

Prickly News

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter

August 2017

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

Click here to visit
our Facebook page

NEXT MEETING
Woody Minnich: "Socotra"
Sunday August 13, at 1:00 pm
(Program starts at 1:30pm)

REFRESHMENTS FOR AUGUST
Thanks to those who helped in July:
M. A. Bjarkman **Lupe Hulett**
Maria Capaldo **John Nisewaner**
Carol Causey **Jose Ramirez**
Isabel Cerda **Irene Rich**
Karin Cozzolino **Caitlin Rubia**
Lou Hagemeyer **Judy Unrine**
Volunteers for August refreshments are:
Carol Causey **Lynda Johnson**
Dennis Emerson **Nancy Mosher**
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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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our last meeting was enthusiastically received with Keith Taylor's presentation of his unique potting and staging techniques. My thanks to Laurel Woodley for the great photography in Mike's absence and for the social media placement with photos and video.

We are heading to the CSSA convention in Tempe and will report back to the membership about our experiences. This is a place to scout out interesting presentations to bring to the society meetings.

I look forward to our next meeting when Woody Minnich is the scheduled speaker. He always gives an exciting talk and brings lots of rare and interesting plants to sell.

The hot weather of summer is upon us and it is time to protect sun sensitive plants with alternative placement or shade cloth. Also, check your plants for infestation as the warmer weather usually brings more damage to our plants. Remember as the hottest months arrive, many plants will enter a rest period or go dormant and lose their leaves. Water sparingly if this occurs. Check the roots of plants when repotting if the plant is not thriving.

Most of all, enjoy your summer!
Maria E. Capaldo, President

SEE PAGE 8

Thirty-fourth Succulent Plants Symposium
2 September 2017

We are delighted to accept donations of items for the silent auction. Proceeds help to offset symposium costs.

Illustrations from:
Curtis's Botanical Magazine
Gardeners' Chronicle

Huntington Botanical Gardens

THE HUNTINGTON
Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens

PRESENTER FOR AUGUST : Woody Minnich - "Socotra"

Woody Minnich will present slides of his trip to Socotra, a place many of us will never have the chance to see. We will discover that many plants in our own collections come from this remote island, south of Yemen in the Arabian Sea. Woody is an excellent photographer and a very entertaining speaker. Come and enjoy this excellent presentation and see how these plants grow in habitat.

Woody, as he is commonly called, has been in the cactus hobby for some 45 years and has become well known for his participation in many of the cactus and succulent clubs. He is an honorary life member of nine clubs as well as a life member and Friend of the CSSA (Cactus & Succulent Society of America.) He has served in almost all positions of leadership from president, to newsletter editor, to show chairman and so on. He is also known for his extensive field work studying primarily the cactus family. He has traveled throughout Africa, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Madagascar, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Peru, Socotra, the United States and Yemen. From these trips and his nursery experience, he has developed an extensive knowledge of the cactus family as well as many of the other succulent genera.

Woody is also known for his many presentations. His photography is considered to be special and his commentary very entertaining and educational. He is a recognized international speaker and has spoken for plant conventions – organizations all over the USA, as well as in England, Germany, Australia, New Zealand and Mexico. Woody has also authored a number of articles for various newsletters, the CSSA journal and his photographs are well published. Woody is the creator-originator of the first color version of the CSSA journal "Cacti and Succulents for the Amateur" that also featured show plants, shows and the growers of the pictured plants.

He is also known for his cactus and succulent nursery, Cactus Data Plants. CDP was started in 1975 and is still in operation today. Cactus Data Plants specializes in show specimens and rare cacti and other succulents with particular emphasis in Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Mammillaria, Gymnocalycium, Turbinicarpus, Melocactus, Copiapoa, Fouquieria, Pachypodium, Euphorbia, Cyphostemma, Adenium and Adenia.

Woody and his wife Kathy live in the beautiful mountains south of Santa Fe New Mexico, in a region called Cedar Grove. He has a small 1,200 sq. ft. greenhouse and a few cold frames where he grows his unique plants. He is always on the move and travels frequently to do presentations and shows throughout the western United States. Woody is the proud parent of three children, Leah, Denver and Sarah, all of whom are now grown and out in the big world. Woody is also the proud grandparent of three grandsons, Indiana, Ashton and Logan. He is a retired high school teacher of 32 years where he taught Graphic Arts, Architecture, Art and Health.



