



*Gates Cactus
and
Succulent Society*

FEBRUARY 2010

NEXT MEETING: " WEDNESDAY " FEBRUARY 3rd.

AT THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM

I- 10 AT CALIFORNIA STREET IN REDLANDS, CA.

PROGRAM

Our February program will be in two parts.

Darryl Craig will present his video program on the pollination of cactus flowers and the collection and storing of seed. It is a well thought out program that will give all of our members a better understanding of what is happening and how to benefit from the production of seed.

We have several members that are growing plants from seed supplied by the club. There will be several methods of germinating the seeds and caring for them in their early days. All of us will benefit from this presentation.

We are all asking for more 'hands on programs' from which we can take away beneficial information, this is it. Don't miss this.

Buck

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Back in the "____old days" Simon and Garfunkle had an album titled "Wednesday Morning 3AM"; there is supposedly now a group named "Asleep at the Wheel". I started this column last Wednesday at 3:30AM and fell Asleep at the computer. In spite of that this SHOULD be a good year.

*February 13th is the San Diego show and sale.

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LEADERSHIP TEAM -- 2010

SHOULD be a good year.

*February 13th is the San Diego show and sale.

*March 27-28 is the Hemenways annual sale.

*April 17th, We have a home tour coming up with the Urmans and Judy Horne confirmed and we're leaning on someone else a little further out. Distance wise, only. Just need to assure them that they are further along than they think and closer to finished than they think. Now, was that a subtle enough hint?

*May 15th is our own show and sale, but there is a growing interest in trying both Friday and Saturday for the sale.

*July 17th we're looking at a field trip to the South Coast Botanic Garden and a site in Bellflower

*July 24-25 is the OC CSS show and sale at the Fullerton Arboretum

*Oct TBD is a day long possibly overnight trip to Anza Borrego.

In addition, with the rains we've had recently, a very short notice Spring trip to Anza Borrego for the wild flowers is possible. Now, those of you that prefer tame flowers are on your own.

Let your 'bored' know what would be interesting. We don't really like that moniker.

See you Wednesday night! mjj

MINI-SHOW

The first Mini-Show of 2010 was terrific! Nearly 50 plants between the categories. We will be revising the format of the Mini-Show, slightly over the next few months. The hope is that it can become even more of a learning experience for our members.

MINI-SHOW RESULTS FOR JAN. 2010 CACTI: HOOKED SPINED MAMMILLARIAS

Novice judges: Barry Urman, Darryl Craig
Supervising judge: Buck Hemenway

NOVICE: small, 6" pot or less
1st Phuc Huynh M. bombycina
2nd Greg McKinley M. poselgeri

INTERMEDIATE small, 6" pot or less
1st Carlos Ruiz M. mazatlansis
2nd Don, Mary Alice McGrew M. mazatlansis
3rd Ann Reynolds M. gueizawina

INTERMEDIATE LARGE, over 6" pot
1st information not found
2nd Karl D. Osborn Sr. M. bombycina
3rd Chris, Karen Roholt M. bombycina

ADVANCED small, 6" pot or less
1st Buck, Yvonne Hemenway M. perez de la rosa
2nd information not found
3rd Tony Marino M. mazatlansis

ADVANCED LARGE, over 6" pot
1st Buck, Yvonne Hemenway M. bombycina
2nd Tom Vermilion M. bombycina

MINI-SHOW RESULTS FOR JAN. 2010 SUCCULENTS, AEONIUMS, SEDUMS, SEMPERVIVUMS

Novice judges: Barry Urman, Darryl Craig
Supervising judge: Buck Hemenway

NOVICE: small, 6" pot or less
1st Line Thrane Sempervivum calcareum
2nd Greg McKinley Sedum multiceps
3rd Line Thrane Sempervivum hybrid

NOVICE LARGE, over 6" pot
1st Line Thrane Aeonium decorum "Sunburst"
2nd Sheldon Lisker Aeonium hierrense

INTERMEDIATE small, 6" pot or less
1st Carlos Ruiz Sedum multiceps
2nd Ann Reynolds Sedum rubrotinctum
3rd Don, Marie Alice McGrew Cremnosedum cv. "Little Gem"

INTERMEDIATE LARGE, over 6" pot
1st Karl D. Osborn Sr. Aeonium lancerottense
2nd Don, Marie Alice McGrew Aeonium undulatum
3rd Karl D. Osborn Sr. Aeonium urbicum

ADVANCED small, 6" pot or less
1st Bob Laughlin Aeonium atropurpureum
2nd Joella Olson Aeonium crest
3rd Bob Laughlin Aeonium decorum

ADVANCED LARGE, over 6" pot
1st Joella Olson Aeonium spathulifolium
2nd Tony Marino Aeonium tortilum
3rd Buck, Yvonne Hemenway Aeonium "Velour"
3rd Tony Marino Sempervivum sp.
H. M. Joella Olson Sedum various sp.
dish garden

OTHER TABLES

Plant Sales, Discussion, and Refreshments Tables will be reopened for the Febuary 2010 Meeting.

