

Prickly News

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter

July 2017

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

Click here to visit
our Facebook page

NEXT MEETING
Keith Taylor: "Pots and a Different Approach to Staging"
Sunday July 9, at 1:00 pm
(Program starts at 1:30pm)

REFRESHMENTS FOR JULY
Thanks to those who helped in June:
M. A. Bjarkman Bernard Johnson
Marie Bowers Nancy Mosher
Carol Causey Cheryl Selver
Maria Capaldo Hank Warzybock
Joann Frisch Warren & Arlene
Lupe Hulett Woodrum
Volunteers for July refreshments are:
M. A. Bjarkman Helen Lu
Karin Cozzolino Caitlin Rubia
If you would like to bring something to the meeting please do so - thanks!
Kitchen Volunteers – Please see Carol Causey after the meeting if you are able to help with cleanup.

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I would like to again thank Dale La Forest for all that he has done for our Society over the past 10 years. Our membership has tripled and it is indeed a challenge to meet the needs of all our new and seasoned members. I will continue the legacy of our mission and above all, have fun! One of my goals will be to gather more input from the members about what they want to gain from their membership in the Society and strive to meet those expressed interests.

There is an issue that needs discussion with the membership. Since Bernard Johnson, our Treasurer, and I are married, there may be an appearance of conflict of interest in the financial arena. The Bylaws state that the President and the Treasurer will co-sign all checks. Bernard and I are uncomfortable with this, but, to change requires a Bylaws revision. Rather than change every Bylaw that might be relevant in a conflict of interest situation, the Board has suggested the following change in the Bylaws which will need membership approval at our next meeting. The full set of Bylaws with the proposed change will be on the website and available at the meeting.

«In the event that strict adherence to a Bylaw creates a conflict of interest or the appearance of one, the Board will have the authority to approve a temporary variance to a Bylaw. This variance will then be reported to the general membership via the newsletter and at the next scheduled General Membership meeting.»

The Board has decided that Dale will continue to co-sign the checks with Bernard. The finances of our Society will be transparent and the books will be open to the usual yearly audit. I hope that everyone is comfortable with this solution.

I look forward to serving as your President and hope we continue to have the comraderie and participation of our members in the years ahead.

Maria Capaldo, President



! NOTICES !

Proposed addition to byelaws, for the Conflict of Interest clause

The proposal is to add the following: "In the event that strict adherence to a Bylaw creates a conflict of interest or the appearance of one, the Board will have the authority to approve a temporary variance to a Bylaw. This variance will then be reported to the general membership via the newsletter and at the next scheduled General Membership meeting."

Gary Duke's Open Yard

Gary is having an Open Yard at his house

When: 15 July 2017 from 10:00am – 4:00pm.

Where: 4660 Rio Ave, Long Beach, CA 90805

Come and see his different greenhouse and plant bench styles as well as his landscaping. He will also have plants available for purchase. Everyone is welcome

CSSA Convention, July 26-31 - Submitted by Bill Wilk

As CSSA Affiliate Representative, I encourage all SCCSS members to check out the web sites below.

To get information and to register for the 37th CSSA Biennial Convention in Tempe, Arizona go to:

The following video on YOUTUBE (prepared by Bob Jewett) has samples of three presentations from the 2015 Convention of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. Brian Kemble of the Ruth Bancroft Gardens talks about agaves, Michelle Cloud-Hughes shows how a new opuntia was found, and Stephen McCabe from UC Santa Cruz discusses conservation of dudleyas. The 5-day Convention was held at Pitzer College in Claremont, California in June 2015. This video gives you an idea what to expect at lecture presentations at a CSSA convention:

PRESENTER FOR JULY : Keith Taylor - Pots and a Different Approach to Staging

Our speaker Keith Taylor began collecting cacti and succulents in 1991 and then began creating unique containers to show off his specimens in 2008. He has developed a different style of staging by combining plant, pot, rocks and topdressing to create award winning compositions. Keith will bring plants from his collection and talk about how to combine these elements to create eye catching presentations. He will also demonstrate how to stage and the newly staged plant will be auctioned off to the highest bidder. Keith may bring some of his fantastic pots for sale as well.

