



LOS ANGELES
CACTUS
AND
SUCCULENT
SOCIETY

CACTUS CHRONICLE

July 2011

President: Artie Chavez
(818) 201-7323
cactus7@socal.rr.com



Next Meeting: July 7, 2011

Editor: Phyllis Frieze
(818) 892-1669
Phyllis.98@hotmail.com



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.

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

Duke Benadom

presenting 'The Ngorogoro Crater'

Duke needs little introduction to regular attendees of the LACSS meetings. He has long had a passion for the genus Aloe, and made significant photographic contributions to the soon-to-be published book "Aloes: the Definitive Guide".

Together with his wife Kaz, he continues to spread these plants around Southern California, where he sells at many cactus and succulent shows. Over recent years he has expanded his interests to xerophytic trees and (more disturbingly) Cycads. He has an unsurpassed record of contributions to the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, most notably having served as President and Journal Editor, and he has received just about every award recognizing his work for the organization.

The Ngorogoro Crater in Tanzania was on the itinerary of a trip undertaken by several members of the LACSS last year. The area is rich in wildlife, fauna as well as flora, with the volcanic activity in the area providing spectacular backdrops. This is sure to be a program not to be missed!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

July President's Message

The year is rushing by. It is hard to believe we are already in July. Summer has finally arrived and we have had some very hot days. Check your plants to make sure they are not being burnt by the sun and make sure that you keep up with the watering. One technique to determine if your plants are moist enough is use the pencil trick (this is a relatively simple and easy task). Simply push the tip of a sharpened pencil into the soil to see if the pencil comes out with some soil stuck to it. If you see soil, the plant has been sufficiently watered. If, on the other hand, it comes out dry it's time to water. Watering in the evenings is best, as some succulents do their photosynthesis at night. Water droplets left on the leaves during the day can magnify and may cause burning spots. When you purchase a plant during this time, be sure to note the conditions that the plant has been grown in since it may be very different than the environment that you will place it in. Some of the plants you purchase may have been grown under shade cloth and they will burn up if they are put out in the direct sun too fast.

Thank you to Tom Glavich for his presentation on Gasterias at our June Meeting. It was a great program. This was the very same program he presented at the CSSA Convention, so for those of you that could not attend the convention this was a great opportunity to experience topnotch speakers at our home club. Thanks also to Tim Harvey for scheduling Tom.

Do not forget if your last name begins with G, E F, July is your refreshment month. We only had one person sign up so far. Don't forget that we have our Intercity Show and Sale coming up in August and need people to volunteer for this event. It is a great show and sale and generates a lot of money for our club.

See you at the meeting.

Artie





2011 LACSS Annual Festival and Sale

Wow, it is really an incredible feeling to see how everyone's hard work paid off. I would have to say I think the LACSS 11th Annual Drought Tolerant Plant Festival was probably the best event this club has done. There was music, great food, lots of visitors, an educational interior show, informative speakers, and wonderful plants for sale by our vendors. Sunday Kid's Day was a huge success. I hope most of you saw the article about the club and festival in the Daily News. The link can be found at: http://www.dailynews.com/news/ci_18250525.)

Rio and Carolyn Cernick were very generous to open their home for the Daily News to come and photograph. The publicity this year was very comprehensive with ads in LA Parent Magazine, LA Times, Daily News, Facebook, Twitter, LA Backpage, Yelp, and we even had 2 mentions on the morning news on channel 5 and 2 plus much more. This was due to the hard work of Kimo and Kim Thorpe. They even set up a website for the event <http://www.waterwisedollarwise.com>.

This year we added some opportunities for the club to make additional money by hosting a raffle and a silent auction. They both went well and I think they will be better next year. Bottom line the club raised about \$2000 from the show from table rentals and other programs such as raffle. It was a very community and educational event and I am very proud to have been a part of putting this event on. There has been so much positive feedback from attendees and our vendors. Thank you to Joyce Schumann, John Martinez, Kim Thorpe, Kimo Thorpe, Doug George, Gerald Richert, Rose Polito, Richard Roosmen, Ronit Weiss, Steven Frieze, our volunteers, our speakers, the SFV Bromeliad Club and vendors.

