SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2020

Jackson Burkholder

#### ZOOM PRESENTATION

Sunday, August 9, 2020 @ 1:30 pm (Members watch for an email invitation)

#### The Botany of Cacti: An Introduction



#### Greetings from Home, still!

Thank you to all of you who sent photos of your plants and gardens. You will see them in our Newsletter and at our Zoom meetings for interest. I am always inspired by seeing other's gardens and hope that you enjoy these as well. Our first Zoom meeting went well and Gary

Duke was well prepared for his talk. Thanks to Scott Bunnel for hosting the meeting for us. I hope more of you will join us for the August meeting where we will hear Jackson Burkholder give us a Cactus Botany presentation-very instructive!

CALL FOR PHOTOS: Please continue to send photos for the Plant of the Month. The Mini-show categories have been published online with information about each genera. Our genera for August are Cactus: Astrophytum and Succulent: Sedum, Pachyphytum and Sempervivum. Photos from your collection will be published and you will be given one Mini-show point each for a submitted photo of your cactus and succulent (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 just as we do during meetings). Let me know if you would prefer not to have your name published with the photos. The photos don't have to be professional quality but as high resolution as possible so they will publish well. This is for fun and to have a chance to learn from one another and show off your plants. You may send as many photos as you like.

Please e-mail them to me at minniecap@icloud.com by August 8, 2020 so I may present some at the meeting.

**SHARE YOUR GARDEN:** Please e-mail me with photos of your garden and/or interesting plants that we can publish as a way of staying connected. Please also let me know if you have any suggestions or questions. I have decided to award up to 2 points for those submitting garden photos if you had not submitted Mini-show photos. Let's try to get some for the meeting by August 8th also.

I look forward to hearing from you. MARIA CAPALDO



#### **SHARE YOUR GARDEN**



Email me with photos of your garden and/or plants that we can publish as a way of staying connected.

minniecap@icloud.com

#### **VIDEO PRESENTATIONS:**

#### CSSA (Cactus and Succulent Society of America),

is sharing the complete video presentations of the lectures from the 2015 and 2017 Conventions. This is a chance to hear from world renowned lecturers and experience the high level information received at the Conventions.

Please go to this website to access the videos.

https:// cactusandsucculentsociety. org/



To learn more visit southcoastcss.org



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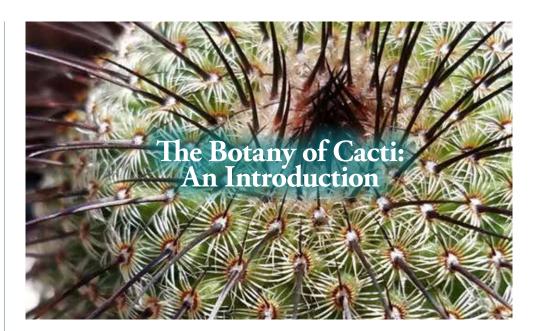
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#### The Botany of Cacti: An Introduction

