



MAY 2024 South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter



President's message

SHOW AND SALE: We had a successful event for our Show and Sale at the Palos Verdes Art Center despite the rainy weather. A big thank you to everyone who volunteered, donated sale plants, and brought show plants. A special thanks to Terri Straub for coordinating the event, organizing volunteers, and filling in wherever needed. We had some new vendors and welcomed back many old friends. The weekend was filled with fun, camaraderie, and a bit of work to make things go smoothly. Please see photos of the vendors, volunteers, and show plants in this issue of the Newsletter.

MEETING DATE CHANGE: Our May meeting will take place at the South Coast Botanic Garden on May 19, since the auditorium was not available to us on Mother's Day. Please mark your calendars for the third Sunday of the month. We will welcome new members and gift April and May Birthdays at the meeting with a free plant!

PRESENTATION: Our speaker for May 19 will be Kelly Griffin who will talk to us about his Namibia trip. Kelly is always a fascinating speaker with lots of great stories to tell.

Society T Shirts are still available at \$12 each. I hope to see you there!
Maria Capaldo



South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Meeting

May 19, 2024 1:00-4:00pm
Note new date!
South Coast Botanic Garden
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274



PRESENTATION Kelly Griffin: "Namibia"



To learn more, go to southcoastcss.org



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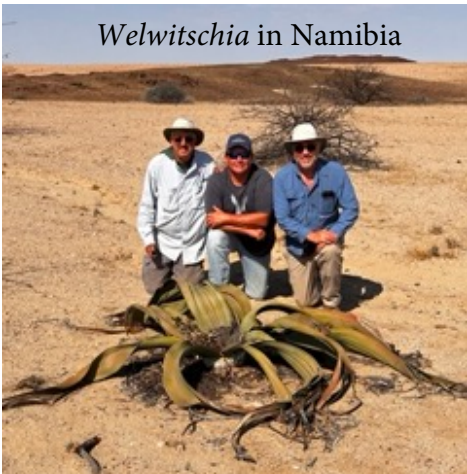
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Speaker of the Month

Kelly Griffin



Welwitschia in Namibia

PRESENTER FOR MAY

Kelly Griffin “Adventure to Namibia”

Kelly will present his visit to Namibia last May. This was a successful romp to see some iconic bucket-list succulent plants. Namibia is a unique place with unique flora and fauna. This includes s, Aloes, Pachypodiums, and Lithops in their native surroundings.

Kelly worked as the Curator of Succulents at Rancho Soledad Nursery for 11 years, and, for the past

12 years, he has been working for Altman’s Plants as Succulent Plant Development Manager. He has become well known for his hybridizing and has created far over 100 succulent hybrids now in the trade, including Aloes, Agaves, and Echeverias. He is probably most known for his Aloe hybrids that are 30 years in the making (Pink Blush, Delta lights, Christmas Sleigh, and Coral Fire, etc) and some Agave hybrids and selections too (Blue Glow, Snow Glow, Cubic, Black and Blue, Dragon toes, Spawn, and Crème Brûlée to name just a few). He is also responsible for obtaining seed from many interesting species and propagating the seed for all to enjoy.

Kelly has been a member of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society since 1992. He has been on the board of Directors for the SDCSS, has served 4 years as SDCSS President and 2 years as Vice-President. He was very honored to have been named a Fellow of the San Diego Society.

He currently serves as a Director on the Board of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. He is active on the conservation committee and is working on the National Convention, which comes to San Diego next spring April 23-27, 2025.



Aloe erinaceae



Aloidendron dichotomum

May

2024

Mini-Show Plant of the Month Cactus

[Ed (Mike Short): All of the cacti in this group are now in the genus *Eriosyce* (er-ee-oh-SY-kee). Many of you will have bought your plants under the old names of *Neoporteria*, *Neochilenia*, and *Islaya*. For the Mini-Show we will accept plants with those old names.]

