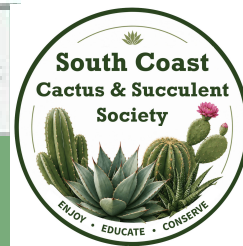


Prickly News

August 2026

South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MEETINGS: We have the following meeting dates and locations:

Hesse Community Park, Sunday
August 9, 1:00-4:00pm

Peninsula Library,
Sunday September 13, 2:00-4:00pm

Zamperini Field Torrance Municipal Airport,
Sunday October 11, 1:00-4:00pm

I am sorry that we cannot get a consistent meeting place. I have heard from the Botanic Garden and there is no availability at that space until May. Refer to our website for meeting locations and times.

THE MINI-SHOW: Plants for August are *Copiapoa* and *Graptopetalum*, *Graptoveria*, *Pachyveria*.

INTER-CITY SHOW AND SALE: I encourage attendance at this show. Not only are the vendors replete with unusual plants, the show brings expert growers and beautifully-staged plants. I've always been impressed by the high caliber of collections. Info is on our event page in this Newsletter.

Hi from the Hannas: Jim and Roberta Hanna are settled into their new home and wanted to say "Hi to all." They are dealing with the heat and miss the meetings and their friends. Contact me for their address.

PRESENTATION: Yvonne Savio will be our speaker for August. She has an active blog site with informative articles on gardening and event calendar for those who just can't get enough. This should be a hands-on experience, so please bring some succulent cuttings.

I hope to see you there.

Maria Capaldo

South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Meeting

August 9, 2026 1:00pm-4:00pm
Fred Hesse Jr. Community Park
McTaggart Hall
29301 Hawthorne Blvd
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

Presentation



Yvonne Savio
"Propagating
Succulent
Cuttings"



To learn more, go to
<https://southcoastcss.org>



Follow us on Facebook



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

In This Issue

Speaker of the Month	2
Mini-Show Plants of the Month August 2026	3-5
Mini-Show Winners July 2026	6
Mini-Show Calendar/Rules	7
Mini-Show Standings	8
Member Photos	8
Events/Board of Directors	9

2026 August

Speaker of the Month

Yvonne Savio

PRESENTATION: “Propagating Succulent Cuttings”



Yvonne will bring many cuttings from her succulent garden to discuss, demonstrate and then share. If you also have “too much of a good thing” that you’d like to share, please bring some! You’ll never know that something you consider “ordinary” is just what someone else has been looking for!
<https://www.gardeninginla.net/blog/archives/02-2023>



Biography:



Yvonne Savio grew up on a 3/4 acre hillside lot in Pasadena growing year-round fruits, vegetables and flowers with lots of manure and compost and “making do” before it was called recycling or repurposing. She knows what “harvested at the perfect moment of ripeness means and enjoys enabling others to enjoy the benefits of “growing your own.”

For 36 years she worked for the University of California, conferring with statewide vegetable, fruit and ornamental specialists. She revitalized the Los Angeles County Master Gardener Volunteer Program, teaching 1150 Master Gardeners who then served 1.3 million county residents.

In 2015, she initiated her website where she blogs about what’s happening in her Pasadena garden and posts intriguing gardening news articles. She invites everyone to submit gardening events and job opportunities open to the public.

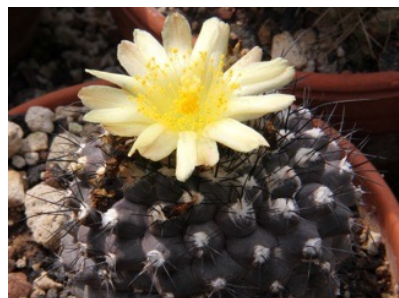
Yvonne Savio

GardeningInLA@gmail.com

www.GardeningInLA.net

August 2026

Mini-Show Plant of the Month Cactus

*Copiapoa cinerea**Copiapoa cinerea**Copiapoa hypogaea*

Copiapoa is a genus of cacti from the dry coastal deserts, particularly the Atacama Desert, of Northern Chile. It comprises about 26 species. These species vary in form from spherical to slightly columnar and in color from a brownish to blue-green body.

