

LOS ANGELES
CACTUS
AND
SUCCULENT
SOCIETY

CACTUS CHRONICLE

February 2011

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Next Meeting: February 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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Paul Klaassen—South American Adventures

I was born in 1953 in Den Haag, The Netherlands, and became interested in growing cacti aged 6 when at school I won the cactus class in an informal plant show (killing the Busy Lizzy, Fuchsia and Geranium that we had been given to look after for the other three classes). It transpired that 'cactoholism' is generic along the male side of the family, generally missing out one generation, as my paternal grandfather turned out to have been a member of the Dutch C&S Society, Succulenta, from 1933 until his collection was destroyed during WW II. My father's work took the family to the UK in 1967, where I still spend much of the year, living near Stonehenge, in Wiltshire.

During the summer months I present my 'What I Saw Last Winter' programs to C&S societies in Europe. Each October, that year's talk is retired and a new full (90 minute) program is put together during the following April.

My travels tend to take me to South America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile) from October to December. After a short break in the UK, the second half of the Winter takes me to California to look at the local desert flora, visit local C&S Societies and as a base for travels to Baja California and mainland Mexico. My US programs last 60 minutes. From 8 October 2010 to 7 January 2011, I travelled with various people in Chile and Argentina, covering some 23,000 km between La Quiaca in the NW Argentine province of Jujuy, on the border with Bolivia down to Patagonia where we looked for some of the most southern cacti such as Austrocactus, Pterocactus and Maihuenia.

In October and November, we were fortunate to catch the Atacama Desert in flower. As well as the usual favourites (white waxed Copiapoa) we took time to see the rare Eriosyce aspillagae and Eriosyce garaventae and the recently (2009) described Copiapoa coquimbana ssp andina. Together with Paul Hoxey, I have been working on a book focussing on the Genus Eulychnia which should be ready for publication in late 2011. We saw all the Chilean members of the genus and these are introduced briefly during the presentation. Juan Pablo Acosta from Santiago, Chile is rapidly building a reputation as an expert on the The locephala group in the genus Eriosyce. Juan was with me throughout this years' travels, so I have included a brief introduction to this group of cacti that are a real challenge to find in habitat, also including some images of his collection, raised from habitat collected seed.

The diversity of the cacti on display reflects the diversity of habitats visited, from the Atacama Desert, across the Andes to the Altiplano and from the Patagonian South Atlantic Coast, across the Pampas to the very scenic Patagonian Andean lakes on the southern border between Argentina and Chile.

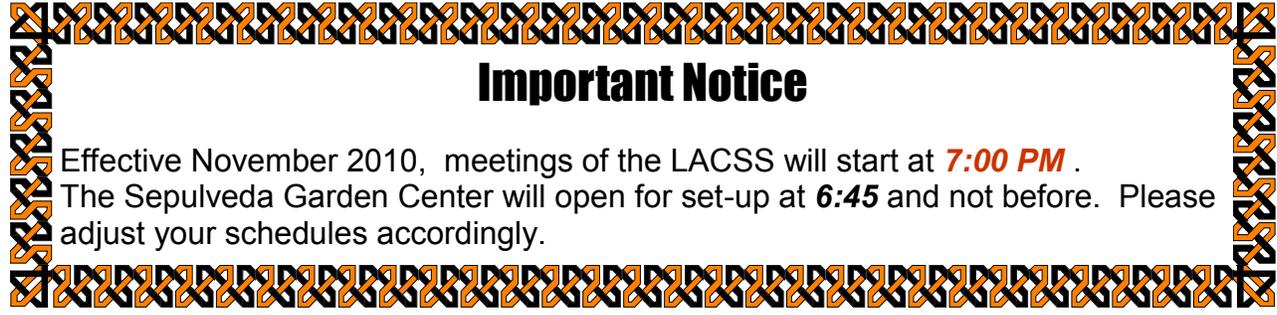
President's Message

The January meeting proved to be a great start to the New Year. There was a nice attendance for the middle of the winter, our new/old experiment with the refreshments proved to be a huge success. I would like to thank everyone who took the time to bring in the delicious snacks. The Plant-of-the-Month competition is gradually gaining momentum, especially with the good job that Manny Rivera is doing in facilitating participation and critiquing the entries. Preview plants has also helped considerably the Chronicle write-ups from Tom Glavich's and Steve Frieze. I hope that everyone will take advantage of this educational part of the meeting in the near future. Vince Basta gave a nice slide presentation that was accompanied by a wonderful twist. He brought in live specimens that represented plants that he had showed pictures of in his presentation. Unfortunately, the bulb went out in the projector and the presentation was cut a little short, but hopefully he will come back soon.

