



*Gates Cactus
and
Succulent Society*

APRIL 2007

NEXT MEETING: " WEDNESDAY " APRIL 4th

AT THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM

I- 10 AT CALIFORNIA STREET IN REDLANDS, CA.

PROGRAM

Kelly Griffin will be our speaker in April. His subject will be Aloes. He has blended a presentation of his own habitat photographs from South Africa and Madagascar with ones of plants that are for sale and in production at Rancho Soledad Nursery. It is a wide ranging, informative talk and you will go away hungry for the latest in Aloe development coming out of Kelly's talented brain.

**APRIL PLANTS OF THE MONTH
AGAVE & RELATIVES
FEROCACTUS, ECHINOCACTUS.**

SHOW TROPHIES

Please bring your winning trophy from the 2006 Show to the April Meeting

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Yvonne and I want to thank all of our friends and Gates members who attended our annual tour and sale. We had a marvelous time talking, selling and generally mixing with so many excited C&S enthusiasts. We gave out a number of Gates cards to prospective members and look forward to greeting them in the coming months. Please watch for the temporary name tags at the meetings and introduce yourself to new and or prospective members. Several have fabulous collections already and just didn't know where to find other people afflicted by the same passion.

We want to get organized for our annual Show & Sale on June 9. Planning is well along for Green Faire. How are your show plants looking? You can prune the damaged parts now and the cuts will be well healed by show time. I think that as many of our plants were damaged or at least stressed by last summer's heat as by the recent

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LEADERSHIP TEAM -- 2007

cold.

Hold June 23 as a date for the next Field Trip. The planned schedule is to visit Joella Olsen's home on the way down I-15, then to Rancho Soledad Nursery and visit wit Kelly Griffin and then to Quail Botanic Gardens in Encinitas. It should be a exiting day.

Don't forget that the 32nd biennial convention of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America is coming up at the end of May in Seattle. There is no measure to the knowledge and C&S excitement available.

More about our upcoming speakers elsewhere in this newsletter, but you don't want to miss any of the upcoming presentations.

See everyone at the meeting, Wednesday, April 4.

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The Secrets of Photography

{there are none}

Daniel P. Griffith

Most photographers I know believe in the simple philosophy that in photography there are no secrets. As with any other path in life, the path is to be shared so that all may walk it, in peace.

The Virtues of Waiting

So you're out and about, ready to capture another great image to add to your photo album. Let's say you're in a field of flowers with clouds floating by and you make your exposure. When you look at your viewing screen to see how you have done, you see that all the flowers are in the shade of a passing cloud. Easy to fix if you are shooting digital; wait for the sun to fall on the flowers and shoot again. If you are shooting film, you'll have to wait till you can get another day off! Hope that when you return to the wonderful field of flowers, they are still there. And with luck, the beautiful clouds will still be around. This time wait for the clouds and sun to line up just right before you shot!

Another problem with nature-- Wind. If you want motion in your image it's your friend. If you do not want motion in your image and exposure can not be taken at a high shutter speed you will have to wait till the wind subsides. I once waited two hours for the wind to die down before releasing the shutter!

Calm down, wait a minute and your results will be worth sharing.

Happy Shooting!

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MINI-SHOW RESULTS FOR MARCH 2007 CACTI, PILOSOCEREUS. CEPHALOCEREUS CLEISTOCACTUS AND RELATIVES

Don McGrew and Dennis Kucera judging

NOVICE	small, 6" pot or less
1 st Betty Ann Kent	Oreocereus trollii
ADVANCED	Small, 6" pot or less
1 st Buck and Yvonne	Austrocephalocereus doluhospermatias
2 nd Dennis Kucera	Cephalocereus senilis
ADVANCED	LARGE, over 6" pot
1 st Judy Horne	Cephalocereus senilis
2 nd Bob Laughlin	Cleistocactus winteri
2 nd Joella Olson	Cleistocactus baumannii
3 rd Joella Olson	Pilosocereus senilis
3 rd Dennis Kucera	Pilosocereus azureus

MINI-SHOW RESULTS FOR MARCH 2007 AIZOACEAE = MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE ICE PLANTS AND RELATIVES, 123 GENERA

Don McGrew and Dennis Kucera judging

NOVICE	small, 6" pot or less
2 nd Betty Ann Kent	Drosathemum foribundum
2 nd Betty Ann Kent	Lampranthus primavernus

ADVANCED	small, 6" pot or less
1 st Buck and Yvonne	Pleiopilos bolusii
2 nd Dennis Kucera	Aloinopsis malherbei
2 nd Dennis Kucera	Faucaria felina
2 nd Buck and Yvonne	Trichodiadema densum
2 nd Bob Laughlin	Delosperma sphalmanthoides
3 rd Bob Laughlin	Drosanthemum floribundum
3 rd Joella Olsen	Conophytum springbakensis
3 rd Joella Olsen	Argyroderma ovata
3 rd Joella Olsen	Gibbeum heathii

