



LOS ANGELES
CACTUS
AND
SUCCULENT
SOCIETY

CACTUS CHRONICLE

March 2011

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Next Meeting: March 3, 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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WOODY MINICH Presents Succulents of Yemen

Woody has been in the cactus hobby for some 41 years and has developed an extensive knowledge of succulents and cactus. He is an honorary life member of seven CSSA clubs, where he has served in almost all positions of leadership. He is known for his extensive field work primarily studying the cactus family. He has traveled throughout the United States, Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, Africa, Yemen and Socotra. Woody is a recognized international speaker; his photography is special and his commentary entertaining and educational.

He is also known for his cactus and succulent nursery, Cactus Data Plants. CDP specializes in show specimens and rare cacti and other succulents with particular emphasis in Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Mammillaria, Gymnocalycium, Turbinicarpus, Melocactus, Copiapoa, Fouquieria, Pachypodium, Euphorbia, Cyphostemma, Adenium and Adenia.

Woody's current presentation, The Succulents of Yemen is based on his 2007 trip there. We will visit Sana, the capital of Yemen, and then travel south to Taiz and from there on to the famous Port of Aden. Yemen's environment is extremely arid, mostly sand and rock, and is rich in succulent plants. On route to Yemen's fascinating cities we will see an abundance of Asclepiads, Aloes and Euphorbias as well as other plants. He includes photos of lizards and other special creatures that are often found in this windswept, sand-duned and mysterious region.

The Yemen culture and the people of this part of the world are very different from our western ways, and yet, their deserts are very similar to our own. Don't miss this special presentation about Yemen, a part of the succulent world that is seldom seen and a country that most of us will probably never visit.

President's Message

March 2011

It was exciting to see such a large and enthusiastic turn out for the February meeting. Paul Klaassen gave a wonderful program on his South American travels. His efforts were even more impressive considering that he had not slept for 24 hrs before the meeting. Our monthly drawing was a huge success and would like to thank Tim Harvey for such an unusual selection of plants. The new approach to the monthly refreshments has proven to be innovative and offers sweet, new and healthy foods. **REMEMBER** if you happen to miss your month please feel free to bring in something to share the next month.

The Board of Directors is working hard to improve the Club and member participation. They have, for the first time in LACSS history, created a budget for the new year (which will be out for publication soon). Tim Harvey continues to establish creative programs each month. At the March meeting we will unveil the year's first hands on workshop for April.

At the February meeting, Roxie Esterle , who has been busy at work, announced the Club's first member garden tour for this year. She has finalized all the details and will report them at the March meeting. It promises to be an exciting day so reserve March 26th on your calendars. Roxie will also report on the Sepulveda Garden, Cactus Garden Project.

The Show and Sale committee has met and a report will follow soon. The Show committee has some new and exciting suggestions in store for our annual June event. The success of the show will require participation from the entire membership; so stay tuned for more updates.

REMEMBER: the LACSS belongs to you, so help us make the club more educational, inviting and most of all FUN! If you have any suggestions please find a board member and bend their ear.

See you in March

Artie

MARCH 2011

Things to Remember

REFRESHMENTS: if your last name begins with the letters *I – M* please bring something to share with the group. Imamura, Ingram, Just, Kanno, Kazlas, Kessler, Lewis, Lombard, Lopez, Maggio, Main, Martinez, Massey, Matthews, Mecca, Minnich, Moore, and Morris

WEBSITE: Ronit Weiss and Gunnar Eisel have done a great job in up-dating our website. If you have something of interest for the website, articles, notices, and pictures, please email them to the new club email address lacss.contact@gmail.com

IN OUR LIBRARY: The Plant of the Month selections for April, Cacti are multi headed Gymnocalyciums. We have a very good book on Gymnocalyciums “Gymnocalycium- A Guide for Growers” by E. W. Putnam. The Succulent selection is Sansevieria and there are 3 different books that deal with this Genus. “Sansevieria, A Monograph of all Known Species” by N.E. Brown, “Sansevieria, Trifasciata Variations” by Juan B. Chahinian (former member of the club) and “The Sansevieria Book” by Herman Stover.

MONTHLY DRAWING: we set a record with the participation; let's keep up the good work!!

