

C A C T U S CHRONICLE

O C T O B E R 2 0 2 1

VOL. 89 ISSUE 10

TIME FOR TAIWAN

WITH JOHN TRAGER

LACSS ZOOM MEETING, EVERY FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

MEETING START TIME: 7PM, HOST WILL OPEN ROOM AT 6:30PM

OCTOBER 7TH, 2021

Photo credit: John Trager

B O A R D OF DIRECTORS

2 0 2 1

LACSS MISSION STATEMENT

The Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society (LACSS) cultivates the study & enjoyment of cacti & succulent plants through educational programs & activities that promote the hobby within a community of fellow enthusiasts & among the greater public.

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POM PLANT DESCRIPTIONS

Kyle Williams

ZOOM MANAGEMENT TEAM

Emily Akers + John Giesing

COVID COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Emily Akers

SOCIAL MEDIA

Kathleen Misko - Facebook
Nicole Alter - Instagram

EDITOR'S NOTE

Hi everyone!

Looking forward to being able to see you all in person soon, but for now I still enjoy virtually seeing you! The next chance we will get to see each other in person will be the upcoming Pop Up Sale on the 23rd of the month!

Don't forget to share your photos with us at:
newsletter@lacactus.com

Next month's Plant of the Month is

VARIEGATED CACTI AND SUCCULENTS

I hope you are all safe and well.

- Kimberly

IN THIS ISSUE

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JOHN TRAGER

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TWO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

MEMBER BADGES

LACSS SATURDAY PROGRAM:
JOE STEAD



FROM THE MESSAGE PRESIDENT

Greetings to everyone!!

We are reaching the end of 2021- which has not been as challenging as 2020, but has kept us on alert for mask-wearing, social distancing, where to go, when to go, etc. Long ago, I learned one of the best lessons of my life – change is inevitable. And as a club, we are changing with the times both personally and technologically. Zoom and social media has played an important part in staying in touch with each other and being able to conduct club business in a painless manner. We have enjoyed many fantastic speakers and their slide shows that would not have been possible before.

I would like to make some snarky comment regarding the weather that is changing without clear-cut seasons. Our plants seem to go with the flow as long as we restrain ourselves and not fuss over them too much. One of the big distinctions we make is the winter/summer growers. Again, not clear cut. Some species do not share the same growing time as others in their genus. The plants rely more on the amount of daylight available and not so much the temperature. They also rely on us to be judicious in providing water and food.

Are you excited about our upcoming Fall Sale? Guess what that means?? More plants, more pots, more stuff for all of us! And of course, a call for volunteers. This is your last chance this year to earn our famous day-glow yellow/green Volunteer t -shirt. All Volunteers will also receive a voucher to be used the same day at any of our vendors.

If you can't join us for the Fall Sale, but still want to volunteer for a club activity, we just happen to have another event just for you. We will be gathering at Kathleen Misko's home on Sunday, October 10 to help her tidy up her very interesting succulent garden collection. I am encouraging members who have never volunteered for any LACSS event to do so. This is such a wonderful way to actually meet each other, get to know each other and get some insight into how the club actually works.

See the announcement in this Chronicle regarding the details of these two events. The CSSA Conservation Policy was included in our September Chronicle. At the July 25, 2021 LACSS Board meeting, it was approved that it will also be LACSS policy. If you have any questions on this or any other topic, feel free to contact me. October is a busy month so I continue to suggest that you stay safe and healthy.

See you soon.
Joyce

los angeles cactus and succulent society

CACTI + SUCCULENTS

HAND MADE POTTERY

COLLECTOR PLANTS

POP UP SALE

one day only

succulent society presents

october 23rd

9:00am - 3:00pm

encino farmer's market

17400 victory blvd, van nuys

no entrance fee

LACACTUS.COM

01A_CACTUSANDSUCCULENT_SOCIETY

no mask, no entry

SAVE THE DATE

TIME FOR TAIWAN

WITH JOHN TRAGER



The Xiamen Botanical Garden in Fujian Province, China has the most notable succulent collection of botanical gardens in mainland China. It is located in the city of Xiamen, a city of more than 4 million on the SE coast just a short flight from Taiwan. A 2018 trip provided the opportunity to visit Xiamen with time for a quick visit to Taiwan as well. This program looks at some of the botanical and cultural highlights of these fascinating places that may be a bit off the beaten track for most succulent collectors.



