



*Gates Cactus  
and  
Succulent Society*

**APRIL 2006**

**NEXT MEETING: " WEDNESDAY " APRIL 5th**

**AT THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM**

**I- 10 AT CALIFORNIA STREET IN REDLANDS, CA.**

**PROGRAM**

Our April 5th meeting will feature a talk on Succulent Gardens in Southern California with a short preface on some Succulent Plant basics. I hope you'll all enjoy it. The presenter is yours truly.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Yvonne and I just (three hours ago) finished our 6th annual Garden Tour and Sale. We welcomed more than 300 people to our gardens this year. Thanks to all that came. It turned out that the Orange County C&SS had planned an outing to the Riverside area and stopped by in the late morning. Nice to meet a bunch of new cactophiles. We are already planning 2007. Now I'm sitting in the Los Angeles Intl. Airport waiting my flight to Hong Kong, Yvonne will take off from Riverside on Thursday to drive to Canada. We'll both be back on Sunday with plenty of time to be

ready for the meeting on the 5th.

On **Saturday April 8th** we have an outing planned to the **Newcomers** in Sun City. Ric and Marilyn are long time Gates C&SS members and among the most proficient growers in Southern California. Those who don't know them will recognize Marilyn Newcomer as the author of several of our Plant of the Month articles. They have recently finished landscaping their property and want to share their fun with us. A map and other details are elsewhere in this Open Gates.

We are putting the final touches on a terrific meeting for May. The subject will be propagation. We will divide the room into three sections. 1/3 of the members present will see each presentation once so they can be close and really see and hear what is going on. Frank Nudge will do "Seed Propagation", Mel Parks will demonstrate how to cut a cactus for rooting and how to graft cacti, and I will do vegetative propagation

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**LEADERSHIP TEAM -- 2006**



involved in most of the hybrids. With similar growth, habitat and distribution as the true Elpiphylums. *Nopalxochia ackermanii* were used by German horticulturists to create many wonderful *N. ackermanii* hybrids almost 100 years ago. These plants described above grow well in large pots or hanging baskets if you use a porous well drained potting mix with much humus, organic material. They need shade, good drainage, and no frost,

**SCHLUMBERGERA** is a genus of 6 species originating in the tropical rain forests S. E. Brazil. They grow as epiphytes or rock plants. These small shrubby succulents up to 12 inches tall have flat jointed stems first growing upward then outward. The many hybrids and cultivars of *Schlumbergera* have made a most popular house plant because of their numerous, brightly colored flowers in winter and early spring, Colors of these flowers are white pink orange-yellow and red. *S. truncata*, also called *Zygocactus truncata* are called the crab cactus or Thanksgiving cactus. The flat green branch segments have up to 8 tooth like margin notches with areoles and small bristly spines. These plants can be grown outdoors under shade in loose organic potting mix with good drainage They are frost tender so bring them indoors if frost is severe. Water moderately and use a dilute, high potash liquid fertilizer each month when growing in; spring through fall.

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**AFTER ALL IS SAID AND DONE  
MUCH WAS SAID  
AND LITTLE WAS DONE !**

**ONE DAY  
I'LL LOOK BACK ON ALL THIS  
AND LAUGH.**

## **APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

4/07	Elsie Sloan	(79)
4/10	Norm Navarre	(73)
4/13	John O'Neill	(51)
4/17	Cora Harbushka	(39+)
4/18	Dan Gould	(79)
4/19	Linda Schluter	(60)
4/21	Ina O'Kane	(42)
4/28	Joe Casey	(79)

Some really big Birthdays this month. Our Best Wishes to all. And we salute the trio of 79 year old long time members!



## **APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

4/09	Yvonne & Buck Hemenway	(18)
4/19	Kathy & Vince Conway	(31)
4/20	Mary Alice & Don McGrew	(32)
4/20	Cidni & Danny Griffith	(15)

A parade of Anniversaries this month and we sure do wish them Happiness and Longevity.



## **SUCCULENTS OF THE MONTH FOR April 2006 PELARGONIUM, SARCOCAULON**

The Geranium family, Geraniaceaea, has 11 genera and about 750 species of annual and perennial herbs and shrubs growing wild in mainly temperate regions of the world. *Zygophyllaceae* the caltrop family is a closely related family in the order Geraniates which includes the creosote bush. *Larrea divaricata*, of our deserts. The shrub has five petaled flowers similar to the geranium flower. The true Geranium *Erodium*, *Pelargonium*, and

Sarcocaulon are often called cranesbill or storksbill because of the shape of the fruit, a long beak on the style of the superior ovary with five tailed seed which fall off and scatter when dry.