ENGRAVED NAME BADGES: our engraved club name badges will be available to buy, please see Richard Roosman at the meeting. The price is \$5.00

CLUB ROSTER: Please check your mailing information, this will help us get an accurate roster and help us get the Chronicle to you.

JUNE SHOW AND SALE: the show is scheduled for June 11th and 12th. It is not too early to start thinking about the and how you can participate in this exciting event. That is a very special weekend so be sure to mark your calendars and join other club members for some fun. Publicity, displays and any suggestions are encouraged to advertise this club event. Let's make this Bigger and Better than last year. The Show and Sale committee are hard at work.

COFFEE CUPS AND FREEBIES: A Thank You goes out to everyone that brought in their own coffee cups. Another shout-out goes to all who helped keep the Freebie area clean and in order, as well as to everyone that brought in bags to share. We encourage everyone to continue their efforts.

**Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society
Woodland Hills Home Garden Field Trip**

March 26, 2011 from 10:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Wander through three unique Woodland Hills homes featuring varied collections of cacti, succulents, and hybrids.

First stop 10:30 – 12:00 pm (includes time for bag lunch in the garden)

Walt and Maxine Wegner

Second Stop 12:15 – 1:15 pm

Rio and Caroline Cernik

Third Stop 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Al Denny

We'll travel by private cars to each location. Please bring a bag lunch. LACSS and the Cerniks will provide desserts and beverages.

**Walt and Maxine Wegner's
Garden**



Rio Cernik's Garden



Al Denny's Garden



Home Garden Pictures for the March Tour Continued
Walt and Maxine Rio



Al



**MEETING REFRESHMENTS
FOR MARCH**

LETTERS: I-M

February New Members

No information at the time of publication

Membership Renewals Are Now Due

Membership dues for 2011 will increase from \$15 to \$20 for a single individual to compensate for increased costs and other expenses that have accrued during the past year. In addition, those receiving the newsletter via the US mail will incur a \$5 charge to offset the costs of mailing which have gone up astronomically. Family memberships will cost \$25 with the same charge

LACSS Membership Form (Please print the following information)

Name _____ Phone _____

Name of Additional Members: _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

E-Mail Address _____

Send me the newsletter by E-Mail Send me the newsletter by U.S. Mail(\$5 extra fee)

Send me a plastic name badge (\$5 each)

Type of Membership: New Member Renewal

- Single Membership \$20 annually \$10 1/2 year (July or after)
- Family Membership \$25 annually \$12.50 1/2 year (July or after)
- Newsletter by U.S. Mail \$5 fee in addition to the membership charge
- Cash Check: number _____

Special Interests _____

How did you hear about LACSS _____

Member Email Addresses

This message is important if:

- ◆ You have received the newsletter via USPS and now want to take delivery via the internet
- ◆ You are having a problem receiving the newsletter via the internet
- ◆ Your email address has recently changed

If you fall into any of the above categories, run - do not walk - to your computer or note pad and send a note to Phyllis Frieze at Phyllis.98@hotmail.com indicating the correct email address. Thanks in advance for your help!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

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	Turbincarpus 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 - February Winners

Novice Division

Succulent - Dudleya and Asclepedcea

Award	Name	Plant
First	Efren Flores	Dudleya albiflora
Second	Efren Flores	Dudleya nesoetica
Second	Jose Lopez	Dudleya gnoma
Third	None	

Cactus - Mammillaria (single head)

First	Rio Cernik	Mammillaria melanocentra
Second	Rio Cernik	Mammillaria hahniana
Third	Jose Lopez	Mammillaria hahniana

Advanced Division

Succulent - Dudleya and Asclepedcea

Award	Name	Plant
First	Mick Gottschalk	Dudleya pulverulenta
Second	Barbara Nolan	Dudley sp.
Third	Barbara Hall	Dudleya greenii 'White Sprite'
Third	Barbara Nolan	Dudleya greenii 'White Sprite'

Cactus - Mammillaria (single head)

First	Barbara Hall	Mammillaria canelensis
Second	Sylvia Strehlo	Mammillaria sp.
Third	Barbara Hall	Mammillaria petersonii
Third	Barbara Hall	Mammillaria pringlei

Open Division

Succulent - Dudleya and Asclepedcea

Award	Name	Plant
First	John Matthews	Dudleya brittonii
Second	None	
Third	None	
None		

Cactus - Mammillaria (single head)

