



# PRICKLY NEWS

SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER | JULY 2022



**Hi to all!** I want to start with a reminder that our next meeting is on the third Sunday of the month, July 17<sup>th</sup>. We will be at the South Coast Botanic Garden. Thereafter, we are scheduled to have the meetings on the second Sunday, our usual, for the remainder of the year. Admission to the meetings is free for members of the Society and their guests, but their names must be on the list. Sally Fasteau, our membership chair, will be giving me a list of paid-up members which I will submit to the garden. If you have a guest, please submit the names to me beforehand (the Wednesday before the meeting). Please enter the auditorium through the second door on the courtyard. It's great to be back at the Garden!

Summer is here, but for those of us at the coast, we still have a small window of time with cooler weather to pot up those summer growers before the hottest months arrive. To see the names of summer growers, see the list on our website at <https://southcoastcss.org/dormancy/>.

Bring your plants to the Minishow of the month clean and free of pests. This month plants are Cactus: **Matucana** and **Oroya** and Succulent: **Mesembs** (excluding Lithops and Conophytums).

Our speaker will be **Gary Duke** who will present the plants and geology of Northern Argentina from his trip in November 2021.

*I hope to see you there!*

Maria Capaldo

GUEST SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

**Gary Duke**



**Northern Argentina**



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



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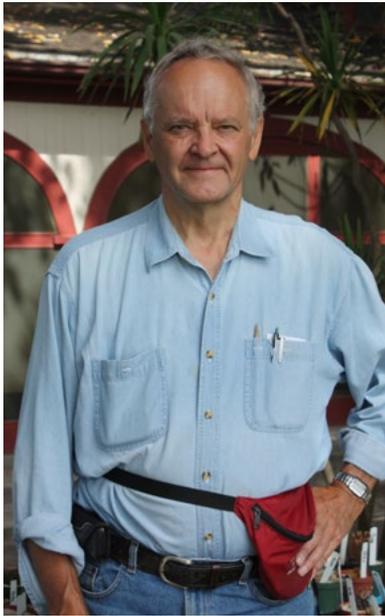
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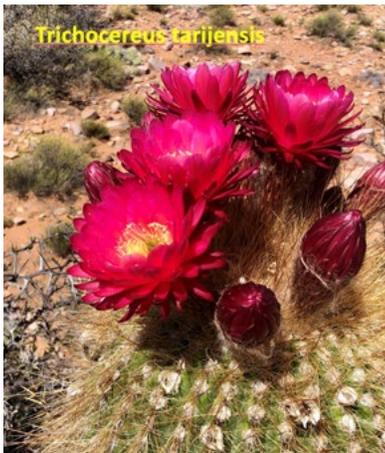
# “Northern Argentina”

BY GARY DUKE



Gary shows 31 cacti genera and 15 succulent genera, to include many species of *Gymnocalycium*, *Lobivia*, *Echinopsis* and *Tillandsia* all native to Argentina. He was able to find the elusive *Yavia cryptocarpa*. He also shows some very interesting geological sites.

Gary Duke is an incumbent on the Board of Directors to the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. He currently assists with auditing the CSSA finances each year and also is a member of the Honors Committee. He has been collecting cacti and succulents for over 50 years. He's an avid collector of cacti and also collects Tylecodons and Dudleyas. He is a retired Air Force officer with a doctoral degree in physics. During his military career, he moved his original and ever expanding collection of less than about 30 plants from Illinois, where he grew up, to Omaha, NE, Dayton, OH (where he started their first C&S Society, which is now defunct), San Pedro, CA,



*Trichocereus tarijensis*



*Tunilla soehrensii*

Montgomery, AL and Albuquerque, NM where he had been show chairman. He has also been President of the South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society and the Long Beach Cactus Society. Following his military career, he worked as a program manager for Boeing for 16 years. He has over 1000 different species in his private collection and enjoys propagating them. One can view some plants in his collection on his Instagram site: garyduke53. He frequently gives slide presentations throughout southern California, including being invited to speak at the Huntington Botanical Gardens and at the Denver Cactus and Succulent Society. He has traveled to Aruba, Peru, Baja Mexico, Bolivia, Argentina and Chile to see cacti and succulents in habitat.



## Monthly Cactus: Matucana

**Matucana** is a genus of cacti, containing approximately 20 species of mostly globular plants. The genus is only known from Peru, mostly along the Marañón River. Named after the small Peruvian town 50 miles east of Lima, where they grow at 6,000-13,000 feet.

Overall, Matucana species are globular or cylindrical plants with shallow ribs and moderate to light spination. The largest maxing out at around 30 inches (75cm), most remain under a foot (30cm) in height. Ribs are distinctly tuberculate and the plant bodies are typically bright green. The flowers of Matucana are quite distinctive and showy. Most are bilateral and stand up above the plant on tall floral tubes that are reminiscent of “cowl vents” on a ship. (The vents that cartoon characters are always jumping into.) Most flowers are red, but may be orange, pink, yellow, or white. Fruits are juicy and round.

