



Prickly News

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter - March 2013

General Meeting Sunday, March 10, 1:30pm We will meet in the Hall

We have had a change in speakers for March. Ernst van Jaarsveld from South Africa, one of the most published authors on succulents will be our featured speaker for March. Ernst has published several articles in the CSSA Journal and has been a featured speaker at several CSSA conventions, including the upcoming convention in Jun 2013 in Austin, TX. You will not want to miss this once in a lifetime chance to hear this South African expert lecture on South African succulents. Lets give Ernst a huge welcome and thanks for making time in his busy schedule to speak to us.



Ernst has been interested in succulents since he was a young boy collecting and growing succulent plants. He has authored or co-authored more than 100 articles on succulent plant species. He is especially interested in the classification *Gasteria* and *Aloe* and other monocotyledonous succulents. His other interests include the Mesembryanthemaceae and Crassulaceae. Ernst is a keen

explorer who regularly travels to remote parts of South Africa, Angola and Namibia. Some of the expeditions include rubber canoe expeditions investigating remote river valleys.

Ernst regularly travels abroad and locally lecturing on succulent plants. He is a fellow of the Cactus and succulent Society of America, a horticulturist at Kirstenbosch, where he is currently curating the Botanical Society Conservatory, and has also recently (2012) been appointed extraordinary senior lecturer at the University of the Western Cape. He is the author of more than 200 articles (popular, semi-scientific and scientific) and several books. Ernst is a keen explorer and for his latest study (cliff dwelling succulent plants), he has visited cliffs throughout southern Africa, gathering information for a book on that subject.



President's Message March 2013

We had 61 members sign in at the February meeting, plus several guests, making the total the largest for which we have records. From the number of questions answered by our speaker, Peter Walkowiak and his program on

Euphorbia, maybe I have misjudged the interest in this genus; or maybe it was because it was a live demonstration; or maybe the threatening weather made us decide to forgo outdoor activities. Whatever, I take it as a sign that our club is healthy.

Spring is upon us. The next warm day when you have some time, would be a good time to talk to your plants. Well not literally of course (although some say it helps), but to take a close look at each plant. Look for damage, disease, bugs, and general health. Is the soil hard, or roots coming out of the bottom? If so, it's time to spring into action by repotting. See the short checklist on Page 9 in this issue if this is something new for you.

At the March meeting Jim Gardner will be finalizing plans for the April Show & Sale. And we still have positions that need filling. **None** of these jobs needs a college degree, résumé, or interview. None require a lot of your time, but all need someone whose focused attention will make our club better.

Dale La Forest

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2013 Job Assignments

Please take a look at the assignments on this list to confirm the jobs and times you have signed up for. There are still a few **open** spaces. Let me know if you are able to work one of these jobs.

Jim Gardner srendrag@verizon.net phone 310378-1953

Item	Activity Coordinator	Contact #	Comments
Friday Setup			
	1. Jim Gardner		
	2. Jim Hanna		
	3. Laurel & Shirley		
	4. Gary Duke		
	5. Dale LaForest		
Public Sales			
Vendors	Jim Hanna		
Table fees	Jim Hanna		
Publicity			
Multimedia	Anita Caplan		
Flyers	Dale La Forest		
Marquee	Jim Gardner		
Kitchen			
Coordinator	Carol Causey		
Bkfst Saturday	Carol Knight		
Lunch Saturday	Carmen Shearer & Danny Westhal		
Bkfst Sunday	Carol Causey		
Lunch Sunday	Carol Causey & Danny Westhal		
Purchase meat?	Dale LaForest		
Purchase Chicken	Bob Lewis		
Photography	Laurel Woodley		
Cashiers			
Saturday AM	1. Carol Knight		
	2. Nancy Jengo		
	3. Maria Jenkins		
	4. Martha Bjerke		
Saturday PM	1. Gina Bush		
	2. Jade Neely		
	3. OPEN		
Sunday AM	1. Nancy Jengo		
	2. Maria Jenkins		
Sunday PM	1. Jade Neely		
	2. OPEN		