Keith Taylor began collecting caudiciform succulents in 1991 after seeing a large *Cyphostemma juttae* in the ground at a local botanical garden. "I was drawn to size and grotesque shape of the trunk". The *Cyphostemma* he saw is also the 1st succulent he purchased. His collection is more than 800 plants. He grows in plastic pots and raised beds. Keith prefers his succulents to look like habitat specimens rather than cultivated plants. He grows them hard, meaning limited water, little to no feeding and hot sun to give them the look of collected plants. His favorites include *Cyphostemma*, *Fockea*, *Fouquieria*, *Pachypodium*, *Pachycormus*, *Tylecodon*, *Othonna*, *Pelargonium*, *Mesemb*s and *Euphorbia*. Roughly 5% of his collection is tuberous rooted cacti, *Lophophora*, *Peniocereus*, *Turbincarpus*, *Mammillaria*, *Leuchtenbergia* and *Ariocarpus*.

In 2008, Keith began creating pots to show off his plants. He believes the pot should compliment, not distract. The main focus should be the succulent. If the pot is too ornate, colorful, or shiny, it draws your eye toward the pot rather than the succulent. Also proportion plays a roll. The container needs to be the right width and depth to look balanced. For example if the succulent is placed in the center of the container surrounded by colorful stones it will look artificial and awkward. Rocks and topdressing add to complete the presentation. His pottery is sought after by C&S collectors as well as bonsai artists due to the natural look of the containers

The photos chosen for the lecture were selected because of the maturity of the specimen as well as the plant presentation. They show how you can highlight the plant and not take away from it's beauty with addition of the right container and/or rock placement.



Keith has always had the “eye” for what looked good. Whether it’s in his profession as a Pedorthist (design and manufacture of footwear for medical purposes), photographer, cook or potter.

Keith sells his work at C&S clubs and shows, bonsai clubs, online through Facebook, Instagram, and his website. He accepts custom orders and ships worldwide.

Keith’s website is: <http://potterybykitoi.weebly.com/>

Keith’s Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/kitoi/>

CACTUS OF THE MONTH: Epiphytic Cactus *Submitted by Jim Tanner*

Epiphytic cacti have a place in every collection. They are easy to grow, requiring remarkably little in the way of care, in general have few spines, and many reward the grower with either a spectacular show of flowers, or a year round display of gracefully curving foliage.

Epiphytic cacti like a richer mix than most ground loving cacti. A frequently used potting mix includes equal parts of potting soil, bark and pumice. Good drainage in the mix is important for good growth. Regular feeding, and a constant supply of moisture, particularly during the growing season are also important. They all like moving air, and do best outdoors, particularly in the summer. Many will get tip damage if left in temperatures below freezing. In a protected area, they can be left outdoors all winter, and do well with our winter rains.

Epiphytic cacti are all easily propagated from either cuttings or seed. Cuttings can be taken any time the plant is in active growth, spring being best, but any time during the summer and early fall will also work. Thin stemmed epiphytes, such as most of the

Rhipsalis can be planted immediately. Thicker leaved genera should be allowed to dry for a day or two before planting. Cuttings must be placed in moist potting mix, and kept in the shade for at least a month, but best until active new growth appears. When taking cuttings, remember that the plant will have to live on the stored energy in the stem, and a larger piece, within reason, is better than a small one.

Click here to see the same with more photos on our website



Hatiora salicornioides



Disocactus phyllanthoides



Epiphyllum 'Acapulco Sunset'



Schlumbergera truncata



Rhipsalis baccifera

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH: Bromeliaceae (other than Tillandsia)

Submitted by Jim Tanner

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

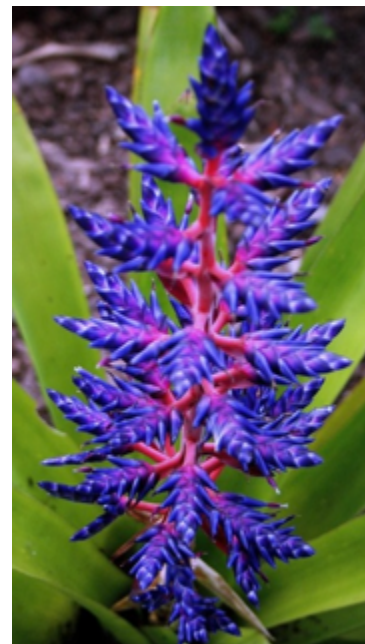
Dyckia and **Hechtia** have similar cultural requirements, even though they are a hemisphere apart. Both like well draining soil. Most species can tolerate some cold, and light frosts are generally not a problem. A heavy frost will cause some tip damage, but is usually not fatal. They can take full sun 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. Bill Baker, well known to many club members, was one of the best hybridizers. *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.