John Trager is Curator of the Desert Collections at the Huntington Botanical Gardens in San Marino, California where he has worked since 1983. Prior to that he worked with master propagator Frank Horwood at Abbey Garden Nursery when it was located in Carpinteria. Trager's horticultural writings have appeared in the *Cactus and Succulent Journal*, the *Euphorbia Journal*, and various other horticultural publications. He is also known for his photography -- over 3000 of his images have been published in numerous textbooks and horticultural journals. Book projects include co-authorship and photography for *Dry Climate Gardening with Succulents* produced by the Huntington (1995), principal photographer for *The Genus Conophytum* (1993) and a contributor to other works by Steven Hammer: *Lithops, Treasures of the Veld* (1999) and *Dumpling and His Wife* (2002, a revision of the *The Genus Conophytum*) and *Mesembs of the World* (1998, Hammer et al.). He has also contributed photographs to works by Gordon Rowley: *The Succulent Compositae* (1994), *Anacampseros, Avonia, Grahamia: a grower's handbook* (1995), *Crassula, A Grower's Guide* (2003), as well as the multi-authored six-volume reference *The Illustrated Handbook of Succulents* (2001-2003). He continues to contribute images for new editions and new publications as opportunity and demand arises. The annual ISI introductions published in the *C&S Journal* also provide a venue for his writing and photography. John has traveled widely in search of plants (and insects) including China, Costa Rica, Israel, Mexico, Namibia, South Africa, Thailand and Venezuela. He holds a bachelor's degree in Horticulture from Cal Poly Pomona (1992) and earlier studied Botany at Santa Barbara City College and UCSB.



CSSA CONSERVATION POLICY

Introduction

The prior Policy Statement was antiquated and dated back to an era when field collecting by hobbyist was not entirely discouraged. A new Statement was drafted that expressly discourages all field collection except for limited scientific studies, rescue operations, government sanctioned breeding programs and the like. The new Statement directly references and incorporates the IOS Code of Conduct. Important legislation (The America Endangered Species Act) and treaties (CITES) are expressly referenced. In short, the Conservation Policy Statement is taking a strong stand against the sale and showing of field collected plants.

Conservation Policy Statement

The Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) is the national organization for the study, education, and promotion of cacti and succulents. The popularity of cacti and succulents, their availability online, and their increased monetary value have critically endangered their populations in the wild. The conservation of these unique plants and their habitats is of critical concern.

Existing Policies and Guidelines

CSSA shall adhere to:

All national and international guidelines, treaties, and laws regarding the protection of cacti, other succulents and their habitats.

The Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) treaty and the American Endangered Species Acts for both plants and animals.

The International Organization for Succulent Plant Study (IOS) Code of Conduct.

Specific conservation policies of the applicable State or other local jurisdictions.

CSSA Show and Sale Policies

CSSA will not accept field collected plants in its competitive shows; plants in question will be evaluated by a review team upon entering.

CSSA functions will not allow the sale, purchase, or promotion of habitat-collected plants.

- ↓ CSSA encourages its affiliate societies to adopt or incorporate CSSA Conservation Policies in developing their own missions and show and sale policies.

Commercial Selling

- ↓ CSSA endorses and promotes vendors which produce sale plants from seed, cuttings or other artificial means.
- ↓ CSSA discourages the use of nurseries and online vendors that sell field collected plants.

Legal Initiatives

- ↓ CSSA will work with our appropriate government agencies to modernize laws regarding the sale of plants across international borders, especially for hybrids.
- ↓ CSSA will endorse and promote state laws and policies pertaining to the rescue of plants due to urban or agricultural encroachment.
- ↓ CSSA will assist in the development of procedures to conserve and disseminate rescued plants.



Eriosyce napina subsp. *lembckeii*. A little cactus of Atacama Region that is a species in danger.

Photo: Rescuti - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=64463623>

PLANT ^{of the} MONTH

2 0 2 1

JANUARY

Columnar cactus
Sedum & Sempervivum

FEBRUARY

Mammillaria straight spines
Pelargonium

MARCH

Copiapoa
Bulb

APRIL

Echinocereus
Conophytum

MAY

Cacti staged as miniature
Succulent staged as miniature
(Diameter of pot
NO LARGER THAN 3")

JUNE

Favorites

JULY

Echinofossulocactus
(aka Stenocactus)
Adenium

AUGUST

Echinopsis
Euphorbia with caudex

SEPTEMBER

Ariocarpus
Cyphostemma & Cissus

OCTOBER

Grafted
Grafted

NOVEMBER

Variiegated
Variiegated

DECEMBER

Holiday Awards Party

POM Online Policies

AS LACSS CONTINUES ITS ONLINE MEETING FORMAT FOR THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, SOME SLIGHT MODIFICATIONS IN THE PLANT-OF-THE-MONTH (POM) COMPETITION HAVE BEEN ADOPTED BEGINNING FEBRUARY, 2021. WE HOPE THESE CHANGES WILL MOTIVATE MORE MEMBERS TO COMPETE IN THIS LONG-STANDING EDUCATIONAL TRADITION. BESIDES, IT'S REALLY FUN TO GET YOUR PLANTS READY FOR THEIR CLOSE-UPS.

- SUBMISSIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO A MAXIMUM OF 2 CACTUS AND 2 SUCCULENT SUBMISSIONS PER PERSON.
- WINNING POINTS WILL BE RECORDED AND ACCUMULATED FOR PRIZES AWARDED AT OUR YEAR-END HOLIDAY PARTY IN 2021.
- COMPETITION DIVISIONS (ROOKIE, NOVICE, ADVANCED, AND OPEN) WILL BE JUDGED TOGETHER, AS THERE AREN'T ENOUGH PLANTS FOR A COMPETITION IN EACH DIVISION.
- ONE POINT WILL BE AWARDED FOR EACH ENTRY, AND WINNERS IN THE CACTUS AND THE SUCCULENT AREAS WILL BE AWARDED 3 POINTS FOR 3 RD PLACE, 4 POINTS FOR 2ND PLACE, AND 5 POINTS FOR 1ST PLACE.
- PHOTOS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO OUR CACTUS CHRONICLE EDITOR : NEWSLETTER@LACACTUS.COM BY THE 20TH OF THE MONTH PRECEDING THE COMPETITION IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE JUDGING.
- MANNY RIVERA WILL SELECT THE WINNING CACTUS AND SUCCULENT BASED ON THE PHOTOS, TO BE ANNOUNCED DURING THE MEETING.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS PARTICIPATED IN THIS ACTIVITY!

PLANT OF THE MONTH

GRAFTED PLANTS

B Y K Y L E W I L L I A M S

We are doing another combined plant of the month article this month because the subject isn't a particular kind plant, it is a cultivation technique used throughout the cultivated plant world, grafting. Though of course we are only interested in cacti and succulents for the plant of the month.

Grafting is the process of taking two or more varieties of related plants and physically combining them into a single functioning plant. Usually, the idea is to put a slow growing or difficult to grow plant on top of an easy, fast growing plant. Why would anyone besides Dr. Frankenstein want to do this? Because grafted plants are almost always easier and faster growing than the desirable plant would be on its own roots. In fact, in certain cases it is literally impossible to grow some plants without grafting. Specifically, mutant plants lacking chlorophyll, such as "Moon Cacti" cannot manufacture their own food and require a rootstock to supply it.



Turbinicarpus pseudopectinatus crest

So you have a rare plant that is notorious for dying if you look at it the wrong way and you want to graft it to increase your odds of success. What do you need to do? First, determine if it is a type of plant that can be grafted. For all intents and purposes you cannot graft Monocots. Succulent Monocots include Aloe, Haworthia, Gasteria, Agave, flowering bulbs, and others. Most everything else is a Dicot and can be grafted, at least in theory. Cacti, Euphorbia, Adenium, Pachypodium & Stapeliads are the most commonly grafted succulents. If you are unsure just Google the name of your plant. Step two is finding an appropriate rootstock. You want an easy to grow, fast growing, hardy plant with an upright stem that is reasonably thick (to accommodate the desired plant or "scion").

It is absolutely critical that the rootstock be closely related to the desired plant. Generally this means the same plant family (in the botanical sense, again Google if you are unsure). So cacti must be grafted on other cacti, Euphorbias on Euphorbias, etc. There is no single rootstock that is ideal for every plant (even within a family), but there are several popular choices for each group each with their own plusses and minuses.

Step three is to physically graft the plants. Do this during the spring and summer as dormant or semi-dormant plants will not work. Detailed instructions of how to do the graft are beyond the scope of this article. But in short, you need to cut the top off the rootstock, cut the base off the scion then stick the two cut surfaces together. Pressure needs to be applied for a few days to a week, after which if the graft was successful the vascular systems of the plants have fused together and the top will start growing. If it fails you'll know pretty quickly because the scion will shrivel and fall off. It takes practice and even experts don't get 100% success.