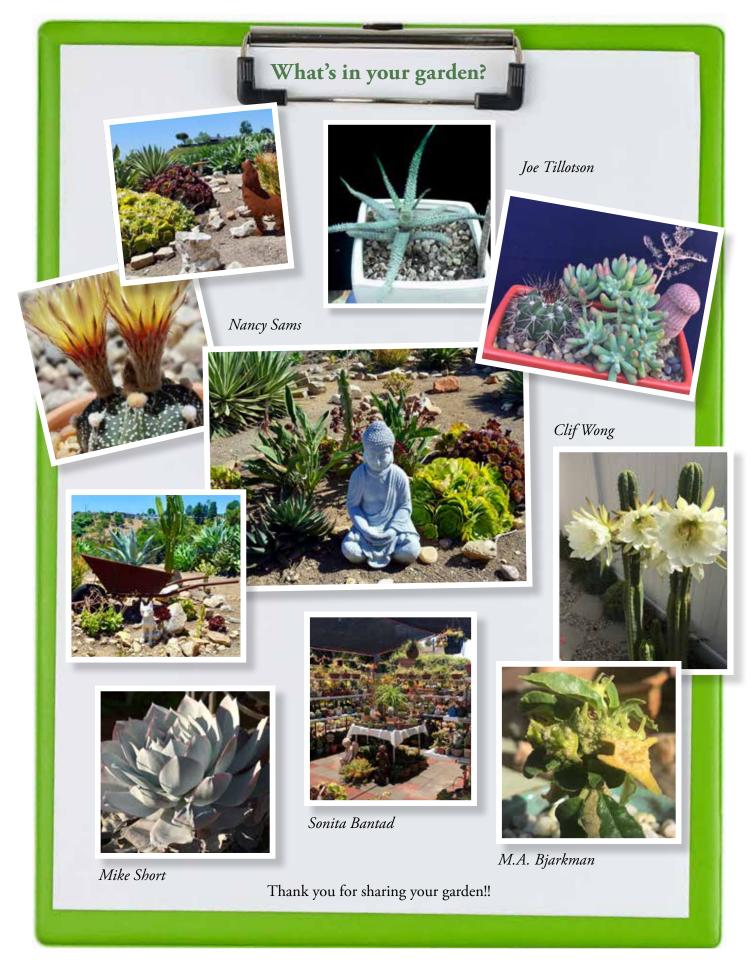
#### BY JACKSON BURKHOLDER





Jackson has been growing cacti and succulents for nearly 20 years. After being involved with the Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society for many years as a hobbyist, he recently graduated from Colorado State University with a bachelor's degree in horticulture. He is currently researching the anatomy of cacti in graduate school at Texas State University. During the summer, he spends his time in his greenhouse where he is starting Precision Cactus Growers, a nursery that specializes in producing cactus seeds and plants with collection data.

Jackson's presentation will focus on cacti from a botanical perspective. He will discuss topics such as the taxonomy, evolution, anatomy, and diversity of the cactus family. He will also explain some of the adaptations that make cacti so unique and how this knowledge can be used to better grow these special plants.



### 2020-2021

#### **Mini - Show Plant Calendar**





Mini-Show Plants for 2020-2021				
August	Astrophytum	Sedum, Pachyphytum, Sempervivum		
September	Ariocarpus, Obregonia	Adenium, Adenia		
October	Copiapoa	Graptopetalum, Graptoveria, Pachyveria		
November	Crested and Monstrose	Crested and Monstrose		
December	Lobivia saltensis	Lobivia saltensis		
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	2021 Show and Sale	2021 Show and Sale		
May 2021	Coryphantha, Escobaria, Acharagma	Dudleya, Cotyledon		
June 2021	Gymnocalycium	Pachypodium		
July 2021	Lobivia, Echinopsis	Sansevieria		

#### **Monthly Cactus: ASTROPHYTUM**

The **Astrophytum** genus is comprised of 4 species of globose to short cylindrical cacti and one sprawling, octopus-like member. The first four were discovered between the years 1828 and 1845. Two of these are spineless and two have prominent spines. While each species is quite distinct, one from another these four feature a star-shaped appearance when viewed from above. Hence the name astrophytum, which means star plant. Astrophytum species have been frequently compared to marine life, in particular Astrophytum asterias for its striking similarity to sea urchins.

The fifth member of this group was newly discovered in 2001. Astrophytum caput-medusae is quite distinct from the other members of the genus and actually very distinct from all other cacti genera as well. Hence, many enthusiasts feel it should be part of its own genus and consider it to be the sole species in the genus Digitostigma. The name Digitostigma describes the long digit-like tubercles that grow something like an octopus.

