

Prickly News

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter

January 2019

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

Click here for our Facebook page

NEXT MEETING

Laurel Woodley:

"Discovering Plant Taxonomy"

Sunday January 13, at 1:00 pm
(Program starts at 1:30pm)

REFRESHMENTS FOR JANUARY

Thanks to those who helped in December.

Volunteers for January refreshments are:

?

If you would like to bring something to the meeting please do so - thanks!

Volunteers: Please report to the kitchen after the meeting if you are able to help with cleanup.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our annual Holiday Potluck was enjoyable with great food and lots of time to socialize for our 73 attendees. Thanks to Phyllis for the table decorations, Laurel and others for the juniper decorations, and M.A. for monitoring the kitchen throughout the festivities. Bernard and Clif did a wonderful job with the meat. I hope everyone had a great time.

The winners for the drawing for gift memberships for CSSA (Cactus and Succulent Society of America) were Rosemarie Murphy and Martin Dorsey. I hope they enjoy the Journal and take advantage of the convention pricing that comes with membership. The CSSA convention will be held this year on July 17-20, 2019 at San Louis Obispo, California.

It was fun to see our 2018 annual plant, *Theolocactus Bicolor* var. *parras*, and how differently the plants looked. Carol Knight had the best plant as well as best staged one. (see photo pg 5). We also collected the forms about how our plants were grown.

Our 2019 plant of the year is a hybrid, *Haworthia maughanii* X *truncata*. This is a winter grower, likes to be in shade or partial shade, and is very sensitive to overwatering. In habitat, it grows buried in the ground with just the leave tips visible. However, in cultivation, it stays above the soil. It is best to repot the plant in the cooler weather when the original pot is bulging, or if you prefer a more decorated planter. Use a well-drained soil (Jim Hanna recommends 50/50 soil and pumice mix). Please keep a record of when you repot, it's size and the conditions under which the plant is grown so we can share that information next year.

Winter is definitely here and cooler and longer nights mean less watering, more attention to needs of winter growers, and providing cover to rain sensitive plants when and if the rains come. I have great hopes!

I look forward to the Huntington Desert Forum on January 19th, a yearly open house event for CSSA affiliate members to enjoy the Gardens and purchase plants. See the calendar for information.

At our upcoming meeting January, our own Laurel Woodley will be the speaker. She is quite knowledgeable and her talk on Plant Taxonomy should be instructive and fun. As usual, if you have questions on your plants or want to show off a flowering gem, please bring them to the meeting for our Brag table.

See you there! Maria Capaldo, President



IN THIS ISSUE

PRESENTER FOR THE MONTH.....	2
CACTUS OF THE MONTH.....	2
SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH.....	3
2018 MINI-SHOW WINNERS.....	5
2018 BEST ANNUAL PLANT PHOTO.....	5
CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS.....	6
MINI-SHOW PLANTS 2019.....	7
BOARD OF DIRECTORS.....	7
EDITOR'S CORNER.....	8

PRESENTER FOR JANUARY: Laurel Woodley
“Discovering Plant Taxonomy”

L aurel's presentation visits the basic information needed to understand how plants get their names and some of the structure of classification in the botanical world. The intent is to demystify the process and introduce the basics of plant names.

Laurel Woodley is a retired biology professor from Los Angeles Harbor College who has been involved in Southern California horticulture since the mid 1960's.

She has been a volunteer at South Coast Botanic Garden since 2005 and a Trustee since 2006 helping to identify and label the trees and shrubs in the garden. More recently she has been contributing daily Instagram pictures of plants in flower with commentary about cultural requirements.

She is a past Director and President of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America and now serves as Advisor. She has long collected and grown a variety of succulents and is an active member of the Sunset Succulent and South Coast Cactus & Succulent Societies. She regularly posts pictures of show plants on the CSSA Facebook Page.



CACTUS OF THE MONTH: Mammillaria - single head
Submitted by Jim Tanner

Click to see the same with more photos on our website

[Ed: For our Mini-Show we will accept Mammillaria that currently have only one head. Otherwise it is confusing because some members of the genus that are known as “single head” can produce offsets with age, conversely some that usually offset may never produce any.]