CACTUS OF THE MONTH: Ariocarpus Submitted by Jim Tanner

Ariocarpus is one of the treasures of the world of Cacti. This genus, from Central to Northern Mexico and Southern Texas has some of the most spectacular species of the entire family. Some succulent growers, who otherwise avoid cacti, make this genus their sole exception. There are collectors who collect nothing but Ariocarpus, and have hundreds of plants in their collections. Rare specimens can change hands for hundreds of dollars. Rare cultivars with unusual tubercles can be sold for even more, particularly in Japan. There is no denying that this single genus has generated a world wide cult of devotees.

With all of this, you might expect Ariocarpus to be difficult to come by, and difficult to grow. Nothing could be further from the truth. They are no more difficult to grow than many other central Mexican genera. All of the species and all of the varieties are readily available, and nearly all are affordable. This genera is well within the range of even beginning novice growers. Field collected specimens are occasionally available, and these are much more expensive, and much harder to grow. Recently collected specimens are now almost always illegally obtained.

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



Ariocarpus retusus

With all of the fuss we make over this genus, it is important to remember that the plants have had important ethno-botanical uses. The tubercles contain a sticky mucilage, which was often used as glue to mend broken pots. *Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus* was boiled and used as a cure for rheumatism, and several species were used as 'false peyote' in religious ceremonies.

Cultivation is not difficult, when the home environment of these plants is considered. They grow in mineral soils, with very little organic matter. They all have large tuberous roots. They grow in areas that are very hot in the summer, and that have summer rainfall. If they are protected from excess organic matter, particularly peat, and watered heavily only in hot weather, (but lightly throughout the summer growing season) good growth will result. They need protection from winter rains.

There are six species, several varieties, and a near infinite set of cultivars. Tom Glavich



Ariocarpus fissuratus



Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus



Ariocarpus fissuratus



Ariocarpus scaphiostriis



Ariocarpus retusus var trigonus

! NOTICES !

Lynda Johnson, who just received a CGCI Award for "Private Outstanding Garden", is having a Garden Open House on August 19 from 10-4, at her home at 17820 Florwood Ave. in Torrance.

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH: Sedum, Pachyphytum, and Sempervivum

Submitted by Jim Tanner

Sedum is a wonderful genus. It contains miniatures from the Italian Alps, ground covers from Japan, tree-like specimens from Mexico, Echeveria impostors and little weedy things from all over. Most are easily grown, many are tolerant of extreme cold, and are as much a part of the rock gardening and alpine plant communities as they are the cactus and succulent world. There are few plants that can withstand out-and-out abuse better than some of the small ground-hugging Sedum.

Many of the smaller Sedums make excellent ground cover. These plants are often available in flats or six-packs at nurseries that specialize in landscape plants. They are not often seen in small pots, although they make excellent pot specimens, accents for a dish garden or drapes for hanging planters. When well staged, many are trophy table competitors at all of our local shows.

Sedum is one of the genera of Crassulaceae, with over 400 species. The plants are mostly northern hemisphere plants, with significant endemic groups in East Asia, North America and Europe/West Asia. There are about 120 Mexican Sedums. In general, Sedum can be identified by opposite leaves and five-pointed flowers; however, there are numerous exceptions here as well.

Sedums are apparently in active evolution, with many “near Sedums” in very closely related genera. The genus as a whole is still poorly studied and explored.

Sedum booleianum from Nuevo León is one of the smallest-leaved interesting species. This is a recently described species, first appearing in 1996. The leaves are opposite, forming a neat, white, cruciform head when viewed from above. It branches freely and is easily grown. This plant is just coming into cultivation, and is still hard to find.

All of the woody species want excellent drainage, with nearly pure pumice providing the best growth conditions, as long as they are kept fertilized and frequently watered in the summer months.