Cactus: Matucana



*Matucana intertexta*



*Matucana formosa*



*Matucana huagalensis*



*Matucana aureiflora*



*Matucana grandiflora*



# Monthly Succulent : Oroya

**Oroya** is a genus of cacti, originating from Peru. The name comes from the Peruvian town of La Oroya where the first plants were discovered. Oroya species are solitary with a globular form and many ribs with usually-dense pectinate spines. Usually up to 13 inches (32 cm) high, and 9 inches (22 cm) in diameter.

Small flowers (up to 1 cm in diameter) grow along a ring near the top of the plant. The flowers are yellow, but their stems are often pink or red.

All the species are difficult to grow, and are often encountered grafted.

Cactus: Oroya



*Oroya peruviana*



*Oroya acollana*



*Oroya peruviana*



*Oroya borchersii*



By Tom Glavich

JULY

## Monthly Succulent : Mesembs

**Mesembs** form a major and unique component of southern Africa's arid land flora. Succulent leaves, bright shiny-petalled flowers and hygrochastic fruit (capsules open when it rains) characterize the group. Mesembs are extremely diverse, particularly so in the Succulent Karoo Region, although they have a strong presence in the Fynbos. Some of the more primitive groups are almost entirely confined to Fynbos, suggesting that the Fynbos Biome may have acted as a mesic refuge for the semi-succulent members of this group. Mesembs are the subjects of a huge trade in 'curiosity plants' among succulent collectors. They display features not seen elsewhere in the plant kingdom. The combination of minutism, mimicry and extreme succulence accounts for much of the variation in form and bizarre shapes that add to their appeal. Mesembs are annual to perennial succulents, ranging from minute to compact and tufted to prostrate to decumbent; herbs, dwarf shrubs, subshrubs or shrubs, they are rarely spiny. The leaves are opposite, rarely alternate, simple, free at the base to almost completely united into single, conical and spherical bodies, often sheathing the stem. Their shape may be flat to 3-angled to cylindrical. All leaves may be similar or different types of leaf pairs may be present, members of a leaf pair may be similar or dissimilar.

Mesembs comprise 127 genera and about 1,700 species, and account for 63% of southern Africa's succulent flora, and almost 10% of South Africa's Flora. Modern taxonomic interpretation places this group into the family Aizoaceae, although the old family name Mesembryanthemaceae is still used.

*Continued on page 7*



By Tom Glavich

Succulent: Mesembs (No Lithops or Conophytum)



*Trichodiadema mirabile*



*Trichodiadema densum*



*Titanopsis calcarea*



## Monthly Succulent : Mesembs



*Stomatium resedolens*



*Argyroderma fissum*



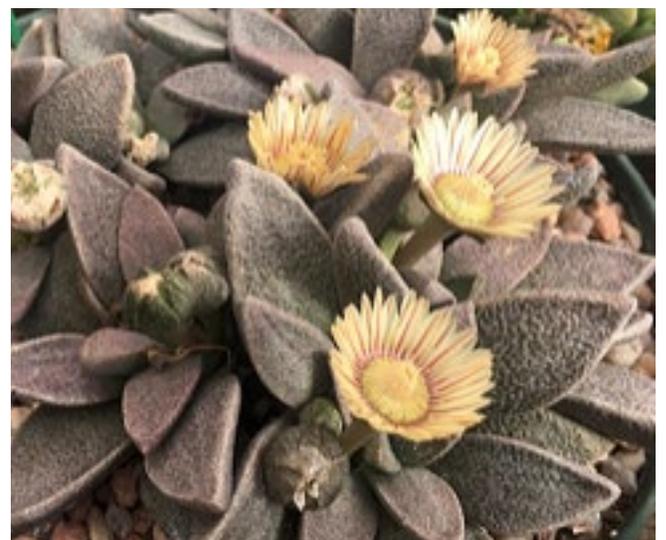
*Schwantesia marlothii*



*Aloinopsis spathulata*



*Odontophorus nanus*



*Aloinopsis rubrolineata*

Succulent: Mesembs (No Lithops or Conophytum)



# Monthly Succulent : Mesembs

This family is comparable in size to the New World Cactaceae, also an arid area specialist group. Mesembs occur mostly in the southwestern parts of the African continent, from Angola down to the Western Cape Province, extending well into the east over the central plateau of South Africa and reaching into Zimbabwe and Botswana.

They dominate vegetation in the Succulent Karoo Region. This winter rainfall desert constitutes the world's only arid biodiversity 'hotspot' of the 25 recognized globally. The family is almost entirely endemic to southern Africa with only about 20 species occurring naturally elsewhere.

