

LOS ANGELES
CACTUS
AND
SUCCULENT
SOCIETY

CACTUS CHRONICLE

May 2011

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Next Meeting: May 5, 2011



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The Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society is a non-profit organization. Since 1935 our purpose has been the education, conservation, & study of cacti & succulents. The "Cactus Chronicle" is the official bulletin of the Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society, an affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America, Inc. Any material in the "Cactus Chronicle" may be copied or reproduced by other clubs on our mailing list, or any non-profit organization, provided proper credit is given to the author and the Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society.

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BUCK and YVONNE HEMENWAY Klein Karoo, South Africa

Buck and Yvonne were both raised in the Pacific Northwest. In 1990 they moved to the Inland Empire. Have since become University of California Master Gardeners for Riverside County.

They quickly became aware of the immense variety of succulents that make outstanding landscape plants, both those native to Southern California and from around the world, and they were hooked.

They joined the Gates Cactus and Succulent Society and Buck is currently president of the Society, and on the Board of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. Buck is also President of the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society, and presently Affiliate Chair and Convention Chair for CSSA. Their enthusiasm knows no bounds.

What to do next? How could They share their interest in succulents with others? The answer was obvious, they could propagate their specimen plants and offer them for sale to others. That is how the Prickly Palace was born.

Tonight they will share their plant tour of the Little Karoo in South Africa. Many of the plants that are in their collection come from this magical place.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's very gratifying to see membership taking advantage of the efforts of the Board, in creating a community within the membership. The Board has made great strides in the education, participation, and the social element of the club. The last meeting was evident in these efforts. It was our first Workshop of the year and we had an amazing turn out and the membership responded with an incredible amount of plant material to work with. I think the night turned out well and everyone went home (hopefully) a little more enriched in their knowledge of growing Cacti and Succulents. Our facilitators for the evening Steve Frieze, Manny Rivera, and Sandy Chase did a great job in teaching and sharing their growing techniques and experience.

Our first Club outing was also a success. We have some very special members in our club who are willing to open their homes to the membership. What a very special day it was, and we are grateful that the Wegner's, Cernick's and Al Denny allowed us into their homes and gardens. What we saw was indescribable. We enjoyed sharing in the experience of seeing what 30 years of hard work and a labor of love can create. Roxie Esterle did a wonderful job in putting this day together.

Once again, the plant of the month was well represented and the Monthly Drawing was very successful. The plants supplied by Duke and Kaz were a diverse selection that appealed to growers. There was something for everyone.

As with all successes that are happening in the Club, we sometimes have to say good bye. Sandy Chase, due to personal reasons, has stepped down from her position of Treasurer. Sandy has done a good job fulfilling her duties as the Club's financial person, as well as Co-Chairperson of the June LACSS Show. Her devotion and hard work will be missed and we all wish her well.

Ronit Weiss will take over as the Club's Treasurer. I am confident that Ronit will do a wonderful job, just as she has done a great job as our liaison to Gunnar Esiel in updating and improving our Website.

The Show Committee is very close to unveiling the details of this year's Show and Sale at the May Meeting. There are some new and exciting changes and improvements to the Show and Sale. Remember the success of the Show is through hard work, and I am confident the members will come through with the participation that it requires.

See you in May

Artie



2011 DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANT FESTIVAL
Water Wise - Money Wise
Educational displays and plant sale
Sponsored by: Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society

DATE — JUNE 11 (9:00-5:00) and June 12 (9:00-3:30) — Set Up Friday, June 10th
PLACE—Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Boulevard, Encino

THEME— Drought Resistant Plant Festival - To improve ways to fulfill the Club's mission statement of "education, conservation and the study of cacti and succulents". In the past our show and sale has concentrated on the educational aspect with our extremely successful informational exhibits. The current approach will be to educate and demonstrate how cacti and succulents have had all of these qualities long before it was necessary and how these plants fit into landscape design with other plants.

SHOW AND SALE FORMAT—The show will be divided into two distinct exhibitions. The show committee will be asking select members and vendors to build a landscaping exhibit. These exhibits will be located on the grass area. **All** members will be asked and encouraged to show their favorite plants in a traditional show located in the Garden Center building. As was the case last year, there will be an attendant at each landscape plot to answer questions along with signage to explain the exhibit.