Bring your Show and Tell plants to discuss or to get identified. A good picture will also do.

If you can, bring some 'Goodies' to support our popular Refreshment Table. Here's a special thank you to those who frequently bring the goodies we enjoy so much.

We will need to circulate a list so that you can sign up to be a Hostess/Host for one month this year. If you didn't take a turn last year, why not give it a try this year. You only get to do this every three or four years!

GCSS T-Shirts

We have at least one extra new GCSS T-shirt that we would like to sell. It is a woman's large size. We may possibly have a woman's medium and a man's large also. Each is \$25.00. **Contact Karen Roholt** at the February meeting.

DUES ARE DUE

Time again to pay up. Our membership runs from January 1 to December 31

The yearly dues are \$20 Bucks. You get a discount if you take our newsletter, the "Open Gates," by email. The dues are then \$15 Bucks.

To make it easier on me, and to pick up mistakes on our mailing list, I'll have some renewal slips at the Meeting. Please fill one out when you renew. There is a place for your e-mail address.

Save Five Bucks, receive "The **Open Gates** Newsletter" by e-mail. You'll receive it earlier (maybe, even on time!), pictures will be in color and

you and our Society will save \$5 Bucks.

Try to bring a check or the exact payment.

If you miss the Meeting send a check to: GCSS, % Joe Casey, 307 Westwood Lane, Redlands, CA 92373. Please include your phone number and email address.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Our Best Wishes to holders of these February Birthdays.

2/05	Greg McKinley	(49)
2/06	Terry Ann Menees	(62)
2/06	Tony Marino	(42)
2/07	Tom Brooks	(84)
2/07	Phuc Huynh	(41)
2/12	Joyce Rasske	(77)
2/14	Clara Jones	(66)
2/19	John O'Kane	(47)
2/20	Christina Anderson	(54)
2/21	Blanca Wilkey	(??)
2/22	Dieter Kruger	(49)
2/24	Ann Platzer	(78)



This month we salute Tom Brooks his 84th BD.

Again, look at all the seniors still attending, how wonderful! And Happy Birthday to you!

Growing old beats the alternative -- dying young.



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the Colemans and Marinos on their Very Special Day.

2/22	Jill & Brooks Coleman	(30)
2/27	Tony & Trish Marino	(11)



2010 Mini Show Subjects

January	H o o k e d S p i n e d Mammillaria Aeonium, Sempervivum, Sedum
February	R e b u t i a , S u l c o , Weingartia Miniature Aloes (Adult rosette smaller than 10" diameter)
March	Chilean Cacti, Caudicform, Pachycauls
April	Epiphytic Cacti Haworthias, Gasterias
May	Best Staged Cacti Best Staged Succulent
June	Gymnocalycium Succulent Bromeliad
July	Photograph Photograph
August	Parodia (Notocactus) Medusoid Euphorbias
September	Ariocarpus Aizoaceae (No Lithops)
October	Matucana, Submatucana, Oroya Stapeliads Dead Plant
November	Auction

In just two days from now,
tomorrow will be yesterday.

"Life is what happens to you while
you're busy making other plans."

John Lennon

Anger is the wind that blows the light
out of your mind.

BOARD MEETING NOTES

A Motion was made to appoint Joe Casey
as Editor of the Newsletter and
Buck Hemenway as Show and Sale
Chairman .

Motion was and seconded and passed.

The Board meets at 7:00pm, on the third
Tuesday each month, at the JMCC.

All Members are welcome.

The 3rd annual Desert Forum at the
**Huntington Library and Botanical
Gardens** was a great success. Well over
200 succulent lovers, all of whom are
members of local clubs like *The Gates
Society* attended on a fabulous sunny
day. A good time was had by all. Thanks
to the Huntington and the CSSA for
putting the day together.