First	John Matthews	Mammillaria supertexta
Second	Manny Rivera	Mammillaria huitzilopochtlii
Third	Manny Rivera	Mammillaria albilanata

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.*

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Succulent of the Month March 2011 - *Caudiciform Asclepiads*

The Asclepiadaceae or Milkweed family is a large family of succulent and non-succulent plants. This family has a wealth of forms rivaling that found in the Cactaceae, Crassulaceae and Euphorbiaceae families. This month we will focus on the caudiciform or tuberous rooted types, often a very popular plant choice in the exhibitions or shows. The genera *Fockea*, *Brachystelma*, *Matalaea*, *Raphionacme*, and some of the *Cerepegia* are all essentially vines. The caudex is typically submerges when found in habitat.

Fockea edulis is one of the most popular specimen. Easily grown from seed, this genus can form an impressive caudex in just a few years if it is left below soil level in ether a pot or other growing condition. *Fockea*'s are relatively easy to grow, can thrive in unprotected conditions even when temperatures drop to near-freezing levels.



Fockea edulis

Another species that found in nurseries is

Fockea crispa (revised to *fockea capensis*) that possesses a corrugated caudex and crinkly leaves. *Fockea multiflora* is still another popular species that has an upright conical caudex. Another less well-known *Fockea*, originating from South African is *Fockea comaru*. This plant is found in well-drained soil and partial sun. It produces a vine that grows to six feet in length.



Fockea crispa



Fockea comaru

The *Fockea* genus includes the following species not mentioned above: *angustifolia*, *sinuata*, and *tugelensis*

Raphionacme is a genus that is a bit more temperamental and is subject to rot. The most common species associated with this genus is *Raphionacme flanaganii*.



Raphionacme flanaganii

Raphionacme procumbens, a species originating from South Africa requires well-drained soil and requires lots of sun to thrive. This species was first described in 1895 by Friedrich Richard Rudolf Schlechter.



Raphionacme procumbens

Other species belonging to the genus *Raphionacme* include *burkei*, *daronnii*, *elata*, *hirsuta*, and *vignei*

Ceropegia is a genus that originates from the Canary Islands and South Africa stretching to East India. The most common species of *Ceropegia* is *woodii* often sold as a house plant. It has heart shaped leaves and small tubers that form at the nodes of the vines. *Ceropegia* flowers have a tubular structure and assume a variety of colors



Ceropegia woodii



including black, dark purple, green, and maroon.

The many species belonging to the genus *Ceropegia* include *occulta*, *odarata*, *campanulata*, *elegans*, and *occidentalis*.

The last genus of the asclepiad type to be discussed in this article is *Brachystelma*. This plant usually has a round potato-like caudex. They are the most difficult of all the asclepiads to grow because of their fragile nature. The tendency to encounter rot is much more likely with this genus than with other asclepiads. The flowers are notoriously offensive in smell but extremely beautiful to observe. The advance or patient hobbyist will be richly rewarded by including this genus in their collection.

Brachystelma barberae is a dwarf herb whose leaves emerge from a submerged caudex. In its juvenile state the caudex is circular and as the plant matures the tuber becomes irregular in shape. All plant material on the surface of the plants are covered with coarse hairs and when damaged emit a watery sap.



Brachystelma barberae

Brachystelma foetidum is another species of this genus. Named for the offensive scent of the flower (foetidum mean a manure-like in smell), this plant originates from Botswana, South African and Zimbabwe. The flower's appearance is dark brown or blackish.



Brachystelma foetidum

Other species belonging to the genus *Brachystelma* include *blepharantha*, *circinnatum*, *constrictum*, *dyeri*, *montanum*, *togoense*, and *vahrmeijeri*.

References

- G. Rowley, *Caudiciform and Pachycaul Succulents*
Sajeva and M. Costanzo, *Succulents, The Illustrated Dictionary*

Tom Glavitch, 2003
Edited by Steve Frieze, 2011

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Cacti of the Month March 2011 - *Echinocereus*



Vince Basta's *Echinocereus baileyi* shown in the 15th InterCity Show

Echinocereus species can be found throughout the Western United States, and the range of species stretches through the American west and through Northern and Central Mexico to about Mexico City. As might be expected from a genus covering such a large range, *Echinocereus* are extremely varied in form, ranging from nearly spineless green balls such as *E. knippelianus*, to very spiny short columnar species such as *E. engelmannii*, to pencil thin sticks such a *E. poselgeri*.

