

Prickly News



South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter March 2024

President's message



I hope this finds you well.
Reminder: Our March meeting will be the **third Sunday, March 17**.
Thanks to Terri Straub for running the February meeting in my absence. There may be occasions when we have to share the auditorium with other Garden events, due to weather constraints. I hope this did not inconvenience anyone.

RAIN! Our area has received a number of heavy rainstorms. Keep an eye on your plants to be sure they are not getting over watered and consider covering them, or bringing them indoors for a spell to dry out.

SHOW AND SALE The 2024 SCCSS Show and Sale will be at the Palos Verdes Art Center on April 13-14 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Set-up is on Friday, April 12 starting at noon. We need volunteers to sign up with Terri Straub. Please see the list of jobs and descriptions in this Newsletter. There will be Society Show Tables, but no individual tables due to space constraints. Members are also encouraged to donate plants to sell at the Society Sale Table.

EXPERT HELP Do you have questions about your plants? Do you need help with identification? Want to know where to purchase a particular product? Use the "Contact Us" tab on our Website to send a message, which can include a photo or other file attachment. OR, you can email me (minniecap@icloud.com) with a photo of your plant and I will pass on the question to an expert for help.

Our **MEETING** presenter is Steven Frieze, who is a well-known speaker to us. He is widely traveled and will share his month-long trip to Brazil with the group.

I hope to see you there!

Maria

Presentation



Steven Frieze:
"Journey to Brazil"

March 17 at
1:00 pm
(New date!)

South Coast Botanic Garden
Palos Verdes Peninsula CA

Save the Date:
South Coast Cactus and Succulent
Show and Sale
April 13-14, 2024 PV Art Center



To learn more visit southcoastcss.org



[Like us on our facebook page](#)

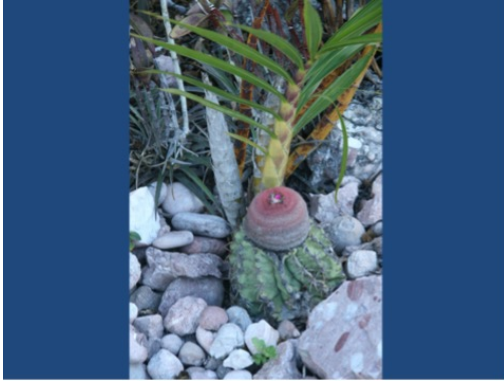


Follow us on Instagram,
https://www.instagram.com/_scss_/

IN THIS ISSUE

Speaker March	2
Mini-Show Cactus of the Month	3
Mini-Show Succulent of the Month	4-5
Do You Speak Latin?	5
February Mini-Show winners	6-8
Mini-Show Standings	8
2024 Mini-Show Calendar/Rules	9
Show and Sale Volunteer jobs	10
SCCSS Membership Application	11
Events/Board of Directors	12

"Journey to Brazil"



Melocactus bahiensis in habitat



Pilosocereus forest in Brazil



Steve in South Africa

Steven and his wife, Phyllis, journeyed to Brazil to explore the flora and fauna of a country that contained an extraordinary variety of plant life including cacti, succulents, and *Dyckia*, as well as, other genera that were equally fascinating. They encountered an ecology that possessed remarkable bio-diversity which left them with a completely different impression of what types of conditions cacti and succulents can flourish in. They encountered numerous locations where cacti, bromeliads, and orchids coexist very happily. Steven will share their nearly one-month journey, led by two prominent Brazilian horticulturists, and provide you with a glimpse of their private collections.

Steven Frieze has been involved with collection, sales and propagation of cacti and succulents for over thirty years. He is a lifetime member of the Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society where he served as the President of this club for a number of years and as its Newsletter editor for several more. Steven and his wife Phyllis own Distinctive Flora, an exotic cactus and succulent nursery, specializing in Tillandsia and Bromeliads. Phyllis and Steven have made several plant related expeditions to exotic locals such as Chile, East Africa, South Africa, Oaxaca Mexico, and Costa Rica.

Prior to his retirement, Steven was an administrator for the California State University system serving as the Executive Director of the Office of Institutional Research. Subsequent to his retirement, he has joined the Psychology Department at California State University, Dominguez Hills as an adjunct faculty member. He also functions as the Director of the Positive Psychology Lab at the same institution where students get the opportunity to design and execute psychological research studies.