**ERODIUM** is a genus of about 60 species of annuals, perennials and deciduous subshrubs. They are native to the mountains of Europe, Central Asia, North Africa, America's and even temperate Australia. The fillaree is a common weed pest invading our gardens in the spring. It is one of the 3 locally native Erodium's with pink, 5 petaled flowers that develops into the storksbill. There are some succulent perennial Erodiums with showy flowers of interest to the succulent enthusiast. If you have one bring it.

**PELARGONIUM** is a genus of 280 species of which the majority, about 225 can be considered succulents. This includes the so called garden geranium Pelargonium hortorum, with numerous varieties. Pelargoniums are found wild in deserts and mountains, mostly in southern Africa. There are many wonderfully scented Pelargoniums for the herb garden, the rose, lemon, coconut and peppermint geraniums.

**P. Alternans** is a small branched shrub with 1 inch long feathery green leaves with succulent 1 inch stems growing to 28 inches high. It comes from the southwest cape of Africa. It goes dormant and leafless in summer.

**P. Carnosum** was introduced into England in 1794. It has thick spreading stems to 12 inches long with an abundance of white flowers. It is native to Namibia and Namaqualand.

**P. Gibossum** has knobby succulent stems as much as 10 feet long which scramble among the bushes. It has greenish yellow flowers and comes from the Cape Province of So. Africa.

**P. Echinatum** called the sweetheart and cactus geranium, has hooked, thorn like stubbles and gray green lobed leaves. The single white flowers are marked maroon in the shape of a heart. The plant drops its leaves and is summer dormant. The plant is native to the Cape

Province of So. Africa.

**SARCOCAULON** is a genus of 14 small drought deciduous succulent perennials and subshrubs from very dry areas of Angols, Namibia and So. Africa. Some species are bushmans candles because of their highly flammable waxy or resinous coating. The branches maybe armed with small thorns and have resinous bark.

**S. Herrei** is a succulent So. African succulent perennial with spreading branches to 6 inches with thorns 1 inch long. It has rounded Fleshyleaves to 3/4 inches wide that are yellow green and covered with silky hairs.

**S. Peniculinum** from Namibia is a fleshy, prostrate shrublet to 3 inches high with a few vert enlarged grayish white branches with many small dissicted leaves. The 3/4 inch wide 5 petaled flowers are pale pink to rose.

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### **Man accused of assaulting girlfriend – with a cactus**

By Eric Litke, Sheboygan Press staff

A 22-year-old Sheboygan man was charged Thursday for allegedly attacking his live-in girlfriend Wednesday night with a cactus plant and biting her, leaving her "covered in blood," according to a criminal complaint.

"I thought I'd seen everything ... but a cactus beating, jeez," said Sheboygan County District Attorney Joe DeCecco. "I guess it's the thing that was closest at hand."

Nathaniel S. Radzicki was charged with felony substantial battery and misdemeanor disorderly conduct. He faces almost a decade behind bars for the alleged beating because the district attorney applied penalty enhancers for use of a "dangerous weapon" and domestic abuse. "Nathaniel went psycho. He acted like he was possessed, like he was the devil," Radzicki's girlfriend told police, according to the complaint.

DeCecco said authorities aren't sure why

Radzicki allegedly attacked the woman. According to the complaint, the girlfriend said Radzicki was upset over some phone calls he had made earlier in the evening but otherwise could not explain the attack. "He was drinking, he got depressed ... and he just lit off on her for some reason," DeCecco said.

Police were called to the couple's south-side apartment about 10:15 p.m. Wednesday after a passerby reported hearing a woman yell, "Stop it, you're hurting me," according to the criminal complaint.

DeCecco said the police had to threaten to use pepper spray on Radzicki before they could take him into custody, and he still was out of control at the police station.

"He was yelling and screaming and kicking at the doors," DeCecco said, citing the police report.

Radzicki's girlfriend told police that Radzicki attacked her with the cactus while she was doing dishes in the apartment they shared. The attack was unprovoked, she told police.

The woman had half-inch cactus thorns stuck in her neck, face and arms that medical staff had to remove with tweezers, the complaint said.

"Apparently the cactus was just the size of a baseball," said Sgt. Scott Mittelstadt of the Sheboygan Police Department. "It just had longer spikes which ended up getting stuck in her."

She also suffered a "very large" bite mark on her left forearm, a ruptured eardrum, a deep cut in her upper lip that required several stitches and bruises on her face and jaw, the complaint said.

The two have known each other about six months and had been living together about a month, according to the complaint,

If convicted, Radzicki faces nine years, three months in jail and fines of up to \$11,000.

Radzicki has no previous convictions for violent offenses, but was cited twice for disorderly conduct in separate incidents in June. He is in Sheboygan County jail on \$10,000 cash bond and is due in Sheboygan County Circuit Court on Nov. 23 for a preliminary hearing.

