or two. A pH of 7.0 is neutral with higher numbers alkaline and lower indicating acidic conditions. We are aiming for a pH of about 6.0. Rainwater can contain enough carbonic acid to reduce the pH to about 5.0; that is one reason why it works so well and why desert plants often grow so well after it rains.

**CAUTIONS:** Do not use other acids unless you know how to handle strong acids. Never use hydrochloric acid, which kills plants. Don't use more than one tablespoon of vinegar unless you have a good pH meter and know how to use it. Specifically - don't use a swimming pool test kit or a “stick-the-probe-in-the-soil” pH meter. If you decide you really want a pH meter buy a quality instrument. They can be obtained for about \$75.00 and up. However, try vinegar water first and if it works; stick with it. That way you will not need to buy a pH meter. Good growing.

\*Extracted by Dale La Forest from a longer article which will appear in an issue of the CSSA Journal.





**CACTUS AND SUCCULENT  
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2012  
UPDATED 12/14/2011**

- MAR 3 & 4** UCI ARBORETUM PRELUDE TO SPRING WINTER BULB FESTIVAL AND PLANT SALE INCLUDING SUCCULENTS, BULBS & PRENNIALS, SAT 10-4:00, SUN 11-4:00  
\$2.00 ADMISSION, INFO 949-824-5833. OR <http://arboretum.bio.uci.edu/calendar2.cfm>
- MAR 23 & 24** ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS & SUCCULENT SPRING SHOW AND SALE 9am-5pm  
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA  
CONTACT VINCE BASTA 714-267-4329
- APR 7 & 8** SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE  
AT SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN  
26300 CRENSHAW BL., PALOS VERDES, CA INFO. 310-832-2262
- APR 14 & 15** GREEN SCENE PLANT SALE—AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM  
1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831
- May 5 & 6** SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE  
VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, GARDEN ROOM  
4117 OVERLAND AVE., CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. 310-822-1783
- MAY 6** SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE---9am to 4pm  
SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN  
INFORMATION CALL-310-833-6823
- MAY 13** HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 10 TO 5 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL  
GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-2160
- MAY 18-19** GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE  
FRI & SAT 9-4:30 pm JURUPA MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTER  
7621 GRANITE HILL DRIVE, GLEN AVON, CA INFO. 951-360-8802
- MAY 26-27** CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
ANNUAL SHOW & SALE (10-4PM), LUDWICK CENTER, 864 SANTA ROSA  
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – INFO. 805-237-2054, [www.centralcoastcactus.org](http://www.centralcoastcactus.org)
- JUNE 2 & 3** SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY – SUMMER SHOW AND SALE  
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO. 858-382-1797
- JUNE 9-10** 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)
- JUNE 29-JULY 1** CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE –HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS  
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.  
626-405-2160 or 2277 PLANTS SALES START JUNE 29<sup>TH</sup> THRU JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>  
THE SHOW OPENS ON THE JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup> THRU JULY 1<sup>ST</sup> FREE TO THE PUBLIC
- JULY 27-28** ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND SALE  
FRIDAY JULY 27<sup>TH</sup> Noon until 7pm, SATURDAY JULY 28<sup>TH</sup> 9am to 5pm  
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA  
CONTACT VINCE BASTA 714-267-4329
- AUG. 11-12** 27<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. 1** HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM  
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON
- SEPT. 23** LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION  
18127 SOUTH ALAMEDA ST., RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, CA----12 PM
- NOV. 3-4** SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
SHOW AND SALE---LA COUNTY ARBORETUM ADDRESS ABOVE.
- NOV. 9-10** ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS & SUCCULENT WINTER SHOW AND SALE 9am-5pm  
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA  
CONTACT VINCE BASTA 714-267-4329

# SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

announces its 40<sup>th</sup> annual

## 2012 SHOW and SALE

SAT & SUN APRIL 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

South Coast Botanic Garden - 26300 Crenshaw Blvd. PV Peninsula



### SEE

*outstanding plants and displays!*

### ASK

*experts how they grow the plants!*

### BUY

*rare & unusual plants!*



**NOTE:** entry fee to the South Coast Botanic Garden

#### CASH only

Adults: \$8 Seniors (62+) & Students: \$6  
Children (5 – 12): \$3 Children (under 4): Free  
No additional charge to enter show/sale

#### For More Information

visit [www.southcoastcss.org](http://www.southcoastcss.org)

President - Dale La Forest  
(310) 618-9886

Show Chair - Jim Gardner  
(310) 378-1953

Vendor Coordinator - Jim Hanna  
(562) 920-3046

Visa, Mastercard, & Discover accepted for plant sales:  
**CASH ONLY TO ENTER GARDEN**