Despite the noticeable differences, all 5 species including caput-medusae feature a sort of flocking of white trichomes (or bumps) on the epidermis. Although in cultivation some forms are bred for their lack of flocking. Plants in this genus also all have yellow flowers with fuzzy floral tubes. Some have a red-centered flower, all are radially symmetric and eventually turn into dry, fuzzy seed pods bearing relatively large, black seeds that are among the easiest to germinate.

[Ed: Many wonderful hybrids and cultivars have been produced in Japan, particularly those of A. asterias and A. myriostigma. 'Super Kabuto' to the right is one example.]

# Cactus: Astrophyti



Astrophytum asterias

Astrophytum capricorne





Astrophytum asterias nudum Astrophytum asterias



Astrophytum asterias 'Super Kabuto'

#### **Monthly Cactus: ASTROPHYTUM**

The four original astrophytum members have been extremely popular in cultivation and numerous exotic hybrids have been created that accentuate various features such as amount of flocking, number of ribs, lack of spines, etc.

With the uniqueness of caput-medusae coupled with it's late discovery, it is currently one of the most sought after cactus species by collectors world-wide. And in that sense, it is fits in quite well with the other astrophytum species.

Astrophytum is a Chihuahuan desert native occurring in north/central Mexico and southern Texas, USA.

The generic name "Astrophytum" derives from the Greek words astron, meaning a "star" and phyton, meaning "plant". The Genus name implies: "star plant".



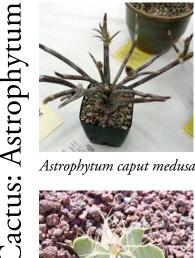
By Tom Glavich



Astrophytum myriostigma var. nudum



Astrophytum ornatum



Astrophytum caput medusae



Astrophytum coahuilense



Astrophytum ornatum



Astrophytum myriostigma



Astrophytum myriostigma

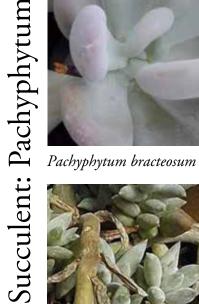
#### **AUGUST**

#### **Monthly Succulent: PACHYPHYTUM**

Pachyphytum is a genus containing about a dozen of Mexican species of succulents related to Echeveria. The main attraction of these species are the softly colored leaves, generally covered with a powdery bloom. The genus name Pachyphytum comes from the Greek for 'thick leaves'.

The flowers are small, not very interesting. They are followed by tiny seed pods. The Pachyphytum are generally propagated by leaf cuttings.

Pachyphytum tend to be more resistant to extreme temperature than Echeveria, they can generally bear 20°F (-7°C) for short periods, and tend to be more heat resistant.



Pachyphytum bracteosum



Pachyphytum clavifolia



Pachyphytum coeruleum



Pachyphytum compactum



Pachyphytum longifolium



Pachyphytum glutinicaule



Pachyphytum 'Garnet Fudge'



Pachyphytum oviferum



By Tom Glavich



#### **Monthly Succulent: SEDUM**

**Sedum** is a wonderful genus. It contains miniatures from the Italian Alps, ground covers from Japan, tree-like specimens from Mexico, Echeveria impostors and little weedy things from all over. Most are easily grown, many are tolerant of extreme cold, and are as much a part of the rock gardening and alpine plant communities as they are the cactus and succulent world. There are few plants that can withstand out-and-out abuse better than some of the small ground-hugging Sedum.

Many of the smaller Sedums make excellent ground cover. These plants are often available in flats or six-packs at nurseries that specialize in landscape plants. They are not often seen in small pots, although they make excellent pot specimens, accents for a dish garden or drapes for hanging planters. When well staged, many are trophy table competitors at all of our local shows.

Sedum is one of the genera of Crassulaceae, with over 400 species. The plants are mostly northern hemisphere plants, with significant endemic groups in East Asia, North America and Europe/West Asia. There are about 120 Mexican Sedums. In general, Sedum can be identified by opposite leaves and five-pointed flowers; however, there are numerous exceptions here as well.

