



Tom Glavich

NEXT MEETING

The High Drakensbergs

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



This issue of Prickly News is devoted to the CSSA convention at San Luis Obispo that we attended in July. Thanks to M.A. Bjarkman and Joe Tillotson for reporting in this issue.

The first day of the convention was devoted to field tours. We have some great photos of collective experiences. We then had an evening reception which gave everyone a chance to catch up with old friends.

The theme of this year's convention was conservation and the lectures all emphasized the importance of not buying field collected plants to discourage the trade of endangered plants. Many of the attendees are preserving plants by growing from seed, and this practice is encouraged. The lectures presented plants from all over the world, Australia to Peru. But it was also great to hear about plants closer to home in Texas and the Colorado Plateau. It was interesting to see the "geometric geophytes" - plants that grow in rocks, under mud flats, steep cliffs and the mathematics that is associated with their form.

Thursday evening featured a rare plant auction, where amazing plants were available and went for eye-popping bids. The silent auction ended the next day, both raised a record amount with the money slated for the CSSA Research Fund. The banquet dinner was sensational, with a great keynote speaker on plant physiology. Every attendee was able to select a plant with a hand-made pot.

A number of members of the Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society offered tours of their gardens after the convention as well. A good time was had by all.

We are planning a seed propagation workshop led by Gary Duke immediately following the October meeting. We will have room for the first 30 people to sign up at the upcoming meeting.

This month, Tom Glavitch is our speaker. He is well known in the CSSA community as one whose articles have contributed much to knowledge of plants and their growing conditions. Most of the Mini-show plant descriptions we publish in Prickly News are based on his articles. Let's give him a great welcome.

See you there.
Maria Capaldo, President

Maria

REFRESHMENTS

Thank you... to those who brought refreshments in August. They were truly enjoyed by all. Your turn!!!

**Sony Bantad,
Lou Hagemeier,
Joyce Mori,
Ana Mackenzie,
Bernard Johnson,
Nancy Sams,
Clif Wong**

Please feel free to bring something to share with everybody next meeting.

IN MEMORY OF



Maria Jenkins, one of the Society's members since 2007, passed away in July. Her family has donated her plants to our Society and the Garden. We will have some plants for the plant drawing table in September.



To learn more visit southcoastcss.org



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Tom Glavich – “The High Drakensbergs”

Tom will talk about a trip he took to the high Drakensbergs, a mountain chain in the East Central region of South Africa. Most of the trip was centered on the high-altitude country of Lesotho, a kingdom entirely surrounded by South Africa. The lowest point in this unique country is 4500 above sea level giving it a unique flora including many succulents and geophytes and fantastic mountain views.



Photo's of rarely seen species will be shown as well as a few common plants that have made it into cultivation. Tom Glavich is a member of several Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Societies as well as a member of the board of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. He is the author of the beginner's guide series of articles in the CSSA Journal. He is a long-time grower and propagator of rarer succulents and bulbs.



Warbiea elatior



Crassula

SEPTEMBER

MINI Show Cactus

This month both the Cactus and Succulents categories are Variegates. All variegates are mutants. Something has gone wrong with the cellular structure of the leaf or stem growth tip (apical meristem) of the plant. As a result of this mutation, chlorophyll is missing from some or all layers of the plant epidermis.

Variegation is known in most plant families, and variegated plants have a place in most gardens. The bright yellow and white of variegated foliage adds pattern and rhythm to many herbaceous borders. In succulent plants variegates are generally separated from normal plants, and compete against other variegates to put them on an equal footing. Variegated plants grow slower and are generally smaller than non-variegates of the same species. A large well grown variegate of any species is truly an achievement.

Cacti – variegates can be found in many genera. *Gymnocalycium* are the most often seen, but some columnar variegates and some *Ferocactus* variegates are also common in cultivation. The odd variegate appears in many seedling batches. Variegated *Turbinicarpus*, *Astrophytum*, *Matucana* and *Ariocarpus* have been seen at some of recent shows. Many of these are artificially propagated by grafts. The famous ‘Red Caps’ and ‘Yellow Caps’ are *Gymnocalycium* or *Lobivia* variegates that have no chlorophyll at all, and live only by being grafted onto a root stock.

