



March 2025 South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter



President's message

OUR MEETING for March will again be at the Hesse Community Park facility. I have included the link to open in Google maps on this page. The room is spacious and there is easy

ramp access and adequate parking. Weather permitting, vendors will have plants for sale on the partially-covered patio just outside the room.

PHOTOS: Are your winter growers flowering? Please send any photos of your garden to include in the Newsletter at minniecap@icloud.com.

SHOW AND SALE: The Show and Sale will be at the Palos Verdes Art Center on April 5-6. Set-up will be after 12:00pm on Friday, April 4. Please distribute postcards to publicize the event to your friends and neighbors. If you are interested in being a vendor, contact me or Jim Hanna. Volunteer opportunities are on page 9. Any amount of time that you can donate will be appreciated.

Please go to our Facebook page and "share" our postcard information to your Facebook page or Instagram. We also have a You Tube video available to share at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UfYuoCqJaoc>.

SPEAKER: This month our speaker is Steven Frieze who will speak on "Odyssey to Chile." Steven and his wife Phyllis traveled through Chile and will share their month-long experience with us. Steven is a knowledgeable plant person, usually brings plants to sell and is an informative judge at our Mini-Show.

THE MINI-SHOW: Plants this month are Cactus: *Thelocactus* and Succulents: *Aeonium* to include *Greenovia*.

I hope to see you there!

Maria Capaldo

South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Meeting

March 9, 2025 1:00-4:00pm
Fred Hesse Jr. Community Park
McTaggart Hall
29301 Hawthorne Blvd
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

PRESENTATION



Steven Frieze
"Odyssey to Chile"



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



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**MARCH
2025**

Speaker of the Month Steven Frieze



PRESENTATION FOR MARCH

"Odyssey to Chile"

"The journey my wife and I took to Chile has left an indelible impression on the both of us. We had the extraordinary opportunity to spend almost a month in this marvelous country traveling from Santiago to Taltal, a mining village in the heart of the Atacama Desert. Along the way we located and photographed many of the spectacular cacti (*Copiapoa*, *Eriosyce*, *Eulychnia*) that are endemic to one of the most unusual ecologies

on earth. Most plants there depend on moisture blowing in from the adjacent Pacific Ocean. We were especially gratified to visit fields of cacti that left us breathless and hopefully will have a similar impact on you. We took an assortment of side trips that included a visit to an island that is inhabited by Penguins and Sea Lions all of which I will share with you in this presentation. I look forward to sharing our odyssey with you that included many memorable moments."



Copiapoa dealbata



Copiapoa solaris



Eriosyce curvispina

Steven Frieze has been involved with the 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 Tillandsias 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.

March
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Mini-Show Plant of the Month Cactus

Thelocactus are spectacularly beautiful cacti with dense multicolor spination, well-shaped tubercles and large, colorful flowers. They have been a favorite with collectors since they were first discovered.

Thelocactus is a small genus in the cactus family, with only 11 or 12 species. In addition to the species, there are also half a dozen legitimate varieties, and a large number of less legitimate varieties that can be found in reference books and collections. The larger number of questionable varieties is due to variability of some of the species between populations from isolated locations.

Thelocactus are found from Southern Texas through Central Mexico, mostly in the Chihuahuan Desert, extending into brushland and thorn scrub in the western parts of its range, and into the Rio Grande Plains region in Texas. *Thelocactus bicolor* has the largest range, extending from Central Chihuahua in the west into Texas in the north, and as far south as San Luis Potosi.

Thelocactus are easily grown and tolerant of heat and moisture, but not cold and moisture. They benefit from protection from being cold and wet, although plants left unprotected during the last several winters survived in good shape. Some species develop fairly large tap roots, and should be planted in deep enough pots to give them room to grow. They are easily propagated from seed, and this is the best way to develop a good collection from different populations. They can also be propagated from offsets, or with a cutting allowed to dry, and then replanted. They are sensitive to mealy bug infestations and spider mites, in the same way that all cacti are, but in general are fairly rugged plants.

Although all the species and all the varieties of this wonderful genus are worth growing, a few stand out. *Thelocactus hexaedrophorus* has the best tubercles of any of the *Thelocactus*, and is a must for any collection. *Thelocactus rinconensis* has the largest body of all the species, getting to 8 inches in diameter in cultivation and habitat.



Thelocactus macdowellii



Thelocactus hexaedrophorus



Thelocactus tulensis



Thelocactus bicolor



Thelocactus conothelos



Thelocactus setispinus

March
2025

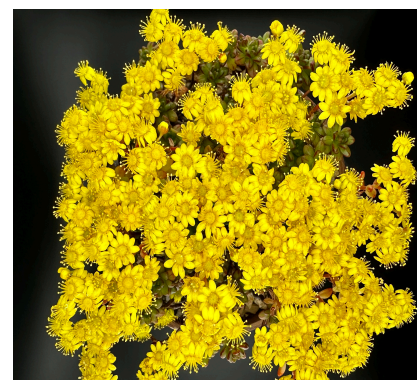
Mini-Show Plant of the Month Succulent

Aeonium are members of the family *Crassulaceae*. Most species are native to one of three different Macaronesian archipelagos (the Canary Islands, Madeira, or Cape Verde) but are also found in Morocco, East Africa (Ethiopia, Somalia, Uganda, Tanzania and Kenya) and Yemen. They are characterized by thin-leaved succulent rosettes which gradually taper into a leafless stem. Some species have showy markings in the form of dark tannic stripes on the underside of the leaves. Some species have sticky leaves with a rather unappealing odor caused by small, specialized leaf hair, thought to reduce the rate of transpiration. Many species have small teeth along the leaf margins.