Credit Cards Coordinator	Bernard Johnson		
Saturday AM	OPEN		
Saturday PM	Melinda Hines		
Sunday AM	Maria Capaldo		
Sunday AM	Nancy Jengo		
Line Control			
Saturday AM	Maria Capaldo		
Tag Pullers			
Saturday AM	1. Jim Tanner		
	2. Melinda Hines		
	3. Phyllis De Crescenzo		
	4. Ana MacKenzie		
	5. Mary Lopez		
	6. Gina Bush		
Saturday PM	1. Nancy Jengo		
	2. Luda Kuprenas		
	3. OPEN		
Sunday AM	1. Ana Mackenzie		
	2. Mary Lopez		
	3. OPEN		
Sunday PM	1. Jim Tanner		
	2. Melinda Hines		
Tags/sales/holding	Jim Hanna		
Hospitality			
Coordinator	Bob Lewis		
Sat. AM	Irene Brenner & Akemi Kayleng		
Sat PM	Bob Lewis		
Sun AM	Bob Lewis		
Sun PM	Bob Lewis		
Member Badges	Sally Fasteau		
Signage	Ana Mackenzie		
Decorations			
Display Window	Jim Gardner & Melinda Hines		

Club Table	Lupe Hulett		
Clean-up	1. Jim Gardner		
	2. David Okihara		
	3. Dale La Forest		
	4. Melinda Hines		
	5. Stella Castaneda		
Rover			
Sat AM	Laurel Woodley, Jim Gardner		
Sat. PM	Same		
Sun AM	Same		
Sun PM	Same		
Show Table Exhibitor			
	1. Jim Gardner		
	2. Jim Hanna		
	3. Peter Walkowiak		
	4. Jackie Johnson		
	5. Maria Capaldo		
	6. Laurel Woodley		
	7. Dale LaForest		
	8.		
	9.		
	10.		
	11.		
	12.		
	13.		
	14.		



Aeonium 'Sunburst'

Photo by Aileen Martin



Photo from email without credit

**February
POM
First Place
Winners**



Open - Succulent
Euphorbia squarrosa
Jim Gardner



Novice - Succulent
Euphorbia medusa hybrid
Jade Neely



Open - Cactus
Mammillaria compressa variegata
Gary Duke



Novice - Cactus
Opuntia vulgaris variegata
Phyllis DeCrescenzo

Open Succulent

- 2nd - Gary Duke - *Euphorbia squarrosa*
- 3rd - Carol Causey - *Euphorbia groenewaldii*

Open Cactus

- 2nd - Gary Duke - *Mammillaria mihanovichii variegata*
- 3rd - Gary Duke - *Buiningia aurea variegata*

Novice Succulent

- 2nd - Jade Neely - *Euphorbia medusa hybrid*
- 2nd - Jade Neely - *Euphorbia medusa hybrid*

Novice Cactus

- 2nd - Phyllis DeCrescenzo - *Opuntia vulgaris variegata*

**Southcoast Cactus and Succulent Society
Mini Show Final Results
As of February 10, 2013**

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents
Bjerke		1	Capaldo	9	8
Caplan		3	Causey		3
DeCrescenzo	11	3	Duke	19	10
Dunn		1	Gardner		14
Hines		4	Hanna		3
Jackie Johnson	1	6	Woodley		4
Knight		11			
Neely	10	15			
Shearer		1			
Tanner	4	1			
Unrine		4			
Veits		3			



Gasteria liliputana
www.cactusplaza.com



Gasteria pillansii
<http://www.plantzafrica.com>
South African National
Biodiversity Institute,
South Africa.



Gasteria batesiana
<http://en.wikipedia.org>

2013 PLANTS OF THE MONTH (POM)

	CACTI	SUCCULENTS
January	Mammillaria - Hooked Spines	Kalanchoe
February	Variegated Cacti	Euphorbia with Caudex
March	Crested / Monstrose	Gasteria
April	PLANT SHOW AND SALE	
May	Opuntia - Flat Pad Varieties	Tylecodon
June	Parodia / Notocactus	Pachypodium
July	Lobivia/ Echinopsis/ Trichocereus	Senecio
August	Astrophytum	Variegated (All)
September	Turbincarpus / Leuchtenbergia	Adenium
October	Cereus / Columnar Cactus	Sedum
November	Discocactus / Melocactus	Lithops
December	HOLIDAY PARTY	

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.

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 1st place and up to two 2nd and two 3rd 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.

Succulent of the Month - Gasteria March 2013

Gasteria is a popular and easily grown genus of plants that have been collected and kept as house plants since the 17th century. Gasteria flowers are carried on a long scape (leafless flower stalk). They generally hang down as they open, and have a swollen (gasteriform) portion at the base of the flower. The word Gasteria comes from the Greek "gaster" meaning stomach or belly.