This month's 'Mini-Show Plant of The Month' Cacti is 'Mammillaria Single Headed', regardless of the size. Some mammillarias remain as solitary plants their whole lives, while others will clump. If your mammillaria plant



Mammillaria longiflora



Mammillaria formosa subs. chionocephala

currently has one head, you are welcome to enter the show.

There are around 300 species of Mammillarias. Most are native to Mexico, some are native from southwestern USA, Caribbean, Central America, or even a couple in northern South America. In their range you can find Mammillarias from sea level to high elevations. They also

vary in size from miniature 1 inch in diameter (2.5 cm), to columnar types 1 foot tall (30 cm).

The name Mammillaria comes from the Latin for “nipple”, because the areoles (structures carrying the spines) are carried by nipple like structures instead of being organized in ribs like many other cacti. Another significant difference is that the flowers are not coming from the areoles, but from the area at the juncture of 2 tubercles.



Mammillaria columbiana

As could be expected from so many species, their growing requirements are quite varied. Many species are easy and fast to grow and bloom while young, which is why they are very popular. Some are quite hardy while others will rot easily if kept too cold. All of them require excellent drainage. This is more easily accomplished by using a good cactus soil mixture, and using a shallow pot.

In general the Mammillarias bloom easily, but many species need a rest period in winter during which they are



Mammillaria herrerae

kept cool in order to bloom. Furthermore flowers form a ring on tissue grown the previous growing season, so it is important to get them to grow every year, which means regular watering and fertilizing during their growing period.



Mammillaria polythele 'Toluca'

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH: Lithops, Conophytum

Submitted by Jim Tanner

Lithops are very simple plants. All you get are two leaves, each mostly filled with water holding cells. They are dormant when the weather is too hot or too cold, and grow most in the spring.

On a fine level, no other genus has such a wealth of variation in color, shape, texture and pattern. (except maybe Conophytum).

There a little less than 60 species, about 800 or so known local variations of the species, and a few hundred named and unnamed cultivars.

No two Lithops plants look the same, yet a knowledgeable grower can identify most species.



Lithops hookeri

There are as many successful ways of growing Lithops as there are growers, and the cultivation practices are modified to fit individual habits, and local microclimates. The basic cultivation routine is: Stop watering after flowering, or at the end of November, except for *L. optica* which needs water until the end of December. Start watering after the old leaves completely dry. (Usually late March or Early April) Water freely during the summer. Grow them in an open, fast draining mix. Most growers use at least 50% pumice, some sand, and little organic material. Keep peat out of the mix. Some good growers fertilize frequently, some hardly ever. Keep them dry during the winter.



Lithops pseudotruncatella

Conophytum is a large genus of small plants. They are winter growing. They generally, but not always clump. They are relatively easy to grow, as long as they are allowed to be dry when dormant, and then protected from



Lithops optica rubra

Lithops are small, they don't take up much room. They are easy to grow from seed, with seed planting best in either October or April. There are good growers who do it both ways, and some who do it both times.

Because they are small and inexpensive, its best to grow them in quantity. Most of the people who can't grow Lithops, have killed a few one by one. They are best grown by the dozen. Even the best growers have plants that mysteriously dry up, or leave during the night.



Conophytum minimum



Lithops lesliei var. hornii



Conophytum calculus

overheating and desiccation. An eastern exposure is often recommended. They are readily available as plants and seeds. Once the knack is acquired, most Conophytum are easy to grow. In late July, Conophytum are generally dormant, and are covered by the paper thin leaves from last year's growth.

The bilobum types tend to be easier (more forgiving of watering errors) for beginners. These have two definite leaves, with a deep notch between them. The more difficult



Conophytum ficiforme

small round leafed forms provide an additional challenge, and additional rewards with spectacular colors, patterns and shapes. A large collection can be maintained in a very small area.