It was very nice to see everyone wearing some type of name tag as it proved easier to flow through the room putting names to faces. I was able to greet more people and it made it easier to engage in conversation as well as getting some input and suggestions from our members. It is truly wonderful to see the willingness from the members present at the meeting to become more active in the club at all levels. The Board is doing a great job in creating a community of plant lovers and is working very hard towards the upcoming year with some innovative ideas. I would like to encourage everyone to continue in our positive path and hope you will communicate more of your suggestions. *This is your club and it can only be as good as the members.*

See you In February

Artie Chavez



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.

New Things for 2011

Refreshments if your last name begins with the letter **E-H** please bring in something to share with the group. Cookies, snacks, fruit, and a vegetable tray would be nice (something a little healthier)

Freebies: we offer an area for members to share cuttings, plants, pots, and even books with club members. As many of these cutting are becoming quite large and abundant, we like members to bring their own bags or bags to share with the group to take home their new acquisitions. It has been brought to our attention that the area of the freebies has been quite messy, without discouraging sharing our excess plant material, we would like to ask that the cuttings be clean and dirt free.

Cactus Garden: Ralph Massey and Chris Rogers have agreed to get the garden back into shape and will be seeking volunteers.

Monthly Drawings: We will have new faces selling tickets for the Drawing, Leah Imamura and Juana Williams. So let's greet them and buy some tickets.

Coffee Cups: to stay green we are asking that if you drink coffee please bring in your own coffee mug to help with the environment. We are working on producing club mugs.

Plant of the Month and Library: we are working hard to educate the membership on plants in their collection and making them aware of other plants that are available. Both of these programs will help, by selecting certain genera or types of plants we are hoping to broaden the exposure of succulents and cacti to the membership. The Plant of the Month list may seem overwhelming, but with the preview plants and the library we hope to give a head start on the next months POM selection.

In our Library: the Plant of the Month cactus selection for March is Echinocereus. We have a special issue that deals with Echinocereus and as with many of the cacti on the list they are covered in the comprehensive type of book that covers cacti. The succulent selection is Asclepiads(caudiciform and tuberous root forms) books that cover this type of plants are Caudiciforms and Pachycaul Succulents by Gordon Rowley, Caudiciforms I & II by Phillpe de Vosjoli, these are a few titles that deal with March selections. Be sure to see Joyce and take a look at these books



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

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 _____

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 Asclepiads -caudiciform and tuberous forms
March	Echinocereus	
April	Gymnocalycium (multiple heads)	Sansevieria
May	Epiphytes	Echeveria Mesembs(other than Lithops and Conophytum) e.g. Pleiospilios, Lapidaria
June	Turbinicarpus and Frailea	
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 2 plants per entry category per month – a total of 4 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 - January Winners

Novice Division

Succulent

Award	Name	Plant
First	John Martinez	Aloe KJG Hybrid
Second	John Martinez	Aloe KJG Hybrid
Third	Scott Schaffer	Aloe hybrid
Third	John Martinez	Aloe KJG Hybrid

Cactus

First	Rio Cernik	Gymnocactus species
Second	Rio Cernik	Gymnocactus species
Third	Rio Cernik	Gymnocactus species

Advanced Division

Succulent

Award	Name	Plant
First	Mick Gottschalk	Aloe 'Festival'
Second	Barbara Hall	Aloe 'Lizard Lips'
Second	Barbara Hall	Aloe 'Winter Sky'
Third	Barbara Nolan	Aloe 'Dorean Black'
Third	Mick Gottschalk	Aloe 'Fang'

Cactus

First	Barbara Hall	Gymnocactus lauii
Second	Barbara Hall	Gymnocactus booleana
Third	None	

Open Division

Succulent

Award	Name	Plant
First	John Matthews	Aloe hybrid
Second	John Matthews	Aloe hybrid
Third	John Matthews	Aloe 'Spikey'

Cactus

None

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society
Cacti of the Month February 2011 - *Mammillaria Single Head*



Mammillaria perbella

Mammillaria is one of the larger genera in the *Cactus* family, and one of the most variable, with some members remaining as solitary columns or globular for their entire lives (the selection for this month). There is incredible variability in the genus with some species being fingernail size, others solitary globular plants, some are straight spined, some form sizeable clumps, while others are heavily spined with hooks. It is important to note that all cacti start out as a single head and stay so for varying lengths of time depending on the conditions and growth patterns for a particular species.

A *Mammillaria* is often one of the first cacti that a beginning grower buys. They are available, often for less than a dollar, at discount stores, and for just a bit more at local home centers and discount stores. A credit to the toughness of these plants, is that many survive for years in spite of all sorts of abuse and neglect. Many inexpensive

purchases at local chain stores have been grown on to become show plants, the quality of the plant maturing with the skill and experience of the grower. In part because they are so generous with flowers and seeds, and the seeds germinate so readily, many rare species end up in unlikely places like home centers, supermarkets, and hardware stores. It's worth keeping an eye out for unusual specimens, but beware of names found on discount store plants.

