



# Prickly News

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter

June 2015

Click here to visit our web site:  
<http://www.southcoastcss.org>

Click here to visit our  
Facebook page

## NEXT MEETING

**Laurel Woodley:**  
"Discovering Kalanchoes"

**Sunday June 7, 1:30pm**  
**FIRST NOT SECOND SUNDAY!**

We will meet in the hall.

## REFRESHMENTS FOR JUNE

Thanks to those who helped in May, including:

<b>Carol Causey</b>	<b>Judy Unrine</b>
<b>Carol Knight</b>	<b>Danny Westall</b>
<b>Kitty Guzman</b>	<b>David Okihara</b>

Volunteers for June refreshments are:

<b>Jim Gardner</b>	<b>Bernard Johnson</b>
<b>Lou Hagemeyer</b>	<b>Clifton Wong</b>
<b>Lupe Hulett</b>	

If you would like to bring something to our next meeting, please do so – thanks!

**Kitchen Volunteers** – Please see Carol Causey after the meeting if you are able to help with kitchen cleanup.

## IN THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE.....	1
REFRESHMENTS.....	1
PRESENTER FOR JUNE.....	2
MINI-SHOW PLANTS OF THE MONTH 2015.....	3
MINI-SHOW STANDINGS.....	3
MINI-SHOW RESULTS.....	3
CACTUS OF THE MONTH.....	4
SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH.....	4
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS.....	7
MEMBERSHIP NEWS.....	7
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	7
MEMBERSHIP FORM.....	8



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

About fifty members attended our May meeting, but even though it was Mother's Day, we managed to find a chair for everyone in a crowded classroom. Ernesto Sandoval treated our members to another excellent program. What a terrific speaker he is! His students at U.C. Davis must love his classes.

**It's election time.** Officer nominees for FY 2015 are myself as President, M.A. Bjarkman for Vice President, Bernard Johnson as Treasurer, and Maria Capaldo as Secretary. Bob and Anita Caplan, and Lou Hagemeyer are the At-large nominees.

The Chairs of the Standing Committees, Coordinators, and Liaison members have agreed to continue, except that Mike Short will become the Communications Chair, with Anita Caplan retaining the Publicist role on that committee. Philip Johnston Ross will remain on the Board as Parliamentarian (appointed position by the president). After being a super Show & Sale Committee Chair for six years, Jim Gardner has accepted more responsibilities on the SCBG Foundation Board. So he has asked me to find another Chair - so we are seeking a volunteer. Please contact me or Jim if you are interested. While continuing service results in experienced leadership, the amount of time and energy it takes to keep things running smoothly is not insignificant. So . . . I want to thank and acknowledge the time and effort all our Officers, Chairs, and Coordinators have spent this past year. On behalf of the Club and myself, thank you all.

**It's also Dues time.** Dues become delinquent upon adjournment of the June meeting. Whether you pay at the meeting or mail, please put cash or check in an envelope with the renewal form. The Renewal Application form allows us to confirm your contact information, and gives you a way to omit specific contact information from the roster. It also gives couples a way to submit their own telephone and/or email addresses. There is no penalty for late renewals, but please let us know if you don't plan to renew.

I hope to see some of you at the CSSA Convention and their annual sale at the Huntington Botanical Gardens later this month.

Dale La Forest,  
President.

**PRESENTER FOR JUNE:  
Laurel Woodley "Discovering Kalanchoes"**

Laurel Woodley is a retired biology professor from Los Angeles Harbor College who has been involved in Southern California horticulture since the mid 1960's. A fourth generation Californian who was introduced to plants in her youth by her parents who operated H.F. Woodley Nursery (specializing in fern propagation), Laurel attended UCLA majoring in Zoology with a minor in Botany. In subsequent years she was fortunate to have traveled to distant lands while taking Natural History classes led by Mildred Mathias. She has been interested in southern California flora with a special fondness for desert adapted plants. This led to her teaching classes for UCLA Extension in Dry Climate Gardening Using Cacti and Succulents, Horticultural Uses of Southern California Native Plants and co-leading Natural History classes to Death Valley, Anza Borrego State Park, Baja California; the Santa Monica and San Gabriel Mountains and ultimately Madagascar.

She has been volunteering at South Coast Botanic Garden (SCBG) since 2005 and is a member of a team who has been identifying and labeling the trees and shrubs in the garden. Presently, she is a Trustee of the SCBG and Past-President of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America.



Laurel's talk will explore the many diverse species within the genus including their place of origin with an emphasis on the growth requirements and placement in the landscape..

Ed: Laurel has been a member of our club (SCSS) for a while. Apart from her work with labels in the South Coast Botanic Garden and her long time input to the Desert Garden she is also an invaluable source of botanic knowledge to the gardens. She serves as a welcome advisor to the garden's propagation department, not only helping to apply the correct names to plants grown for sale at the gardens but also supplying many cuttings and plants to be reared at the gardens. Laurel is also an accomplished photographer, most of you will have seen her great photos on our Facebook and web pages and in SCBG newsletters.