Gasteria vary in size from about an inch to several feet in diameter. Almost all plants start out with the leaves in two rows (distichous), although most eventually begin to spiral, either remaining in a distichous spiral, or changing into a rosette form. Gasteria are very variable in appearance. They have definite juvenile and adult forms, have local variations in appearance, and have form and growth habits that are dependent on the soil type and amount of sunlight.

Typical natural habitats are humus rich, sandy soils. They grow on dry rocky hillsides and generally grow under larger shrubs particularly when young. They also can be found in rock fissures or in the shade of large rocks. The roots are shallow and thick which helps the plants obtain moisture from barely wet soils, and nourishment from decaying leaves and debris from larger shrubs.

Gasteria cultivation is easy. They are mostly winter and spring growers, but exhibit some growth all year except for the hottest part of the summer. They are tolerant of almost any growing mix, although they do best with high organic content mixes, similar to their natural growing conditions. They prefer partial shade, particularly in the afternoon; however the best color is obtained by giving them as much light and sun, short of sunburn, as possible.

Tom Glavich, May 2005



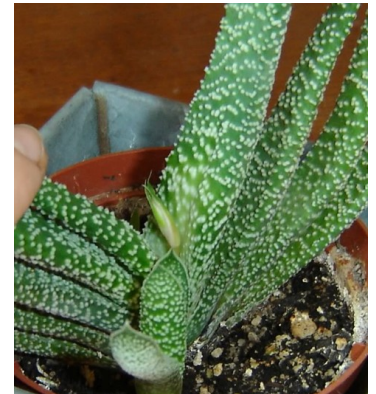
Gasteria baylissii flowers



Gasteria pillansii



Ghost of Carlsbad



Gasteria verrucosa



Gasteria glomerata



Gasteria baylissiana



Gasteria in flower

Crested / Monstrose Cactus of the Month - March 2013

The three most common types of mutation are crests, monstrose growth and variegation. All of these are mutations of the cellular structure of the leaf or stem growth tip (apical meristem) of the plant. In normal plants the growth tip is a point, and the biochemistry of the plant forces one tip to be dominant or at least locally dominant. In crests the genetic mutation removes this dominance, and instead of a single growth tip the area of active cell growth degenerates into a line. For monstrose growth, the local dominance is lost, and every growth tip tries to grow as if it were the dominant point.



Lophocereus schottii
monstrose

Cresting and monstrose growth is not unique to succulent plants. Crests are found in many genera of non-succulent plants, including conifers and many common garden plants.

Crests and monstrose plants are grown exactly as normal plants of the same species. Some have weak roots, and only grow well as grafts. However, others are

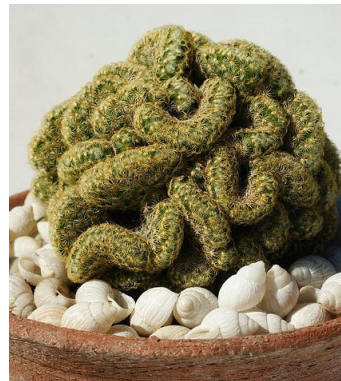
robust growers, and do perfectly well on their own. Careful observation of the health of the plant, and comparison to healthy non-crested plants of the same species will quickly show whether grafting is necessary. Mutant plants tend to be more sensitive to poor growing conditions, getting sunburn quicker, and getting unsightly brown spots more easily than normal plants of the same species. This is one of the many reasons they are often grown as grafts.

Crests flower and produce seed, just as other plants do, but less often. Good strong growth is probably the best way to produce a flowering plant. Mutations are not generally transmitted by seed; however, seed from a mutant plant is much more likely to be a genetic mutant than that from a normal plant. The genetic mutation is more likely to be the same as the mother plant, but monstrose and variegated plants are also possible.

The most common method of propagation of these plants is vegetative. Cuttings are often grafted to speed growth and to preserve special growth forms.

Tom Glavich, October 2002

CRESTED



Trichocereus pachanoi



trichocereus peruvianus

Repotting Checklist



Most healthy container garden plants eventually outgrow their pots. A good way to reinvigorate a root bound plant is to repot it every few years.