Also congrats to Chris Rogers. He won the \$50 gift card to Tony Romas for BBQ dinner Raffle.

We are already working on next year's event to make it even better. We need your input and help. Join in on our efforts and volunteer.
Save The Date June 9th and 10th, 2012!



Southern California Calendar of Events *July*

July 29-30

Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society Summer Show and Sale
Anaheim United Methodist Church
1000 S. State Boulevard
July 29th 12-7 pm, July 30th 9 am-5 pm



Inter-City Show by John Matthews

Now that our own very successful LACSS Drought Tolerant Plant Festival is over and most of the work for the CSSA show is done, it is time to start planning for the Inter-City Show and Sale. It will be held on August 13-14, 2011 at the Los Angeles County Arboretum. This is the 26th annual show and the theme is 'Desert Jewels'. There is a link to the show newsletter in the calendar section of our club website(www.lacss.com). Check out the *Dudleya pachyphytum* on the show T-shirt. They will be for sale at our upcoming meetings. Get your shirt early, I know they will sell out quickly. The T shirt acts like a walking advertisement for the show so wear yours often.

The Inter-City show is billed as the greatest cactus and succulent show in the country. Visitors from all over the world attend this show and sale. I'm going to try the Walks and Talks judge's tour one more time. A judge will answer your questions as to why novice entries were judged the way they were. This will be a great opportunity to enhance your staging skills. And don't forget the dinner Carved Beef and Chicken vegetables, salad, drinks and desert. The dinner and auction on Saturday night is at Coco's. Sign up early for this opportunity to shmooze with fellow collectors and bid on some really fantastic plants. Contact Evelyn Stevens at (626) 442-1391 for the dinner, it is always a sellout. Since the LACSS is one of the three clubs sponsoring this show, your show plants are very much needed to maintain the show caliber. You should be selecting and grooming your plants now. The number of show entries has been dropping in recent years so please enter your favorite plants. The show is easy to enter with novice, advanced, and open sections. The Golden Sweeps are back. If you win 1st, 2nd and 3rd in a single class you win a special pot. These are easiest to win in the novice category. Show schedules and entry tags will be available at our meetings and online at www.sgvcss.com.

Your volunteer help is also very much needed to setup, takedown, and keep the show and sale humming along. Signup sheets will be at our July and August meetings along with all show details and at the CSSA in July. Help is especially needed Saturday morning when the sales are busiest and more volunteer assistance on Wednesday morning for setup. I have kept the time commitments during the show to approximately one hour so you won't get stuck anywhere too long. If you can't commit to a specific time, at least signup and we'll find an opportunity for you when you attend the show. Volunteering is also a great way to meet people from the other clubs and presents unique learning opportunities. Our club profits greatly from this show so your participation is essential.

If you have any questions regarding the show or sale please call me at (661) 714-1052.

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 ~ June Winners

Novice Division

Succulent - Mesembs

Award	Name	Plant
First	Kim Thorpe	Trichodiadema bulbosum
Second	Kim Thorpe	Phyllopolus sp.
Third	Kim Thorpe	Pleiospilos nelii cv. 'Royal Flush'

Cactus - Frailea and Turbinicarpus

First	Kim Thorpe	Turbinicarpus sp.
Second	Kim Thorpe	Frailea sp.
Third	None	Turbinicarpus valdezianus

Advanced Division

Succulent - Mesembs

Award	Name	Plant
First	Sylvia Strehlo	Pleiospilos nelii
Second	Mick Gottschak	Glottiphyllum sp.
Third	Sylvia Strehlo	Aloinopsis schoonerii

Cactus - Frailea and Turbinicarpus

First	Barbara Hall	Turbinicarpus polaskii
Second	Barbara Hall	Frailea magnifica
Third	Barbara Hall	Turbinicarpus viereckii

Open Division

Succulent - Mesembs

First	Artie Chavez	Rhombophyllum nelii
Second	Artie Chavez	Cheiridopsis denticulata
Third	Artie Chavez	Mestolema tuberosa
Third	Chris Rogers	Carranthus peersii