Guest speakers will be invited to give talks on a variety of topics including the following potential topics; *container gardening, pest control and fertilization, native plants, child friendly gardens.*

The show chairs are John Martinez and Joyce Schumann (818-705-3224). They will need to know by **May 15th** the number of plants, genus and category you will exhibit in the show. **Vendors will be selling landscaping plants in addition to their usual merchandise.**

The Bromeliad Society will be an active participant in the Festival as they have been in the past.

Of Special Importance: Publicity is critical to the success of this Festival. Flyers, post cards, and email announcements will be distributed. Retail nurseries and other garden centers will also be contacted. *Involvement of all LACSS members is critical to the success of the Festival.*

From the LACSS Show and Sale Co-Chairs

We need your help!

There will be Sign Up Sheets at the May 5th meeting for us to be able to staff all the areas for our June 11th and 12th Show and Sale. AGAIN, your participation is essential to make our annual Festival even a bigger success than last year. Each sheet will be for a specific area: indoor display, outdoor displays, hospitality table, speaker/auction, plant area, refreshments, and our new venture—the custom presentation of your (visitor) newly purchased plant and pot. Each sign-up sheet will be blocked off in two hour increments. Any time you can join us is greatly appreciated.

You can also volunteer at more than one area, in increments of 2 hours each. That would be great!

More information will be available at the meeting. If you have any questions, feel free to ask them then.

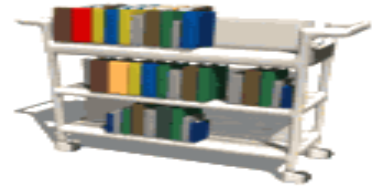
See you soon!!

Southern California 2011 Calendar of Events

MAY

- MAY 1** **South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale---9am To 4pm**
South Coast Botanical Gardens Info.-310-833-6823
- MAY 7 - 8** **Sunset Cactus And Succulent Society Show And Sale**
Veterans Memorial Center, Garden Room
4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, Ca. Call- 310-822-1783
- MAY 15** **Epiphyllum Society Show And Sale**
Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia, Ca Info--310-670-8148
- MAY 15** **Huntington Plant Sale 10 To 5** **Huntington Botanical**
Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, Ca. Info-626-405-2160
- MAY 20-21** **Gates Cactus And Succulent Society 31st**
Sale 9-4:30 Fri & Sat 9-4:30 pm
Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive
Glen Avon, Ca Info. 951-360-8802
- MAY 28-29** **Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society**
Annual Show & Sale 10-4pm, Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa
San Luis Obispo, Ca Info.- 805-921-2161,
www.Centralcoastcactus.Org

From the Stacks of the Library - May 2011
By Joyce Schumann
LACSS Librarian



From the Stacks of the Library

Hi all,

Once again we have a fantastic new book for you! Title: **HAWORTHIA** FOR THE COLLECTOR by Rudolf Schulz.

So, you think – Haworthia ... Schmaworthia...
What's the big deal??
Just another knock-your-socks-off book by Schulz??
What's to know? Propagation? Cultivation? Ho-Hum....

The focus of this book is well described in the Preface, Forward, and Introduction. Schulz moved away from the usual description of "natural" Haworthias to the *hybrids* that most of us want for our collections. To round out the subject, there is an excellent chapter of Haworthias in habitat, Bayer's 2008 species list, a brief history of Haworthia taxonomy, and if that's not enough – 10 websites of interest.

For the future, five more books are being considered for acquisition. If you have any favorites that you would like added to our Library, let us know.

In addition to books, the Library maintains a number of handouts available at each meeting. You can find them located to the left of the "Freebie" area. Cultivation, pest control, retail suppliers, gardens worth visiting, care and feeding are some of the topics covered in the handouts.

