



*Gates Cactus
and
Succulent Society*

APRIL 2008

NEXT MEETING: " WEDNESDAY " 7:30PM " APRIL 2nd

AT THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM

I- 10 AT CALIFORNIA STREET IN REDLANDS, CA.

PROGRAM

Our speaker for April will be **Woody Minnich**. Many of us have known Woody for years and know him to be an expert on cacti in particular. He has traveled extensively throughout the Americas doing field studies. Last fall, he and several other succulent explorers traveled to Yemen and the island of Socotra to see the exotic succulents that grow there. With the political instability in that part of the world, there is no guarantee that we'll be able to travel there for long. His talk features huge Adeniums, euphorbias and other unusual plants.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Spring has sprung, the bees are stinging, the aphids are swarming and the grasshoppers are devouring- so what else is new?

The annual cycle of plant shows and sales is

now here. The Hemanway's annual Garden Sale is this weekend, and our own Gate's Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale is fast approaching (yeah, I know it's June 14th, but with everything we all have to do in this life, that's coming up soon). Plan now on what plants you want to enter.

Those who won the various perpetual trophies last year need to start bringing them back in to the next meeting (or else those larger-than-bug pests will be pestering you again and again and again).

We thought about a tour of Death Valley this July, but decided maybe the Wrigley Gardens on Catalina in August would be more tolerable. It will be planned as a day trip only. Ina is looking at group rates for the boat. We need to know how many would be interested. There will be a sign up sheet on the table up front by the

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LEADERSHIP TEAM -- 2008

podium.

If you like working with large cacti, the JMCC could really use your volunteer hours. Two large tree Opuntias have literally collapsed and need to be (examined and) removed. Of course they're in the middle of ALL the cactus, where else would they be? They will be rotting soon, and if they can be removed quickly, hopefully any odor will be gone before our show and sale. hint, hint.

Look on the bright side! The cacti and succulents are BLOOMING big time. Enjoy, and don't forget your allergy medicine!

Continue your preparation for our **Show and Sale** coming up on June 14th. We want to set a record for the number of plants entered.

See you Wednesday evening! mig



**MINI-SHOW RESULTS FOR MARCH 2008
SUCCULENTS PACHYPHYTUM
SEDUM, GRAPTOPETALUM, HYBRIDS**

Barbara Lauck, Dennis Kucera judges

- NOVICE** small, 6" pot or less
- 1st Carlos Ruiz Sedum multiceps
- 2nd Don, Mary Alice McGrew Pachyphytum compactum
- 2nd Lynn Thrane Pachyveria "Little Jewel"
- 2nd Lynn Thrane Sedum pachyphyllum
- 2nd Lynn Thrane Sedum hybrid variegated

- NOVICE** LARGE, over 6" pot
- 1st Sheldon Lisker Sedum spathulifolium "Cape Blanco"
- 2nd Don, Mary Alice McGrew Pachyphytum species
- 3rd Vivian Nightingale Sedum guatemalensis
- H.M. Vivian Nightingale Sedum morganianum "Burro Tail"

- INTERMEDIATE** LARGE, over 6" pot
- 1st Karen Roholt Graptopetalum superbum
- 2nd Amber Jones Sedum "Laughlinii" Bobs?
- 2nd Karen Roholt Pachyphytum species
- 3rd Karen Roholt Sedum species

- ADVANCED** LARGE, over 6" pot
- 1st Tony Marino Graptopetalum Paraguayense Hybrid
- 1st Joella Olson Pachyphyllum rotundifolia
- 2nd Bob Laughlin Sedum morganianum
- 2nd Dennis Kucera Sedum multiceps

**MINI-SHOW RESULTS FOR MARCH 2008
CACTUS PARODIA (now includes
Notocactus)**

Barbara Lauck, Dennis Kucera Judging

- NOVICE** small, 6" pot or less
- 1st Carlos Ruiz Parodia sellowii = Malacocarpus selloii
- 2nd Carlos Ruiz Parodia chrysacanthion
- 2nd Don, Mary Alice McGrew Parodia [Eriocactus] schumannianus