Copiapoa is a favorite genus among many cactus growers. While not known for any particular characteristic, such as the large flowers of *Echinopsis*, the species in *Copiapoa* exhibit a wide degree of “variation on a theme.” In common with each other, *Copiapoa* species are globose or globose-cylindrical plants that have well-defined ribs with a woolly apex which gives rise to nearly all yellow flowers. These flowers are funnel shaped, mostly between 1 and 2 inches in diameter, and are quite similar from one plant to the next.

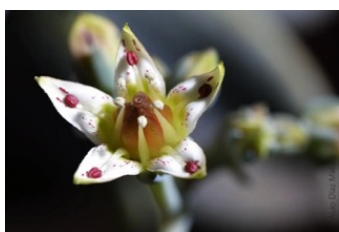
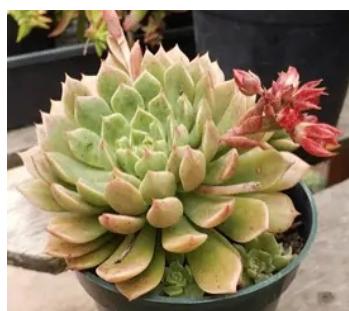
In contrast, the spines may be long and fierce or mostly absent. The roots may be fibrous or huge tubers that are larger than the portions above ground. Some plants are small individuals, many form clumps, some imposing mounds of several feet across with hundreds of stems. Coloration is also a variable even within the same species from glaucous blue-green, to deep green to brown. In this way, it is easy to identify a given plant as one belonging in the genus *Copiapoa*, but it is conversely difficult to then decide to which species it belongs.

As previously stated, *Copiapoa* is widely popular in cultivation. In the wild the genus is restricted to Northern Chile. There they are found primarily in the Atacama Desert where annual rainfall is barely measurable. The plants in habitat get their moisture from coastal fogs. Images from this habitat often reveal vast barren areas where *Copiapoa* plants or clumps march across the void along with almost no other vegetation. Despite the extreme and specific conditions in habitat, *Copiapoa* as a whole are surprisingly easy in cultivation. From seed sowing to the care of mature plants, this genus is very forgiving. While staying manageable in size, *Copiapoa* in cultivation will flower from a young age and reliably so each following year.

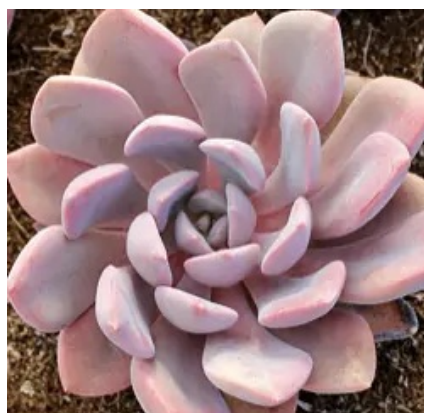
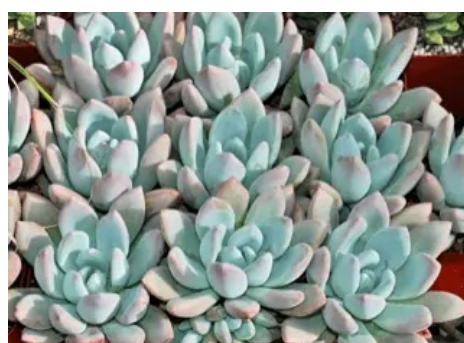
*Copiapoa humilis**Copiapoa humilis* subsp. *tenuissima*

August 2026

Mini-Show Plant of the Month Succulent

*Graptopetalum paraguayensis**Graptopetalum paraguayensis* flower*Graptopetalum amethystinum**Graptopetalum* 'Ellen'*Graptopetalum pachyphyllum*x *Graptoveria* 'Bashful'

Graptoveria is a hybrid cross that originated from a combination of *Echeveria* and *Graptopetalum* succulent plants. Most exhibit a compact rosette 6 to 8 inches across. Some, such as 'Moonglow,' may reach 10 inches in width. Offsets develop readily, tightly filling out your display. *Graptoveria* maintains vivid colors when they are somewhat stressed, usually from limited watering or cool temperatures. The frosty pink cultivar 'Debby' becomes a deeper pink and even more frosty when growing in a sunny spot while water is withheld.

x *Graptoveria* 'Debby'x *Graptoveria* 'Moonglow'x *Graptoveria* 'Fred Ives'