Heard on the path around the high
Golden Barrels.....

A Very Excited, young boy, yelled
"Daddy, Daddy, look at all the great big
green pumpkins!"

Buck Hemenway

HOSTESS DUTY

We need to Circulate a list to sign up the
volunteers for this year.

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**Visit the Gates Cactus & Succulent
Society at**

www.gatescss.org

Cacti of the Month February 2010 – *Rebutia*

The genus *Rebutia* has grown to swallow *Sulcorebutia* and *Weingartia*. There is no reliable distinguishing characteristic that separates what once were three genera.

Rebutia, *Sulcorebutia* and *Weingartia* were genera from the highlands of Bolivia and Northern Argentina. They are similar in appearance, in habitat and culture. Coming from high altitudes, they are tolerant of cold, and if dry, can be left out in all weather. The populations of all three overlap.

There has been debate almost from initial discovery whether or not *Weingartia*, *Sulcorebutia* and *Rebutia* belong in the same genus. All three genera grow over large altitude ranges, and many species are so variable that collections from nearby populations or even the same population at different times have been given different names. There are far more names than species. The books by John Pilbeam help make sense of the species and varieties, and the *New Cactus Lexicon* gives the names under which the older species can now be found. Many names have changed multiple times over the years.

Rebutia are easily grown. They are dormant in winter, and start to grow in late March or April. They flower from April through June, with the peak flowering period varying from year to year depending on the weather. Two flowering cycles are common in cultivation in California. The flowers appear in abundance, and vary in color from purple and red through orange to yellow. They do well in normal cactus potting mixes, and grow best with steady fertilization when in active growth. They are attractive to spider mites. Damage can be prevented by frequent inspection, and a weekly, forceful wash down with water.

Many plants eventually get a woody brown growth at the base of the plants, which creeps upward. This is known as creeping crud, and is a fungal disease. It can be avoided by maintaining the plants in active growth. Better yet, small offsets should be periodically used to start new growth. When the creeping crud appears, the plant should be discarded. It just gets uglier as time goes by, and the presence of diseased plants makes it easier for the fungus to grow and spread.

Propagation from offsets is easy. The offsets should be cut off, left to dry for a few days, and then replanted. Very small offsets can be success-

fully rooted. Seed is easy to germinate, but is short lived.

Selected species (they are all great!)

Rebutia heliosa is an orange flowered form. It clumps rapidly in cultivation with a dark green body, small brown areoles and short whitish spines in a spiral pattern.



Rebutia heliosa
Thanks to
Home and Garden.webshots

Rebutia steinmanni '*christinae*', also found as *R. christinae* is from Salta Argentina, and is one of 7 species included in *R. steinmanni*. It has dense off white spines and wonderful red flowers with a yellow center.

Rebutia marsoneri from Jujuy, Argentina is noted for its spectacular golden yellow flowers.

Rebutia pygmaea comes in at least 20 varieties, many of which were originally described as species. Flower color varies over the full range for the genus. It's a challenge to keep some of the varieties small. Easy to grow.

Rebutia (Sulcorebutia) rauschii is known in several forms. The most common is a dark purple bodied form. Second most common is a green bodied form, and the third is a golden spined form. Other forms are also available, but rarely seen. All are slow and beautiful, and harder than most others to keep looking good. All are worth the effort.

Rebutia neocumingii (Weingartia longigibba) is variable, with many great forms. One is shown in the accompanying picture.



Tom

Glavich January 2010

Succulent for Feb., **Miniature Aloes**

There are many smallish aloes that grow throughout Africa, Madagascar and the Arabian Peninsula. This month's Mini Show will focus on both pure species and hybrid aloes with rosettes that grow to no more than 10" across. The idea here is to look at the diminutive forms of this wonderful genus of more than 510 species that range in size from 2 inches to several feet across and 40 or more feet high.

Aloes are part of the plant kingdom that are called "monocotyledon". The main meaning for those of us who are not professional botanists is that their initial growth from seed to plant begins with just one leaf poking up through the surface of the soil. This division include all grasses, palms, aloes, agaves and many other plant families. As we will see in this month's program, the definition is obvious to the most casual observer.

Small aloes have always been treasured by collectors. The rosette form of the aloe head is striking in shape and texture. They carry colors from blue to red. Blooms are annual and very showy with flowers born on inflorescences that range in length from a few inches to two feet or more. They may be branched or simple. Aloes tend to bloom in the winter as many of them are native to areas that have winter rainfall. The ones from the very rainy areas of southern Africa and the Arabian Peninsula will bloom in spring and summer.