Sedums are apparently in active evolution, with many "near Sedums" in very closely related genera. The genus as a whole is still poorly studied and explored.

Succulent: Sedum



Sedum australe



Sedum burrito



Sedum morganianum



Sedum nussbaumerianum



Sedum palmeri



Sedum stahlii



Sedum spurium



Sedum rubrotinctum 'Aurora'



#### **Monthly Succulent: SEDUM**

Sedum booleanum from Nuevo León is one of the smallest-leaved interesting species. This is a recently described species, first appearing in 1996. The leaves are opposite, forming a neat, white, cruciform head when viewed from above. It branches freely and is easily grown. This plant is just coming into cultivation, and is still hard to find.

All of the woody species want excellent drainage, with nearly pure pumice providing the best growth conditions, as long as they are kept fertilized and frequently watered in the summer months.



By Tom Glavich

## Succulent: Sedum



Sedum allentoides



Sedum ellacombeanum



Sedum adolphii



Sedum lucidum



Sedum praealtum



#### **Monthly Succulent: SEMPERVIVUM**

**Sempervivum** is a genus of about 40 species of flowering plants in the Crassulaceae family. Common names include liveforever and hen and chicks, a name shared with plants of other genera as well. They are succulent perennials forming mats composed of tufted leaves in rosettes. In favorable conditions they spread rapidly via offsets, and several species are valued in cultivation as ground cover for dry, sunny locations.

Sempervivum exist from Morocco to Iran, through the mountains of Iberia, the Alps, Carpathians, Balkan mountains, Turkey, the Armenian mountains, in the northeastern part of the Sahara Desert, and the Caucasus. Their ability to store water in their thick leaves allows them to live on sunny rocks and stony places in the mountain, subalpine and alpine belts. Most are hardy to US zone 4, and will handle warm climates to about zone 8.

The name Sempervivum has its origin in the Latin semper ("always") and vivus ("living"), because this perennial plant keeps its leaves in winter and is very resistant to difficult conditions of growth. The common name "houseleek" is believed to stem from the traditional practice of growing plants on the roofs of houses to ward off fire and lightning strikes.



By Tom Glavich

# Succulent: Sempervivum



Sempervivum 'Maytime'



Sempervivum 'Fuego'



Sempervivum tortuosum



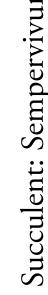
Sempervivum 'Heckla'



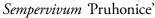
#### **Monthly Succulent: SEMPERVIVUM**

**Sempervivum** grow as tufts of perennial but monocarpic rosettes. Each rosette propagates asexually by lateral rosettes (offsets, "hen and chicks"), by splitting of the rosette or sexually by tiny seeds.

Typically, each plant grows for several years before flowering. Their hermaphrodite flowers have first a male stage. Then the stamens curve themselves and spread away from the carpels at the center of the flower, so self-pollination is rather difficult. The color of the flowers is reddish, yellowish, pinkish, or (seldom) whitish. After flowering, the plant dies, usually leaving many offsets it has produced during its life.









Sempervivum tectorum



By Tom Glavich



Sempervivum caespitosum



Sempervivum arachnoidium 'Cebennense'



Sempervivum 'Pekinese'



Sempervivum arachnoidium 'Red Cobweb'



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

adolphii [ad-OL-fee-eye] Named for Adolphe-Thodore Brongniart, 19th century French botanist and scientist; a founder of modern paleobotany, he helped prove that pollen existed.

arachnoideum [a-rak-NOY-dee-um] Spider's web. australe [aw-STRAL-ee] Of or from the south, or Australia.

balsamiferum [bal-sam-EE-fer-um] With a fragrant wax,

bracteosum [brak-tee-OH-sum] Bract-bearing. burrito [bur-REE-toh] Spanish diminutive of burro (donkey).

caespitosum [kess-pi-TOH-sum] Tufted. clavifolia [klav-ih-FOH-lee-uh] Club leaved.

