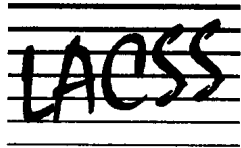


November 2010



LOS ANGELES
CACTUS
AND
SUCCULENT
SOCIETY

CACTUS CHRONICLE

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Next Meeting: November 4, 2010

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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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November Program Nick Wilkinson The Succulents of Cedros Island

Nick Wilkinson is the owner of GROW, the Nursery at Moonstone Gardens which is located in beautiful Cambria, California. Although busy operating the nursery and creating art pieces, Nick often takes trips through exotic cacti and succulent habitats to see these wonderful plants in their natural state. His most recent trip was a one week excursion to Cedros Island just off the coast of Baja California in the Pacific Ocean. Nick had the opportunity to see many succulent species endemic to this area as well as breathtaking scenery and tons of folk art. Nick will share his experiences and unique observations of this botanical wonder. He will also be bringing lots of plants for sale so don't miss out!

Important Notice

Effective November 2010, meetings of the LACSS will start at **7:00 PM**. The Sepulveda Garden Center will open for set-up at **6:45** and not before. Please adjust your schedules accordingly.

LOS ANGELES CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
SAYS - DON'T MISS THE FUN

Come To the Spectacular Annual Holiday
Awards Party

Potluck - Plant Auction - Gift Exchange
December 4th, 6PM
At the Sepulveda Garden Center
16633 Magnolia Blvd. Encino

- All members are, of course invited, and they may bring one g
- If you haven't signed up do so at the November meeting
- Each attendee is requested to bring a side dish, salad and/or dessert (please bring food contribution between 5 & 6 PM)
- *We need volunteers for the Holiday Committee to help set up t room between 4 - 5 PM. See Barbara Hall*

The party will include:

- **Potluck dinner, ham, turkey & drinks**
- **Awards for Plant of the Month points winners**
- **Rare Plant Auction - all members, please bring (1) plant-related item to add to the auction ie: pots, books, a nice plant, garden-related items club will be acquiring fewer but higher quality plants for the auction**
- **Gift exchange (optional) - gifts must be wrapped & under \$15.00. Tickets will be issued to gift exchangers.**
- **Dish garden center pieces will be raffled off. All attendees will get a raffle ticket & all members who pay their club dues by the December 1st will get (1) extra raffle ticket.**

If you are unable to attend the November meeting and will be joining us at the party please RSVP to Barbara Hall (818) 368-6914

**PLANT-OF-THE-MONTH FOR THE YEAR 2010
LOS ANGELES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY (LACSS)**

Month	Cacti	Succulent
January	Hooked Spine Mammillaria	Senecio and Othonna
February	Monotypic Cacti	Adromischus, Anacampse-ros & Avonia
March	Copiapoa	Aeonium, Sempervivum & Sedum
April	Astrophytums	Cucurbitaceae
May	Echinopsis, Lobivia, & Trichocereus	Agavaceae
June	<i>Thelocactus</i>	<i>Caudiciform Euphorbia</i>
July	Melocactus	Cissus & Cyphostemma
August	Favorite	Favorite
September	Miniatures	Miniatures
October	Variegates	Variegates
November	Echinocactus	Haworthia Retuse Type
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. Individuals who own a nursery are required to enter in the Open class. Although it is not advised, LACSS members are free to enter a plant in the Open class at any time.

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 three 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 or two 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.

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

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

PLANT-OF-THE-MONTH FOR THE YEAR 2011
LOS ANGELES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY (LACSS)

The plant-of –the-month selection for the new year are found below. Take a careful look at the plants identified for each month so you can plan ahead for possible purchases or preparation. All members are encouraged to participate in our monthly mini-show.

Month	Cacti	Succulent
January	Gymnocactus and Ortegocactus	Aloe hybrids
February	Mammillaria, single head	Echeveria
March	Echinocereus	Caudici form and tuberous asclepiads
April	Gymnocalycium	Dudleya
May	Epiphytes	Epiphytes
June	Tubincarpus	Mesembs (no Lithops or Conophytums)
July	Tephrocactus	Adenia
August	Brazilian cacti	Brazilian succulents
September	Ferocactus	Euphorbia, stem form
October	Ariocarpus	Pachypodium
November	Frailea and Blossenfeldia	Sansevieria
December	<i>Holiday Party</i>	



A note from Ronit Weiss:

The best presenters share their passion. We are lucky that our club includes passionate members; we are even luckier when the members make presentations!

John Matthews is an avid succulent collector and grower, and he shared his impressive Howarthia collection with us. He generously brought many plants from his collection, explained about each one as well as told us about his collection and growing methods. I enjoyed seeing up close so many different and beautiful Howarthias and getting tips from a first rate grower. The experience was both humbling and inspiring.

In the October meeting Ralph Massey shared his passion: Staging succulents, on a small budget. He explained his art and craft, using many samples to make his point. He brought staged plants from his collection, to illustrate how staging plants is an ever evolving art, and the plants themselves always changing, needing continued attention. The workshop that followed the presentation was amazing. He brought materials for all attending members, putting a lot of effort in the preparation: He prepared terracotta saucers as planters by drilling drainage holes, and prepared boxes with the saucers, soil, rocks and even plants. For the first time in my life I found myself actually staging plants, and to my great surprise, I really enjoyed the experience. I am looking forward to the next workshops!

Thank you John and Ralph.