## CACTUS and SUCCULENTS OF THE MONTH FOR 2006

APRIL Pelargonium, Sarcocaulon  
Cactus, Epiphyllum, Schlumbergia

MAY Both succulents & cactus Variegated,  
Monstrose, Crested

JUNE Kalanchoe, Melocactus, Discocactus

JULY Stapeliads, Stapelia, Orbia, Hoodia  
Huernia Caralluma etc.  
Ferocactus, Echinocactus

AUGUST Ficus, Dorstenia, Didieria, Alluardia  
Echinocereus

SEPTEMBER Pachypodium, AdeniumPlumeria  
Rebutia

OCTOBER Portulacaria, Anacamperos  
Copiapoa, Thelocactus, Coryphantha,  
DEAD cactus

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Leo Pickoff's "THIS and THAT" Page is rebuilding from a major CRASH. Good Luck Leo!



## Calendar of Garden Events - 2006

**April 8** Sims Learning Tree Center (TLC)  
Sub-Tropical Fruit Tree Workshop  
Sat: 9am-3pm 6111 Appaloosa Ave.  
Pedley, Reservations: (951) 685-6662

**April 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>** South Coast C&SS Show and Sale,  
South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300  
Crenshaw Blvd, Palos Verdes, CA. (310) 832-2262

**April 22<sup>nd</sup>** California Association of Nurserymen  
annual sale at Western Municipal Water District  
Waterwise Gardens, 450 Alessandro Bl., Riverside  
CA

**April 23<sup>rd</sup>** South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show and  
Sale, South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300  
Crenshaw Blvd, Palos Verdes, CA (310) 831-1209

**April 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>** Redlands Horticulture &  
Improvement Society Flower Show & Garden Tour,  
ESRI Café, 370 New York St., Redlands, CA

**April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>** Green Scene Plant Sale, Fullerton  
Arboretum.

**April 28** Sims Learning Tree Center  
OPEN GARDENS. Last Friday of the month  
6111 Appaloosa Ave., Pedley,  
(951) 685-6662

**April 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup>** Riverside Flower Show and Garden  
Tour, Riverside CA Elks Lodge, 6166 Brockton Ave,  
Riverside CA

**May 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>** Sunset C&SS Show and Sale, Veterans  
Memorial Center, Garden Room,  
4117 Overland Ave, Culver City, CA  
(310) 822-1783

**May 21<sup>st</sup>** Huntington Botanical Gardens Plant Sale,  
10-5, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford  
Road, San Marino, CA

**May 21<sup>st</sup>** Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale, LA  
County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia,  
CA. (310) 831-1209

**June 3<sup>rd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>** San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society  
– Show and Sale Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego,  
CA. (619) 477-4779

**June 10<sup>th</sup>** Gates C&SS 29<sup>th</sup> Show and Sale.  
Show 10-4 Sat, ; Sale 9-4 Sat, Jurupa Mountains  
Cultural Center (JMCC), 7621 Granite Hill Dr,  
Glen Avon, CA. (909) 360-8802.

**June 10<sup>th</sup>** Green Faire –Jurupa Mountains Cultural  
Center (JMCC), Sat 9-4 (951) 685-5818

**June** Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society  
Show and Sale Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633  
Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA Show  
Info call (818) 363-3432

**Jun 30<sup>th</sup>- Jul 2<sup>nd</sup>** CSSA Annual Show and Sale – Sale  
(30<sup>th</sup>- 2<sup>nd</sup>)- Show (1<sup>st</sup>- 2<sup>nd</sup>) Huntington Botanical  
Garden, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA (626)  
405-2160 or 2277.

**August 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>** 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Intercity Cactus and  
Succulent Show and Sale, LA County Arboretum, 301  
N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, CA . Info Call Tom  
Glavich  
(626) 798-2430 or Gene Oster (818) 998-9306.

**September 2<sup>nd</sup>** Huntington Botanical Gardens  
Succulent Symposium All Day at the Huntington.

**September 24<sup>th</sup>** Long Beach C&SS Annual Auction,  
Dominguez Adobe, 18127 So.  
Alameda St., Compton (Dominguez Hills), CA.

**October 14<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>** SGVC&SS Winter Show and Sale,  
LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia  
CA.

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***For errors and omissions or***

***to add your Club / Society event to this list***

***send email to: joekc@juno.com***

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To join a club call the number listed above.

## Visiting With the Newcomers Saturday April 8 10 AM

Go south on I-215 toward Sun City. Exit on McCall Blvd. and turn right (west). Go to Murietta Road, turn left (south) to Sun City Blvd., turn right. To Milky Way, turn right to Lyra Ct (the last culdesac on the right). **25265 Lyra Ct.** If you need help, or directions call Ric @ **951.566.6742**

