

# Prickly News

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter

May 2016

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<http://www.southcoastcss.org>

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our Facebook page

## NEXT MEETING

**Jeremy Spath: "Exceptional Succulent Plants in South African Habitat"**

**Sunday May 8, 1:00pm**  
(Program starts at 1:30pm)

**NOTE: The meeting will be in the classroom not the auditorium.**

## REFRESHMENTS FOR MAY

Thanks to those who helped in April at the Show and Sale.

We have no assignments for May refreshments so please bring a little something if you are able.

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

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year's Show & Sale was successful by any measure. For members who volunteered their time and energy to make it a success ... THANK YOU. We should remember that the Show & Sale requires a commitment by a number of people before, during, and after the show. Anita's short visitor survey showed that

attendees are more and more using Google searches, Craigslist, and Facebook to find events like this. Nevertheless newspaper calendars, word-of-mouth, the banner on Crenshaw Blvd., and distribution of postcards continue to be important reminders to folks.

This year rain and the competing Lego exhibit threatened but did not seriously impede sales. Decent sales and everyone's hard work means all of us can continue to reap the benefits of having great speakers, pay the rent, bring home lots of free plants, and reimburse members for various expenses during the year.

As we near the end of our membership year, it's time to renew our dues. The **Membership Renewal** form is enclosed with this newsletter and will also be in the June and July issues. PLEASE READ THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE FORM and complete all the boxes. We compare it with our records to ensure we are able to contact you. **Send by snail mail or bring your completed Renewal form and dues (checks preferred) to Bernard Johnson, Treasurer** before the June meeting is adjourned. I hope you all choose to renew as we have more terrific programs scheduled.

The nomination committee has completed it's task and I will be asking for floor nominations at the May meeting. We will vote in June.

I hope that most of you had a chance to tour the Garden this Spring. Blossoms and flowers are at their peak and the Nature Connects has been a bonus attraction. Admission to our Show & Sale supports the Garden and this is a good time to see what we are supporting both by funds and by our volunteers who also work there.

We encourage members to start coming to meetings at 1:00 PM. We will continue to start the program at 1:30, but the half-hour at the start should allow time for members to get a refreshment, buy a plant, put their mini-show plants on the table, and get to know each other better.

Dale La Forest, President

## PRESENTER FOR MAY: Jeremy Spath: "Exceptional Succulent Plants in South African Habitat"

NOTE: We will meet in the classroom not the auditorium.

Jeremy will be speaking on his recent trip to South Africa. His photographs are exceptional. He may also bring a few plants to sell. (More details may follow later)

Jeremy began his plant career nearly ten years ago at the San Diego Botanic Gardens in Encinitas, CA. While at the gardens he was exposed to many different plant groups but was most attracted to succulents, cycads, bromeliads, palms and bamboos – which one docent at the gardens once amusingly referred to as man plants. While at the garden, Jeremy felt an urge to travel into the field to study the plants he loved to grow and has been hooked ever since the first trip. To him, seeing plants in the wild felt like meeting old friends for the first time.

Jeremy left the botanic gardens to launch his landscape design company, Spath Landscape Design. Additionally, Jeremy works part time for Rancho Soledad Nursery in Rancho Santa Fe, CA overseeing seed propagation and succulent hybridization.

Jeremy Spath spends most of his days working with plants, but is happiest in the field, since to him, nature is truly the best landscaper.

### CACTUS of the MONTH - *Gymnocalycium* Submitted by Jim Tanner

**G***ymnocalycium* are among the most popular of cacti, from the novice through the advanced grower. They are easy to grow; flower readily; come in a large number of distinguishable species; look great in flower, in bud, and even when dormant. A well grown plant will often flower several times during the year.

*Gymnocalycium* is an old genus, first named in 1845. The genus is named for the naked (spineless) calyx (the outermost covering of the bud and lower flower). Most *Gymnocalycium* are also readily identified by their 'chins' beneath the areoles.

The heart of the genus *Gymnocalycium* is Argentina, although the genus stretches into Southeastern Bolivia, Western Paraguay, Uruguay, and into the Southernmost part of Brazil. For the most part *Gymnocalycium* are grassland plants, growing and shaded in the grass of the Pampa and Chaco (dry forest) that covers much of Argentina. As a result, most like some protection from full afternoon sun, but need bright light during the day.