Stop by and "Check them out"

See you in a few days.
Joyce the Librarian

Plant-of-the-Month 2011

January	Gymnocactus and Ortegocactus	Aloe hybrids
February	Mammillaria (single head)	Dudleya
March	Echinocereus	Asclepiads -caudiciform and tuberous forms
April	Gymnocalycium (multiple heads)	Sansevieria
May	Epiphytes	Echeveria
June	Turbinicarpus and Frailea	Mesembs(other than Lithops and Conophytum) e.g. Pleiospilos, Lapidaria
July	Tephrocactus	Adenia
August	Brazilian cacti	Pachypodium (African species)
September	Ferocactus	Euphorbia (stem forms)
October	Ariocarpus	Terrestrial Bromeliads
November	Monstrose and Crest	Monstrose and Crest
December	<i>Holiday Party</i>	

Entry Classes: All new members, new to the hobby, should enter plants in the Novice class. Novices must move to the Advanced class after they have won a total of 40 first place awards in the Plant of the Month competition or who have been a member of the LACSS for three years or more. Individuals who own a nursery are required to enter in the Open class. Members must determine which class is appropriate for their skill level and must then continue to enter in that class for the remaining of the calendar year.

Prizes: All prizes are awarded at the Holiday Celebration in December. Trophies are awarded by entry class for those members who scored the most points in either the cacti or combined succulent categories. In the Novice and Advanced classes the top two scorers in each of the plant categories will also receive a prize (typically a plant). These prizes are awarded based on the total number of points scored during the year. Finally, a trophy is awarded to members, regardless of class, who have earned the most points in the cactus and/or succulent categories during the prior year.

Entry Requirements: All entrants must be LACSS members. Members are restricted to 3 plants per entry category per month – a total of 6 plants. In the Advanced and Open Classes, members must have been in possession of their plants for at least one year. Those members showing in the Novice class may immediately enter a recently obtained plant. You can only enter plants that conform to the Plant of the Month schedule described above.

Judging Scale*		Points Awarded	
Condition	50%	First	5
Size and Maturity	25%	Second	3
Staging	20%	Third	1
Nomenclature	5%	Entry Award**	1

* Plants that are in flower and the rarity of the entry are two additional criteria judges employ in determining monthly winners.

** Each member who enters one or more plants in a Plant-of-the-Month mini-show will be awarded a point for their participation which can be added to any other awards they receive for that month.

Plant of the Month - April Winners

Novice Division

Succulent - *Sansevieria*

Award	Name	Plant
First	Kim Thorpe	<i>Sansevieria</i> sp.
Second	Ronit Weiss	<i>Sansevieria trifasciata</i>
Third	Ronit Weiss	<i>Sansevieria</i> sp.

Cactus - *Gymnocalycium* (multiple heads)

First	Kim Thorpe	<i>Gymnocalycium</i> sp.
Second	John Martinez	<i>Gymnocalycium schatzlianum</i>
Third	Cheryl White	<i>Gymnocalycium denudatum</i>

Advanced Division

Succulent - *Sansevieria*

Award	Name	Plant
First	Norma Lewis	<i>Sansevieria dawei</i>
Second	Norma Lewis	<i>Sansevieria</i> 'Fernwood Varigate'
Third	Norma Lewis	<i>Sansevieria patens</i> variegata

Cactus - *Gymnocalycium* (multiple heads)

First	Barbara Hall	<i>Gymnocalycium mihanovichii</i> v. <i>friedrichii</i>
Second	Barbara Hall	<i>Gymnocalycium bruchii</i>
Second	Barbara Hall	<i>Gymnocalycium uruguayensis</i>

Open Division

Succulent - *Sansevieria*

First	Artie Chavez	<i>Sansevieria masoniana</i> variegata
Second	Artie Chavez	<i>Sansevieria kirkii</i> v. <i>pulchra</i>

Cactus - *Gymnocalycium* (multiple heads)

none

LACSS 2011 Board Members

Artie Chavez, President
Tim Harvey, VP, Programs
Manny Rivera, VP, Plant of the Month
Doug George, VP, Special Events
Ronit Weiss, Treasurer
Helen Frank, Secretary
Phyllis Frieze, Newsletter Editor

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Succulent of the Month May 2011 - *Echeveria*



Echeveria agavoides cv 'Ebony'

Echeveria is one of the principal members of the succulent New World *Crassulaceae*. *Echeveria* come principally from the mountains of Eastern Mexico, although there are plants found from Texas into South America.