Succulent: Mesembs (No Lithops or Conophytum)



*Gibbaeum pubescens ssp. shandii*



*Aloinopsis loganii*



*Delosperma crassum*



*Cheiridopsis denticata*



.....  
By Tom Glavich

## Latin Lookup

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

### CACTUS

**aureiflora** [awr-ee-ih-FLOR-uh] From the Latin aureus (yellow) and florus (flowered).

**formosa** [for-MOH-suh] Beautiful.

**grandiflora** [gran-dih-FLOR-uh]  
With large flowers.

**intertexta** [in-ter-TEKS-tuh] Intertwined.

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

**Oroya** [or-ROY-uh] Named for La Oroya, near Lima (Peru).

**peruviana** [per-u-vee-AN-uh] Of or from Peru.

### SUCCULENTS

**Aloinopsis** [al-low-in-OP-sis] Aloe-like.

**Argyroderma** [ar-gy-ro-DERM-uh]  
1. Silver skin. 2. From the Greek words argyros (silver) and derma (skin).

**calcareia** [kal-KAR-ee-uh] Of chalky land.

**Cheiridopsis** [kye-rid-OP-sis] From the Greek cheiris (sheath) and ophis (resembling), referring to the leaves forming a sheath covering the emerging leaves.

**crassum** [KRASS-um] Thick, fleshy, dense or fat.

**Delosperma** [del-oh-SPUR-muh] Obvious seed.

**densum** [DEN-sum] Compact, dense.

**fissum** [FIZ-zum, FIS-sum] From the Latin fissura, to split or crack.

**Gibbaeum** [GIB-bay-um] from the Latin gibba (hump), for the humped leaves of each leaf pair.

**marlothii** [mar-LOTH-ee-eye] Named after Hermann Wilhelm Rudolph Marloth, 19th century German botanist and author in South Africa.

**mirabile** [mih-RAB-ih-ley] Wonderful.

**nanus** [NAN-us] Small, dwarf.

**Odontophorus** [oh-don-to-FOR-us]  
Bearing (carrying) teeth.

**pubescens** [pew-BES-senz, pub-ess-ens]  
Downy, short haired.

**rubrolineata** [roo-bro-lin-ee-AY-tuh] Red Lined.

**Schwantesia** [shwan-TEZ-ee-uh]  
Named for Dr. Martin Heinrich Gustav Schwantes, 20th century German botanist specializing in Mesembs.

**shandii** [SHAN-dee-eye]  
For John Shand, 20th century magistrate in Ladsmith, South Africa.

**spathulata** [spath-yoo-LAY-tuh]  
With a small spathe.

**Stomatium** [sto-MAH-tee-um, sto-MAY-tee-um] From the Greek stoma (mouth).

**Titanopsis** [ty-tan-OP-sis]  
Resembles Titan, the sun god; referring to the flower's resemblance to the sun.

**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.

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



# Mini-Show Plant Calendar



## Mini-Show Plants for 2022

July 2022	Matucana, Oroya	Mesembs, NO Lithops or Conophytum
August 2022	Epithelantha, Frailea, Aztekium	Dyckia, Hechtia, Puya
September 2022	Variegated Cactus	Variegated Succulent
October 2022	Turbiniacarpus	Adromischus
November 2022	South American columnar cactus (Espostoa, Oreocereus, Cleistocactus, etc.)	Pelargonium, Sarcocaulon, Tylecodon
December 2022	Holiday Potluck	Holiday Potluck
January 2023	Mammillaria straight spine (clumping)	Aloe
February 2023	Epiphytic Cactus	Haworthia, Astroloba
March 2023	Echinocactus	Agave, Manfreda, (inc. x Mangave)
April 2023	2023 SCCSS SHOW & SALE	2023 SCCSS SHOW & SALE
May 2023	Notocactus, Parodia	Euphorbia (not from Madagascar)
June 2023	Opuntia, Tephrocactus, Cyllindropuntia, Austrocylindropuntia	Cissus, Cyphostemma



## SCCSS Mini-Show 2022 Winners



### Open Cactus

- 1st: Maria Capaldo – *Sulcorebutia rauschii*
- 2nd: Maria Capaldo – *Sulcorebutia tiraquensis* var. *bicolor*
- 2nd: Gary Duke – *Aylostera alboputinata*
- 3rd: Phyllis DeCrescenzo – *Rebutia fulviseta*



### Intermediate Cactus

- 1st: Bernard Johnson – *Rebutia steinbachii* subsp. *tiraquensis*



### Novice Cactus

- 1st: Terri Straub – *Rebutia perplexa*
- 2nd: Terri Straub – *Rebutia muscula*
- 3rd: Terri Straub – *Sulcorebutia candiae*