*Gymnocalycium* cultivation is easy. They need a dry rest during the winter; they can take Southern California climate without winter heat, as long as they are dry. They should be fed regularly with a weak general purpose fertilizer when growing. They are tolerant of any well drained soil, but constant wet will cause the roots to rot. Fortunately, they are easy to re-root, with roots generally re-growing in a just few months.

*Gymnocalycium* are easy to grow from seed, started in a well drained, damp potting mix in a plastic bag covered pot. Germination is fairly rapid, but growth during the first year is slow compared to most *Mammillaria* and many other genera. Vegetative propagation is also easy. Offsets from clumps can be removed, left to dry for a few days and potted. They generally root within a few weeks.

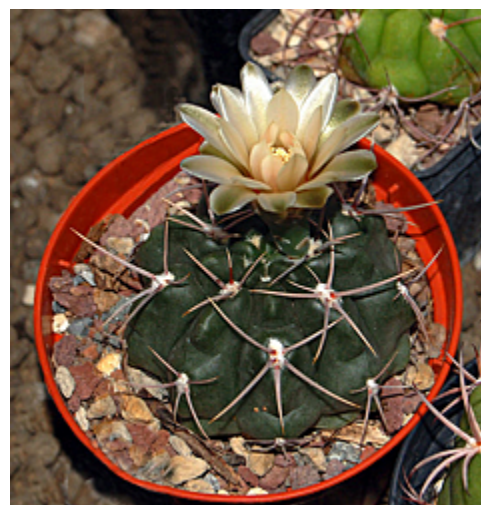
All the species and all the varieties and forms of *Gymnocalycium* are worth growing.

Tom Glavich

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*Gymnocalycium anisitsii*



*Gymnocalycium fischeri*



*Gymnocalycium horstii*



*Gymnocalycium mihanovichii*

## SUCCULENT of the MONTH - Sansevieria

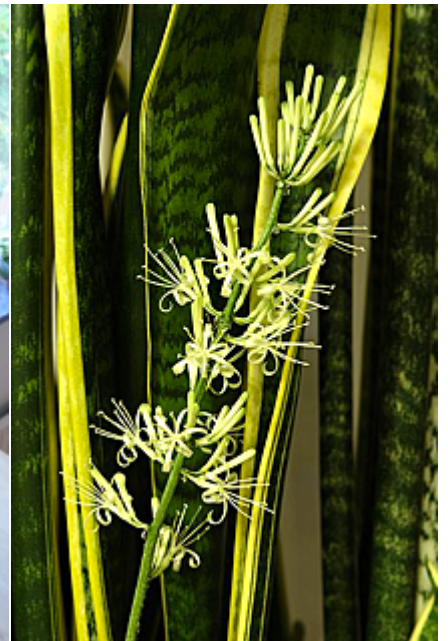
Submitted by Jim Tanner

There are about 60 species of **Sansevieria**, but since many of the species are variable and have widespread habitats, there are more names than this. There are also dozens of cultivars, particularly of variegated Sansevieria. They are currently in the Dracenaceae family, but have moved through the 'dumping ground' families. In older references, they will be found in the Lilaceae, Aloiaceae, Agavaceae, and other families. Most Sansevieria are native to Africa, although some come from India, Asia and the South Sea Islands.

They are among the easiest of all succulent plants to grow, requiring only a pot or a spot in the ground. They are tolerant of incredible neglect and abuse, but most grow rapidly and well if watered and fertilized regularly. They do well in Southern California outdoors or in, and



*Sansevieria trifasciata*



*Sansevieria trifasciata* flower



*Sansevieria ehrenbergii*



*Sansevieria patens* (Ed Eby)



*Sansevieria pinguicula*

suffer damage only if they are cold and wet. They are free from most pests, suffering only rarely from scale. They are prone to fungal rusts, particularly in damp weather. The only cure for rust is to cut off the infected leaves, sterilizing the cutting tool after each cut (an alcohol wipe will do) and then spray the entire plant with a fungicide such as Funginex. Prevention is much easier. Bright light, and moving air prevent most rusts.