ADVANCED	LARGE, over 6" pot
1 st Buck and Yvonne	Fenestraria rhopolophylla
1 st Joella Olsen	Rhombophyllum species
2 nd Buck and Yvonne	Faucaria candida
2 nd Judy Horne	Carpobrotus quadrifidus
2 nd Dennis Kucera	Faucaria tuberculosa
2 nd Bob Laughlin	Faucaria tigrina
3 rd Bob Laughlin	Oscularia deltoidea
	Pink vygie
3 rd Joella Olsen	Cephalophyllum floribunda

CACTUS AND SUCCULENTS OF THE MONTH FOR 2007

APRIL

AGAVE & RELATIVES

FEROCACTUS, ECHINOCACTUS.

Barrel cactus

MAY

SUCCULENTS AND CACTUS, Crested, Variegated or Monstrose

JUNE

PHOTOS OF CACTUS AND SUCCULENTS and

Your Favorite or Best Cactus and Succulent, 1 EACH.

JULY 4 NO MEETING / NO SHOW

AUGUST

DISH GARDENS, PLANTERS, mixed or combined in 1 pot, 1 each in 3 categories

SEPTEMBER

HAWORTHIA and GASTERIA

ASTROPHYTUM and GYMNOCALYCIUM

OCTOBER

EUPHORBIA

OPUNTIA

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/07	Elsie Sloan	(80)
4/10	Norm Navarre	(74)
4/13	John O'Neill	(52)
4/17	Cora Harbushka	(39+)
4/18	Dan Gould	(80)
4/19	Danielle Miligan	(68)
4/19	Linda Schluter	(61)
4/21	Ina Schweitzer	(43)
4/28	Joe Casey	(80)

Some really big Birthdays this month. Our Best Wishes to all. And we salute the trio of 80 year old long time members!



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

4/09	Yvonne & Buck Hemenway	(19)
4/19	Kathy & Vince Conway	(32)
4/20	Mary Alice & Don McGrew	(33)
4/20	Cidni & Danny Griffith	(16)

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



SAY HELLO TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Tony Marino
Chino, CA

MAR 07

Let them know the Gates Cactus and Succulent Society appreciates their Membership. Help them with their concerns. Solve their issues. That's why they came to see us!

CACTUS OF THE MONTH APRIL 2007
ECHINOCACTUS and FEROCACTUS

By Dennis Kucera

These two genera are very closely related and Dr. Edmund Jaeger used only the genus Echinocactus in his Desert Wildflower book. Over 50 years ago botanists split the genus into Ferocactus and Echinocactus. Of the three tribes of the cactus family these two genera belong to the cereus tribe, Cereeae, known by its ribbed fleshy stems of continuous growth. There are eight sub tribes in the cereus tribe. These two genera belong to the Echinocactaneae sub tribe, the barrel, ball and star cacti. About 25 genera are included in this sub tribe including Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Chilenia, Frailea, Gymnocalycium, Lophophora, Notocactus, Parodia, and others. Ferocactus are commonly named barrel cactus, fish hook cactus, or visnaga. There are about 25 species of these large ribbed ovoid cactus of the southwestern U. S. and Mexico. Their stems are caespitose, mostly simple globose to cylindrical, strongly ribbed and spiny. The larger spines are often flattened and hooked. The flowers are solitary on the upper side of the areoles, campanulate to funnel form, yellow to red, and staying open for several days. The tube and ovary are densely scaly, stamens numerous, fruit oblong and fleshy, seeds are black and pitted.

Ferocactus acanthodes is the common barrel cactus of our deserts in California with a range extending into Utah, Nevada, Arizona and Baja California. This plant can live 30 years or more forming a cylindrical stem one foot thick and seven feet tall. It has a crown of yellow flowers in spring.

F. Gatesii, named for Howard E. Gates, is a cylindrical cactus up to five feet tall. The flowers are red, funnel form 2 1/2 long and wide. It is native only to Smith Island of Baja California.

F. viridescens is a small coastal barrel of San Diego County coast into northern Baja California.

F. wislizenii, the fish hook cactus, grows to ten feet high with orange red flowers 2 1/2 inches

long and wide. It grows wild in Arizona to Texas and northern Mexico.

Other Ferocactus worth getting are *F. chrysacantha*, *F. diguetii* from Baja CA, *F. emoryi*, *F. fordlii*, *F. glaucescens*, *F. gracilis* the red barrel cactus from Baja CA, *F. hamatacanthus* with long hooked spines from Texas and Mexico, *F. hystrix*, *F. latispinus*, *F. madrodiscus*, *F. rectispinus*, *F. recurvus*, *F. robustus*, *F. stainesii* and *F. stainesii* var. *pilosus*

Echinocactus has 16 species found wild in Mexico and the southwestern U. S. It has similar growth characteristics as Ferocactus, except the crown is woolly and the fruits are woolly.