Variegated Cactus

*Gymnocalycium mihanovichii* Variegated*Echinopsis terscheckii* variegata*Echinopsis* Variegated*Echinopsis lageniformis monstruosa* variegata

SEPTEMBER

MINI Show Succulents

Agave – There are several forms of variegated *Agave americana*. There are forms with a green center stripe and yellow edges, a yellow stripe and green edges, a green center and white edges, a white center and green edges, yellow centers and crinkled edges. Other species of Agaves have also produce variegates, with the same variety of variegation. An example of this is *Agave lophantha* ‘Quadricolor’ shown to the right, with its distinctive stripes of color.”

Sansevieria – There are dozens of named and unnamed varieties. Look for ‘Bantel’s Sensation’, ‘Futura’, ‘Silver Moon’, ‘Silver Princess’, and variegated varieties of some of the cylindrical forms. Unlike normal Sansevierias, these can be difficult to grow. They will not tolerate cold and wet conditions. Sansevieria variegates can only be propagated through the tuber. Cuttings of the leaves will root, but will almost always revert to an un-variegated form. On the other hand, normal Sansevierias will often put out a variegated pup. These should be removed from the main plant and grown on their own roots to preserve the variegation.

Gasteria – The Japanese have made an art of Gasteria and Haworthia variegata cultivation. Read the 2000 CSSA Journal for just a sampling of the wonderful cultivars. Miniature white species, yellow species, even the occasional pink can be found. There are dozens of variegated Gasterias shown at our shows, and available from all of the local vendors. Look for *Gasteria* ‘Little Warty’, a nice white and green species, as well as many of the yellow and green species such as the Japanese hybrid *Gasteria* ‘Shozodan’.

Euphorbia – A number of columnar variegates are available, *E. ammak*, being the one most often seen. There are also some cristate and monstrose variegates as well.

Haworthia – “Gray Ghost” is a *Haworthia retusa* variegata. There are several *Haworthia limifolia* variegates that look as if they were painted with mustard.

Variegated Succulents



Agave lophantha
‘Quadricolor’



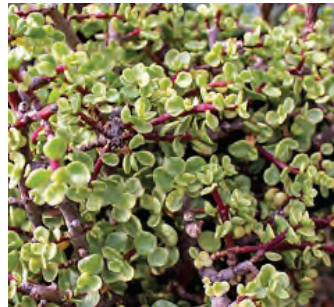
Sansevieria ‘Bantels
Sensation’



Echeveria imbricata
variegata



Agave attenuata variegata



Portulacaria afra
variegata



Aeonium ‘Mardi-Gras’



Crassula ovata ‘Tricolor’



Kalanchoe ‘Pink Butterflies’

LATIN LOOKUP – Loquerisne Latine (Do you speak Latin)?

The meanings of latin plant names on this page – from <http://davesgarden.com/guides/botanary/>

[Learn more](#)

Agave [a-GAH-vee] Noble, handsome.

americana [a-mer-ih-KAY-na, a-mer-ih-KAH-na]

Of the Americas.

ammak [AM-mak] A local Arabian vernacular name for the Euphorbia species.

Ariocarpus [ar-ree-oh-KAR-pus] From the Greek aria (sorb) and karpos (fruit), referring to the similarity to the fruit of the Ario genus.

Astrophytum [ass-troh-FY-tum] From the Greek astro (star) and phyto (plant).

attenuata [at-ten-yoo-AY-tuh] Thin, weak.

Echinopsis [ek-in-OP-sis] From the Greek echinos (sea urchin or hedgehog) and opsis (like), referring to the plant's resemblance to sea urchins.

Euphorbia [yoo-FOR-bee-uh] Named for Euphorbus, Greek physician to Juba II, King of Mauretania.