coeruleum [ko-er-OO-lee-um] Blue colored.

compactum [kom-PAK-tum] Compact.

ellacombeanum [el-la-komb-ee-AH-num] Named for Henry Nicholson Ellacombe, early 20th century gardener at Bicton Rectory (now Avon).

glutinicaule [gloo-tin-ih-KAW-lee] Sticky stem.

longifolium [lon-jee-FOH-lee-um] Long leaves.

lucidum [loo-sid-um] Bright, clear, lustrous.

morganianum [mor-gan-ee-AY-num] Named for Dr. Meredith Morgan, who first grew the species.

nussbaumerianum [nuss-baw-mer-ee-AH-nuh] Named for Nussbaumer.

oviferum [oh-VEE-fer-um] Egg-bearing.

Pachyphytum [pak-ee-FY-tum] Thick plant.

palmeri [PALM-er-ee] Named for Ernest Jesse Palmer, 20th century English-born American explorer and plant collector.

praealtum [pray-AL-tum] Very tall.

rubrotinctum [roo-broh-TINK-tum] Red-dyed, because the leaves turn red in full sun.

**Sedum** [SEE-dum] Sedentary, to sit.

Sempervivum [sem-per-VEE-vum] Always living, living forever.

spurium [SPUR-ee-um] False.

stahlii [STAHL-ee-eye] Named for Christian Ernst Stahl, 19th century German botanist and professor at Jena.

tectorum [tek-TOR-um, TEK-tor-um] Referring to roof. tortuosum [tor-tew-OH-sum] Twisted.

asterias [ass-TEER-ee-as] Starred.

Astrophytum [ass-troh-FY-tum] From the Greek astro (star) and phyto (plant).

**capricorne** [kap-ree-KOR-nee] Like a goat's horn.

caput-medusae [KAY-put me-DOO-say, KAY-put me-DOO-see] Medusa's head, referring to the Greek mythological figure.

coahuilense [kwa-wee-LEN-see] Of or from Coahuila Mexico.

myriostigma [my-ree-oh-STIG-muh] From the Greek myrios (many, countless) and stigma (thorn, point).

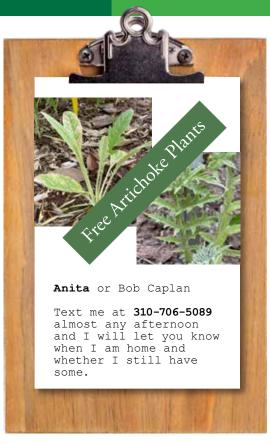
nudum [NEW-doom] Nude, naked.

ornatum [or-NAH-tum] Ornate, adorned.

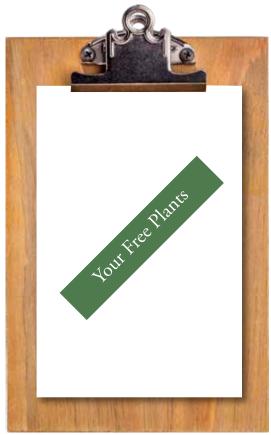
https://davesgarden.com/guides/botanary

#### **AUGUST**

#### **The Free Giveaway Plants Table**











#### Virtual Mini-Show: **NOVICE / SUCCULENT**

#### SUCCULENT CATEGORY: NOVICE



*Vrisea splendens* by Sonita Bantad



*Hectia sp.* by JohnNisewaner



*Hectia sp.* by John Nisewaner



 $\ensuremath{\textit{Dyckia sp.}}$  with inflorescence by  $\ensuremath{\textit{Jim}}$   $\ensuremath{\textit{Tanner}}$ 