E. grusonii, the golden barrel is a common favorite easily grown from seed. It has a large simple stem up to three feet wide and tall with bright golden spines. The older larger plants may grow several globular offshoots at its base. This species originally from central Mexico may be extinct in the wild from over collecting. It now survives in cultivation and is fortunately commonly grown.

E. ingens the Mexican giant barrel is globose to four feet wide and high. The cultivar cv., *helephoras* is heavily banded with purple when young.

E. polycephalus with red spines forms clusters of globose stems up to 30 in a cluster. Each stem is one foot thick and up to two feet high. This species is native to south eastern California Nevada, Utah, western Arizona and northern Mexico.

Bring your handsome specimens of barrel cactus for the MINI-SHOW

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH APRIL 2007
AGAVE, YUCCA AND RELATIVES
By Dennis Kucera

The **Agave** family, **Agavaceae**, includes 20 genera growing in dry, warmer regions of both

hemispheres. These long lived rosette leaf plants are rhizomatous perennial herbs or woody tree like plants. The genera in this family were removed in the 1950's from the Liliaceae and the Amaryllidaceae to form this new family.

The genus **Agave** includes over 300 species that are native to the America's. They take many years, 10 to 30, not a century, to grow a mature rosette of leaves which flower with a tall upright inflorescence, setting seed then dying. Most species form basal offshoots, suckers, from the flowering rosette. The tall fast growing flower spike, up to 6 inches a day, develops a raceme or panicle of very large number of flowers. The flowers are bi-sexual. The perianth is tubular to shallowly funnel form. The flower segments number 6, with 6 stamens. The ovary is inferior with 3 cells, each cell with 2 rows of many flattened black seeds.

A. americana is the so called century plant and is commonly cultivated in southern California. It has a basal rosette of gray blue leaves up to 6 feet long. The mature rosette can grow a very tall flower stalk often 25 feet tall, with numerous pale yellow flowers. Other Mexican Agaves are **A. attenuata**, cola de leon, with pale green leaves with no teeth and a soft tip. Also commonly grown are **A. victorae-eginae**, **A. vilmoriniana**, the octopus plant, **A. parryii** and California's **A. desertii**.

The **Yucca** genus comprises about 40 species from warmer parts of North America. **Yucca aloifolia** the Spanish bayonet or dagger plant grows to a 25 foot many branched tree with rosettes of sharp pointed 30 inch leaves. It is native to Mexico and the West Indies.

Y. baccata is the banana yucca from the Mojave desert to Colorado, Texas and Mexico. Other well known yucca's are the **Mojave yucca**, **Y. schidigera**, **Y. whipplei**, and **Joshua tree**, **Y. brevifolia**.

Nolina is a genus similar in growth to the yucca's but they are **dioecious**. Each plant has either male or female flowers. **Yucca's** are **monecious**

There are about 25 species of these perennial plants native to the U.S. and Mexico. The leaves are long, linear and stiff, similar to **Yucca whipplei**. Two **Nolina** species grow in our local deserts, **N. parryii** and **N. bigelovii**.

Furcraea of the Agave family is a genus of more than 12 species of perennial succulents from desert like areas of the West Indies, Mexico and Central America. In summer, each rosette of long fleshy leaves produces a large terminal panicle of bell shaped pendulous flowers.

Beschorneria yuccoides is one of the 7 species of clumping, rosetted, perennial succulents from semi-arid areas of Mexico. In summer it grows 5 foot panicles with vivid red bracts and yellow green flowers 3 inches long.

Beaucarnea is a genus of about 24 species of evergreen shrubs and trees from semi-arid parts of southern U.S. , Mexico to Guatemala. Most have sparsely branched palm like stems with an enlarged base.

B. recurvata is the commonly cultivated ponytail palm.

Dasyliirion is a genus of 18 species of yucca like evergreen shrubs, perennial stemless rosettes, growing in dry mountains and deserts of Arizona to Texas and Mexico.

D. longissimum is the handsome Mexican grass plant. **D. wheeleri** of Arizona, New Mexico and Texas grows into a small evergreen tree with long flexible silver leaves with marginal spines. Bell shaped white flowers develop on a inflorescence up to 12 feet tall.

Hesperaloe is a genus of 3 species of perennial succulents closely related to yucca. The dark pink flowers are tubular and are similar to Aloe flowers. These plants are native to Mexico and Texas. **H. parviflora** is a clump forming succulent with arching linear dark green leaves to 36 inches long.

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OTHER TABLES

Plant Sales, Discussion, and Refreshments Tables will be open for the April 2007 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*.