- NOVICE** LARGE, over 6" pot
- 1st Vivian Nightingale Notocactus magnificus
- H.M. Vivian Nightingale Parodia lenninghausii = Eriocactus lenninghausii

- INTERMEDIATE** small, 6" pot or less
- 1st M. J. Green Parodia mammulosa
- 2nd Judy Horne Parodia ottonis
- 2nd M. J. Green Parodia aureicentra
- 2nd M. J. Green Parodia turechiana
- 2nd Judy Horne Parodia species
- 2nd Karen Roholt Parodia magnificus

- ADVANCED** small, 6" pot or less
- 1st Tony Marino Parodia haselbergii
- 2nd Dennis Kucera Parodia lenninghausii
- 2nd Joella Olson Parodia scopa
- 3rd Bob Laughlin Parodia scopa
- 3rd Tony Marino Parodia scopa
- H.M. Tony Marino Parodia claviceps

- ADVANCED** LARGE, over 6" pot
- 1st Buck and Yvonne Parodia scopa
- 2nd Dennis Kucera Parodia magnifica
- 3rd Lyn Brooks Parodia claviceps

3rd Joella Olson Parodia magnifica
 3rd Bob Laughlin Parodia claviceps
 3rd Dennis Kucera Parodia scopa
 H.M. Bob Laughlin Parodia magnifica

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

4/10 Norm Navarre (75)
 4/13 John O'Neill (53)
 4/17 Cora Harbushka (39+)
 4/19 Danielle Milligan (69)
 4/19 Linda Schluter (62)
 4/21 Ina Schweitzer (44)
 4/24 Cletes Williams (79)
 4/28 Joe Casey (81)

ATTENTION MINI-SHOW EXHIBITORS

THANK YOU AGAIN for your enthusiastic participation and the many fine plants you brought in March 2008, over 40 plants.

The large show took me and the novice judge much extra time to process so WE MUST HAVE ALL your show plants entered NO LATER than 7:00 P.M., **NO MORE EXCEPTIONS.** Our judging was delayed in our work last month. Thank you Mike Green for covering for us. We welcome all your plants but it takes time to judge them fairly. If you have plants that you need help in identifying, bring them earlier, before 7:10 P.M. and we will try to give them a genus name, the minimum needed to enter. Remember each participant or couple may enter only ONE of a species. Each participant must leave their entry cards so I can record the data for next months news letter.

One really big Birthday this month. Mine!

There used to be three of us, Dan Gould, Elsie Sloan and I, with birthdays within two weeks, all born in April 1927. Dan & Elsie are still around but have given up their Gates membership.

Our Best Wishes to all. And we salute the active seniors.

First place plants receive 15 points, second place 10 points, third place 5 points and honorable mention, H. M. receive 2 points.



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

4/09 Yvonne & Buck Hemenway (20)
 4/19 Kathy & Vince Conway (33)
 4/20 Mary Alice & Don McGrew (34)
 4/20 Cidni & Danny Griffith (17)

Thank you for your cooperation.
 Dennis Kucera 951-318-3705

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

OTHER TABLES

Plant Sales, Discussion, and Refreshments Tables will be open for the April 2008 Meeting.

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

If you can, bring some 'Goodies' to support our popular *Refreshment Tables*.

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



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

2008 MINI-SHOW PLANTS

- APRIL** Succulents; Pelargonium
Sarcocaulon
Cactus; Epiphyllum,
Schlumberga Easter and
Christmas Cactus
- MAY** Your best staged cactus and
succulent in a special pot, 1 each.
- JUNE** Succulents and Cactus;
variegated, crested, monstrose,
and odd ball, 4 max.
- JULY** Succulents; Bromelia family,
Dychia, Abromiatella, Hechtia,
Tillandsi
Cactus; Astrophytum,
Gymnocalcium
- AUGUST** DISH GARDENS, PLANTERS;
Cactus and or Succulents,
PHOTOGRAPHS
- SEPTEMBER** Succulents; Pachypodium
Adenium, Plumeria,
Cactus; Copiapoa, Coryphantha
- OCTOBER** Succulents; Stapelia, Huernia,
Hoodia, and relatives
Cactus; Melocactus
- NOVEMBER** ANNUAL AUCTION