# SCSS Mini-Show 2022 Winners



## Open Succulent

- 1st: Jim Gardner – *Echeveria* hybrid
- 2nd: Maria Capaldo – *Echeveria agavoides* ‘Maria’
- 2nd: Maria Capaldo – *Echeveria johnsonii*
- 3rd: Jim Gardner – *Echeveria chihuahuensis*
- 3rd: Maria Capaldo – *Echeveria agavoides* ‘Ebony’



## Intermediate Succulent

- 1st: Ted Johnson – *Echeveria agavoides* ‘Ebony’
- 2nd: Bernard Johnson – *Echeveria*
- 3rd: Bernard Johnson – *Echeveria agavoides* ‘Ebony’



## Novice Succulent

- 1st: Terri Straub – *Echeveria purpureum*
- 2nd: Martha Bjerke – *Echeveria* ‘Pearl von Nurnberg’
- 2nd: Vincent Darmali – *Echeveria peacockii*
- 3rd: Terri Straub – *Echeveria canadiar*



## SCSS Mini-Show 2022 Standings

[Click here for sortable standings](#)

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total
Bjarkman, M.A.	0	4	4	Caplan, Anita	2	4	6	Capaldo, Maria	20	19	39
Bjerke, Martha	2	5	7	Johnson, Bernard	16	19	35	DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	18	17	35
Blas, Maria	0	1	1	Johnson, Ted	0	6	6	Duke, Gary	12	7	19
Cottrell, Diane	0	2	2	Short, Mike	1	10	11	Gardner, Jim	0	24	24
Darmali, Vincent	0	4	4					Hanna, Jim	0	4	4
Davis, Gretchen	1	1	2					Woodley, Laurel	2	10	12
Diaz, Gloria	0	3	3								
Galliani, Debra	0	4	4								
Johnson, Ted	0	1	1								
Lott, Lemono	0	4	4								
Mena, Braulio	4	4	8								
Mori, Joyce	0	2	2								
Neely, Jade	0	1	1								
Straub, Terri	36	35	71								

### 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.

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 will 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, will 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. An individual plant may be entered only once a year

#### Scoring:

First Place: 6 points

Second place: 4 points

Third place: 2 points

**Placement:** all entries that are not disqualified receive one point



JULY

The SCCSS What's New Fun Board

From Anita  
and Bob  
Caplan



*Here is a photo of a Dasyliirion flower coming up through my pomegranate tree. There are thousands of bees feasting on it.*



## Member Spotlight : PHYLLIS AND ROBERT DECRESCENZO

It all started some 9 years ago, in El Retiro Park, next to the tennis courts. There was a patch of land that was sandy with little grass, and their son Mark who worked for the Torrance City Parks Department, asked Phyllis if she would be willing to donate and plant some of her cacti and succulents there. When she agreed he got permission from the city to do that project. So, one Saturday, Phyllis and Robert and their family went to the park, dug up the area, removed what grass there was, turned over the soil, fertilized and planted the starts of what you see in the photo. The Riviera Garden Club donated the money to buy the fence.

Phyllis and Robert go there every Wednesday to pick up leaves, weed, put in new plants and water the area. The City of Torrance honored them with that plaque about 8 months ago. It looks like a tree stump, but actually it is a cement column with tree bark glued to it and the plaque inset into the cement!! Above the hill in the background, next to the bathrooms is another area they also tend and are slowly replacing the bromeliads there that are starting to die.



You should go to see it sometime!

Thank you Phyllis and Robert  
for your contribution to the community!



## Upcoming Events

[Click here for Full List](#)



### SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

**Meeting Location:**  
South Coast Botanic Garden,  
Frances Young Hall  
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.  
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA

Meeting starts at 1:00 pm  
Guest Speaker:  
Gary Duke:  
Northwest Argentina  
July 17, 1:30 pm



### LONG BEACH CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

**Meeting Location:**  
Woman's Club of Bellflower  
9402 Oak St, Bellflower, CA  
90706

**Meeting Times:**  
First Sunday of the month.  
Set up starts at 12:30  
Meeting starts at 1:00 pm



### ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SALE 2022

Anaheim United Methodist Church  
1000 S. State College Bl., Anaheim, CA  
Fri. July 22nd Noon To 6pm,  
Sat. 23rd 9-4pm  
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim  
United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA  
Information Call 949-212-8417

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



## 2022 Board of Directors

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**Vice President**  
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**Treasurer**  
Bernard Johnson  
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Debra Bushweit Galliani

#### AT LARGE BOARD MEMBERS:

Gary Duke  
Terri Straub



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M.A. Bjarkman  
**Finance Chair**  
Jim Hanna  
**Mini-Show Coordinator**  
Terri Straub



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**CSSA**  
M.A. Bjarkman

