



**Brian  
Kemble**

### ZOOM PRESENTATIONS

Sunday, January 10 @ 1:30 pm

(Members watch for an email invitation)

#### History of the Ruth Bancroft Garden



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

I have high hopes for 2021 being an improvement in our lives and gardens. Hopefully all the at-home work we have sown will be rewarded with increasingly beautiful plants. We have some great speakers in the next few months so please tune in to the

Zoom meetings and ask for help if you have any problems logging in. Presentations are usually saved and can be accessed from our website or Facebook page. Gary's presentation that we couldn't show at the meeting is available from a link on the website.

**CALL FOR PHOTOS:** The Mini Show genera for January are Cactus: Hooked spine Mammillarias and Succulent: Caudiciforms. Photos will be published and you will be given one Mini-show point each for a submitted photo of your cactus, succulent or garden (up to 2 points). Please include your plant's full name if you know it (and if you don't, I will seek advice for you). Let me know if you would prefer not to have your name published with the photos. The photos should be as high resolution as possible so they will publish well and should show off the plant as you would in a Mini Show. This will provide all of us with an opportunity to learn from one another and share plants and gardens. You may send as many photos as you like. E-mail them to me at [minniecap@icloud.com](mailto:minniecap@icloud.com) by January 9th so I may present them at the upcoming Zoom meeting.

The Board of the Society decided that we will not be collecting dues until we have in-person meetings. Until that time Zoom meetings will continue each month. We will not be having an April Show and Sale, so we will have a Zoom meeting that month with a presenter.

I am looking forward to hearing and seeing Brian Kemble's January 10 presentation on the history of the Ruth Bancroft Garden.

Stay well and keep in touch!  
MARIA CAPALDO

#### SHARE YOUR GARDEN OR YOUR FAVORITE PLANT



Email me with photos of your garden and/or plants that we can publish as a way of staying connected.  
[minniecap@icloud.com](mailto:minniecap@icloud.com)



[To learn more visit southcoastcss.org](http://southcoastcss.org)



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## History of the Ruth Bancroft Garden

BY BRIAN KEMBLE



Brian Kemble will give a talk on the history of the Ruth Bancroft Garden, in Walnut Creek, CA. Since its creation by Ruth Bancroft in 1972, the garden has evolved into a mecca for dry-garden enthusiasts, drawing visitors from all over the U.S., as well as from abroad. The garden has many species of succulents such as yuccas, agaves, aloes and cacti, and hosts lectures and seminars on various botanical topics.



# What's in your garden?

*Conophytum* species by Maria Capaldo



*Aloe vanbaleonii* by Jim Gardner



*Crassula ovata* by Jim Gardner



*Mammillaria plumosa*  
by Bernard Johnson



*Crassula rupestris* by Jim Gardner

*Lithops bookeri* var. *aurea*  
by Maria Capaldo



Thank you for sharing!  
What's in your garden?

[minniecap@icloud.com](mailto:minniecap@icloud.com) share by January 9, 2021



# 2020 PLANT OF THE YEAR

PLANT OF THE YEAR 2020: *Lobivia saltensis*



*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Bernard Johnson



*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Bob and Anita Caplan



*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Clif Wong



*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Corey Zedler



*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Jim Gardner



*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Sally Fasteau



*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Sue Wong



*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Terri Straub and Russ Richer