A less known genus with a significant number of succulent species is **Orthophytum**. This genus comes from Brazil, and the genus for the most part occupies a warm and humid environment. Many of the *Orthophytum* are spectacularly flocked with special cells (trichomes) that pull moisture directly out of the air. Bands of trichome rich and trichome poor regions on the leaves give these plants a spectacular coloring. As with *Dyckia*, there are a wealth of hybrids, with many be created in Florida, which is really more to their liking than the dry inner valleys of California.

Another succulent genus is **Puya**, largely to the Andes, and with the largest number of species on the Western side of the mountains. Many of the *Puya* species are gigantic, some reaching tree-like dimensions before flowering. Others can be kept in a pot, at least for a few years. Many *Puya* have leaves that carry seedling leaf impressions, much like the Agave.

[Click here to see the same with more photos on our website](#)



Aechmea 'Blue Tango'



Ananas bracteatus var. *tricolor*



Canistrum seidelianum



Neoregelia ampullacea



Dyckia platyphylla



Hechtia scariosa



Nidularium fulgens



Puya venusta



Puya venusta

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY2017-2018

Board Members:

President	Maria Capaldo
Vice President	M.A. Bjarkman
Secretary	Sue Wong
Treasurer	Bernard Johnson
Communication Committee Chair	Mike Short
Finance Committee Chair	Jim Hanna
Membership Committee Chair	Sally Fasteau
Programs Committee Chair	Gary Duke
CGCI Liason	Lou Hagemeyer
CSSA Liason	Bill Wilk
Show and Sale Co-Chair	Heidi Husnak
Show and Sale Co-Chair	Nancy Jengo

At Large Board Members:

David Hodgson, Cliff Wong, Jim Wood

Committee Members (Tasked):

Publicity Coordinator	Anita Caplan
Refreshments Coordinator	Carol Causey
Speaker Co-coordinator	Gary Duke
Speaker Co-coordinator	Jade Neely
Mini-Show Coordinator	Jim Tanner

Other Positions:

Plant Man	Jim Hanna
Facebook	Laurel Woodley
Newsletter	Mike Short
Webmaster	Mike Short

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2017

- JUNE 30-JULY 2 **CSSA Annual Show & Sale**
 Huntington Botanical Gardens. 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. INFO: 626-405-3504
 Plant Sale June 30th thru July 2nd 10am to 5pm. Show open July 1st thru July 2nd 10am to 5pm.
- JULY 20-22 **Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society - Summer Show & Sale.**
 Thurs. July 20th 6-8pm, Fri. 21st 9am-7pm, Sat. 22nd 9am-5pm
 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA. INFO: Call 949-212-8417
- JULY 26-31 **CSSA Convention**, Tempe, AZ.
- AUG. 12-13 **32nd Annual Intercity Show & Sale**
 9am-5pm Daily. LA County Arboretum, 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA.
 INFO: Call Tom Glavich 626-798-2430 or Artie Chavez 818-482-8795
- SEP. 2 **Huntington Botanical Gardens - Succulent Symposium**
 All day at the Huntington 626-405-3504
- SEP. 17 **Long Beach Cactus Club - Annual Plant Auction**
 12am-5pm. Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA 90615, INFO: 562-631-5876
- OCT. 7-8 **Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society - Show & Sale**
 Sat 10am-5pm - Sun 11am-3pm. St. Paul's Church, 2216 17th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304
 Free Admission & Parking, INFO: 661-8318488
- OCT. 28 -29 **Palomar Show & Sale**
 Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm, San Diego Botanic Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Road, Encinitas, CA.
 INFO: hciservices@gmail.com. 858-382-1797
- NOV. 4-5 **San Gabriel Cactus & Succulent Society - Show & Sale**
 9am-4pm Both Days. LA County Arboretum 310 No. Baldwin, Arcadia, CA.
 Manny Rivera 626-780-6957 Or John Matthews 661-714-1052