To find the right growing conditions for an *Aeonium*, it can be important to know its habitat origin. Generally Aeoniums thrive outdoors in a Mediterranean climate similar to the Canary Islands preferring mild temperatures (not tolerant of over 40 degree C. heat). However, the three Aeoniums found in the more tropical areas of East Africa from Yemen to Ethiopia, *A. leucoblepharum*, *A. stuessiyi* and *A. gorgoneum* will tolerate both high heat and humidity. Growers in the higher altitudes (*A. simsii*, *A. spathulatum* and *A. smithii*) will tolerate brief periods of mild frost.

The flowering inflorescence grows from the center of the rosette with multiple usually yellow showy flowers, although a few species have white flowers or pinkish variegation in the flowers. Each rosette dies after blooming and setting seeds. In some species, since the plants do not produce any offsets or side rosettes, they will die completely after blooming. These species are propagated by seeds.

Most species are fall and spring growers, and should be watered and fed regularly at these periods. Fall is also a good time for rooting cuttings and transplanting. As the plants age, they will get leggy and it is best to cut and replant the terminal rosettes to prevent the plant from reaching the size at which it will bloom. Hybrids and variegated cultivars are common and add great color to any garden.

*Aeonium arboreum**Aeonium*
'Pseudotabuliforme'*Aeonium sedifolium**Aeonium sedifolium* flowers*Aeonium arboreum*
'Zwartkop'*Aeonium castello-paivae*
'Suncup' flowers*Aeonium haworthii* 'Kiwi'

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Mini-Show Plant of the Month Succulent



Aeonium leucoblepharum



Aeonium 'Mardi Gras'



Aeonium 'Sunburst'



Aeonium spathulatum



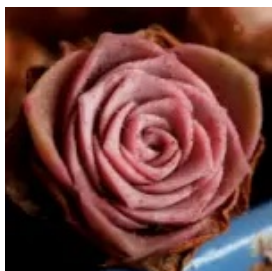
Aeonium 'Lily Pad'



Aeonium glutinosum

Greenovia, a small genus composed of four species, has now been moved to *Aeonium*. They are native to the Canary Islands where they grow in the hills between 500 and 7500 feet elevation (150 to 2300 m). They grow on dry volcanic slopes, sometimes in the shade. Their leaves form succulent rosettes that close during periods of drought. They occasionally have a short stem.

They bloom in the spring and have yellow flowers and most species die after blooming. Propagation is by seeds, offsets for the plants that produce them, or leaf cuttings.



Aeonium aizoon
(=*Greenovia aizoon*)



Aeonium aureum
(=*Greenovia aurea*)



Aeonium aureum



Aeonium dodrantale (= *Greenovia dodrantalis*)

February
2025

Mini-Show February Winners

Open

Cactus



- 1st - Phyllis DeCrescenzo - *Stenocactus multicosatus*
- 2nd - Maria Capaldo - *Stenocactus*
- 2nd - Phyllis DeCrescenzo - *Stenocactus coptonogonus*
- 3rd - Phyllis DeCrescenzo - *Stenocactus crispatus*

Succulent



- 1st - Jim Gardner - *Euphorbia hedyotoides*
- 2nd - Laurel Woodley - *Euphorbia crassicaulis*
- 2nd - Laurel Woodley - *Euphorbia decaryi* var. *decaryi*
- 2nd - Phyllis DeCrescenzo - *Euphorbia famatamboay* subsp. *famatamboay*
- 3rd - Maria Capaldo - *Euphorbia cap-saintemariensis*

Intermediate



- 1st - Terri Straub - *Stenocactus ochoterenanus*
- 2nd - Terri Straub - *Stenocactus multicosatus*
- 2nd - Martin Dorsey - *Stenocactus multicosatus*
- 3rd - Terri Straub - *Stenocactus multicosatus*



- 1st - Terri Straub - *Euphorbia decaryi* var. *decaryi*
- 2nd - Mike Short - *Euphorbia xanthadenia*
- 2nd - Anita Caplan - *Euphorbia hedyotoides*
- 3rd - Martin Dorsey - *Euphorbia genoudiana*

February
2025

Mini-Show February Winners

Cactus

Novice

Succulent



No Entries

1st - M. A. Bjarkman - *Stenocactus multicosatus*

2nd - Liz Ying - *Stenocactus multicosatus*

3rd - Liz Ying - *Stenocactus multicosatus*

Mini-Show Standings February, 2025

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals
M. A. Bjarkman	6		6	Anita Caplan	2	6	8	Maria Capaldo	12	7	19
Vince Darmali	6		6	Martin Dorsey	5	6	11	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	20	14	34
Shane Mullen	5	8	13	Bonnie Ikemura	1		1	Gary Duke	4	4	8
George Unrine		1	1	Lemono Lott		8	8	Jim Gardner		12	12
Judy Unrine		4	4	Mike Short	1	8	9	Laurel Woodley		10	10
Liz Ying	11	4	15	Terri Straub	24	11	35				