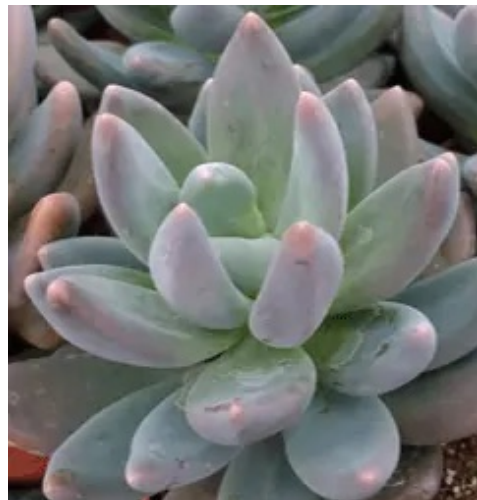
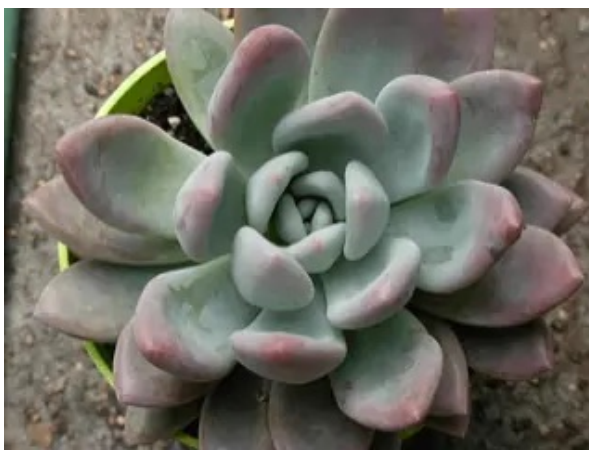
August 2026

Mini-Show Plant of the Month Succulent

× *Pachyveria* 'Opalina'

Pachyveria is a hybrid cross between *Pachyphytum* and *Echeveria*. There are many varieties available, but most grow two to six inches tall and wide. The thick, chubby pastel leaves are produced in colorful rosettes. These tough plants just need full sun and well-drained soil that is allowed to dry out completely between watering. They can be grown indoors in a south-facing window.

× *Pachyverias* usually have rounded leaf edges, and the leaves are generally held more erect than most *Echeverias*. The *Pachyverias* have plump leaves like their *Pachyphytum* parents. The inflorescence is often shaped like a shepherd's crook. The flowers closely resemble those of *Echeveria* with the sepals curving outward. Propagation is easy with apical cuttings.

× *Pachyveria* 'Glaucia' (Little Jewel)× *Pachyveria* 'Draco'× *Pachyveria* 'Powder Puff' (= 'Exotica')× *Pachyveria* 'Scheideckeri'

Mini-Show Winners July 2026

Cactus



1st- Maria Capaldo
Melocactus matanzanus

2nd- Maria Capaldo
Melocactus matanzanus

3rd- Maria Capaldo
Melocactus ernestii

Open

Succulent



1st - Laurel Woodley
Aechmea recurvata 'Aztec Gold'

2nd - Maria Capaldo *Tillandsia*

2nd - Maria Capaldo
Tillandsia streptophylla x *T. seleriana*

3rd - Phyllis DeCrescenzo
Aechmea recurvata



1st - Sally Fasteau *Melocactus conoideus*

Intermediate



1st - Jackie Johnson
Tillandsia tectorum

2nd - Jackie Johnson
Tillandsia 'Rainforest Red'

3rd - Jackie Johnson
Tillandsia 'Nellie Rose'