*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Corey Zedler



*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Maria Capaldo



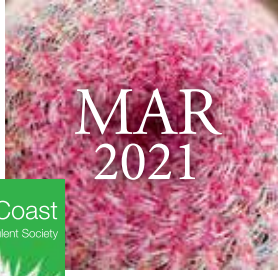
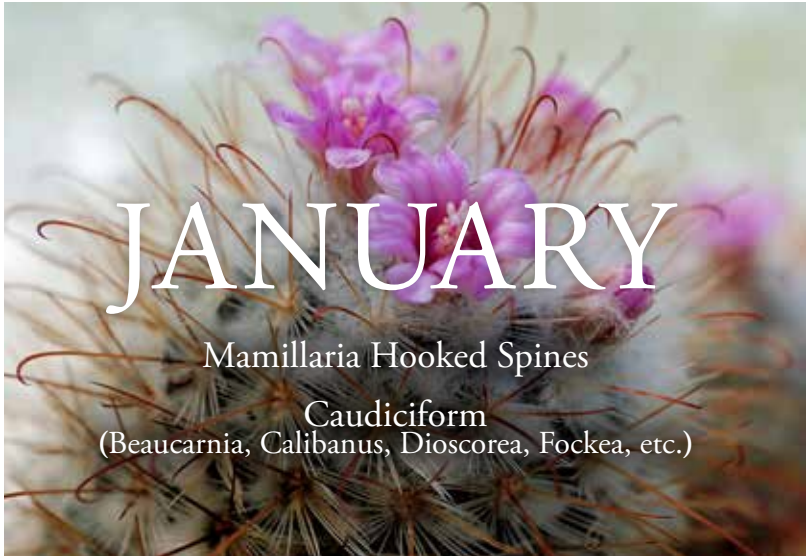
*Lobivia saltensis*  
by Maria Capaldo

*The New Year has come—we're still here  
Huddled up in our homes it's so clear  
To be safe and stay strong  
We must all get along  
Using masks without shedding a tear  
Our plants are getting such love  
From the care they receive from above  
We're so grateful to know  
That it really does show  
That our labor gave us such trove  
So, let's keep on without rife  
For our lot will last just a while  
And when we can see  
Each other with glee  
It will give us all a big smile*

SUBMITTED BY MARIA CAPALDO



# Mini - Show Plant Calendar



## Mini-Show Plants for 2021

January 2021	Mammillaria - Hooked Spines	Caudiciform (Beaucarnia, Calibanus, Dioscorea, Fockea, etc.)
February 2021	Eriosyce, Neoporteria, Neochilenia, Islaya	Crassula
March 2021	Echinocereus	Gasteria and hybrids
April 2021	Favorite Cactus POM	Favorite Succulent POM
May 2021	Coryphantha, Escobaria, Acharagma	Dudleya, Cotyledon
June 2021	Gymnocalycium	Pachypodium
July 2021	Lobivia, Echinopsis	Sansevieria
August 2021	Ferocactus, Leuchtenbergia	Stapeliads (Stapelia, Huernia, Orbea)
September 2021	Discocactus, Uebelmania	Kalanchoe
October 2021	Miniature (3 inches or less)	Miniature (3 inches or less)
November 2021	North American Columnar Cacti (Saguaro, Cereus, etc.)	Senecio
December 2021	HOLIDAY POTLUCK???	HOLIDAY POTLUCK???



## Monthly Cactus: Mammillaria Hooked Spines

A Mammillaria is often one of the first cacti that a beginning grower buys. A credit to the toughness of these plants, is that many survive for years in spite of all sorts of abuse and neglect. Many inexpensive purchases at local chain stores have been grown on to become show plants, the quality of the plant maturing with the skill and experience of the grower. In part because they are so generous with flowers and seeds, and the seeds germinate so readily, many rare species end up in unlikely places like home centers, supermarkets, and hardware stores. It's worth keeping an eye out for unusual specimens, but beware of names found on discount store plants.

Mammillaria is one of the larger genera in the Cactus family, and one of the most variable, with some members remaining as solitary columns for their entire lives, some remaining as fingernail size solitary globulars, some straight spined, and some clumped and heavily spined with hooks. Although the hooked spined species give the genus one of its common names, "fishhook cactus", they are not as often grown as the straight spined species. They are not as friendly either, with the hooks catching on skin and clothes, and pieces of stem coming off, when least expected.

The secrets to good growth are a continued supply of fertilizer during the growing season, strong light, and maintenance of a clean and insect free growing environment.

Although most Mammillaria are native to Mexico, some species in the genus can be found from Columbia to Kansas and California. The species from the tropics and warmer areas are rarely tolerant of cold and damp. Those from the drier desert regions are also intolerant of continued damp, but can take considerable cold.