Sansevieria propagation is remarkably easy. Cut a piece off, let it dry for a few days, and stick it in some potting soil. They propagate readily from leaves (tips are best), rhizomes, roots, etc..

Variation is very common in cultivated Sansevieria, and variegated plants form the majority of some collections. A variegated pup will appear on an otherwise normal plant. The variegation can be preserved by removing the pup and a portion of the rhizome, and growing it on. If this is not done, the variegated pup, being weaker than the rest of the plant will not reproduce. Variegated plants are slower growers than normal plants, and are much more sensitive to cold and wet conditions. They need protection, particularly in the winter. They are also sensitive to standing water in their crowns, quickly rotting if water is allowed to remain.

Tom Glavich

*Click to see the same with more pictures on our website*



*Sansevieria Golden Banner*

### 2016 SHOW AND SALE DISPLAY WINNERS

**Specimen Tables:** 1st: Jim Gardner 2nd: Laurel Woodley 3rd: Cliff Meng



1st Specimen Jim Gardner



2nd Specimen Laurel Woodley



3rd Specimen Cliff Meng

**Artistic Tables:** 1st: Jackie Johnson 2nd: Phyllis DeCrescenzo



1st Artistic Jackie Johnson



2nd Artistic Phyllis DeCrescenzo

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2016

- May 1 **South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale**---9am To 4pm  
South Coast Botanical Gardens, Info. 310-833-6823
- Apr. 30, May 1 **Sunset Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale**  
Veterans Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA. Info: 310-822-1783
- May 13-14 **Gates Cactus and Succulent Society 34th Show and Sale**  
Fri & Sat 9-4:30pm, At Land Scapes Southern California Style  
450 E. Alessandro Blvd., Riverside, CA Info. 951-360-8802
- May 21-22 **Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show and Sale** 10-4 pm  
Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA., Info. 562-631-5876
- May 28-29 **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 11-12 **Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Plant Show and Sale** 11th 9-5—12th 9-3:30  
Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA., Info. [www.lacss-show.com](http://www.lacss-show.com)
- June 4-5 **San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society –SUMMER Show and Sale**  
Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA. Info: 858-382-1797
- July 1-3 **CSSA Annual Show and Sale –HUNTINGTON Botanical Gardens**  
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA., 626-405-3504  
Plant sales start July 1st thru July 3rd. The show opens July 2nd thru July 3rd
- July 22-23 **Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society Summer Show and Sale.**  
Thurs. 21st 6-8pm, Fri. July 22nd 9am-7pm, Sat. 23rd 9-5pm  
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA. Info: 949-212-8417
- Aug. 13-14 **31st 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 Artie Chavez 818-482-8795
- Sept. 3 **Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium**  
All day at the Huntington 626-405-3504
- Sept. 10 **Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction** -12-5pm  
Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA 90615. Info: 562-631-5876
- Oct. 8-9 **Bakersfield Cactus and Succulent Society Show & Sale**  
Sat. 10-5---Sun. 11-4 East Hills Mall, Center Court  
3100 Mall View Road, Bakersfield, CA 93306 Info: 661-831-8488
- Oct. 22-23 **Palomar Show and Sale** Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4, San Diego Botanic Gardens  
230 Quail Gardens Rd, Encinitas, CA. Info: [hciservices@gmail.com](mailto:hciservices@gmail.com). Info: 858-382-1797
- Nov. 5-6 **San Gabriel Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale** 9am-4pm both days  
LA County Arboretum 310 No. Baldwin, Arcadia, CA.  
Info: Manny Rivera 626-780-6957 or John Matthews 661-714-1052

## SCCSS MINI-SHOW STANDINGS (as of April 10, 2016)

Novice			Intermediate			Open		
Name	Cactus	Succulent	Name	Cactus	Succulent	Name	Cactus	Succulent
Roselyn Arbuckle	4		Anita Caplan	3	7	Maria Capaldo	19	13
M.A. Bjarkman	3		Phyllis DeCrescenzo	38	23	Gary Duke	22	24
Martha Bjerke		1	Jackie Johnson	2		Jim Gardner	11	4
Sally Fasteau	11	3	Carol Knight		4	Jim Hanna		1
Lupe Hullet	4		Jade Neely	19	13	Dale LaForest	8	7
Nancy Jengo		1	Jim Wood	9		Hank Warzybok	4	
Bernard Johnson	19	4				Laurel Woodley		6
Mike Short	4	25						
Terri Straub	5							
Jim Tanner	13	5						
Judy Unrine	2	6						
William Wilk	2	19						