Anita and Bob Caplan next to a giant *Welwitschia mirabilis* in a Namibian desert. The oldest is estimated at 1500 to 3000 years (the plant, not the Caplan).

## MINI-SHOW RESULTS - May 10, 2015

<b>Open Cactus</b>	1st	Jim Gardner	<i>Opuntia vulgaris</i> f. <i>variegata</i>
	2nd	Jim Gardner	<i>Opuntia sulphurea</i>
	3rd	Maria Capaldo	<i>Opuntia microdasys</i>
<b>Open Succulent</b>	1st	Maria Capaldo	<i>Kalanchoe tomentosa</i>
	2nd	Laurel Woodley	<i>Kalanchoe millotii</i>
	3rd	Maria Capaldo	<i>Kalanchoe rhombopilosa</i>
<b>Intermediate Cactus</b>	1st	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	<i>Opuntia basilaris</i>
	2nd	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	<i>Opuntia microdasys</i>
	3rd	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	<i>Opuntia monacantha</i> f. <i>monstrose variegata</i>
<b>Intermediate Succulent</b>	1st	Jackie Johnson	<i>Kalanchoe luciae</i>
	2nd	Jackie Johnson	<i>Kalanchoe tomentosa</i>
	3rd	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	<i>Kalanchoe thyrsiflora</i>
<b>Novice Cactus</b>	1st	Bernard Johnson	<i>Opuntia droopalotia</i>
	2nd	Bernard Johnson	<i>Opuntia sulphurea</i>
	3rd	William Wilk	<i>Opuntia violacea</i>
<b>Novice Succulent</b>	1st	William Wilk	<i>Kalanchoe pinnata</i>
	2nd	Judy Unrine	<i>Kalanchoe tomentosa</i>
	3rd	Bernard Johnson	<i>Kalanchoe synsepala</i>

>>> Click here for photos of winning plants: <http://southcoastcss.org/mini-show-results-may-2015> <<<

## SCCSS MINI-SHOW STANDINGS (as of May 10, 2015)

Novice			Intermediate			Open		
Name	Cactus	Succulent	Name	Cactus	Succulent	Name	Cactus	Succulent
Roselyn Arbuckle	4		Anita Caplan	2	4	Maria Capaldo	14	21
M.A. Bjarkman		4	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	30	28	Gary Duke	37	6
Martha Bjerke	4	4	Jackie Johnson		22	Jim Gardner	13	7
Sally Fasteau	7	6	Jade Neely	22	13	Jim Hanna		12
Linda Hudson		4	Jim Wood	19	3	Dale LaForest	4	
Lupe Hulett	4					Laurel Woodley	4	19
Bernard Johnson	10	16						
Phillip Johnston Ross	6							
Mike Short		6						
Judy Unrine		10						
William Wilk	2	18						

## MINI-SHOW PLANTS OF THE MONTH (POM) 2015

	Cactus	Succulent
June	Parodia	Dyckia, Hechtia
July	S. American Columnar	Stapelia, Huernia, Orbea, Pseudolithos
August	Copiapoa	Variegated Succulent
September	Melocactus	Agave, Calibanus, Nolina, Yucca
October	Matucana, Oroya	Argyroderma, Pleiospilos, Faucaria
November	Schlumbergia (Christmas cactus)	Aloe
December	HOLIDAY PARTY	



## CACTUS of the MONTH - Parodia

Parodia is a genus of flowering plants in the cactus family Cactaceae, native to the uplands of Argentina, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia and Uruguay. This genus has about 50 species, many of which have been transferred from Eriocactus, Notocactus and Wigginsia. They range from small globose plants to 1 m (3 ft) tall columnar cacti. All are deeply ribbed and spiny, with single flowers at or near the crown. Some species produce offsets at the base. They are popular in cultivation, but must be grown indoors where temperatures fall below 10 °C (50 °F).

The genus is named after Domingo Parodi, one of the early investigators of the flora of Paraguay.



*Parodia buiningii*



*Parodia magnifica*



*Parodia schumanniana*



*Parodia scopa*



*Parodia tenuicylindrica*

## SUCCULENT of the MONTH - Dyckia, Hechtia

Dyckias and Hechtias are two terrestrial bromeliad species that are excellent potted as well as landscape plants, particularly for warm, arid climates.

These are terrestrial bromeliads that are often confused with Agaves thanks to their barbed rosettes and ability to withstand drought so well, are quite well adapted to desert life, and usually planted in the cactus and succulent sections of botanical gardens that can support such species.