Propagation of Hooked Spined Mammillaria is easy. Cuttings can be taken at any time during the growing season (April to early November), left to dry for a few days and replanted in a clean potting mix. Mammillaria are one of the easiest species to grow from seed. The seeds are simply placed on top of a damp potting mix, covered with a light coating of gravel, placed in a plastic bag in bright light, but out of direct sun and allowed to germinate. Germination usually occurs in a week or 10 days. The seedlings can stay in the plastic bag for several weeks until they get large enough to survive unprotected, and should then be removed to a still shaded, but brighter and drier environment. Most will survive, and grow quickly.

### Cactus: Mammillaria Hooked Spines



*Mammillaria bombycina*



*Mammillaria bombycina*



*Mammillaria crinita* subs. *wildii*



*Mammillaria dioica*



*Mammillaria duwei*



*Mammillaria mainiae*



*Mammillaria pulliamata*



*Mammillaria tetrancistra*



JANUARY

## Monthly Succulent: Caudiciform

Caudiciform plants, also known as 'Fat Plants', are a grouping of many totally unrelated plants all having a fat, short, swollen stem-trunk.

A fat, short, swollen stem is referred to by botanists as a caudex, while plants that display this kind of growth habit are called caudiciform plants. Caudiciform plants are almost exclusively desert dwellers that use their swollen stems for water storage between periods of drought. Cacti, especially the barrel type, have short, swollen stems, but are excluded because their stems have the major photosynthetic role. Caudiciform plants are found in many families, including the passion vine family, the grape family, the euphorbia family, the dogbane family and the baobab family.

In nature, these fat-stemmed plants can attain enormous size. Baobab trees (*Adansonia* sp.) of Africa and Madagascar have swollen trunks more than 50 feet in diameter with what often looks like a modest topknot of growth to support the enormous base. The ponytail palm (*Nolina recurvata*) of Mexico can have swollen bases 4 to 5 feet across.

### Succulent: Caudiciform



*Adenium obesum*



*Adansonia digitata*  
(baobab tree)



*Calibanus hookeri*



*Cibirhiza albersiana*



*Beaucarnia recurvata* (ponytail palm)



*Cyphostemma juttae*



*Cyphostemma elephantopus*



*Dioscorea elephantipes*



*Fockea edulis*



By Tom Glavich



JANUARY

## Monthly Succulent: Caudiciform

Some of the most beautiful caudiciform plants are the Adeniums, known collectively as desert rose. In the wild, *Adenium obesum*, has swollen stems to 3 or 4 feet across. Most caudiciform plants, are propagated by cuttings.

Caudiciform plants adapt well to pot culture and are easy to grow. Caudiciform plants are frost-tender and even 28 degrees will kill most of them. Most of these plants grow during the hot summer months and are dormant during the winter, so they adapt well to moving indoors during the winter. Evergreen species will need a bright location during winter. Ideally, a cool greenhouse maintained at 45 to 50 degrees is perfect for overwintering most kinds.

To keep the size of the plant somewhat in check and lessen the possibility of overwatering, keep the pot size of caudiciform plants relatively small for the size of the plant. When repotting, use a clay pot and a good, well-drained potting soil designed for cacti.



*Tylecodon paniculatus*



By Tom Glavich

## Succulent: Caudiciform



*Fouquieria purpusii*



*Operculicarya decaryi*



*Pachypodium brevicaule*



*Pachypodium densiflorum*



*Pachypodium saundersii*



*Pseudobombax ellipticum*



*Trichodiadema bulbosum*



*Sesamothamnus lugardii*



# Latin Lookup

Loquerisne Latine (Do you speak Latin)?  
The meanings of latin plant names on the previous pages  
– from <http://davesgarden.com/guides/botany/>

## SUCCULENT

**Adansonia** [ad-an-SOH-nee-uh] Named for Michel Adanson, 18th century French surgeon, botanist and naturalist.

**Adenium** [a-DEE-nee-um] Named for Aden, a small country south of Saudi Arabia, where the species is native.

**Beaucarnea** [bow-KAR-nee-uh] Named for Jean-Baptiste Beaucarne, 19th century Belgian plant collectors.

**brevicaule** [brev-ee-KAW-lee, brev-ee-KAW-lay] Short stem.

**bulbosum** [bul-BOH-sum] Bulbous.

**Calibanus** [kal-IB-an-us] Named for Caliban, the beast-like monster who was Prospero's slave in Shakespeare's *The Tempest*.