And a special thank you to those who frequently bring the goodies we enjoy so much.

To those who signed up to be a Hostess/Host for one month this year, we **THANK YOU**. If you haven't taken a turn yet, why not give it a try.

April 21, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm, Inland Chapter Iris Society – Iris Trek. The Society will host a bus tour to four area iris gardens. Trekkers will meet at the Ayers Hotel at Ontario Mills at 7:30 to board the bus. The \$50.00 fee includes transportation and lunch at the Hometown Buffet. Call Naomi Hildreth at 951.689.7851 for information and to register for the tour.

April 28 and 29, Redlands Horticulture & Improvement Society 95th Annual Flower Show, Garden Tour and Uncommon Plant Sale. The Flower Show is located at ESRI Café, 370 New York Street, Redlands. April 28 from 2 pm to 6 pm and April 29 from 10 am to 5 pm. Tickets are \$8. For more information call 909.792.4385 or visit www.rhis.org. 4th Monday of each month – Riverside County Begonia Society meets at 6:45 at the Janet Goeske Center, 5257 Sierra, Riverside. Call Danielle Milligan at 951.359.1488 for upcoming program information.

CRFG Festival of Fruit

More info on the home page of the CRFG web site and the CRFG/OC chapter

http://home.att.net/~oc_crfg/2007FofF.htm

CSSA May 25-30 32nd CSSA Biennial Convention – Seattle Airport Double Tree

More info: www.cssainc.org

Calendar of Garden Events - 2007

March 31-April 1 UCR Botanic Garden Spring Plant Sale, UC Riverside. 951.784.6962
www.gardens.ucr.edu

March 31 Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden Spring Plant Sale, 10-2, www.sabg.org 909.625.8767

April 14-15 Riverside Flower Show and Garden Tour, Vendor Plant Sales, Elk's Lodge, 6166 Brockton Ave., Riverside, CA.

April 14-15 Las Vegas Cactus Show & Sale
info: susan@csssn.org She needs vendors

April 20-22 Inland Region Iris Society, Spring Trek, "The Artists Palette", Ayers Hotel & Suites, 1945 Holt Blvd., Ontario, CA. Includes garden visits, Call for fees & schedule 951.689.7851

April 21-22 Green Scene Plant Sale, Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton, CA. 10-4 both days.

April 22 South Bay Epiphyllum Show & Sale, South Coast Botanic Garden 26300 Crenshaw Blvd. Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA. 310.831.1209

April 28-29 Redlands Horticulture & Improvement Society Flower Show & Garden Tour, Plant Sales, ESRI Café, 370 New York St., Redlands, CA.
www.rhis.org

May 5-6 Sunset Succulent Society Show & Sale, Veterans Memorial Center, 4117 Overland Ave. Culver City, CA. 310.822.1783

May 20 Huntington Plant Sale, 10-5 Huntington Botanical Garden, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. 626.405.2160

May 20 Primavera in the UCR Garden, 2-5 p.m.
951.784.6962

May 20 Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale
LA Co. Arboretum, Arcadia, CA. 310.831.1209

May 25-30 32nd CSSA Biennial Convention – Seattle Airport Double Tree www.cssainc.org

June 2-3 San Diego C&SS Show & Sale, Balboa Park, Rm 101, San Diego, CA 619.477.4779

June 8-10 Los Angeles C&SS Show & Sale, Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd. Encino, CA. 818.363.3432

June 9 Gates C&SS Show and Sale.
Show 1-4 Sat, ; Sale 9-4 Sat, Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, 7621 Granite Hill Dr, Glen Avon, CA. 951. 360.8802.

June 9 Green Faire –Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, Sat 9-4, Several local clubs will have info and sales booths.

June 16-17, 23-24 2nd Annual Lavender Festival, Highland Springs Resort & 123 Farm, 10600 Highland Springs Ave. Cherry Valley, CA, 92223. tel: 951-845-1151.

Master Gardener Volunteers Needed! Contact Victoria Kouyoumjian (vicisok@gmail.com) .

June 23 Gates CSS Field Trip, Rancho Soledad, Kelly Griffin to show us around. Then to Quail Botanic Gardens and probably one more. Should be a great day. 951.360.8802

June 30-July 2 CSSA Show & Plant Sale, Huntington Botanical Garden, San Marino, CA. Show July 1-2. 626.405.2160 or 2277

August 7-12 CRFG Festival of Fruit, THE YEAR OF THE MANGO, Southwestern College, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista, CA 91910 www.crfg.org

August 18-19 Intercity Show & Plant Sale, LA Co. Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave. Arcadia, CA. 626.798.2430

September 2 Succulent Symposium, Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA.

October 13-14 San Gabriel Valley C&SS, Show and Sale, LA Co. Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, CA