Tom Glavich



Sedum rubrotinctum 'Aurora'

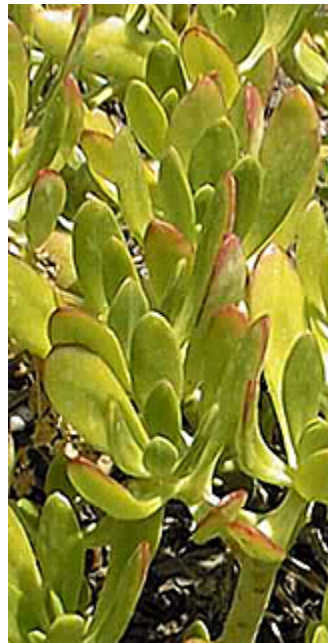
[Click here to see the same with more photos on our website](#)



Sedum morganianum



Sedum palmeri



Sedum praealtum



Sedum stahlia

Pachyphytum is a genus containing about a dozen of Mexican species of succulents related to Echeveria. The main attraction of these species are the softly colored leaves, generally covered with a powdery bloom. The genus name Pachyphytum comes from the Greek for ‘thick leaves’. The flowers are small, not very interesting. They are followed by tiny seed pods. The Pachyphytum are generally propagated by leaf cuttings.

Pachyphytum tend to be more resistant to extreme temperature than Echeveria, they can generally bear 20°F (-7°C) for short periods, and tend to be more heat resistant.



Pachyphytum compactum



Pachyphytum oviferum



Pachyphytum 'Garnet Fudge'

Sempervivum is a genus of about 40 species of flowering plants in the Crassulaceae family. Common names include liveforever and hen and chicks, a name shared with plants of other genera as well. They are succulent perennials forming mats composed of tufted leaves in rosettes. In favorable conditions they spread rapidly via offsets, and several species are valued in cultivation as groundcover for dry, sunny locations.

Sempervivum exist from Morocco to Iran, through the mountains of Iberia, the Alps, Carpathians, Balkan mountains, Turkey, the Armenian mountains, in the northeastern part of the Sahara Desert, and the Caucasus. Their ability to store water in their thick leaves allows them to live on sunny rocks and stony places in the mountain, subalpine and alpine belts. Most are hardy to US zone 4, and will handle warm climates to about zone 8.

The name Sempervivum has its origin in the Latin semper (“always”) and vivus (“living”), because this perennial plant keeps its leaves in winter and is very resistant to difficult conditions of growth. The common name “houseleek” is believed to stem from the traditional practice of growing plants on the roofs of houses to ward off fire and lightning strikes.

Sempervivum grow as tufts of perennial but monocarpic rosettes. Each rosette propagates asexually by lateral rosettes (offsets, “hen and chicks”), by splitting of the rosette or sexually by tiny seeds.

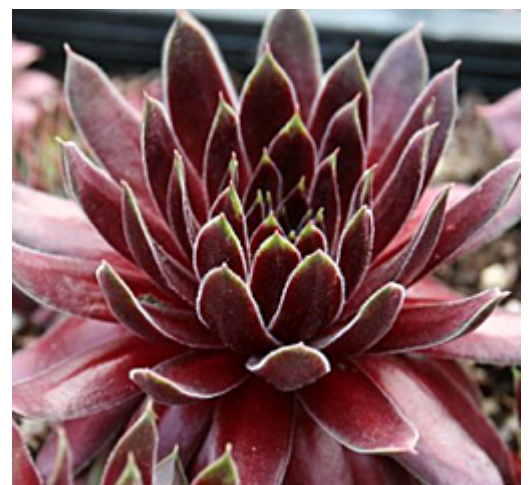
Typically, each plant grows for several years before flowering. Their hermaphrodite flowers have first a male stage. Then the stamens curve themselves and spread away from the carpels at the center of the flower, so self-pollination is rather difficult. The color of the flowers is reddish, yellowish, pinkish, or (seldom) whitish. After flowering, the plant dies, usually leaving many offsets it has produced during its life.



Sempervivum tectorum



Sempervivum arachnoideum 'Red Cobweb'



Sempervivum 'Fuego'