Euphorbia lactea crest



Moon cactus

PLANT Of the MONTH

O C T O B E R



**ROXIE + JIM
ESTERLE**

PACHYPODIUM BREVICAULE GRAFTED

R O N B E H A R

EUPHORBIA LACTEA CREST



**FREDDIE + JONICE
ANDERSON**

MYRTILLOCACTUS
GEOMETRIZANS CREST



**FREDDIE + JONICE
ANDERSON**

AZTEKIUM RITTERI





PLANT ^{of} the MONTH

2 0 2 2

JANUARY

Frailea
Adromischus

FEBRUARY

Monotypic
Senecio, Othonna

MARCH

Mammillaria Clusters
Aloe Clusters

APRIL

Ecobaria, Acharagma
Aizoaceae Thickened Roots

MAY

Cacti staged as miniature
Succulent staged as miniature
(Diameter of pot
NO LARGER THAN 2")

JUNE

Favorites

JULY

Discocactus
Dyckia

AUGUST

Thelocactus-Hamatocactus
Bursera

SEPTEMBER

Gymnocalycium
Euphorbia Millii type

OCTOBER

Astrophytum
Sanseveria

NOVEMBER

Variegated
Variegated

DECEMBER

Holiday Awards Party



WE NEED BOXES!

We need boxes for our Fall Sale visitors. You may bring them to the **ONEGeneration (Farmer's Market)** at 8:00AM Saturday, October 17 OR bring them to my home any time before October 8. Address: 6656 Wynne Ave, Reseda, 91335.

It will be greatly appreciated if the boxes are already cut to size and taped. We will not have time to do that ourselves on Saturday morning before opening at 9AM. Thanks to all of you for always being willing to help the club.

Best wishes,
Joyce

TWO VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Your heard about the LACSS Fall Sale scheduled for Saturday, October 23. Now be a part of it!

Volunteer shifts will be three hours each. We need parking control, compliance control, and survey takers. Parking control will start at 8:00 AM.

Other shifts will begin about 8:45 AM. The last shift will begin at 11:00AM. Also, our vendors may need some assistance setting up in the morning.

If you can't join us on Saturday, October 23 for the Fall Sale maybe Sunday, October 10 will fit into your schedule. Everyone who attended the "Gloria Project" enjoyed the comradery and the feeling of a job well done.

We now have an opportunity to do another good deed – this time for Kathleen Misko. AKA Kathleen's Kactus Klean-up.

Weather forecasts can be unpredictable so we will start in the cool of the morning: 7:00 AM and finish at 11:00 AM. No vouchers for this project but Kathleen will be providing lunch.

Please let me know via email when you are available. Thanking you in advance for your help.

More details will be provided closer to the date.

If any questions, feel free to contact me.
Joyce – LACSS Volunteer Coordinator
ropojo@pacbell.net

MEMBER BADGES

Member badges are available for pick up at our first in-person meeting or by arrangement. If you would like your badges now, please email me ropojo@pacbell.net and we can make arrangements for you to pick up at my home. These are the badges that I have ordered for renewal and new members.



L A C S S A T U R D A Y PROGRAM

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9TH 2021
HOST WILL OPEN MEETING ROOM
AT 10:00AM**

A BLAST WILL BE SENT OUT AGAIN!

THE CHALLENGES OF SUCCULENT PROPAGATION

WITH JOE STEAD



A look at different types of propagation that I have learned in the last 20 years. Including pollination, seed germination, rooting cutting, air layering and more.

Joe Stead is a full time Horticulture Coordinator and a part-time instructor at Orange Coast College Horticulture Department in Costa Mesa, California. He has worked at the college since 1994. His passion and expertise is in the propagation and hybridization of many types of plants. He has co-authored articles published in the CSSA journal. His succulent garden design was a featured article in Sunset Magazine. He teaches an 8 week course on 'Cactus and Succulents and their use in the landscape'. His students helped install the Orange Coast Succulent Garden' on campus. He is currently working on many new hybrids of Boswellia. Joe and his wife, Liann, currently live in Tustin, Calif.

CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
CONEJO



Est. 2016

Succulent & Cactus Plant Sale
Sunday, October 17, 2021

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

558 North Ventu Park Road
Thousand Oaks, CA, 91320
SE corner of Ventu & Hillcrest

Vendors will be offering
Cactus, Succulents, Bromeliads & Plumerias
Along with Pottery
and Jewelry