Plant of the Month - October Winners

Plant of the Month - October Winners		
Novice Division		
Succulent - Variegates		
Award	Name	Plant
First	Scott Schaffer	Gasteria pillansii
Second	Ronit Weiss	Aloe sp.
Second	Rio Cemak	Haworthia cymbiforme
Third	Scott Schaffer	Gasteria armstrongii
Third	Ronit Weiss	Euphorbia lactea variegata
Cactus - Variegates		
First	Rio Cemak	Echinocereus davisii
Second	Rio Cemak	Notocactus magnificus
Third	None	
Advanced Division		
Succulent - Variegates		
Award	Name	Plant
First	Barbara Nolan	Agave sp
Second	Barbara Nolan	Aeonium sp
Third	Barbara Nolan	Aeonium sp
Cactus - Variegates		
First	Barbara Hall	Sulcorebutia polymorph
Second	Barbara Hall	Myrtillocalcium 'Polyp'
Third	None	
Open Division		
Succulent - Variegates		
Award	Name	Plant
First	John Matthews	Agave patonii
Second	John Matthews	Haworthia magnificus
Third	John Matthews	Haworthia retusa 'Kinjo'
Cactus - Variegates		
None		



November New Members

Not available at publication



Early Membership Renewal

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 for mailed newsletters.

Anyone paying their **2011** dues during the month of October will receive 3 raffle tickets for the Holiday Party centerpieces. If members pay their dues after October and before the month of December they will receive 2 raffle tickets. Help the club increase its Treasury so we can better serve the club. See you at the next meeting.



LACSS 2010 Calendar of Events

November 6 & 7— San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
LA County Arboretum
301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia

December 3 –5 Orange County Cactus & Succulent Winter Show & Sale
Fullerton Arboretum
1900 Associated Road, Fullerton
Saturday & Sunday 10am—4pm

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Succulent of the Month November 2010 - Haworthia



Haworthia retusa

Haworthia are native to South Africa, and grow in a winter-rainfall, Mediterranean environment not very different from Southern California. Most are easily grown, preferring some shade and growing mostly in the winter and spring. Many will grow year round if watered properly and maintained at a reasonably warm temperature. *Haworthias* flower during the spring, and some species will remain in flower for an extended period of time; two months or longer. However, the flowers are small and generally off-white and not particularly notable. *Haworthias* are grown for their beautiful leaf shapes and colors.

Haworthia in general are tolerant of almost any potting mix, and success has been reported with everything from straight pumice to potting soil-pumice or perlite mixes, to plain potting soil, and even garden soil. They like light fertilization when growing, any balanced fertilizer will do. An application of time release fertilizer in late winter will improve growth from late

winter and early spring rains. Healthy *Haworthias* generally have stiff thick white roots. When repotting, it's important to inspect the roots for mealy bugs, and for old, dried brown or hollow roots, which are often the source of infection or rot. These should be removed back to healthy tissue. *Haworthias* are subject to root rot if watered excessively or sit in damp conditions for long periods. The plant is often salvageable by removing the damage roots and other decayed material and then placing it in a rooting medium such as pumice.

The genus *Haworthia* is divided into three subgenera, and these are further divided into 8 sections. Section *Retusae* contains the many of the best known plants including, *Haworthia retusa*, *Haworthia comptoniana*, *Haworthia magnifica*, and *Haworthia reticulata*. These are all characterized by thick fat leaves, with intricate patterns, usually in a lighter green than the main leaf color. Also characteristic of this plant are the transparency of the leaves allowing for photosynthesis to occur within the plant body.

Haworthia retusa is found in the Riverdale area of South Africa under bushes or in similarly protected areas. *Haworthia comptoniana*. Named after Professor R. H. Compton, this species is endemic to the Willowmore district of South Africa. This species often grows under quartz patch stones and is difficult to locate in the field.



Haworthia comptoniana

Haworthia magnifica v. *splendons* like the previous species found in South Africa. This plant grows even to the ground and its coloration helps to camouflage it from damage from insects and other potential predators.



Haworthia magnifica v. *splendons*

Also found in South Africa, is *Haworthia reticulata*, a species which has a number of subspecies associated with it. *Haworthia reticulata* is a liberally clustering plant that will turn reddish-bronze color in bright light.



Haworthia reticulata v. *reticulata*

References

M. Bayer, **Haworthia Revisited**
R. Schulz, *Haworthia For The Collector*

Tom Glavich March 2002
Edited by Steve Frieze, November 201

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society

Cacti of the Month November 2010 – Echinocactus

Echinocactus are one of the most ubiquitous genera in the cactus world. Found in cultivation all throughout the Southwestern U.S., this genus produces large mounds of cacti with many heads and brilliant spination.

Echinocactus grusonii is a very popular plant in cultivation that has brilliant yellow spines and a ring of yellow flower around the plant's crown. In habitat or as a landscape plant this species can grow to four feet in diameter with numerous additional heads to supplement the original plant. To reach flowering size a plant may need several years. This is especially true of plants that are grown in pot culture where a specimen may take as long as 40 years to mature. Also known as the Golden Barrel cactus, *Echinocactus grusonii* requires full sun (or bright light) and soil with good drainage.



Echinocactus grusonii

Echinocactus polycephalus is found in the driest areas of the Mohave and Sonoran deserts. Plants survive with as little as 5 inches of rain per season and in habitat this species produces as many as a 100 heads from a mother plant.



Echinocactus polycephalus

Echinocactus ingens assumes a oblong shape in maturity. They are a large plant in habitat that tends to lean southward to protect the plant from the searing desert sun



Echinocactus ingens

References:

D. Hunt, The New Cactus Lexicon, 2006

Steve Frieze, November 2010

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 Programs:

December—Holiday Party

First Class Mail

Next Meeting: November 4, 2010
Sepulveda Garden Ctr. 16633 Magnolia Bl. Encino

PO Box 280581, Northridge, CA 91328
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Newsletter of the Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society
November 2010

CACTUS CHRONICLE