Gasteria [gas-TAIR-ee-uh] From gaster, (belly, stomach); referring to swollen base on flower.

Gymnocalycium [jim-no-kal-LISS-ee-um]

From the Greek gymnos (naked) and calyx (covering; calyx); the flower buds are naked.

Haworthia [ha-WORTH-ee-a] Named for Adrian Hardy Haworth, 19th century British botanist.

limifolia [lim-ih-FOH-lee-uh] From the Latin limes (file), referring to the acicular or linear leaves.

mihanovichii [me-han-oh-VIK-ee-eye, my-han-oh-VIK-ee-eye] Named for Nicolas Mihanovich, 20th century Yugoslavian shipping magnate and patron of botany.

monstruosa [mon-stru-OH-sa] Strange, wonderful; monstrous; also spelled monstrosa.

myriostigma [my-ree-oh-STIG-muh] From the Greek myrios (many, countless) and stigma (thorn, point).

nudum [NEW-doom] Nude, naked.

terscheckii [ter-SHEK-ee-eye] Named for Carl Adolf Terscheck, 19th century gardener at the "Japanese Palais" garden at Dresden.

variegata [var-ee-GAY-tuh] Variegated.

Aeonium [ee-OH-nee-um] An ancient name used by Dioscorides for one of the species in the genus.

afra [AF-ruh] Latin name for a female from Africa.

Agave [a-GAH-vee] Noble, handsome.

americana [a-mer-ih-KAY-na, a-mer-ih-KAH-na] Of the Americas.

ammak [AM-mak] A local Arabian vernacular name for the Euphorbia species.

Ariocarpus [ar-ree-oh-KAR-pus] From the Greek aria (sorb) and karpos (fruit), referring to the similarity to the fruit of the Ario genus.

attenuata [at-ten-yoo-AY-tuh] Thin, weak.

Crassula [KRASS-oo-la, KRASS-uh-la]

Somewhat thickened foliage; diminutive of the Latin crassus (thick, fleshy).

Echeveria [ech-eh-VER-ee-a, ech-eh-ver-EE-a] Named for Anastasio Echeverria y Godoy, 18th century Spanish botanist.

Euphorbia [yoo-FOR-bee-uh] Named for Euphorbus, Greek physician to Juba II, King of Mauretania.

Ferocactus [fer-oh-KAK-tus] From the Latin ferus, (fierce) and cactus, referring to its heavy spines.

imbricata [im-brih-KAY-tuh] Shingled, overlapping.

Kalanchoe [kal-un-KOH-ee] From the Chinese name for one of the species.

limifolia [lim-ih-FOH-lee-uh] From the Latin limes (file), referring to the acicular or linear leaves.

Lobivia [low-BIV-ee-uh] Anagram of Bolivia, where the plant is native.

lophantha [low-FAN-tha] Crested flower.

Matucana [mat-oo-KAN-uh] Named for the Peruvian city of the same name.

ovata [oh-VAY-tuh] Ovate in shape.

Portulacaria [por-tew-luh-KAR-ee-uh]

Resembling plants in the Portulaca genus.

Sansevieria [san-se-VEER-ee-uh]

Named for Prince Raimond de Sansgrio de Sanseviero, 18th century patron of botanical expeditions.

Turbinicarpus [tur-bin-ih-KAR-pus] From the Latin turbino (spinning) and karpos (fruit).

SCCSS Mini-Show Calendar



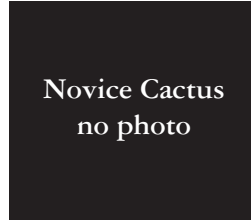
Minishow Plants for 2019

September	Variegated cactus	Variegated Succulent
October	Turbinicarpus	Adromischus
November	South American columnar cactus (Espostoa, Oreocereus, Cleistocactus, etc.)	Pelargonium, Sarcocaulon, Tylecodon
December	HOLIDAY POTLUCK	HOLIDAY POTLUCK