Cactus - Frailea and Turbinicarpus

First	Manny Rivera	Turbinicarpus alonzoi
Second	Manny Rivera	Turbinicarpus valdezianus
Third	Manny Rivera	Turbinicarpus valdezianus

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

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Cactus of the Month July 2011 – *Tephrocactus*



Tephrocactus alexanderi* v. *alexanderi

The Cactus family is divided into a number of subfamilies. The *Opuntioideae* is one of these subfamilies. The *Opuntioideae* covers the largest geographical range of any of the sub-families, stretching from Southern Argentina to Canada, and covers all of the Caribbean islands and Pacific Islands from the Galapagos to the Catalinas. It is naturalized on every continent except Antarctica. It is a pest and a noxious weed in many places, and is displacing native vegetation in parts of Africa, Madagascar and Australia.

Tephrocactus, is a genus of very variable cacti, mostly from Argentina. Species vary considerably, from the very spiny *Tephrocactus stramria* to the paper spined *Tephrocactus articulata* to the nearly spineless *Tephrocactus inermis*. *Tephrocactus* are probably the most collected of the *Opuntioideae*, and there

is even a *Tephrocactus* study group for the true fanatics. They make small, neat plants, and a good collection can be kept in a reasonable area.

Tephrocactus typically consist of short knobby joints that are either globular or cylindrical. Emanating from each of the joints are sharp spines or glochids. This genus is distinguished by its branching structure with shoots forming in vertical columns.



Tephrocactus Alexanderi



Tephrocactus molinensis

All cuttings root easily. Seed propagation requires patience, with seed scarification and sometimes artificial wintering. Propagation of all *Tephrocactus* is most easily accomplished by cuttings or from the joints that comprise the plant by keeping the seed damp and cold in the refrigerator required. Seed germination can be erratic, with seeds from the same plant sometimes germinating in days, and sometimes not for months.



Tephrocactus articulatus v. papyracanthus

Handling of *Tephrocactus* is somewhat problematic. They are notorious for sharp spines, and nearly invisible glochids that are easily lodged in the unsuspecting hand of inattentive hobbyists. Handling plants with tongs or other tools for this purpose is the best way to avoid having spines lodged in your hands. Gloves are not necessarily the answer with this genus as they get covered with glochids, which invariably end up in your hands when the gloves come off. Glochids can often be removed by washing with a strong hose stream. Plucking with tweezers is effective and brushing works sometimes.

Duct tape is a help, and as a last resort, so is rubber cement.



Tephrocactus weberi

Tom Glavich March 2005
Edited by Steve Frieze, July 2011

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Succulent of the Month July 2011 - *Adenia*

Adenia, a member of the *Passiflora* or Passion Flower family. It is an entirely unrelated plant to Adeniums, also a favorite of collectors. Most of the collectable *Adenias* have large bases that support climbing stems or branches. In habitat they are often found in brush, with the branches scrambling up through brush, or alternately growing in a open area, entirely covered by a sprawling mass of live and dead stems.

In cultivation the sprawling stems are regularly pruned to keep the plant good looking in a pot (as well as transportable). All of the *Adenia* are cold sensitive, particularly when young, and should never be exposed to cold and damp.

Collectable species include *Adenia globosa*, with a green spherical body, resembling in texture and color a giant avocado.



Adenia globosa

Another wonderful spiny species is *Adenia spinosa*. In this species the body is gray brown at the base, fading to an olive green on the upper surface. A forest of dense spiny branches comes from the caudex.



Adenia spinosa

Adenia glauca has a base much like an *Adenium*, before tapering to a vine like stem.



Adenia glauca

Tom Glavich June 2004

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 6:30 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 July:

Duke Benadom

First Class Mail

Next Meeting: July 7, 2011
Sepulveda Garden Ctr. 16633 Magnolia Bl. Encino

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
PO Box 280581, Northridge, CA 91328

CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
July 2011
CACTUS CHRONICLE