We grow the miniatures in pots and in the ground. Many of them grow in habitat in grassy areas and as such need some protection from our Southern California summer heat and sun. A little study as to the native habitat will reveal where the best place in the garden is for each species. They thrive in well drained soil and can tolerate a wide range of watering regimens. They will all grow beautifully in a succulent planting with extremely low irrigation.

Aloes are very easy to grow and are generally pest free except for Aloe Mite. It is created by a small bug (the mite) that chews on the tender new growth of the plant and actually changes its DNA so that a cancer-like growth occurs. It is unsightly and causes some damage to the immediate infected area, but usually does not kill the plant. We cut out the obvious infected parts and keep the problem in check. Always clean tools used with a 10% bleach solution, dipping the knife in the solution between each cut.

Their beautiful colors and textures make them perfect targets for people who make new hybrid plants. We all know Kelly Griffin and his current batch of small aloe hybrids. Kelly is the most recent in a long line of hybridizers who are intent on producing new beautiful plants for us to buy.

Some of the small aloes include:

Aloe jucunda: freely branching, forming a beautiful small shrub.



Aloe brevifolia: offsetting to form a clump



Aloe cv. "Blood of the Dragon": one of Kelly's newest hybrids.



Buck Hemenway January 2010

**CACTUS AND SUCCULENT
CALENDAR OF UP COMING EVENTS FOR 2010**

- FEB 13** **SAN DIEGO SHOW AND SALE 9AM-4PM**
RM. 101 CASA DEL PRADO, BALBOA PARK-SAN DIEGO
- MAR 27 & 28** **LOS ANGELES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY DISPLAY AND SALE**
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BL., ENCINO, CA.
SHOW INFORMATION-CALL 818-367-0864
- APR 10 & 11** **SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW &**
SALE AT SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS
26300 CRENSHAW BL., PALOS VERDES, CA INFO. 310-832-2262
- APR 17 & 18** **GREEN SCENE PLANT SALE—AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM**
1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831
- May 1 & 2** **SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**
VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, GARDEN ROOM
4117 OVERLAND AVE. CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. 310-822-1783
- MAY 2** **SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE---9am to 4pm**
SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS
INFORMATION CALL-310-833-6823
- MAY 15** **GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 30th**
SHOW AND SALE----SAT. 9 TO 4
JURUPA MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTER, 7621 GRANITE HILL DRIVE
GLEN AVON, CA INFO. 909-360-8802
- MAY 16th** **HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 10 TO 5 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL**
GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-2160
- MAY 16th** **EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**
LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM, ARCADIA, CA 310-670-8148
- MAY 22 & 23** **CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY**
ANNUAL SHOW & SALE (10-4PM), LUDWICK CENTER, 864 SANTA ROSA
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – INFO. 805-237-2054, www.centralcoastcactus.org
- JUNE 5 & 6** **SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY –SHOW AND SALE**
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA. INFO.--#619-477-4779
- JUNE 25-27** **CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE –HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS**
1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA.
626-405-2160 or 2277 PLANTS SALES START JUNE 25TH THRU JUNE 27th
THE SHOW OPENS ON THE JUNE 26th THRU JUNE 27th FREE TO THE PUBLIC
- JULY 23-25** **ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND**
SALE. SALE JULY 23, 24 & 25 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. 21 & 22** **25th ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW AND SALE AT THE LA COUNTY ARBORETUM,**
301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA. INFO. CALL TOM GLAVICH
AT 626-798-2430 or JOHN MATTHEWS AT 661-297-5364
- SEPT. 4TH** **HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM**
ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON
- SEPT 26** **LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION**
18127 SOUTH ALAMEDA ST., RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, CA----12 PM
- NOV. 6 & 7** **SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY**
SHOW AND SALE---LA COUNTY ARBORETUM ADDRESS ABOVE.
- DEC. 3-5** **ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS & SUCCULENT WINTER SHOW AND SALE . SALE:**
DEC.3,4 & 5. 10 AM TO 4 PM EACH DAY. SHOW SAT. & SUN.10 AM TO 4 PM.
FULLERON ARBORETUM, 1900 ASSOCIATED RD, FULLERTON, CA.
CONTACT VINCE BASTA 714-267-4329

UPDATED 01/26/2010