Tom Glavich



Conophytum bilobum

Congratulations to our 2018 Mini-Show winners

Open Class	Total
Maria Capaldo	100
Phyllis DeCrescenzo	94
Gary Duke	86
William Wilk	62

Intermediate Class	Total
Sally Fasteau	120
Bernard Johnson	69
Dale LaForest	52
Mike Short	37

Novice Class	Total
Connie Nettles	97
Terri Straub	60
Ted Johnson	55
Eric Scott	27

Carol Knight
winner of the Best Kept
Annual Plant for 2018,
Thelocactus Bicolor var.
parras



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2019

*Click to see the calendar
(with flyers) on our website*

- Jan 12-13** **San Gabriel Valley C&SS Show & Sale**
9am-4pm both days, LA County Arboretum 310 N. Baldwin, Arcadia, CA
INFO: www.sgvcss.com or 626-821-3222
- Jan 19** **Huntington Desert Forum 2019**
9-4:30pm, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. 626-405-3504
- Feb 9** **San Diego C&SS, Winter Show & Sale.**
Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA. INFO: 619-990-2051
- Mar 21-23** **Orange County C&SS Spring Show & Sale**
Thurs. 21st 6-9pm, Fri. 22nd 9-7pm, Sat. 23rd 9-5pm.
Anaheim United Methodist Church, 1000 State College Bl., Anaheim, CA. INFO: 562-587-3357
- Apr 13** **Conejo C&SS Plant Sale**
9am to 3pm, Elks Lodge, 158 N. Conejo School Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
INFO: conejocss@hotmail.com
- Apr. 6-7** **South Coast C&SS Show & Sale**
9am-4pm, South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes, CA.
<http://www.southcoastcss.org>, INFO: cknightgardens@yahoo.com, setup Friday 5th.
- Apr. 28** **Huntington Plant Sale**
10am-5pm, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. 626-405-3504
- May 4-5** **Sunset C&SS Show & Sale**
Veterans Memorial Center, Multi-Purpose Room, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA.
INFO: 310-822-1783
- May 5** **South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale**
9am To 4pm, South Coast Botanic Garden, INFO: 310-833-6823
- May 10-11** **Gates C&SS Show & Sale**
Fri & Sat 9am-4pm, Redlands Church of Nazarene, 1307 E. Citrus Ave., Redlands, CA.
INFO: 909-910-9195 or www.gatescss.com
- May ??** **Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show & Sale**
INFO: 310-647-7300
- May 25-26** **Central Coast C&SS Annual Show & Sale**
Sat 10-5pm, Sun 10-4pm, Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, CA.
INFO: 805-237-2054, www.centralcoastcactus.org
- Jun 1-2** **San Diego C&SS Summer Show & Sale**
Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA. INFO: 858-382-1797
- Jun 8-9** **Los Angeles C&SS- Drought Tolerant Plant Festival Show & Sale**
June 8th 9-4pm, June 9th 9-3pm, Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA.
INFO: www.lacactus.com
- Jun 28-30** **CSSA Annual Show & Sale**
Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA.
Plants Sales Start June 28th Thru Jun. 30th, 10am To 5pm
Show Opens June 29th Thur June, 30th 10am-5pm INFO: 626-405-3504
- Jul 17-20** **CSSA Convention**
INFO: gunnar.eisel@gmail.com, <http://www.cssaconvention.com/>
- Jul 26-27** **Orange County C&SS Summer Show & Sale**
Fri. July 26th Noon-8pm, Sat. 27th 9-7pm, 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA. INFO: rmatation Call 949-212-8417
- Aug 10-11** **34th Annual Intercity Show & Sale**
9am-5pm Daily. LA County Arboretum, 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA.
INFO: Call Tom Glavich 626-798-2430 or John Martinez 805-390-2139 or www.intercityshow.com

- Aug 31** **Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium**
All day at The Huntington 626-405-3504
- Sep 14** **Los Angeles C&SS Fall Sale**
9-4pm, Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA. INFO: www.lacactus.com
- Sep 15** **Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction**
11-1pm, Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA. 90615. INFO: 562-631-5876
- Oct 12-13** **Bakersfield C&SS, Show & Sale**
Sat. 10-5pm, Sun. 11-3pm, St. Paul's Church, 2216 17th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304.
Free Admission & Parking, INFO: 661-831-8488
- Oct 25-27** **Huntington Fall Plant Sale**
Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. INFO: 626-405-3504
- Oct 26-27** **Palomar C&SS Fall Show & Sale**
Sat. 9-5, Sun 10-3, San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA.
INFO: Brita Miller – eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org