In general, *Echinocereus* is an under-appreciated genus. Most growers have one or two, but having killed a few in their early collecting days, usually because of over watering, concentrate on other genera. Most of the species are in fact easy to grow. Many of the species are quite variable, and exhibit different spination and flower colors depending on the local environment. As a result, a large number of species were named. These are being reduced to a more conservative 30 to 50 species. The varieties and local growth forms provide

an enormous range of interesting plants to grow.

Most *Echinocereus* have spectacular flowers, giving rise to such common names as Claret Cup, Strawberry Cactus, Calico Cactus. These common names are often attached to more than one species. *Echinocereus* flowers erupt through the skin, leaving scars. Offsets also erupt through the skin.

Propagation from cuttings is relatively easy, but attention needs to cleanliness is important. Use of Rootone, or another rooting compound containing a fungicide helps ensure success.

A very popular species of *Echinocereus*, often found in the shows, is *pectinatus* v. *rubispinus*. This plants produces a vibrant rose-colored flower during the spring and its spines retain a reddish tinge throughout the year.



Echinocereus pectinatus v. *rubispinus*

Echinocereus viridiflorus v. *canus* is a gorgeous plant that produces stiff white spines tinged with red in the mature

specimen and develops greenish flowers during the spring season. This plant originates from the Trans-Pecos area of Texas.



Echinocereus viridiflorus v. canus

References

D. Hunt, The New Cactus Lexicon
C. Innes and C. Glass, Cacti

Tom Glavitch, 2004
Edited Steve Frieze, 2011

Caro Desert Nursery

PRESENTS

ANNUAL POTTERS SALE & MASTER GROWERS INVITATIONAL AUCTION MARCH 19TH, 2011

Come and Buy from First Of The Year's Fine Ceramic Pottery

Come and be the first to acquire the new pots of the 2011 year. Many of these potters create new and gorgeous pots over the fall and winter. Be among the first to see and buy their new creations.

Joe Wujcik

A talented potter with his signature pottery pleasing for any plant. Joe is introducing some great new colors and patterns. I saw some of the new glazes in Orange County - you must get a few of these new colors!

Debbie & Charlie Ball

These one of a kind creations are great for any succulent plant. Each pot has a unique feel with creative patterns and glazes. If you visit the website www.ankhworks.com you will see the great new sizes being introduced this year - really fantastic!

Karenn Ohlinder

Dark and almost ancient civilization is the feel one gets from Karenn's pottery. A real So. Cal favorite! Karenn does not attend many shows so this is a rare opportunity to get her great pottery.

Steve Pate

Always an eye catcher and not seen often here in Southern California, as he resides in Stockton. Steve creates beautiful pottery which range from small bonsai shapes to deep large pots. I have been lucky enough to sell with Steve, but only in San Francisco and San Jose.

(Tentative list of potters)

Introducing a "Master Growers Invitational Auction"

This year there will be an Invitation Only Master Grower Specimen Plant Auction. You are being given an opportunity to buy plants that prior to now have been hidden away in a special spot in a special greenhouse taken care of by a Master Grower. This will be a great time to not only see these spectacular plants but to be able to win them at auction.

You have been to individual Master Grower auctions, now we are gathering several Master Growers into one location for one spectacular auction. A tentative list of Master Growers will be: Vince Basta, Larry Grammer, Karen Ostler, Elton Roberts, Dave Tufenkian, Rene Caro and Tom Glavich.

Date:

Saturday March 19th, 2011

Potters Sale & Plant Viewing: 9:00 a.m.

Auction begins: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Caro Desert Nursery,

9607 E. Avenue S12

Littlerock, CA 93543

Phone: 661-456-0787

Web Site: www.CaroDesert.com

Email: PattyCC4@yahoo.com

Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

General Meeting starts at **7:00 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 6:45 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:
Woody Minnich
Succulents of Yemen

First Class Mail

Next Meeting: March 3, 2011
Sepulveda Garden Ctr. 16633 Magnolia Bl.
Encino

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
PO Box 280581, Northridge, CA 91328

Newsletter of the Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society

March 2011

CACTUS CHRONICLE