Dyckias are South American plants while Hechtias are primarily from Mexico. These two genera can be difficult to tell apart



## SUCCULENT of the MONTH - Cont.

as both look like non-succulent Agaves having rosettes of arching stiff leaves with incredibly sharp spines/barbs along the leaf margins. Both are suckering plants and prefer full sun and somewhat arid climates. However Hechtias nearly always have white flowers while Dyckia flowers come in a variety of brilliant orange and yellow colors. Dyckias are NOT monocarpic (they keep on growing year after year) but Hechtias die after flowering. Dyckias are one of the most cold tolerant of all the bromeliads (tolerating temps down into the low 20sF and even below in some cases) while Hechtias are one of the least cold tolerant of the terrestrial bromeliads, rarely tolerating more than brief frosts down into the mid 20s.

These bromeliad species are grown primarily for their rosettes and not their flowers. Hechtias in particular have fairly non-ornamental flowers, though a few exceptions exist. Bromeliad flowers, though quite colorful, are still somewhat less than spectacular individually. But large colonies of blooming Dyckias can be quite an arresting sight.



*Dyckia 'Cherry Coke'*



*Hechtia stenopetala*



*Hechtia texensis*



*Dyckia fosteriana*

Both do well in garden situations though they also excel as potted plants. These are two of the most difficult and dangerous of all the bromeliad species to prune thanks the unbelievably vicious spines. But the deadly looking leaves can make amazingly ornamental displays as they form radiating symmetrical patterns.

Dyckias and Hechtias are not true succulent plants (though some Dyckias do have fairly thick leaves that must have some succulent properties) but both are fairly drought tolerant. Some Hechtias are far more drought tolerant than many of the common succulents known for their ability to withstand lack of water. However both appreciate regular watering (particularly the Dyckias) in the warmer months of the year. I have rotted a few Hechtias from overhead watering in cooler months, but so far have yet to do the same to any Dyckia species. Neither seem to need much in the way of fertilization, though Hechtias actually seem to do better without added fertilizer, than with some. Both genera have fairly large root systems so if kept in pots, it is better to put them in a larger pot, than in a small one as one would put most potted cacti or succulents in. Overpotting is rarely a problem with these plants, and just results in larger plants more quickly. Cactus soils are OK, but many growers actually recommend soils that are a bit more water retentive.



SUCCULENT of the MONTH - Cont.



*Dyckia brevifolia*



*Dyckia marnier-lapostollei*



*Hechtia marnier-lapostollei*



*Dyckia milagrensis*



*Dyckia 'Red'*



*Hechtia caerulea*

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2015 (TENTATIVE)

- JUNE 6-7      **SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY –SUMMER SHOW AND SALE**  
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO: 858-382-1797
- JUNE 14-19    **CSSA BIENNIAL CONVENTION, PITZER COLLEGE, CLAREMONT, CA**  
<http://www.cssainc.org>
- JUNE 26-28    **CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE –HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-2160 or 2277  
PLANT SALES JUNE 26Th THRU 28Th, SHOW JUNE 27Th THRU 28Th
- JULY 24-26    **ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND SALE**  
FRI. JULY 24TH 9am-5pm, SAT JULY 25TH 9am-5pm, SUN 26TH 12-4pm  
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA  
INFO: 949-212-8417
- AUG. 8-9      **30th ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW AND SALE AT THE LA COUNTY ARBORETUM,**  
9am-5pm daily. 301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA.  
INFO: TOM GLAVICH 626-798-2430 or JOHN MATTHEWS 661-714-1052
- AUG. 29      **HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM**  
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON
- SEPT. 6      **LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION -12-5PM**  
RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS, 6400 BIXBY HILL ROAD, LONG BEACH, CA 90815  
INFO: 310-922-6090
- OCT. 24-25    **PALOMAR SHOW AND SALE SAT 9-5, SUN 10-4, SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDENS**  
230 QUAIL GARDENS RD, ENCINITAS. INFO: hciservices@gmail.com. 858-382-1797
- NOV 7-8      **SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**  
9am-4pm both days LA COUNTY ARBORETUM, 301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY2014-2015

#### Officers:

President	Dale La Forest
Vice President	Maria Capaldo
Treasurer	Bernard Johnson
Secretary	Philip Johnston Ross
Parliamentarian	Philip Johnston Ross
<b>Liaisons:</b> CGCI	Lynda Johnson
CSSA	Laurel Woodley
<b>At Large Members:</b>	Bob Caplan
	Phyllis DeCrescenzo
	Mike Short

#### Standing Committee Chairs:

Show & Sale	Jim Gardner
Programs Committee	Gary Duke
Finance Committee	Jim Hanna
Communication Committee	Anita Caplan
Membership Committee	Sally Fasteau
Newsletter	Mike Short
Webmasters:	Mike Short
	Laurel Woodley

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS

**Submitted by: Sally Fasteau, Membership Chair**  
[sallyfasteau@cox.net](mailto:sallyfasteau@cox.net) 310-544-1313

[Click here for membership form on the web](#)

#### **Membership Renewal**

Our membership year begins July 1.

To renew please use the membership form in this issue, or the June and July newsletters, or pick up a form at one of our meetings. The form is also available on the website:

#### **SCCSS Name Badges**

If you need a new name badge or would like a current Membership Directory, please contact the membership chair.