*Click to see the standings  
on our website*

## MINI-SHOW PLANTS OF THE MONTH (POM) 2016

	Cactus	Succulent
May	Gymnocalycium	Sansevieria
June	Eriogyne (Neochilenia, Neoporteria...)	Echeveria
July	Lobivia, Echinopsis	Pachypodium
August	Thelocactus, Stenocactus	Aizoaceae (other than Lithops)
September	Coryphantha, Escobaria	Adromischus
October	Rebutia, Sulcorebutia	Aeonium
November	Miniature (3" or less)	Miniature (3" or less)
December	HOLIDAY PARTY	

*Click to see complete  
lists on our web site*

### MEMBERSHIP NEWS - Submitted by Saly Fasteau

Membership renewals are now being accepted. Please complete the membership form (attached) and return it to us either at a meeting or by mail. Checks or exact change are preferred. If you cannot print the form there will be some available at the meetings.

Please welcome the new members who joined in April.

**Pamela Broz** from Del Aire  
**Brian Coleman** from San Pedro  
**Lynn Fernandez** from Palos Verdes Estates  
**Don LaForest** from San Pedro  
**Arlene Starkey** from Simi Valley  
**Warren Voodrum** from Hawthorne

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY2015-2016

#### Officers:

President	Dale La Forest
Vice President	M.A. Bjarkman
Treasurer	Bernard Johnson
Secretary	Maria Capaldo
Parliamentarian	Philip Johnston Ross

**Liaisons:** CGCI Lou Hagemeyer  
 CSSA Laurel Woodley

**At Large Members:** Anita Caplan  
 Bob Caplan  
 Lou Hagemeyer

#### Standing Committee Chairs:

Show & Sale	Heidi Husnak
Programs Committee	Nancy Jengo
Finance Committee	Gary Duke
Membership Committee	Jim Hanna
Communication Committee	Sally Fasteau
Newsletter	Mike Short
Webmasters:	Mike Short
	Laurel Woodley

# Membership Form

## South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society

**Instructions:**      **Make Check payable to:**      **SCCSS**  
**Either:**            **Mail Form and Check to:**      **Bernard Johnson**  
    **629 18<sup>th</sup> Street**  
    **Manhattan Beach, CA 90266**  
**Or:**                    **Submit form and payment at a meeting.** (checks preferred)

**Please Read:** The membership year begins July 1<sup>st</sup> and ends June 30<sup>th</sup>. Please provide the following information to the membership committee. Unless you indicate that you do not wish to include any or all of this information, it will be published in the membership directory. Renewing members may write "SAME" in the spaces where information has not changed.

<b>Date:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>New Member</b> <small>*Prorated see below</small>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Membership Renewal</b> <small>Renewals are not Prorated</small>
<b>Name:</b> <small>One name per form please.</small>	Please Print	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please exclude my address from the Directory	<b>Mailing Address:</b>	
<b>City, State, Zip code:</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Please exclude my email address from the Directory	<b>Email for newsletter:</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please exclude my phone number from the Directory	<b>Phone:</b>	
I give my permission to publish the above information with the exception of any exclusions indicated.	Sign here:	

<b>*New memberships are prorated. Contact Membership Chair for amount due.</b>	<b>Membership Chair:</b> Sally Fasteau 310-544-1313 sallyfasteau@cox.net	<b>Enter amount below</b>
<b>Member's Dues</b>	<b>\$18/year</b>	\$
<b>\$12 Additional fee for hard copy of newsletter to be mailed to the above address. (Free newsletter delivery by email only.)</b>	<b>\$12/year</b> <small>For hard copy of newsletter</small>	\$
	<b>Total</b>	\$
<small>Renewal Dues are not prorated.</small>		

Revised: May 2015