MINI-SHOW RESULTS - July 9, 2017

Open Cactus	1st	Laurel Woodley	<i>Rhipsalis crispata</i>
	2nd	Gary Duke	<i>Lepismium cruciforme</i> ssp. <i>cavernosum</i>
Open Succulent	1st	Jim Hanna	<i>Abromeitiella brevifolia</i>
	2nd	Laurel Woodley	<i>Dyckia choristaminea</i> 'Frazzle Dazzle'
	2nd	Maria Capaldo	<i>Dyckia remotiflora</i>
	3rd	Jim Hanna	<i>Dyckia</i> 'Brittle Star' hybrid
Intermediate Cactus	1st	William Wilk	<i>Lepismium cruciforme</i>
	2nd	William Wilk	<i>Rhipsalis salicornioides</i> .
	3rd	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	<i>Schlumbergera truncata</i>
	3rd	Dale LaForest	<i>Pfeiffera boliviana</i>
Intermediate Succulent	1st	William Wilk	<i>Dyckia beatae</i>
	2nd	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	<i>Hechtia epigyna</i>
	3rd	William Wilk	<i>Dyckia</i> 'Brittle Star' hybrid
Novice Cactus	1st	Sally Fasteau	<i>Schlumbergera</i> 'Caribbean Dancer'
Novice Succulent	1st	Ted Johnson	<i>Aechmea pittieri</i>
	2nd	Ted Johnson	<i>Aechmea nidularioides</i>
	3rd	Sally Fasteau	<i>Cryptanthus</i>

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

SCCSS MINI-SHOW STANDINGS (as of July 9, 2017)

Open Class	Cactus	Succulent	Total
Capaldo, Maria	21	19	40
Duke, Gary	51	20	71
Gardner, Jim	13	38	51
Hanna, Jim		37	37
Woodley, Laurel	10	20	30

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulent	Total
Bjarkman, M.A.	15	8	23
Bjerke, Martha		2	2
Fasteau, Sally	37	47	84
Hulett, Lupe	1		1
Johnson, Bernard	29	20	49
Johnson, Ted		11	11
Straub, Terri	7		7
Tanner, Jim	6	20	26
Unrine, Judy	2	5	7

Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulent	Total
Caplan, Anita	11	11	22
DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	23	24	47
Knight, Carol	4		4
LaForest, Dale	24	4	28
Neely, Jade	11	8	19
Short, Mike	13	23	36
Wilk, William	46	46	92
Wood, Jim	9	7	16

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

MINI-SHOW PLANTS OF THE MONTH (POM) 2017

	Cactus	Succulent
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)



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2017

- 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

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

Huntington Plants Symposium

34th Succulent Plants Symposium, 2nd September 2017

All day at the Huntington, call 626-405-3504

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

The event costs \$85, and there are 4 ways to pay:

1. *Credit card by phone.* Call 626-405-3504 and pay by credit card.
2. *Check by mail.* Print this page. Fill in the form. Cut it out and post it to the address on the form along with a check.
3. *Credit card by mail.* Print this page. Fill in the form including credit card details. Cut it out and post it to the address on the form.
4. *Credit card by FAX.* Print the flyer. Fill in the form including credit card details, FAX it to 626-405-3501.

Mark Dimmitt,
eremophytoeugeneicist, Tucson,
Arizona, *Five-Star Botanizing in
South Africa: You don't have to
camp in the hinterlands to see the
great plants!*

James D. Mauseth, University of
Texas, Austin, Texas, *Some
unexpected consequences of
becoming adapted to desert
conditions*

Cody Coyotee Howard, Florida
Museum of Natural History,
Gainesville, Florida, *Bulbous
monocots: their evolution into
horticultural gems*

Greg Krehel,
echinopsisfreak.com, Ponte Vedra
Beach, Florida, *Freaky flowers:
the stunning beauty of Echinopsis
flowers captured via timelapse
photography*

Sula Vanderplank, CICESE and
San Diego Natural History
Museum, *Rooted in the
Islands: Documenting changes in
the perennial flora of the
archipelago of Bahía de Los
Angeles, Mexico*

Gary D. Roberson, Huntington
Botanical Gardens, San Marino,
California, *Relocation of the
Loran Whitelock Cycad
Collection*

Time:
Registration and continental
breakfast, 8:30 am. Program, in
the Ahmanson Classroom from
9:00 – 5:00, also includes silent
auction, lunch, succulent plant
sales, and a reception.

Registration: \$85.00

Deadline for registration is
August 29th.

Send registration form and a
check (payable to The
Huntington) or credit card
information to:

**Succulent Plants Symposium
Huntington Botanical Gardens
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, CA 91108
(626) 405-3504
(626) 405-3501 FAX**

Name(s) _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Program ___ x \$85.00 _____

Donation _____

Total enclosed _____

Credit card # _____

Exp. _____ Signature _____



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 member(s)

JoAnn Welkowsky from Rancho Palos Verdes