[Click here to see the calendar on our website](#)



MINI-SHOW RESULTS - June 18, 2017

Open Cactus	1st	Gary Duke	<i>Tephrocactus alexanderi</i>
	2nd	Jim Gardner	<i>Opuntia sulphurea</i>
	2nd	Laurel Woodley	<i>Opuntia sulphurea</i>
	3rd	Gary Duke	<i>Opuntia fragilis v. debreczyi</i>
Open Succulent	1st	Jim Hanna	<i>Cyphostemma juttae x hardyi</i> 'Fat Bastard'
	2nd	Jim Hanna	<i>Cyphostemma juttae x cirrhosa</i>
	3rd	Gary Duke	<i>Cyphostemma juttae</i>
	3rd	Laurel Woodley	<i>Cyphostemma</i> 'Fat Bastard'
Intermediate Cactus	1st	William Wilk	<i>Opuntia violacea</i>
	2nd	William Wilk	<i>Opuntia</i> sp.
	3rd	Mike Short	<i>Tephrocactus articulatus v. papyracanthus</i>
Intermediate Succulent	1st	William Wilk	<i>Cyphostemma</i> 'Fat Bastard'
	2nd	Mike Short	<i>Cyphostemma juttae</i>
Novice Cactus	1st	Bernard Johnson	<i>Opuntia sulphurea</i>
	2nd	Sally Fasteau	<i>Opuntia sublet f. cristata</i>
	3rd	Bernard Johnson	<i>Tephrocactus articulatus</i>
	3rd	Jim Tanner	<i>Opuntia</i> sp.
Novice Succulent	1st	M.A. Bjarkman	<i>Cyphostemma juttae</i> 'Fat Bastard'
	2nd	Sally Fasteau	<i>Cyphostemma</i> 'Fat Bastard'
	3rd	Jim Tanner	<i>Cyphostemma juttae</i>

[Click here for photos of the winning plants on our website](#)

SCCSS MINI-SHOW STANDINGS (as of June 18, 2017)

Open Class	Cactus	Succulent	Total
Capaldo, Maria	21	13	34
Duke, Gary	47	19	66
Gardner, Jim	13	38	51
Hanna, Jim		29	29
Woodley, Laurel	4	15	19

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulent	Total
Bjarkman, M.A.	15	8	23
Bjerke, Martha		2	2
Fasteau, Sally	31	45	76
Hulett, Lupe	1		1
Johnson, Bernard	29	18	47
Straub, Terri	7		7
Tanner, Jim	6	19	25
Unrine, Judy	2	5	7

Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulent	Total
Caplan, Anita	11	11	22
DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	19	18	37
Knight, Carol	4		4
LaForest, Dale	22	3	25
Neely, Jade	11	8	19
Short, Mike	13	23	36
Wilk, William	36	37	73
Wood, Jim	9	7	16

[Click here to see the standings on our website](#)

MINI-SHOW PLANTS OF THE MONTH (POM) 2017

	Cactus	Succulent
July	Epiphytic Cactus	Bromeliaceae (other than Tillandsia)
August	Ariocarpus	Sedum, Pachyphytum, Sempervivum
September	Astrophytum	Adenium & Adenia
October	Copiapoa	Lithops, Conophytum
November	Crest and Monstrose	Variegated
December	HOLIDAY PARTY	

[Click here to see complete lists on our website](#)

MINI-SHOW PLANTS OF THE MONTH (POM) 2018

	Cactus	Succulent
January	Mammillaria - Hooked Spines	Kalanchoe
February	Variegated Cacti	Euphorbia with Caudex
March	Crested / Monstrose	Dudleya
May	Opuntia, Tephrocactus	Tylecodon
June	Gymnocalycium	Pachypodium
July	Lobivia / Echinopsis	Senecio
August	Echinocactus	Variegated (All)
September	Favorite Cacti (3)	Favorite Succulent (3)
October	Cereus / Columnar Cactus	Pelargonium / Sarcocaulon
November	Miniature (3in or less)	Miniature (3in or less)

MEMBERSHIP NEWS - Submitted by Sally 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 new members

Deborah Hartnett
Lucy Hemingway from Torrance