Echinocereus is a genus that is much loved by cactus growers world-wide. There are several characteristics that collectively account for their popularity. All *Echinocereus* are small plants that are quite suitable for growing in pots and greenhouses. The stems of this genus are more often than not under a foot in height and perhaps 2-3 inches in diameter. Some are slightly bigger, some smaller. In the wild, some species may form large mounds of many hundreds of stems, but this takes many years and these same species are still quite manageable in cultivation.

There is a wide variety of spination that includes some of the most fierce and dramatic spines covering the plant stem so that it is not even visible. Most have moderately sized spines evenly distributed, with some having very colorful spines in alternating patterns. Some have pectinate (comb-like) spines and some are nearly spineless. The spines are arranged on ribs.

Aside from being a cultivation-friendly size, *Echinocereus* have some of the most brilliant flowers of the cactus family. They range in color from electric-pink to deep scarlet to translucent browns and greens and even bright yellow. Many species feature two-toned flowers with one color toward the center and another color on the outer parts of the petal.

One particular population exists in New Mexico, USA, of naturally-occurring hybrids that display much of this color range on one hillside from plant to plant. The flowers can be 3 inches or more in diameter and feature spiny floral tubes. Close examination reveals that the flowers actually break through the epidermis of the stem, as do any new offsetting stems.

In the wild, *Echinocereus* range from as far north as South Dakota, USA and south through most of Mexico. They inhabit a wide range of habitats growing under Ponderosa forests to coastal plains; from low-elevation deserts to mountainsides of 8000 feet or more. There can be a tremendous amount of variation within species and this can make identification especially tricky in some instances.



Echinocereus viridiflorus



Echinocereus triglochidiatus



Echinocereus pseudopectinatus



Echinocereus rigidissimus subsp. *rubispinus*

Dudleya is a genus of succulent perennials, consisting of about 45 species in southwest North America and northern Mexico. Only a handful are common in cultivation and many are on the endangered species list. A few can only be found on some of the islands off the California coast.

At one time Dudleyas were included in the *Echeveria* genus, and one can certainly see why, as some species are a bit hard to tell from Echeverias. All Dudleyas are rosette-forming succulents, like the Echeverias, and many are similarly colored. Most Dudleyas are silvery grey, have very delicate leaves that are either flattened or tubular, and tend to form stems over time. Most of the flat, thick-leaved forms grow as solitary rosettes while the tubular-leaved species form dense, suckering colonies. The flowers differ somewhat from Echeveria flowers and that is probably the primary reason they are in their own genus now. *Dudleya* flowers arise from somewhere near the bottom of the rosettes normally (rarely from the rosette center as most *Echeveria* flowers do). Also, *Dudleya* flowers are characteristically covered with leaves that are spread out along the peduncle up to the flower, another non-Echeveria-like trait. Most Dudleyas flower in late winter to early spring, and flower colors range from white, to yellow to bright red. In horticulture, *Dudleya* should be planted at an angle. This prevents the buildup of water in the leaves, which may lead to the leaves rotting.

*Dudleya farinosa**Dudleya gnoma**Dudleya brittonii**Dudleya caespitosa**Dudleya virens*

The species in the genus *Cotyledon* range from South Africa to Arabia. Many of the species that used to be included have been moved to the genus *Tylecodon*. The remaining species have a very varied appearance and are generally small succulent shrubs.

They can be used in landscaping in climates that are mostly frostless, and are interesting plants in raised beds or containers.

Most *Cotyledon* are easily grown from cuttings.



Cotyledon orbiculata
var. *oblonga*



Cotyledon tomentosa



Cotyledon 'White-sprite'

LATIN LOOK UP Loquerisne Latine (Do you speak Latin)
The meanings of Latin plant names on pages 3-5.