Minishow Plants for 2020

January	Mammillaria straight spine (clumping)	Aloe
February	Epiphytic Cactus	Haworthia, Astroloba
March	Echinocactus	Agave, Manfreda, (inc. x Mangave)
April	SHOW & SALE	SHOW & SALE
May	Notocactus, Parodia	Euphorbia (not from Madagascar)
June	Opuntia, Tephrocactus, Cylindropuntia, Austrocylindropuntia	Cissus, Cyphostemma
July	Melocactus	Bromeliaceae (other than Tillandsia)
August	Astrophytum	Sedum, Pachyphytum, Sempervivum

AUGUST SCCSS Mini-Show Winners



Can you match up the winning plants ?

Open Cactus	1st 2nd	Maria Capaldo Maria Capaldo	<i>Epithelantha micromeris</i> <i>Epithelantha micromeris</i>
Open Succulent	1st 2nd 2nd 3rd 3rd	Maria Capaldo Maria Capaldo Phyllis DeCrescenzo Maria Capaldo Phyllis DeCrescenzo	<i>Dyckia</i> Hybrid <i>Dyckia</i> Hybrid <i>Dyckia</i> 'Brittle Star' Hybrid <i>Dyckia</i> Hybrid <i>Dyckia platyphylla</i>
Intermediate Cactus	N/A	No entry	None
Intermediate Succulent	1st 2nd 2nd 3rd 3rd	Dale La Forest Bernard Johnson Bernard Johnson Anita Caplan Barnard Johnson	<i>Hechtia epigyna</i> <i>Dyckia</i> Hybrid <i>Dyckia</i> Bill Baker Hybrid <i>Dyckia</i> <i>Dyckia</i> 'Silverado' Hybrid
Novice Cactus	1st	Matt Straup	<i>Epithelantha micromeris</i>
Novice Succulent	1st 2nd 2nd 3rd 3rd	Martha Bjerke Ted Johnson Ted Johnson Ted Johnson Jim Tanner	<i>Dyckia fosteriana</i> <i>Dyckia</i> 'Rosetips' <i>Dyckia</i> 'South Bay' cv. Tibor <i>Dyckia</i> 800 <i>Dyckia</i> 'Brittle Star'

Please note that points were awarded for plants on display at the Show & Sale.
The points (max 4 per participant) were added to the Cactus totals.

The tables on page 10 show the current standings for the three classes
(Open, Intermediate, and Novice) as of August 11, 2019.

Photos of winners above in order left to right: *Epithelantha micromeris*, *Dyckia* Hybrid, *Hechtia epigyna*,
Dyckia fosteriana. Ed: Sorry no photo of Novice Cactus Winner – Matt Straup – *Epithelantha micromeris*

SCCSS Mini-Show Final Results *(As of August 11, 2019)*

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total
Bjarkman, MA	4	2	6	Caplan, Anita	8	11	19	Capaldo, Maria	50	36	86
Bjerke, Martha	1	18	19	Fasteau, Sally	37	53	90	DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	20	51	71
Cottrell, Diane	11	21	32	Johnson, Bernard	9	24	33	Duke, Gary	40	9	49
Diaz, Gloria	3	4	7	Johnson, Jackie	4	-	4	Gardner, Jim	6	11	17
Dorsey, Martin	12	6	18	Knight, Carol	-	8	8	Hanna, Jim	4	25	29
Hulet, Lupe	3	-	3	La Forest, Dale	7	6	13	Warzybok, Hank	4	-	4
Johnson, Ted	17	35	52	Neely, Jade	5	11	16	Wilk, William	14	10	24
Keka, Ray	-	1	1	Nettles, Coni	32	21	53	Woodley, Laurel	10	14	24
Mosher, Nancy	11	10	21	Short, Mike	6	3	9				
Nisewanur, John	4	10	14	Tillotson, Joseph	-	1	1				
Richer, Russ	-	1	1								
Sover, Suzane	2	-	2								
Steenson, Dean	2	-	2								
Straub, Terri	38	9	47								
Straup, Matt	6	-	6								
Tanner, Jim	5	11	16								
Trostler, Marie	4		4								
Youssefzadeh, Jacob	-	6	6								

SCCSS Mini-Show Rules

A Mini-show is scheduled for all meetings except April (Show and Sale) and December (Holiday Potluck) as a way for members to show their prized plants and staging skills; and for everyone, especially novices to learn how to grow and show theirs. Lists of eligible plants are printed in the newsletter and on our Society's website.