Novice

No cactus entries



1st - Debra Galliani
Aechmea tuitensis

2nd - Debra Galliani
Tillandsia

3rd - Debra Galliani
Aechmea fasciata

Mini-Show Calendar 2026-2027

Month	Cactus	Succulent
AUGUST	<i>Copiapoa</i>	<i>Graptopetalum, Graptoveria, Pachyria</i>
SEPTEMBER	<i>Notocactus, Parodia</i>	<i>Sedum, Pachyphytum, Sempervivum, Graptosedum</i>
OCTOBER	<i>Ariocarpus, Obregonia</i>	<i>Adenium, Adenia</i>
NOVEMBER	Crested and Monstrose	Crested and Monstrose
DECEMBER	Holiday Pot Luck	Holiday Pot Luck
JANUARY 2027	<i>Mammillaria</i> - Hooked Spines	Caudiciform (<i>Beaucarnia, Calibanus, Dioscorea, Fockea</i> , etc.)
FEBRUARY 2027	<i>Eriosyce</i>	<i>Gasteria</i> and hybrids
MARCH 2027	<i>Echinocereus</i>	<i>Dudleya, Cotyledon</i>
APRIL 2027	Show and Sale	Show and Sale
MAY 2027	<i>Coryphantha, Pelecyphora, Acharagma, Sclerocactus</i>	<i>Crassula</i>
JUNE 2027	<i>Gymnocalycium</i>	<i>Pachypodium, Hoya</i>
JULY 2027	<i>Ferrocactus, Leuchtenbergia</i>	<i>Kalenchoe</i>

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.

Mini-Show Standings July 2026

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals
Martha Bjerke		9	9	Anita Caplan	9	13	22	Maria Capaldo	21	22	43
Gustavo Cardenas	14	28	42	Vincent Darmali	14	24	38	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	45	31	76
Debra Galliani	10	16	26	Sally Fasteau	6	6	12	Gary Duke	10	10	20
Anna Salas		1	1	Jackie Johnson		12	12	Jim Gardner	14	33	47
Chris Schavwecker	10		10	Lemono Lott		17	17	Jim Hanna		5	5
Warren Woodrum	6	2	8	Mike Short	7	14	21	Terri Straub	24	25	49
Liz Ying	11	10	21					Laurel Woodley		11	11

Member Photos



Cochemiea fraileana by Maria Capaldo

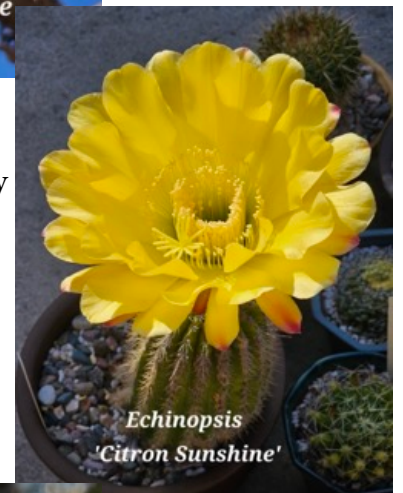


Sarcocaulon crassicaule

Photos by Laurel Woodley



Peniocereus greggii by Anita Caplan



Echinopsis
'Citron Sunshine'



Airampoa picardoi

Upcoming Events



SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MEETING
PRESENTER: Yvonne Savio
"Propagating Succulent Cuttings"
August 9, 2026 1:00pm-4:00pm
Fred Hesse Jr. Community Park
McTaggart Hall
29301 Hawthorne Blvd
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

40th Inter-City Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale

Sale August 7 - 9
 Show August 8 - 9
 Show and Sale Hours: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

2000 Plants on Display
 Dozens of vendors selling plants, pots and supplies

Tickets:
 Advance Purchase Required Online
 Limited Tickets Available
 Buy now at www.Arboretum.org
 Arboretum Members Free

More information: www.sgvcss.com
 LA Arboretum 626-821-3222

VENDORS

Arnold Chaney's Plants	Plantae Novae
Botanic Wonders	Peter Walkowiak's Plants
California Cactus Center	Rainshadow Designs
Cactus Data Plants	Rare Plants Catalog
Corona Cactus	Semis Succulent Specialties
Desert Creations	Skyview Succulents
East Les Succulents	Spheroid Institute
Gavilan Mt Succulents	Succulent Gems
Grow Nursery	Thorn Oasis
Kyle's Plants	
LA Succulents	
Living Cycads	
Living Stones	

CERAMICS

Kitoi
 June's Pots
 Peety Pots
 Plus additional vendors to be announced.

For more information and to learn more

2026 Board of Directors

OFFICERS:

President

Maria Capaldo

Vice-President

Liz Ying

Treasurer

Debra Bushweit Galliani

Secretary

Nancy Sams

At-Large Board Members

Gustavo Cardenas

Teresa Nicoletto

Linda O'Hara

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Show and Sale

Terri Straub

Programs Chair

M.A. Bjarkman

Mini-Show Coordinator

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

Liaisons:

CSSA: M.A. Bjarkman

CGCI: Debra Galliani