The genus *Echeveria* is named after Atanasio Echeverria, illustrator of a projected *Flora Mexicana* prepared under the direction of Martin Sesse, from 1789 to 1803. Martin Sesse received a Royal Patent for a botanical expedition to Mexico from Charles III, King of Spain in 1788. Charles III was one of the most enlightened of the late 18th century kings, with widespread cultural and scientific interests. Unfortunately, he died shortly after giving the Patent, and before supplying any money. Sesse went on with the expedition, and although chronically short of funds, and often sick and hungry, with Jose Mocino, Atanasio Echeverria, and others, collected hundreds of plants over a 15 year period. The three returned to Spain, expecting

to become famous and publish their *Flora Mexicana*, only to be ignored by the King.

Sesse returned to his land holdings; Mocino went to work at the Museum of Natural History in Madrid, and Echeverria was hired as an artist's assistant.

Mocino sent the original drawings to the famous botanist Alphonse De Candolle as Napoleon marched on Madrid. The originals were lost in the confusion of the Napoleonic wars, but the drawings were saved by Alphonse De Candolle, who hired 120 draftsmen to work for 10 days making several sets of precise tracings of Echeverria's drawings. De Candolle also named the genus in a lecture in 1827, first publishing it in 1828.

Coming from mountainous regions, *Echeveria* prefer well drained soil, and good ventilation. They also prefer cooler night temperatures, looking their best from late winter through spring. The plants swell with the winter rains, and as growth starts the colors become more intense.



Echeveria subrigida

With time, most *Echeveria* offset between older leaves. These offsets can be removed, the bottom-most leaves of the offset removed, and the stem and remaining leaves planted as soon as the cut stem is dry. The terminal rosette should also be periodically removed and restarted in the same way, with all the dead leaves removed.



Echeveria etna



Echeveria 'Blue Curls'



Echeveria lilacina

References

- John Pilbeam, **The genus Echeverias, 2008**
L. Schulz and A. Kapitany, **Echeveria Cultivars, 2005**

Tom Glavich May 2005
Edited by Steve Frieze, May 2011

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Cacti of the Month May 2011 *Epiphytic Cacti*

Epiphytic cacti have a place in every collection. They are easy to grow, requiring remarkably little in the way of care, in general have few spines, and most reward the grower with a spectacular show of flowers.



Hatiora salicornioides

In habitat, epiphytic cacti root and survive on the tree tops of jungle flora. They are not considered parasites but simply coexist with their hosts while causing no damage. Epiphytes are typically found in the rain forests of Central and South America.

Epiphytic cacti like a richer mix than most ground loving cacti. A frequently used potting mix includes equal parts of potting soil, bark and pumice. Good drainage in the mix is important for good growth. Regular feeding, and a more constant supply of moisture, particularly during the growing season are also important.

Epiphytic cacti are all easily propagated from either cuttings and seed. Cuttings can be taken any time the plant is in active growth, spring being best, but any time during the summer and early fall will also work. Thin stemmed epiphytes, such as most of the *Rhipsalis* can be plant imme

diately. Thicker leafed genera should be allowed to dry for a day or two before planting. *Zygocactus* can be easily propagated from cuttings, but for reasonable success, two segments need to be used rather than one.



Epiphyllum 'Lemon Custard'



Rhipsalis pachyptera

Seed of many of the epiphytic cacti, particularly *Rhipsalis* is hard to come by. One or two species are occasionally offered by the CSSA seed bank. For those with an interest in hybridization, many epiphytes are easily pollinated and cross pollinated both within, and across genera. When the fruit turns color and hardens, it can be harvested, the seeds removed, cleaned, and stored until the following spring.

References

- C. Innes and C. Glass, **Cacti**
J. Pilbeam, **Cacti for the Connoisseur**
Cullmann, Gotz & Groner, **The Encyclopedia
of Cacti**

Tom Glavich December 2002
Edited by Steve Frieze, 2011

General Meeting starts at 7:30 PM on the **first Thursday** of the month at the Sepulveda Garden Center located at 16633 Magnolia Blvd. in Encino between Hayvenhurst and Balboa.
Set-up and social hour starts at 6:30 PM.

Bring a smile! Make new friends! **GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**

Visit Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society ONLINE at www.lacss.com

Upcoming Program for May:

Buck & Yvonne Hemenway
Trip to Klein Karoo,
South Africa

First Class Mail

Next Meeting: May 5, 2011
Sepulveda Garden Ctr. 16633 Magnolia Bl. Encino

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
PO Box 280581, Northridge, CA 91328

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