There are three entry classes: Novice, Intermediate and Open. New members may enter at any level, but once a level has been entered members may not regress to a less advanced class.

There are two plant categories, Cactus and Succulent. Up to three entries per member may be entered in each category.

Exhibitors must be club members in good standing and present at the meeting. One member's name representing a household must be used unless plants are grown and shown separately. We trust you.

Any container may be used, including plastic. The containers and plants must be free of pests and disease. Only one plant/container is permitted but this includes rosettes/offsets/pups connected by

rhizomes, stolens, and above ground clusters. Dish gardens are an exception if they are the category of the month.

Novice and Intermediate entries must be grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of six months, and open class entries for one year.

Usually our speaker (as an unbiased expert) will be asked to judge, but if the speaker is a Society member, one or two members who are not showing will be asked to judge. Remember, judges may not be experts and usually judge based on how well the plant is grown and staged. The following point system is used.

1st place – 6

2nd place – 4

3rd place – 2

Entries not disqualified receive 1 point.

After the November meeting, point totals will be reviewed by the Board. Novice and Intermediate members with more than 64 points or with at least 6 first place awards may be asked to move to the

Intermediate or Open class if their entries show them qualified. This is a subjective judgment.

CSAA Convention: First Impressions



Lotusland



Lotusland



Lotusland



Lotusland

Moving from the East Coast to Southern California 45 years ago introduced me to a new botanical world and experience. My early explorations took me to the vast expanse of the Anza Borrego desert where I saw in their habitat cacti and succulents which were unlike the familiar plant species on the east coast. After being accosted by an armed and dangerous jumping cholla, I realized that the harsh climate required the plants to adapt in order to survive. Later in the Desert section of the Huntington Gardens in Pasadena, I was fascinated by the immense diversity of plants that grow in harsh climates around our world.

When I started to collect plants at sales and nurseries I chose plants by their appearance but without knowing the habitat. After many years of growing these amazing plants, I decided to attend my first biennial Cactus and Succulent Society of America Convention held in San Luis Obispo, California.

There I was delighted to meet people from around the country and beyond who have dedicated their lives to the study of cacti and euphorbias and discovered new species in various habitats.

The organizers of the conference chose knowledgeable speakers whose topics ranged from “*The Rare Plants and Agaves of Mexico*” to “*Geometric Geophytes*” to “*New Succulents from Australia*” to “*Pediocactus and Sclerocactus, a tour of the Colorado Plateau*” to “*Passion, Photography, and Presentations*”. Several speakers focused on particular species such as the genus *Gasteria* and the genus *Eulychina*. For collectors like me, understanding how this plant family manages to adapt, mutate, and survive in harsh and demanding environmental conditions that make their structure and appearance so unusual is fascinating. Our keynote speaker’s topic: “*Sugary Spines, Leafy Flowers and other Unusual Desert Adaptations in Cacti*” drove home this point very well.

Besides the formal presentations, the organizers made available private garden tours and outings to interesting sites in our area including the amazing Lotusland garden in nearby Santa Barbara.

I left the conference with renewed enthusiasm to explore the habitats of different species and to dust off my Nikon to better capture the images of this plant family.

The next conference will be held in Colorado in two years. I will be an attendee ready to meet and learn from other more knowledgeable enthusiasts and experts. I hope to see you there as well.