1. Recognize when it's time to repot. Telltale signs include soil that dries out quickly; roots that protrude from drainage holes or deform plastic pots; water sitting on the soil surface after watering. Often a plant simply looks top-heavy or as if it might burst out of its pot.
2. Gather materials: potting soil that will drain quickly, a good assortment of pots including "show" pots, top dressing and perhaps decorative materials like rocks for more advanced collectors who show their plants. Use pots where the top has a larger diameter than the bottom, so the pot doesn't need to be broken to remove the plant.
3. Remove a plant from its pot. For plants in small to medium pots, a few good whacks on an inverted pot will usually release the plant. An overnight soaking can usually loosen a stubborn root ball.
4. A plant ready for repotting should slide out with the soil in one piece. If much of the soil falls free of the roots, the plant may not need repotting. If it does, there will likely be a solid soil-and-root mass. Roots should be white or light-colored. Black, dark-colored, or foul-smelling roots are usually signs of a serious problem, such as fungal disease. Now is a good time to look for soil insects.
5. Trim off approximately a third of the bottom of the root ball (but not any tuberous growth) and make some vertical cuts up the sides severing roots that have been circling the pot. Loosen the remaining root ball before replanting. Remove loose and any damaged roots. Some plants can benefit from pruning the top of the plant.
6. Drainage holes don't normally need to be covered but a broken shard or rock can be used over a large hole as long as it doesn't block the hole. Keep the curved side up.
7. Put a few inches of soil in the pot and tamp it down.
8. Hold the plant in the pot low enough so that the eventual ground level is slightly below the top of the pot. Obviously you are using a pot that makes this possible.
9. Holding the plant in position, fill the pot to about $\frac{1}{2}$ " below where you want the ground level. Don't pack the soil tightly - roots need air.
10. Cover the soil with about $\frac{1}{4}$ " top dressing (gravel) and, if desired, add decorative elements. Also for most of us insert a nametag.

Dale La Forest

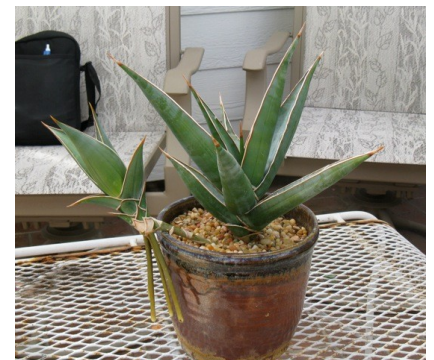
Dale's Potting Party - August 2011



Rootbound *Sansevieria* ready for splitting



Judy Unrine, Bob Lewis, Maria Capaldo and Dale LaForest



Jim Gardner's *Sansevieria pinguicula* gifted to Dale

Newsletter Assistant - Melinda Hines needs someone to take over the task of reproducing about 15 copies of the newsletter and mailing it to members who wish a hard copy. Contact Melinda Hines for details.

Communications Committee Chair - This is a Board position to coordinate Publicity, Website and newsletter content. CONTACT Dale La Forest for more information.

Parliamentarian - Few duties other than attend Board meetings and be familiar with our Bylaws. CONTACT Philip Johnston Ross for more information.

Nominating committee - This month I will be contacting 1 - 3 members to serve on our Nominating Committee. CONTACT Dale La Forest for more information.



CSSA CONVENTION

The 35th Biennial Convention of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America will be held in Austin TX, from June 15 - 20, 2013. All members of the Society are invited to join in the gathering which will feature world renowned authors and experts in the field of Cacti & Succulents. The web site for the Convention is located at <http://cssa2013.com>.

UCI Arboretum presents its popular annual

Winter Bulb Festival

Saturday March 2 10 am to 4 pm

Sunday March 3 11 am to 3 pm

Enjoy rare & unusual South African bulbs, aloes and early California Native plants in glorious bloom!

Perennials, succulents and blooming bulbs on sale

Admission \$2.00 Free parking

UCI Arboretum
North Campus, UCI
Irvine, CA 92697

For more information
call 949-824-5833

<http://arboretum.bio.uci.edu/calendar2.cfm>



REFRESHMENTS FOR MARCH

Volunteers for March refreshments are:

Snow Dunn, Jim Hanna, Bernard Johnson, Jackie Johnson, Bob Lewis, David Okihara

For all the goodies at the February meeting we thank Martha Bedach, Carol Causey, Melinda Hines, Carol Knight, Carmen Shearer, Danny Westall, and Laurel Woodley!