Eriosyce is a genus of cacti native to Chile. There are both globular and columnar types that produce flowers with a spiny and hairy tube. The flowers grow laterally on specially formed areoles. Almost all of these plants need a deep pot with very good drainage to accommodate a tap root. It is susceptible to over-watering. Occasionally some are grafted to avoid root rot problems. Keep dry in winter. Best suited for airy exposures. They like full sun; and can tolerate light shade. They like warmth (recommended minimum winter temperature: 40°F). But a plant kept perfectly dry can easily survive at winter night-time temperatures below freezing – especially if warmed to near 60 F the next day. Some if not all are especially prone to rot, therefore, under-pot in a smaller container filled with very porous compost. Mealybugs can also attach themselves to the spines, plant body, and roots.



Eriosyce esmeraldana



Eriosyce senilis



Eriosyce villosa

Neoporteria and ***Neochilenia*** are genera from the Central and Northern Coasts of Chile, and the Southern Coast of Peru.

This area has a Mediterranean climate, with rain in the winter, and mostly dry summers. The climate is similar to Southern California. Fogs are more frequent, and can sometimes be the predominant source of water.

The genus *Neochilenia* was never really distinguishable from *Neoporteria*, except for a greater tendency towards tuberous roots. In any case, in recent times both have been incorporated, with several other genera into the genus *Eriosyce*. This is becoming less controversial with time, and in most of our shows, *Neoporteria* and *Neochilenia* are now combined with *Eriosyce*.

Cultivation of *Neoporteria* is relatively easy. They will do well in pots or in the ground in Southern California, and require little or no protection from weather. One challenge in growing this genus, particularly with some of the old *Neochilenia* is to get growth started in the spring without cracking the body. It helps to grow in a very open potting mix with careful watering, particularly if the plant was dry all winter.

May

2024

Mini-Show Plant of the Month Cactus

In habitat these are often solitary, but in cultivation they often clump. Propagation by removal of the offsets is an easy and reliable method of propagation. Grafted plants will quickly clump, and these heads can be removed and re-rooted. Seed for many species and localities are available from a number of suppliers, and these generally germinate well and grow strongly.



Eriosyce jussieui (= *Neochilenia curvispina*)



Eriosyce esmeraldana (= *Neoporteria esmeraldana*)



Eriosyce occulta (= *Neochilenia occulta*)

Islaya is a genus of cactus. This genus is named after a Peruvian city of the same name. It has been treated as a synonym of *Eriosyce*, and the species *Islaya laui* which had been placed in a separate genus, *Rimacactus*, as its sole species, is now *Eriosyce laui*.

[Ed (Mike Short): *Islaya* has now been moved to the genus *Eriosyce*. The move may be rather confusing as it seems many of the *Islaya* species were simply renamed *Eriosyce islayensis* making it impossible to differentiate between them. Those *Islaya* species 'might' at some time in the future become a variety, cultivar, subspecies or forma of *Eriosyce*. Some examples that have been renamed *Eriosyce islayensis* are: *Islaya divaricatiflora*, *Islaya brevicylindrica*, *Islaya bicolor*, *Islaya flavida*, *Islaya grandiflorens*, *Islaya grandis*, *Islaya maritima*, *Islaya minor*, *Islaya minuscula*, and *Islaya unguispina*. Even *Islaya islayensis* has been renamed as *Eriosyce islayensis*. If you have an *Islaya* species it might be wise to retain the species name along with the new name, *Eriosyce islayensis*.]