Joseph Tillotson



Brassica nigra



Mimulus aurantiaca



Raphanus sativus



Eriophyllum confertiflorum



Eschscholzia californica



Dudleya caespitosa

Montana Del Oro



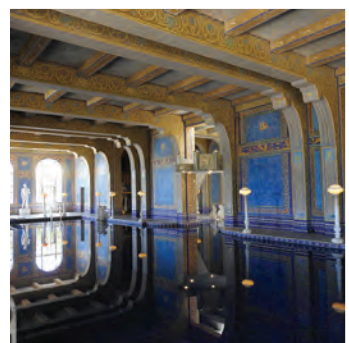
Hearst Castle



Main Entry



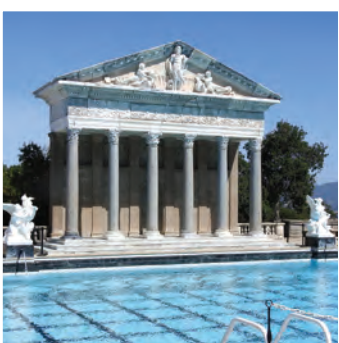
Tower



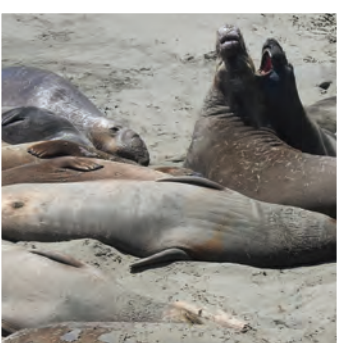
Indoor pool



Tapestry



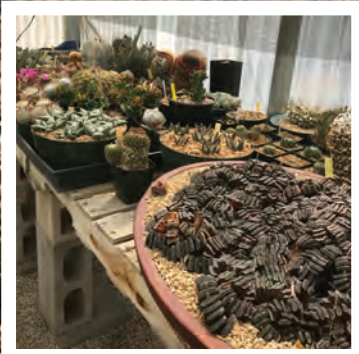
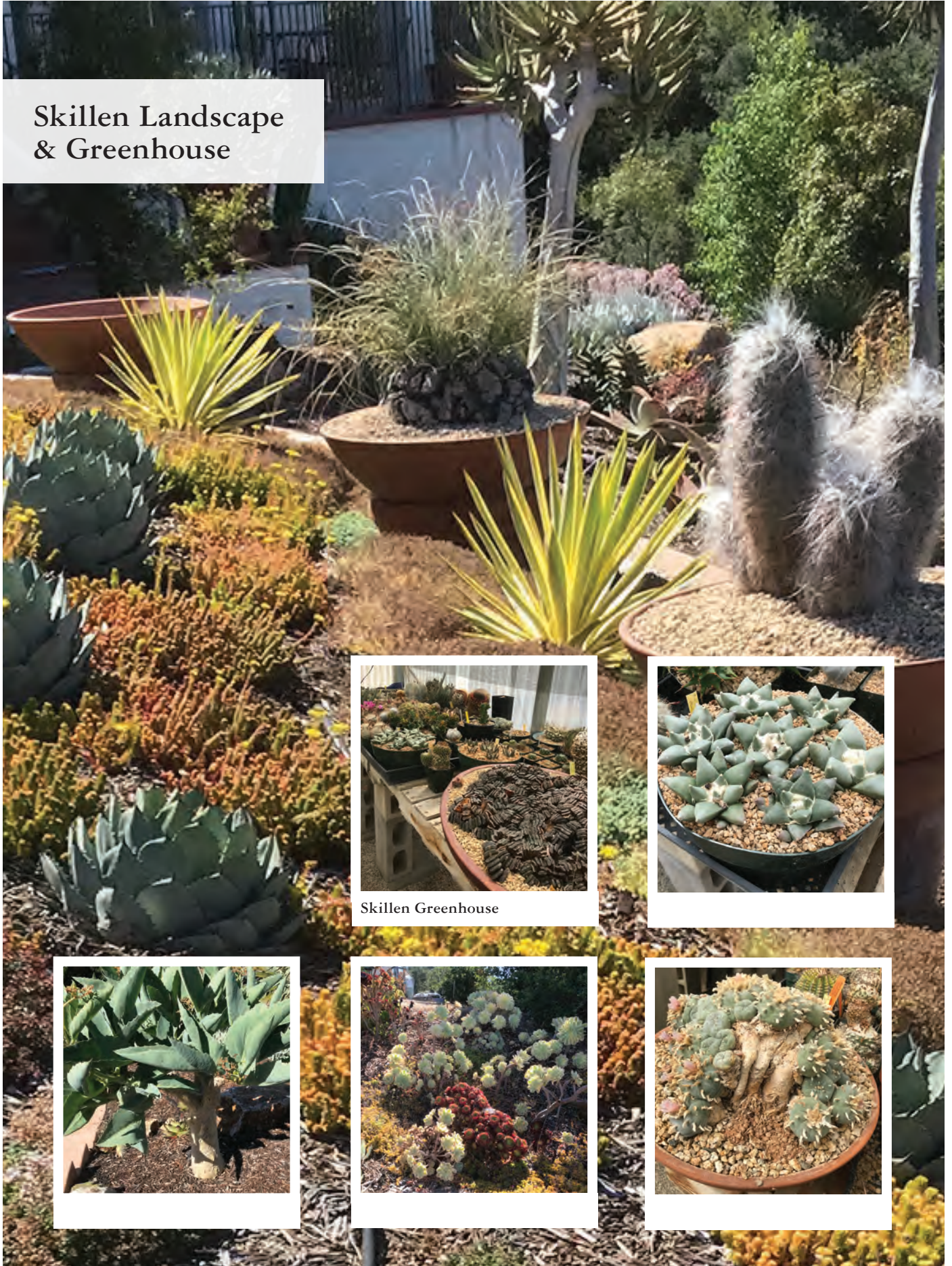
Poolside