- **brittonii** [brit-TON-ee-eye] Named for Nathaniel Lord Britton, or his wife Elizabeth Gertrude (Knight) Britton; both were early 20th century botanists.
- **caespitosa** [kess-pi-TOH-suh] Tufted.
- **Cotyledon** [kot-EE-lee-don] Joint socket, cavity.
- **Dudleya** [DUD-lee-yuh] Named for William Russel Dudley, 19th century botany professor at Stanford University in California.
- **farinosa** [far-ih-NOH-suh] Mealy or powdery.
- **gnoma** [NOHM-uh] Dwarf.
- **orbiculata** [or-bee-kul-AY-tuh] Round.
- **tomentosa** [toh-men-TOH-suh] Covered with fine, matted hairs.
- **virens** [VEER-enz] Green.
- **Echinocereus** [ek-in-oh-KER-ee-us, ek-in-oh-SER-ee-us] From the Greek echinos, (porcupine) and cereus, referring to the shape of the floral tube.
- **pseudopectinatus** [soo-do-pek-tin-AY-tus] From the Greek pseudo (false) and pectinatus (comb).
- **rigidissimus** [rig-id-ISS-ih-mus] Very rigid, most rigid.
- **rubispinus** [roo-bih-SPIN-us] Red-colored spines.
- **triglochidiatus** [try-glo-ky-dee-AY-tus, try-glo-kid-ee-AY-tus] From the Greek tri (three) and glochis (a point), referring to the fruit of some species.
- **viridiflorus** [vir-id-uh-FLOR-us] Green flowers.

Open Cactus



1st Gary Duke
Cochemiea maritima



2nd Gary Duke
Pelecyphora strobiliformis



3rd Gary Duke
Cochemiea halei

Open Succulent



1st Phyllis DeCrescenzo
Gasteria obliqua hybrid



2nd Phyllis DeCrescenzo
× *Gasteraloe* 'Green Gold'



3rd Gary Duke *Gasteria batesiana*



3rd Phyllis DeCrescenzo
Gasteria hybrid

Intermediate Cactus



1st Terri Straub
Coryphantha pycnantha



2nd Terri Straub
Coryphantha cornifera



3rd Terri Straub
Coryphantha pycnantha

Intermediate Succulent



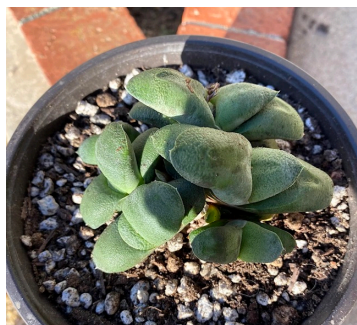
1st Mike Short *Gasteria carinata* var. *verrucosa*



2nd Mike Short *Gasteria batesiana*



2nd Mike Short *Gasteria batesiana*



3rd Terri Straub *Gasteria glomerata*



3rd Anita Caplan *Gasteria* 'Little Warty'

Novice Cactus



1st Martin Dorsey *Coryphantha elephantidens* 'Tanshi Zougemaru'



2nd Liz Ying *Coryphantha* sp.



3rd Joe Tillotson *Coryphantha octacantha*

Novice Succulent



1st Martin Dorsey *Gasteria nitida* var. *armstrongii*



2nd Braulio Mena
x *Gasteraloe* 'Green Ice'



3rd Martha Bjerke x *Gasteraloe*



3rd Martin Dorsey *Gasteria rawlinsonii*

Mini-Show Standings
February 2024

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total
Martha Bjerke		4	4	Anita Caplan		9	9	Maria Capaldo	8	6	14
Martin Dorsey	12	16	28	Bonnie Ikemura		2	2	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	5	15	20
Braulio Mena		7	7	Bernard Johnson	9	10	19	Gary Duke	19	4	23
John Nisewaner		6	6	Mike Short	2	16	18	Jim Gardner		12	12
Linda Ohara		4	4	Terri Straub	18	10	28				
Joe Tillotson	2	1	3								
Liz Ying	4	1	5								

Month	Cactus	Succulent
March	Echinocereus	Dudleya, Cotyledon
April	Show and Sale	Show and Sale
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

Mini-Show Rules

Exhibitors must be Society 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.

SHOW AND SALE VOLUNTEER JOBS FOR 2024

Dear Society Members: This is a general list of job descriptions for the upcoming Show and Sale, April 13-14, 2024. Our Sale is successful only with your participation. Please read this over to find a job you would like to do.

We welcome all to sign up for shifts: Friday after 12:00 pm, Saturday and/or Sunday, 9:00 -12:30 pm or 12:30 pm-4:00 pm. Two hour shifts are also available.