Eriosyce laui (= *Islaya laui*)



Eriosyce islayensis (= *Islaya islayensis*)



Eriosyce islayensis (= *Islaya divaricatiflora*)

May

2024

Mini-Show Plant of the Month Succulent

Crassula is the largest genus in the family, Crassulaceae, containing everything from bog plants to some of the most extreme succulents. Many *Crassula* species have been naturalized and are commonly seen as garden plants in Southern California. These include *C. arborescens*, *C. falcata*, *C. perforata*. Many hybrids and cultivars are available, offering a large variety of colors and shapes. Some favorite species include: *Crassula arta* [Ed: =*Crassula deceptor*] which makes columns of close packed triangular leaves. As the stems lengthen with age, cuttings can be taken and the plant restarted. *Crassula muscosa* var. *muscosa* is a wonderful plant for hanging baskets. Its thin green strands of tiny leaves offset from roots and the base to fill a good size pot. *Crassula pyramidalis* forms mats of short four sided stems.

Many *Crassulas* border on being weedy. They get lanky after a year or two, and the bottom leaves either fall off or turn brown. Cuttings of these plants should be taken (they almost always root), and the plants restarted either in the early fall (October is best) or early spring (late February to April). Great things can be done in a small space with this genus. Tom Glavich

[*Crassula* is a major genus of the Crassulaceae family and members are known for their amazing ability to perform CAM (Crassulacean Acid Metabolism). CAM in simple terms is the ability to perform photosynthesis during the daytime using Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) that has been collected and stored at night. As the plants are not intaking CO₂ during the heat of the day, they are able to keep their stomata

(pores) closed thereby greatly reducing the loss of liquid. The CO₂ collected at night is stored in the form of acid malate and is converted back to CO₂ internally during the day when photosynthesis is taking place. see Wikipedia]

*Crassula arborescens**Crassula deceptor* (=C. arta)*Crassula capitella**Crassula ovata**Crassula muscosa* var. *muscosa*

Show and Sale-2024

Thank you to our vendors!



Show and Sale-2024

Thank you to our volunteers!



Show and Sale-2024

Show Tables and Plants



Show and Sale-2024

Show Tables and Plants



Mini Show Standings April 2024

Novice	Cactus	Succulent	Total	Intermediate	Cactus	Succulent	Total	Open	Cactus	Succulent	Total
Bjerke, Martha		10	10	Caplan, Anita		14	14	Capaldo, Maria	12	20	32
Dorsey, Martin	18	20	38	Ikemura, Bonnie		4	4	DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	11	21	32
Mena, Braulio	3	9	12	Johnson, Bernard	18	22	40	Duke, Gary	30	12	42
Nisewaner, John		6	6	Short, Mike	2	19	21	Fasteau, Sally	4	1	5
Ohara, Linda		12	12	Straub, Terri	29	12	41	Gardner, Jim		17	17
Tillotson, Joseph	2	1	3					Hanna, Jim		5	5
Ying, Liz	4	1	5					Woodley, Laurel	1	4	5

2024-2025 Mini-Show Calendar

<u>Month</u>	<u>Cactus</u>	<u>Succulent</u>
May	Eriosyce, Neoporteria, Islaya, Neochilenia	Crassula
June	Gymnocalycium	Pachypodium
July	Ferocactus, Leuchtenbergia	Kalenchoe
August	Lobivia, Echinopsis, Soehrensia and Chamaecereus	Stapeliads (Huernia, Stapelia, Orbea, etc.)
September	Discocactus, Uebelmania	Sansevieria, Dracaena
October	Miniature (3inch or less)	Miniature(3inch or less)
November	North American Columnar Cacti (Saguaro, Cereus, etc.)	Senecio, Caputia, Curio, Kleinia and hybrids
December	Holiday Pot Luck	Holiday Pot Luck
January 2025	Mammillaria and Cochemiea, single-headed	Pelargonium, Sarcocaulon, and Tylecodon
February 2025	Stenocactus, Echinofossulocactus	Euphorbia from Madagascar
March 2025	Thelocactus	Aeonium, Greenovia
April 2025	Show and Sale	Show and Sale

Mini-Show Rules

Exhibitors must be club members and must be present at the meeting in order to receive points. One name representing the same household must be used unless plants are grown separately. Mini-show coordinator will be consulted if there is any question of entry identity.