Carol Causey



HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY



Board of Directors for FY2013:

President
Vice President
Treasurer
Secretary
At Large Member
At Large Member
At Large Member
Show & Sale Chair

Dale La Forest
Judy Unrine
Bernard Johnson
Philip Johnston Ross
Maria Capaldo
Jim Tanner
Nancy Jengo
Jim Gardner

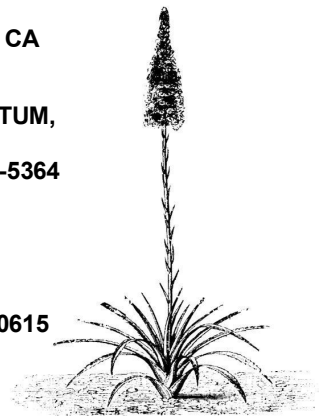
Programs Committee Chair
Finance Committee Chair
Communication Committee Chair
Vacant
Membership Comm. Chair
Liaison, CGCI (Acting)
Liaison, CSSA
Parliamentarian

Gary Duke
Jim Hanna
Dale La Forest
(Acting)
Sally Fasteau
Judy Unrine
Laurel Woodley
Philip Johnston Ross



**CACTUS AND SUCCULENT
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2013** *(updated 1/2/2013)*

- FEB 9TH** SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY –WINTER SHOW AND SALE
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO. 858-382-1797
- MAR. 22-24** ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SHOW AND SALE
FRI. MAR. 22ND 9am-5pm, SAT. MAR. 23RD 9am-5pm, SUN. 24TH 12-4pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA
INFORMATION CALL 562-587-3357
- APR 13 & 14** **SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE**
SOUTH COAST BONTANIC GARDEN, 26300 CRENSHAW BLVD.,
PALOS VERDES, CA INFO: 310-832-2262
- APR 20 & 21** GREEN SCENE PLANT SALE—AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM
1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831
- APR 28th** HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 10 TO 5 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL
GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-2160
- MAY 5** SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE---9am to 4pm
SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN
INFORMATION CALL-310-833-6823
- May 4 & 5** SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE
VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, GARDEN ROOM
4117 OVERLAND AVE., CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. 310-822-1783
- MAY 17 & 18** GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
32ND 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 25 & 26** 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
- JUNE 1 & 2** SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY –SUMMER SHOW AND SALE
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO: 858-382-1797
- JUNE 8 & 9** LOS ANGELES CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY
PLANT SHOW AND SALE 8TH 9-5, 9th 9-3:30
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BLVD.
ENCINO, CA INFO. E-MAIL www.lacss-show.com
- JUNE 15-20** **CSSA 35TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION, AUSTIN, TX- www.CSSA2013.COM**
- JUNE 28-30** **CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE –HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS**
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.
626-405-2160 or 2277 PLANTS SALES START JUNE 28TH THRU JUNE 30TH
THE SHOW OPENS ON THE JUNE 29TH THRU JUNE 30TH FREE TO THE PUBLIC
- JULY 26-28** ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND SALE
FRI. JULY 26TH 9am-5pm, SAT JULY 27TH 9am-5pm, SUN 28TH 12-4pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA
INFORMATION CALL 949-212-8417
- AUG. 17 & 18** 28th 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 7TH** HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON
- SEPT. 22ND** LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION
RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS, 6400 BIXBY HILL ROAD, LONG BEACH, CA 90615
INFO: 310-922-6090
- NOV. 2 & 3** SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 9am-4pm both days
SHOW AND SALE---LA COUNTY ARBORETUM ADDRESS ABOVE.





South Coast
Cactus
&
Succulent
Society

41st Annual
Show &
Sale

9AM – 4 PM
Saturday-Sunday
April 13-14, 2013

South Coast Botanic Garden
26300 Crenshaw Boulevard,
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA
90274

- **Outstanding rare and unusual plants and displays**
- **Expert tips on landscaping and home collection**
- **Huge sale of succulents & cactus**

Entry included in paid admission to the Gardens (cash only). Adults \$8, Seniors (62+) & students \$6, Children 5-12 \$3, children under 5 are free.

Plant purchases by major credit cards, cash, or check.

*Information at www.southcoastcss.org and Dale La Forest (President) 310/618-9886
Jim Gardner (Show Chair) 310/378-1953
Jim Hanna (Vendor Coordinator) 562/920-3046*