**Cibirhiza** [sih-bee-RY-zuh] From the Latin words cibi (food) and rhiza (root).

**Cyphostemma** [sy-foh-STEM-uh] From the Greek kyphos (tumor, hump) and stemma (garland, crown).

**decaryi** [de-KAR-yee] Named for Raymond Decary, 20th century plant collector.

**densiflorum** [den-see-FLOR-um] Densely flowered.

**digitata** [dig-ee-TAH-tuh, dij-ee-TAH-tuh] Finger.

**Dioscorea** [dy-oh-SKOR-ee-uh] Named for Pedanios Dioscorides, first century Greek pharmacologist.

**edulis** [ED-yew-liss] Edible.

**elephantipes** [ell-uh-fan-TY-pee-z] Elephant foot (stem).

**elephantopus** [el-eh-fun-TOE-pus] Elephant's foot.

**ellipticum** [ee-LIP-tih-kum] Elliptical, about twice as long as wide.

**Fockea** [FOK-ee-uh] Named for Dr. Focke Albers, modern-day German professor and expert on the Asclepiadaceae family.

**Fouquieria** [foo-KWEER-ree-uh] Named for Pierre Edouard Fouquier, 19th century French physician.

**hookeri** [HOOK-er-ee] Named for Sir William Jackson Hooker, 19th century botany professor & director of the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew; or his son Joseph Dalton Hooker, 19th century British botanist & plant collector.

**juttae** [JOO-tay-ee] Named for Jutta Dinter, the wife of Professor Kurt Dinter, 20th century German botanist and collector in Africa.

**Kleinia** [KLINE-ee-uh] Named for Dr. Jacob Theodor Klein, 18th century German zoologist.

**lugardii** [loo-GAR-dee-eye] For 19th century plant collector Major E. J. Lugard.

**neriifolia** [ner-ee-eye-FOH-lee-uh] Oleander-leaved (also spelled nerifolia).

**obesum** [oh-BEE-sum] Fat.

**Operculicarya** [oh-per-koo-lee-KAIR-yuh] From the Latin operculum (little lid) and Greek karyum (nut), referring to the lidded, nut-like seeds.

**Pachypodium** [pak-uh-PO-dee-um] Thick foot.

**paniculatus** [pan-ick-yoo-LAY-tus, pan-ick-yoo-LAH-tus] Referring to the flower clusters (panicles).

**Pseudobombax** [soo-doh-BOM-baks] False Bombax (genus name from the Greek bombyx, silk; referring to the silken fibers).

**purpusii** [pur-PUSS-ee-eye] Named for brothers Carl and Joseph Purpus, two early 20th century German plant collectors.

**recurvata** [rek-er-VAY-tuh] Bent backwards.

**saundersii** [son-DER-see-eye] Named for the botanist who discovered it in South Africa in the late 1800s.

**Sesamothamnus** [ses-uh-moth-AM-nus] From the Greek thamnus (shrub) and the genus Sesamum; Shrubby Sesamum.

**Trichodiadema** [try-koh-dy-uh-DEE-ma] From the Greek thrix (hair) and diadema (band around the head); referring to the crown of bristles on the leaf tips.