2025-2026 Mini-Show Calendar		
<u>Month</u>	<u>Cactus</u>	<u>Succulent</u>
March	<i>Thelocactus</i>	<i>Aeonium, Greenovia</i>
April	Show and Sale	Show and Sale
May	Dish Garden	Dish Garden
June	<i>Rebutia, Aylosteria, Sulcorebutia, Weingartia</i>	Mesembs (no <i>Lithops</i> or <i>Conophytums</i>)
July	<i>Matucana, Oroyo</i>	<i>Echeveria</i>
August	<i>Epithelantha, Frailea, Aztekium</i>	<i>Dyckia, Hechtia</i>
September	Variegated Cactus	Variegated Succulent
October	<i>Turbinocarpus</i>	<i>Adromischus</i>
November	South American columnar cactus (<i>Cleistocactus, Espostoa, Oreocereus</i> , etc.)	<i>Lithops, Conophytum</i>
December	Holiday Pot Luck	Holiday Pot Luck
January 2026	<i>Mammillaria</i> – straight spine (clumping)	<i>Haworthia, Astroloba, Tulista, Haworthiopsis</i>
February 2026	Epiphytic cactus	<i>Aloe, Kumara</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.

SHOW AND SALE VOLUNTEER JOBS FOR 2025

Dear Society Members: This is a general list of job descriptions for the upcoming Show and Sale, April 5-6, 2025. 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 12:00pm, Saturday and/or Sunday, 9:00 am- 12:30pm or 12:30pm- 4:00pm. 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 4 from 12-1:00pm 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 plants labelled with 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 tables 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 plant 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.

ROVERS

Help out where needed, answer questions, assist customers with transporting plants.

CLEAN UP

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

MEMBER PHOTOS



Eriosyce senilis var. *multicolor* by Maria Capaldo



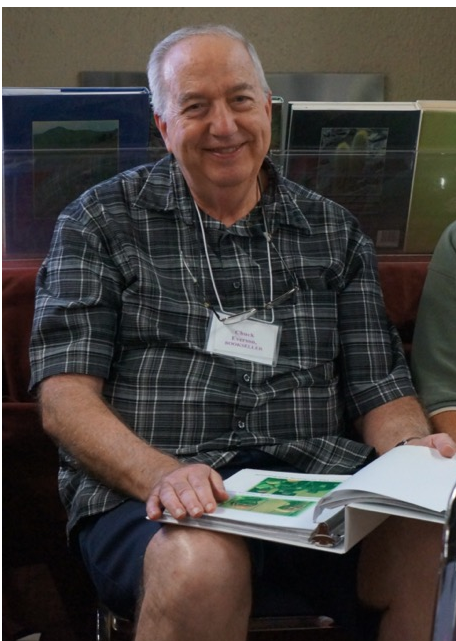
Rhipsalis floccosa subsp. *tucumanensis*
by Debra Galliani



Echeveria 'Brown German' by Debra Galliani

In Memoriam-Charles Howard Everson 1940-2025

Submitted by Laurel Woodley



Known by Chuck to all, proprietor of Rainbow Gardens Bookshop, in Vista CA. Chuck and his partner Jerry formed Rainbow Gardens Nursery and Bookshop in the early 1980's. In 1987 they purchased California Epi Center, owned by Bob and Lois Burks in Vista, California.

Chuck was well known around the cactus and succulent societies of Southern California. He will be remembered for his wonderful selection of books providing much-needed knowledge about succulent plants. Importantly, he was able to get books that were not generally available in the United States thus providing a much-needed resource for learning.

He was a supporter of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America (CSSA) serving on the board from 1993-1999, acting as CSSA Librarian 1992-2002 and received the CSSA Superior Service Award 2001. He frequently submitted suggestions for CSSA Awards to the Honors Committee following his departure from the board.

Chuck will be remembered for his warm, outgoing personality and storytelling abilities, including hugs and laughter when greeting old friends.

South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society 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 MEETING

PRESENTER: Steven Frieze
March 9, 2025 1:00-4:00 pm
Fred Hesse Jr. Community Park
McTaggart Hall
29301 Hawthorne Blvd.
Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

Orange County C&SS
Spring Sale 2025
March 21 12:00-6pm
March 22 9:00am-4:00 pm
Info. call 657-549-0702
Anaheim United Methodist
Church
1000 S. State College Blvd.
Anaheim, CA



The Beauty of Succulents

South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society **Annual Show & Sale**

April 5 and 6, 2025 Hours: 9am - 4pm
 Palos Verdes Art Center
 5504 Crestridge Road
 Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. 90275
 Admission and parking: FREE
 Information: southcoastcss.org
 or call 310-346-6206

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- Artistic pottery
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- Art center galleries and gift shop open

For more information and to learn more



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