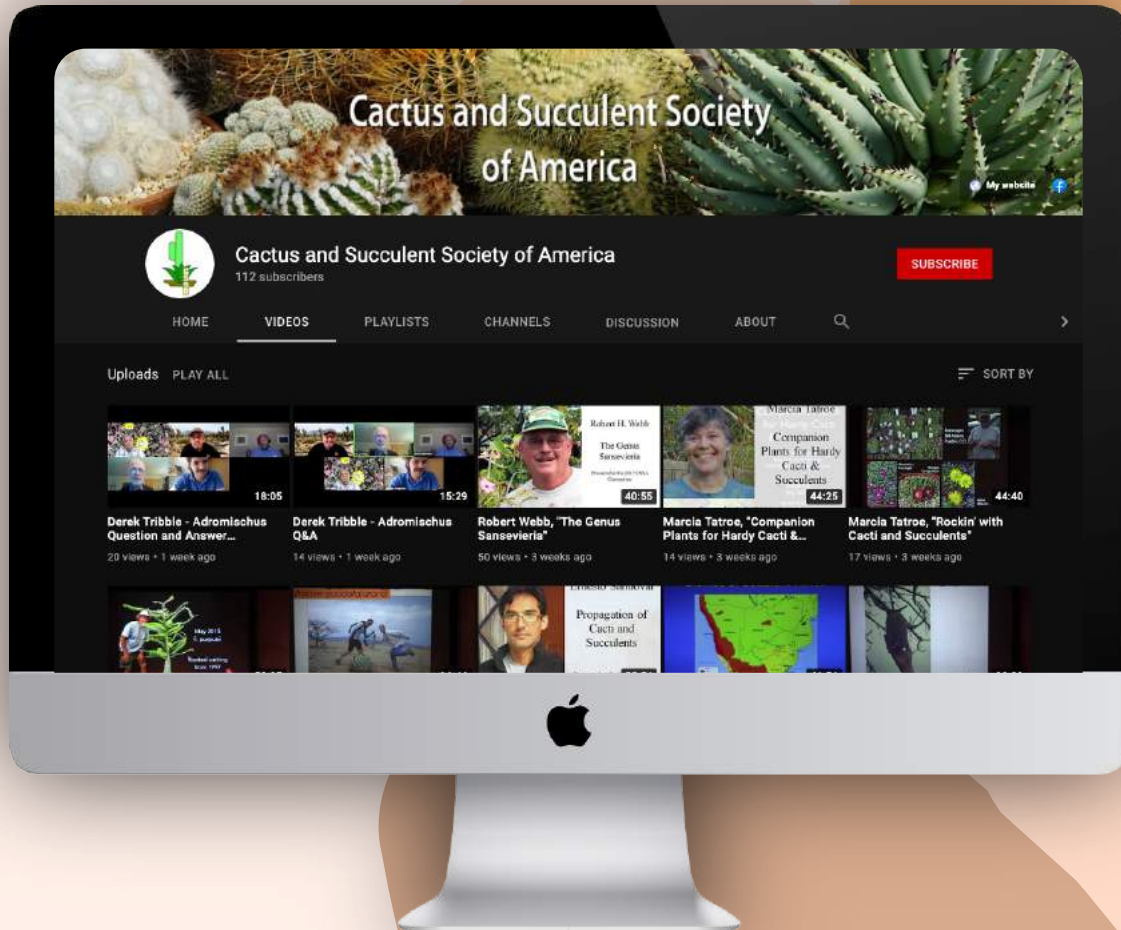
Experts will be available for
advice on growing and cultivation



Please bring boxes or bags to carry home your purchases.

For more information: Facebook: Conejo Cactus & Succulent Society
Web: ConejoCSS.com Email: ConejoCSS@hotmail.com

D I D Y O U K N O W A B O U T T H E



Cactus and Succulent Society of America
YOUTUBE CHANNEL

visit now >

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCwCha5bMRsYjpeF-NljrCqA>

A WORD FROM MEMBERSHIP

Hi there members,

October is membership renewal month.

Expect to get an email from me about
2022 beginning in October.

Till then, stay healthy and safe.

Rose (Rosemary) Polito
Membership chair

W E L C O M E NEW MEMBERS

Richard Banks

Daniel Lipton

Nicole Leyesa

Manju Talreja

Corrina Garcia

Christopher J. Garcia

Rommel V. Valerio

Julia Aveiro

Gary T. Pyle

DESERT CREATIONS

18161 Parthenia St. Northridge CA 91325
(818) 679 6548
desertcreations.net

10% OFF TO LACSS MEMBERS

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2228 Patterson Rd #99 Riverbank CA 95367
(707) 290 6548
Instagram: @kitoi
ONLINE ORDER / LOCAL PICKUP / SHIPPING AVAILABLE

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(Address provided then)

CASH, CHECK, OR PAYPAL (NO CREDIT CARD)
John Matthews
jgmplants@aol.com
(661) 714 1052

RALPH MASSEY PLANTS

(818) 562 7296
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

LA SUCCULENTS

(818) 732-0611
11226 Christy Ave
Lake View Terrace, CA 91342
(Right off the Wheatland exit on the 210 Freeway)