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Visit the Gates Cactus & Succulent Society
at

www.gatescss.org

CACTI OF THE MONTH FOR APRIL 2008

Epiphyllum Nopalxochia and Schlumbergera

The Epiphyllums that we grow are usually hybrids with other cacti genera. These are Aporocactus, Discocactus, Heliocereus, and especially, Nopalxochia. Thousands of these hybrids give us a wonderful variety of usually large spectacular flowers. White, yellow, orange, pink, magenta, violet, and shades between and some with 2 or 3 colors. There are 9 good species and 10 other tentative species. Two species commonly grown are E. anguliger and E. oxypetalum of which I will bring samples. The true Epi. species are epiphytes perched up in trees in tropical rain; forests of southern Mexico central America Paraguay, Uruguay, Argentina and the West Indies. Epi. Species and most of the hybrids have long arching flattened branches They are fleshy and dark green with wavy or lobed margins. These Epi species have fragrant white flowers that open at night that are pollinated by moths and bats.

NOPALXOCHIA is a most important genus involved in most of the hybrids. With similar growth, habitat and distribution as the true Epiphyllums. 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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SUCCULENTS OF THE MONTH FOR April 2008 PELARGONIUM, SARCOCAULON

The Geranium family, Geraniaceae, 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 Geraniales 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. gibosum 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 Angola, 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 fleshy leaves 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 dissected leaves. The 3/4 inch wide 5 petaled flowers are pale pink to rose.

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Calendar of Garden Events - 2008

***March 29-30** The Hemenways' 9th annual Open Gardens and Sale, 9-4 Sat, 9-4 Sun, 5890 Grinnell Drive, Riverside, CA 951-360-8802

***April 5-6** UCR Botanic Garden Spring Plant Sale, UC Riverside. 951-784-6962

***April 12-13** Inland Region Iris Society Spring Show & Sale, Redlands Mall

***April 19-20** 61st Riverside Flower Show & Garden Tour, Elk's Lodge, 6166 Brockton Ave., Riverside, CA. 951-687-3015

***April 19-20** Redlands Horticulture & Improvement Society Flower Show & Garden Tour, ESRI Café, 370 New York St., Redlands, CA. [Www.rhis.org](http://www.rhis.org)

***April 19-20** Green Scene Plant Sale, Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton, CA. 10-4 both days.

***April 27** South Bay Epiphyllum Show & Sale, South Coast Botanic Garden 26300 Crenshaw Blvd. Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA. 310-833-6823

***May 3-4** Sunset Succulent Society, Show & Sale, Veterans Memorial Center, 4117 Overland Ave. Culver City, CA. 310-822-1783

***May 18** Huntington Plant Sale, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 626-485-2160

***May 18** Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale, LA Co. Arboretum, Arcadia, CA 310-670-8148

***June 14** Green Faire and Gates Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, Jurupa Mt. Cultural Center, Glen Avon, CA 951-360-8802

***June 14-15** LA Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Bl., Encino, CA. 818-363-3432

***June 27-29** CSSA Annual Show & Sale, Huntington BG, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. 626-405-2160 or 2277. Show- 28-29; Plant Sales 27-29

HOST/HOSTESS DUTY THIS MONTH.

APRIL 2008

Rene Hernandez has graciously accepted the responsibility for the operation of the kitchen and refreshment tables for this Meeting. It is a lot of work so help where you can. Thanks.

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An Old Farmer's Advice:

Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.

Forgive your enemies. It messes up their heads.

Do not corner something that would normally run from you.

It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Every path has a few puddles.

When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

The best sermons are lived, not preached.

Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.

Don't judge folks by their relatives.

Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.

Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none.

Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.

If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.

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