*Dyckia platyphylla* by Gretchen Davis



Dyckia collection by John Nisewaner



*Dyckia sp.* by Jim Tanner



Dyckia 'Ruby Snow' by Gretchen Davis



*Dyckia platyphylla* by Joe Tillotson



Deuterocohnia longipetela by Gretchen Davis



Deuterocohnia brevifolia



Deuterocohnia lorenziana by John Nisewaner



*Dyckia marnier lapostollei* by Gretchen Davis



Aechmea sp. by Sonita Bantad



#### Virtual Mini-Show: **NOVICE / CACTUS**

#### CACTUS CATEGORY: NOVICE



Melocactus matanzanus by Gretchen Davis



*Melocactus ernestii* by Terri Straub



*Melocactus azureus* by Terri Straub



*Melocactus violaceus* by Sonita Bantad

## JULY

#### Virtual Mini-Show: **CACTUS/ INTERMEDIATE**

#### CACTUS CATEGORY: INTERMEDIATE



*Melocactus violaceus* by Bernard Johnson



*Melocactus matanzanus* by Bernard Johnson



*Melocactus matanzanus* by Bernard Johnson



#### Virtual Mini-Show: SUCCULENT / INTERMEDIATE

#### SUCCULENT CATEGORY: INTERMEDIATE



Cryptanthus 'Black Mystic' by Ted Johnson



*Dyckia* sp. by Anita Caplan



*Dyckia* sp. by Bernard Johnson



*Dyckia* hybrid by Bernard Johnson



Quesnelia marmorata var. 'Tim Ploughman' by Ted Johnson



Billbergia nutans 'Variegata' by Dale LaForest



Billbergia 'Afterglow' by Ted Johnson



Aechmea (mulfordii X emmerichiae) by Ted Johnson



Guzmania sanguinea var. brevipedicellata by Ted Johnson



*Hectia* by Bernard Johnson



Deuterocohnia brevifolia by Anita Caplan



Deuterocohnia brevifolia by Anita Caplan



#### Virtual Mini-Show: **OPEN / CACTUS**

#### CACTUS CATEGORY: OPEN



Melocactus violaceus by Phylis DeCrescenzo



Melocactus conoideus by Sally Fasteau



*Melocactus sp.* by Maria Capaldo



*Melocactus salvadorensis* by Gary Duke



Melocactus matanzanus by Gary Duke

*Melocactus sp.* by Gary Duke



Melocactus ernestii by Maria Capaldo





Melocactus ernestii var. longispinus by MariaCapaldo





#### Virtual Mini-Show: OPEN / SUCCULENT

#### SUCCULENT CATEGORY: OPEN (Continued next page)



Puya venusta by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



Puya venusta by Laurel Woodley.



Puya mirabilis by Laurel Woodley.



Puya laxa by Laurel Woodley.



Puya humilis by Laurel Woodley.



Puya chilensis by Laurel Woodley.



Puya berteroana by Laurel Woodley.



Puya remotiflora by Laurel Woodley.



*Dyckia platyphylla* by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



*Dyckia marnier lapostollei* by Gary Duke



*Dyckia* hybrid by Maria Capaldo



*Dyckia* hybrid by Maria Capaldo



*Dyckia* hybrid by Maria Capaldo



Dyckia choristaminea 'X Brittle Star' by Laurel Woodley



*Dyckia* 'Kaz' (BB hybrid) by Maria Capaldo



*Dyckia choristaminea* 'Frazzle Dazzle' by Laurel Woodley



#### Virtual Mini-Show: **OPEN / SUCCULENT**

#### SUCCULENT CATEGORY: OPEN (Continued from previous page)



Dyckia 'Brittle Star' by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



*Dyckia* 'Atta Boy' by Gary Duke



**Deuterocohnia brevifolia** by Maria Capaldo



Deuterocohnia longipetala by Laurel Woodley.



Aechmea 'Aztec Gold' by Laurel Woodley.



Deuterocohnia abstrusa by Laurel Woodley



Aechmea 'Aztec Gold' in flower by Laurel Woodley.