The secrets to good growth are a continual supply of water and fertilizer during the growing season (typically from March through October), strong light, intense heat if available, and maintenance of a clean and insect free growing environment. Many people starve and under water their plants, in attempt to avoid rot. Most *Mammillaria* will take quite a bit of water and fertilizer when in growth. During the summer heat growth slows for a time, picking up again when the weather cools, before stopping around Thanksgiving. Almost all *Mammillaria* will do just fine in Southern California, with little or no winter protection, as long as they are potted in a freely draining potting mix.

The appearance of white mealy bug egg cases (*Mammillaria's* worst enemy) on the tips of the spines or the appearance of ants means that mealy bugs are sucking the sap and life of the plant. Immediate treatment is required, with a thorough washing, and spraying with an insecticide. A less toxic solution is to soak the entire plant in soapy water overnight.

Followed by a good rinse with water from a hose.

The spines found on Mammillarias differ radically. Some species produce hooked spines while others are either straight or feathery. Some species have hair or wool in the axils between the tubercles that provide protection against extreme sunlight.

Most Mammillarias originate in Mexico, although there are 10 species found in the south western portion of the United States. There are even a few species that extend as far north as Canada.

A distinguishing feature of all Mammillarias is that flowers appear at the point of two tubercles and form a ring around that particular stem of the plant. Flowers appear on the previous year's growth. A smooth brilliant red club-shaped berry appears if flowers are fertilized.

References:

J. Pilbeam, **Mammillaria**

David Hunt, **The New Cactus Lexicon**

Tom Glavich May 2003

Edited by Steven Frieze, January 2011



Mammillaria crucigera subsp. tlalocii

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society

Succulent of the Month February 2011 - *Dudleya* and *Caudiciform Asclepiads*

Dudleyas are a succulent plant found throughout southwest U.S. and Mexico. They have a fleshy glaucous leaf structure which is easy to spot as you drive on Southern California highways and freeways.



At the UC Berkeley Botanical Garden

Dudleya brittonii

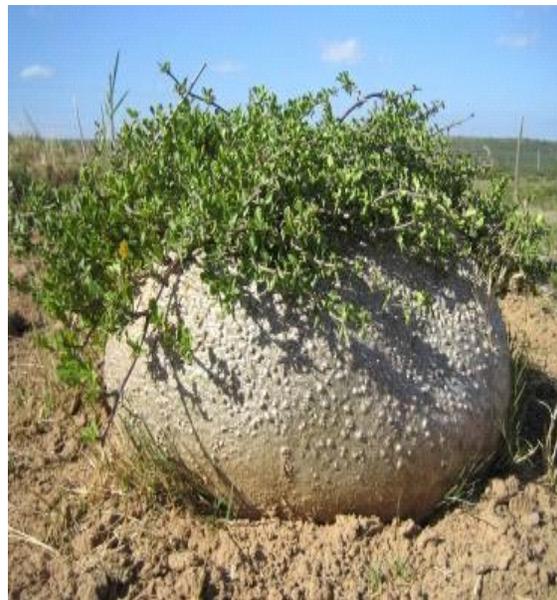
Dudleyas can be grown in full sun almost anywhere in the Los Angeles area and tend to be winter grower. They form rosettes at the end of stems that may contain as many as 100 leaves. Flower are produced in late to early winter and are formed on long stalks that can reach up to three feet in length

The Asclepiadaceae or Milkweed Family is a large family of succulent and non succulent plants. The family has a wealth of growth forms, rivaling that found in the Cactaceae, Crassulaceae and Euphorbiaceae families. This month we are concentrating on the caudiciform species, popular plants in all of our shows.

The caudiciform genera, *Fockea*, *Brachystelma*, *Matalaea* *Raphionacme* and

some of the *Ceropegia*, are all really vines. The caudex is generally below ground in habitat.

Fockea edulis is one of the most popular. Easily grown from seed, an impressive caudex can be grown in just a few years, if it is left below soil level in the pot. All of the *Fockea* are easy to grow, perfectly happy outdoors, even with temperatures near freezing. Others commonly seen include *Fockea crispa*, with a corrugated caudex and crinkly leaves, and *Fockea multiflora* which has a more upright conical caudex.



Fockea edulis

Raphionacme are a bit more temperamental, and are easier to rot. The most common species is *Raphionacme flanaganii*.

Another species seen with increasing frequency is *Raphionacme africana*, a species first introduced in London in 1822, and then lost for nearly 130 years.