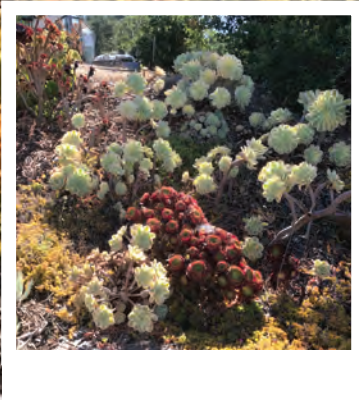
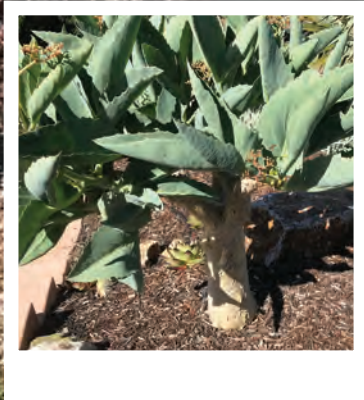
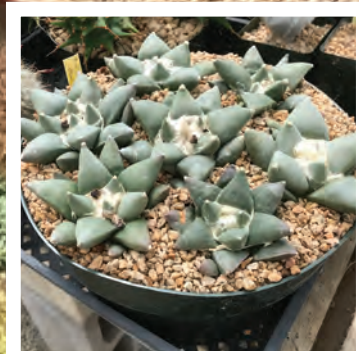
Family gathering

Elephant Seal Rookery

Skillen Landscape & Greenhouse



Skillen Greenhouse



Leaning Pines Arboretum



Brachychiton rupestris



Agave paryii (flowers)



Kniphobia linearifolia



Aloe mitriformis



Agave paryii



Melaleuca nesophila

CCCSS Members Gardens



Summary of the CSAA Convention:

M.A. Bjarkman

Vice President



Hosting a convention is a big job for any club, even an enthusiastic and flourishing club like the Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society. Of course, the host club receives directions and a budget from CSSA. Still, San Luis Obispo is a much smaller city than those usually chosen as convention sites. The CCCSS was really up to it and did a superb job.

We always have an affiliate meeting at the convention. We had over 50 participants from many clubs across the country and one from Australia. It was a lively and proactive group. I was pleased at the very positive nature of our discussion and creativity in suggestions for the future.