Deuterocohnia brevifolia by Sally Fasteau



#### **SCCSS Mini-Show JULY 2020 Standings**

4

37

21

15

3

6

37

11

Open Class

DeCrescenzo, Phyllis

Capaldo, Maria

Duke, Gary

Sally Fasteau

Gardner, Jim

Hanna, Jim

Wilk, William

Woodley, Laurel

#### Click here for sortable standings

1

13

5

7

0

3

22

1

Cactus Succulents Total

3

24

16

8

3

3

15

10

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Intermediate Class
Bantad, Sonita	2	2	4	Caplan, Anita
Bjarkman, M.A.	3	7	10	Johnson, Bernard
Bjerke, Martha	0	2	2	Johnson, Ted
Cottrell, Diane	7	9	16	La Forest, Dale
Cozzolino, Karin	0	2	2	Lott, Lemono
Davis, Gretchen	2	2	4	Neely, Jade
Diaz, Gloria	0	2	2	Nettles, Coni
Dorsey, Martin	1	9	10	Mike Short
Nisewaner, John	0	12	12	A Mini-show i except April (S (Holiday Potlu show their priz and for everyon how to grow an plants are prin our Society's w  There are thr Novice, Intern New members but once a leve may not regres  There are two Succulent. Up may be entered
Seiver, Cheryl	1	1	2	
Sover, Suzane	0	1	1	
Straub, Terri	20	9	29	
Straup, Matt	0	2	2	
Tanner, Jim	9	13	22	
Tillotson, Joseph	1	2	3	
Unrine, Judy	0	6	6	
Wong, Clif	0	1	1	
Youssefzadeh, Aya	1	4	5	
Youssefzadeh, Jacob	5	15	20	

#### **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.

#### **SCCSS 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.

Succulents

13

21

15

18

5

8

4

6

Total

32

43

31

24

15

8

12

10

Cactus

19

22

16

6

10

0

8

4

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.

#### **Upcoming Events**



SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

**ZOOM MEETING** 

The Biology of Cacti: An Introduction

Sunday, August 9

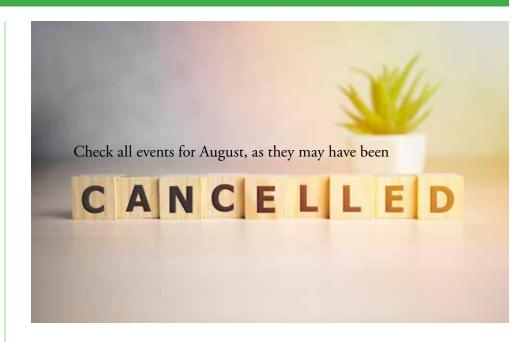
Invitation will be sent by e-mail, and also will be available by streaming on U-tube.

Speaker:

Jackson Burkholder

Start time:

1:30 pm



For more information and to learn more

#### **Board of Directors 2020-2021**

**OFFICERS:** 

President

Maria Capaldo

Vice President

M.A. Bjarkman

Secretary

Sue Wong

Treasurer

**Bernard Johnson** 

AT LARGE BOARD MEMBERS:

Terri Straub Clif Wong Corey Zedler



STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Communications

Mike Short

Finance

Jim Hanna

Membership

Sally Fasteau

Programs

**Gary Duke** 

Show and Sale

Open



COMMITTEE MEMBERS (TASKED):

Mini-Show Coordinator

Jim Tanner

Publicity (Show)

Open

Publicity (Monthly)

Ann Nye

Speaker Coordinator

Jade Neely



LIAISONS:

**CGCI** 

Lou Hagemeier

**CSSA** 

M.A Bjarkman

OTHER POSITIONS:

Facebook

**Laurel Woodley** 

Instagram

Caitlin Rubia

Hospitality/Refreshments

Volunteers

Newsletter

**Clif Wong** 

Webmaster

**Mike Short** Plant Man

Jim Hanna