MINI-SHOW PLANTS OF THE MONTH (POM) 2019		
	Cactus	Succulent
January	Mammillaria single headed	Lithops, Conophytum
February	Stenocactus, Echinofossulocactus	Euphorbia from Madagascar
March	Thelocactus	Aeonium, Greenovia
April	SHOW & SALE	SHOW & SALE
May	Cactus Dish Garden	Succulent Dish Garden
June	Rebutia, Aylostera, Sulcorebutia, Weingartia	Echeveria
July	Matucana, Oroya	Mesembs, NO Lithops or Conophytum
August	Epithelantha, Frailea, Aztekium	Dyckia, Hechtia, Puya
September	Variegated cactus	Variegated Succulent
October	Turbinicarpus	Adromischus
November	South American columnar cactus (Espostoa, Oreocereus, Cleistocactus, etc.)	Pelargonium, Sarcocaulon. Tylecodon
December	HOLIDAY PARTY	HOLIDAY PARTY

Happy New Year

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FY2017-2018

Officers:

President Maria Capaldo
Vice President M.A. Bjarkman
Secretary Sue Wong
Treasurer Bernard Johnson

At Large Board Members:

David Hodgson, Clif Wong, Caitlin Rubia

Standing Committee Chairs:

Communications Mike Short
Finance Jim Hanna
Membership Sally Fasteau
Programs Gary Duke
Show and Sale Carol Knight

Committee Members (Tasked):

Mini-Show Coordinator Jim Tanner
Publicity (Show) Anita Caplan
Publicity (Monthly) Ann Nye
Speaker Coordinator Jade Neely

Liasons:

CGCI Lou Hagemeier
CSSA Bill Wilk

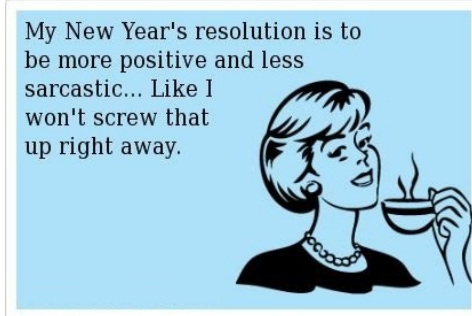
Other Positions:

Facebook Laurel Woodley
Hospitality/Refreshments Maria Blas,
Debby Hemingway
Newsletter/Webmaster Mike Short
Plant Man Jim Hanna

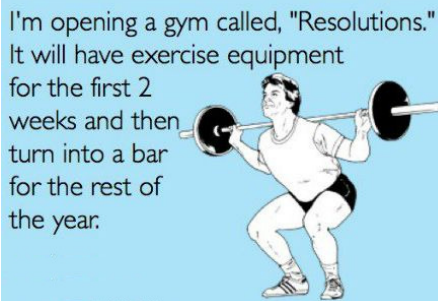


Johnny Optimism

JohnnyOptimism.com / ©2014 by Stilton Jarlsberg



Youth is when you're allowed to stay up late on New Year's Eve. Middle age is when you're forced to.



Editor's Corner



Thanks to Jade Neely and Gary Duke for supplying the Presenter of the Month material. Thanks to Jim Tanner for supplying the Mini-Show and Plant of the Month material. Thanks to Jim Hanna and all for supplying the POM lists.

Mini-Show winners can request the original (full size) photo of their plant from mshort@mail.com stating either the size and format required or how you intend to use it (1080 computer screen, TV, 4 x 6 print, etc.).

Contributions to the newsletter are encouraged, especially articles of an educational nature.

Also information on upcoming events that might be of interest to club members are welcomed. Humorous articles, photos, cartoons, or poetry also welcomed. Materials supplied for the newsletter ought to be legally usable, there should not be any copyright infringement. We can attach attributions when required, usually the owner's name, the origin of the material, and any license involved. Attribution is often required for photos on the web, like those covered by "Wikimedia Commons" licenses. Please supply any required information along with the material submitted.

Mike Short - Editor.