Any container may be used, including plastic, as long as it is clean. All plants must be groomed and free of pests and disease.

There are two plant categories, "Cactus" and "Succulents". Up to three plants per individual may be entered in each category.

Scoring:

First Place: 6 points
Second place: 4 points
Third place: 2 points

Placement: all entries that are not disqualified: 1 point.

An individual plant may be entered only once a year. There are three entry classes: "Novice", "Intermediate" and "Open." Only members new to the hobby would be expected to be in the Novice class. After the November meeting, members' point totals will be reviewed by the Board of the Society.

Novice members awarded more than 64 points or winning at least 6 first place awards may be asked to move to the Intermediate class in both categories.

Intermediate Members awarded more than 64 points or winning at least 6 first place awards, may be asked to begin showing in the Open class.

All plants must be grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of six months for Novice and Intermediate and one year for Open class.

Upcoming events around town

SUNSET SUCCULENT SOCIETY
ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE

MAY 4 - 5, 2024
SATURDAY & SUNDAY SALE
9AM - 4PM
SATURDAY SHOW 12PM - 4PM
SUNDAY SHOW 9AM - 4PM

(TEEN CENTER) AT VETERAN'S MEMORIAL CENTER
4117 OVERLAND BOULEVARD CULVER CITY

FREE ENTRY

FREE PARKING




- BRYAN CHAN BROMELIADS
- COLE JAMES CERAMICS
- DESERT CREATIONS
- DISTINCTIVE FLORA
- DUKE & KAZ SUCCULENTS
- GERALD RICHERT POTTERY
- GREEN TOUCH NURSERY
- GOLDBALL CACTUS
- GROW UP
- HANNA'S SUCCULENTS
- INNERSCAPES
- JPM PLANTS
- JUNE'S POTS
- KATHRYN BOORER
- KYLE'S PLANTS
- MICHELLE LEE ART
- NELS CHRISTENSON POTS
- SKYVIEW SUCCULENTS
- SUNSET SUCCULENT
- THORN OASIS
- TRISH SIDWERSKI PLANTS

the
LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB
invites you to our...
CACTUS & SUCCULENT SALE
Ceramics & other plants too



SUNDAY
MAY 5TH 12-4PM
9402 OAK ST
BELLFLOWER
CALIFORNIA
WWW.LONGBEACHCACTUSCLUB.ORG

LACSS
Drought Tolerant Plant Festival

May 18 9am - 4pm
May 19 9am - 3pm

Sepulveda Garden Center
16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino
Free admission + parking



Join us Earth Day weekend



Upcoming Meetings



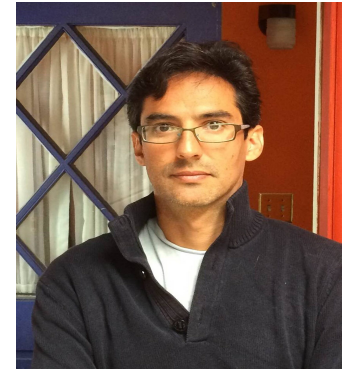
**SOUTH COAST CACTUS
AND SUCCULENT
SOCIETY MEETING**

PRESENTER: KELLY GRIFFIN
"NAMIBIA" NOTE NEW DATE
MAY 19, 2024 1:00-4:00 pm
SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN
Frances Young Hall
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274



**SOUTH COAST CACTUS
AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
MEETING**

PRESENTER: JEFF MOORE
"DUDLEYA"
JUNE 9, 2024 1:00-4:00 pm
SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN
Frances Young Hall
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274



**SOUTH COAST CACTUS
AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
MEETING**

PRESENTER: ERNESTO SANDOVAL
July 14, 2024 1:00-4:00 pm
SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN
Frances Young Hall
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

For more information and to learn more



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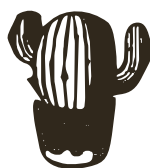
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M.A . Bjarkman
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Terri Straub



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