Matalaea is a new world genus that is only recently coming into cultivation. Two species currently available are Matalaea condusiflora a native of Venezuela, and Matalaea cyclophyllus a native of Mexico. These are grown similarly to Raphionacme. They form very large caudexes relatively quickly, and like Raphionacme and all of the more tropical asclepiads, are sensitive to simultaneous cold and wet.

Ceropegia is a genus from the Canary Islands and South Africa stretching to East India.. The most common of all is Ceropegia woodii, often sold as a house plant. It has heart shaped leaves, and small tubers that form at the nodes of the vines.

Brachystelma generally have round potato like caudexes. They are the most difficult of all of the asclepiads to grow, preferring to rot at any opportunity. The flowers are notoriously smelly but also spectacular, and for the advanced and patient grower, these are plants well worth growing. They aren't seen as often as they should be.

References

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

Tom Glavitch, 2003
Edited by Steve Frieze, 2011



Raphionacme flanagii

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

Little Rock, CA 93543

Phone: 661-456-0787

Web Site: www.CaroDesert.com

Email: PattyCC4@yahoo.com

Mark your calendar and plan to attend!

LACSS CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR
UP-COMING EVENTS FOR 2011
(As of January 16, 2011)

- FEB 12** SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY -WINTER SHOW AND SALE
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO. 858-382-1797
- APRIL 9 & 10** SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
SHOW and SALE AT SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDENS
26300 CRENSHAW BL., PALOS VERDES, CA INFO. 310-832-2262
- APR 16 & 17** GREEN SCENE PLANT SALE – AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM
1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831
- APR 24 - 29** CSSA CONVENTION, SAN DIEGO, CA----- Marriott Hotel-Mission Valley
WATCH FOR FUTURE UPDATES www.cssainc.org
- May 7 & 8** SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE
VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, GARDEN ROOM
4117 OVERLAND AVE., CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. 310-822-1783
- MAY 1** SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE---9am to 4pm
SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS
INFORMATION CALL-310-833-6823
- MAY 15** HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 10 TO 5 - HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL
GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-2160
- MAY 15** EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE
LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM, ARCADIA, CA 310-670-8148
- MAY 20 & 21** GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 31ST
SALE 9-4:30 FRI & SAT - SHOW MAY 21 9-4:30 pm
JURUPA MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTER, 7621 GRANITE HILL DRIVE
GLEN AVON, CA INFO. 951-360-8802
- MAY 28-29** CENTRAL COAST CASTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
ANNUAL SHOW & SALE (10-4PM), LUDWICK CENTER, 864 SANTA ROSA
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA - INFO. 805-237-2054, www.centralcoastcactus.org
- JUNE 4 & 5** SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY -SUMMER SHOW AND SALE
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO. 858-382-1797
- JUNE 11 & 12** LOS ANGELES CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY
PLANT SHOW AND SALE 11th 9-5, 12th 9-3:30
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BLVD.
ENCINO, CA INFO. SANDY CHASE 818-367-0864
- JULY 1- 3** CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE -HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.
626-405-2160 or 2277 PLANTS SALES START JULY 1ST THRU JULY 3RD
THE SHOW OPENS ON THE JULY 2ND THRU JULY 3RD FREE TO THE PUBLIC

**LACSS CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR
UP-COMING EVENTS FOR 2011 (continued)**

- JULY 29 - 31** **ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND SALE. SALE JULY 29,30,31 10AM TO 4PM EACH DAY. SHOW: SAT. AND SUN.10 AM TO 4 PM. FULLERTON ARBORETUM, 1900 ASSOCIATED RD. FULLERTON, CA. CONTACT VINCE BASTA 714-267-4329**
- AUG. 13 & 14** **26th ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW AND SALE AT THE LA COUNTY ARBORETUM, 9am-5pm daily. 301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA. INFO. CALL TOM GLAVICH 626-798-2430 or JOHN MATTHEWS 661-297-5364**
- SEPT. 3** **HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON**
- SEPT. 25** **LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION 18127 SOUTH ALAMEDA ST., RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, CA---12 PM**
- NOV. 5 & 6** **SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE--LA COUNTY ARBORETUM ADDRESS ABOVE.**
- DEC. 2 - 4** **ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS & SUCCULENT WINTER SHOW AND SALE . SALE: DEC.2, 3 & 4. 10 AM TO 4 PM EACH DAY. SHOW SAT. & SUN.10 AM TO 4 PM. FULLERTON ARBORETUM, 1900 ASSOCIATED RD, FULLERTON, CA. CONTACT VINCE BASTA 714-267-4329**

UPDATED 01/16/2011

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:
Paul Klausen

First Class Mail

Next Meeting: February 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
February 2011

CACTUS CHRONICLE