I enjoyed meeting affiliates from across the country and putting names to faces was most satisfying. I was also delighted to see that there is a very good possibility that the 2023 convention could be sponsored by the LACSS. They were the only club to submit a verbal proposal to host. Now it is up to the CSSA board of directors to decide. The next convention will be in 2021, with the Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society as host. The tradition is that this convention be held outside of southern California every other one.

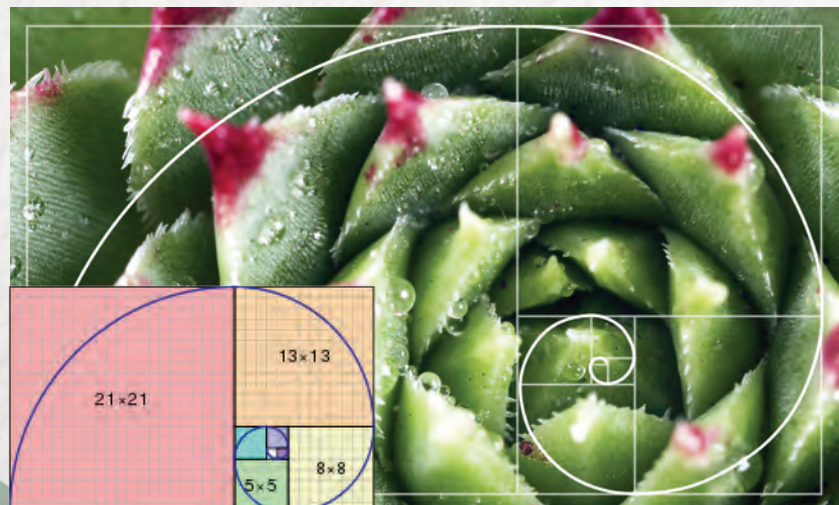
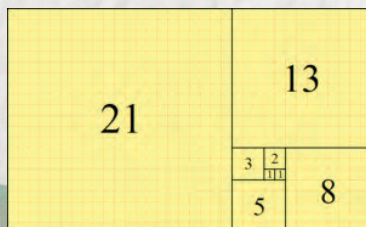
I must say that the Central Coast Club really knocked it out of the park on this one. Their volunteers were everywhere, always happy to help and were superb at what they did!

And of course, the presenters were excellent. Did you know that some plants can sweat? That the Fibonacci sequence displays itself in our plants?

M.A. Bjarkman

In botany, phyllotaxis or phyllotaxy is the arrangement of leaves on a plant stem. Phyllotactic spirals form distinctive class of patterns in nature.

THE FIBONACCI SEQUENCE



Upcoming Events

[Click here for Full List](#)



**Los Angeles
Cactus & Succulent Society
Fall Sale 2019**
SEPTEMBER 14

SATURDAY, September 14
9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Sepulveda Garden Center
16633 Magnolia Blvd.
Encino, CA

Email: lacss.contact@gmail.com
(818) 749-5346

www.lacactus.com/

[Learn more](#)



**Bakersfield
Cactus & Succulent Society
Show and Sale**
OCTOBER 12-13

SATURDAY, October 12
10:00 am - 5:00 pm
SUNDAY, October 13
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

St. Paul's Church
2216 17th Street
Bakersfield, CA 93304
Free Admission & Parking
Email: lithops44@bak.rr.com
661-831-8488

www.bakersfieldcactus.org/

[Learn more](#)



Huntington Fall Plant Sale
OCTOBER 25, 26, 27

FRIDAY-SUNDAY
October 25, 26, 27
10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Huntington Botanical Gardens
1151 Oxford Road,
San Marino, CA.

www.huntington.org
626-405-3504

[Learn more](#)

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Programs
Gary Duke
Show and Sale
Carol Knight



COMMITTEE MEMBERS (TASKED):

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Publicity (Show)
Anita Caplan
Publicity (Monthly)
Ann Nye
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Jade Neely



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