**Tylecodon** [ty-lee-KOD-on] An anagram of Cotyledon (a closely-related genus).

## CACTUS

**bombycina** [bom-BEE-kin-uh] Silky.

**dioica** [dy-oh-EE-kuh] Male and female flowers on separate plants.

**Mammillaria** [mam-mil-AR-ee-uh] Nipple- or teat-like.

<https://davesgarden.com/guides/botany/>



## SCSS Final Mini-Show 2020 Standings

[Click here for sortable standings](#)

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total
Bantad, Sonita	3	3	6	Caplan, Anita	2	4	6	Capaldo, Maria	23	17	40
Bjarkman, M.A.	3	9	12	Johnson, Bernard	16	29	45	DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	25	24	49
Bjerke, Martha	0	2	2	Johnson, Ted	5	16	21	Duke, Gary	21	16	37
Cottrell, Diane	7	9	16	La Forest, Dale	8	8	16	Fasteau, Sally	7	21	28
Cozzolino, Karin	0	2	2	Lott, Lemono	3	4	7	Gardner, Jim	12	5	17
Davis, Gretchen	5	7	12	Neely, Jade	3	3	6	Hanna, Jim	0	8	8
Diaz, Gloria	0	2	2	Nettles, Coni	22	15	37	Wilk, William	10	4	14
Dorsey, Martin	1	10	11	Short, Mike	1	10	11	Woodley, Laurel	8	10	18
Nisewaner, John	0	12	12								
Sams, Nancy	2	4	6								
Seiver, Cheryl	1	1	2								
Sover, Suzane	0	1	1								
Straub, Terri	24	13	37								
Straup, Matt	0	2	2								
Tanner, Jim	12	15	27								
Tillotson, Joseph	2	7	9								
Unrine, Judy	0	6	6								
Wong, Clif	0	1	1								
Youssefzadeh, Aya	1	4	5								
Youssefzadeh, Jacob	5	15	20								

### SCSS 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.

### Mini-show Virtual Points

1 Mini show point each for a submitted photo of your cactus and succulent (up to 2 points)

Up to 2 points for those submitting garden photos if you had **not** submitted Mini-show photos.



## Upcoming Events

[Click here for Full List](#)



SOUTH COAST  
CACTUS & SUCCULENT  
SOCIETY

### ZOOM MEETING

#### The History of the Ruth Bancroft Gardens

**Sunday, January 10**

Invitation will be sent by e-mail,  
and also will be available  
by streaming on YouTube.

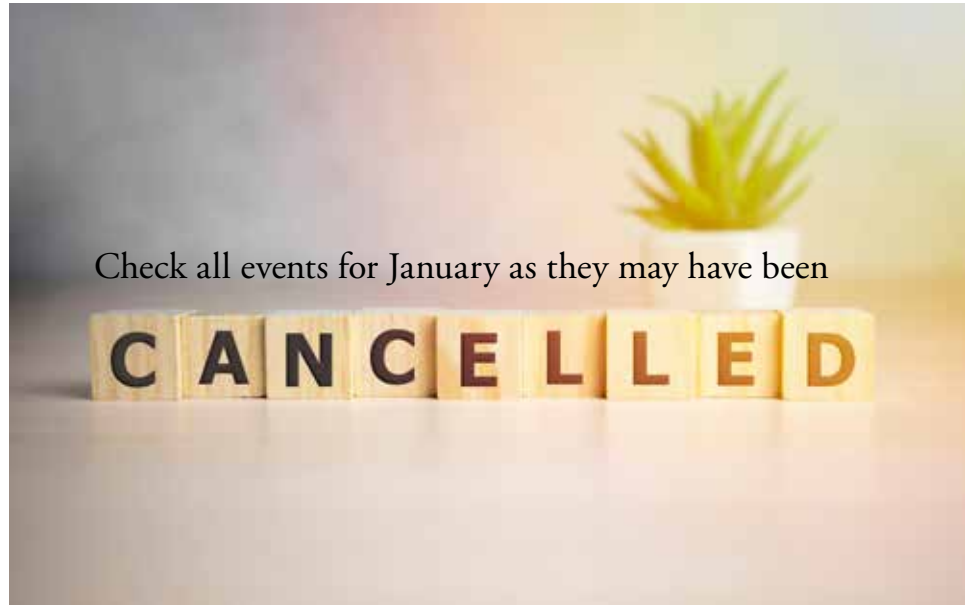
#### Speakers:

Brian Kemble

#### Start time:

1:30 pm

<https://southcoastcss.org/live/>



[For more information and to learn more](#)

## Board of Directors 2020-2021

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