For information or to sign up for a time slot contact **Terri Straub**:

. Email: terriStraub@me.com

. Text: [424-445-9222](tel:424-445-9222)

. Call: [424-445-9222](tel:424-445-9222)

FRIDAY SETUP

Arrive Friday, April 12 at 12:00-1:00 pm or anytime thereafter to help arrange the tables, put up signs, assist with labeling and pricing of Sale Table plants. General helping of show organizing, including unloading plants from cars.

SOCIETY SALE TABLE These are plants Society members have donated. The table needs to be set up with tablecloths and plant tags by Friday afternoon. (All are provided by the Society.) Members can bring in their plants starting Friday afternoon. Saturday morning help arrange the plants on the table and make sure they are pest free. On Saturday and Sunday, keep an eye on the plants, answer general questions about the plants and keep the table looking nice.

CASHIERS

Check out buyers by ringing up the cost on the tags, adding up the total with tax and collecting cash and checks. Experience with a cash register advised. Credit card person will run the cards and give receipts.

TAG PULLERS

We need many people to help pull tags in different shifts. Tags are in the plants the buyers are purchasing. Pullers need to pull the tags, count them and make sure that number matches the number of plants to be purchased.

HOSPITALITY/MEMBERSHIP/T-SHIRTS

Volunteers will help with new memberships or sell T-shirts. Answer general questions and direct guests to features of the event.

PRESALE PLANT HOLDING AREA

These volunteers will help watch that buyers only take their plants and not pick and choose from other people's plants in the holding area. Can be a sitting job.

CLEAN UP

At 4:00 pm Sunday we close the show/sale. We need volunteers to help take down signs, clean off tables, sweep and general clean up. Pack up rented tables, if needed.



SCCSS Membership Application

New and Renewing Members: You can either fill in the information on a computer then print, or print first then write in the information. Please sign after printing.

**Make check payable to: SCCSS
Mail form and payment to: Bernard Johnson,
629 18th Street, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266**

Date mm/dd/yy:

Name:

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Email Address: Phone:

Our membership year begins January 1 and ends December 31.

- \$20.00 Membership: Renewal or New Member
- Lifetime Member Honoree: No Charge
- I am a Member of CSSA – Cactus and Succulent Society of America

The above information will be included in our Membership Directory (for use by members only). If you wish to exclude any of the above information from the Directory, please indicate your exclusions here.

Do not publish my: Email Phone Address

SCCSS is a 501 3C organization. In addition to your dues you may make an optional charitable donation to support our philanthropic endeavors as well as the operating expenses of the organization. If you choose to do so, please indicate the amount _____. You will receive a donation receipt. Thank you.

I agree to have my information published in the Membership Directory with noted exceptions.

Signature Date: _____

Sally Fasteau, Membership Chair
sallyfasteau@cox.net
310-544-1313

ms-20220218

Date _____ Check # _____ Cash _____ Amount _____ Donation _____ Receipt _____

Upcoming Events



SOUTH COAST
CACTUS AND
SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Speaker: Steve Frieze **Note
new date**
March 17 1:00 pm-4:00 pm
South Coast Botanic Garden
Frances Young Hall
26300 Crenshaw Blvd. Palos
Verdes Peninsula, CA



SOUTH COAST
CACTUS AND
SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Annual Show and Sale
April 13-14th, 2024
9:00am - 4:00pm
Palos Verdes Art Center
5504 Crestridge Road
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA
90275

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



2024 Board of Directors

OFFICERS:

President

Maria Capaldo

Vice President

Terri Straub

Treasurer

Bernard Johnson

Secretary

Debra Bushweit Galliani

At Large Board Members

Martha Bjerke

Vince Darmali

Nancy Sams

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Show and Sale

Terri Straub

Programs Chair

M.A. Bjarkman

Finance Chair

Jim Hanna

Mini-Show

Coordinacor

Terri Straub

Communications

Chair Mike Short

Webmaster

Mike Short

Newsletter

Maria Capaldo

Publicity

Ann Nye

Facebook

Laurel Woodley

Instagram

Nancy Sams

Membership

Chair Sally Fasteau

Speaker Coordinators

M.A. Bjarkman

Braulio Mena

LIAISONS:

CGCI

Braulio Mena

CSSA

M.A. Bjarkman

