



*Gates Cactus  
and  
Succulent Society*

**JUNE 2006**

**NEXT MEETING: " WEDNESDAY " JUNE 7th**

**AT THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM**

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

**PROGRAM**

Our meeting should be very interesting. The speaker, Guillermo Rivera is a very knowledgeable cactus person from Argentina. He was the leader of Woody Minnich's tours there last fall. His presentation should be one of the best ever on Argentinean cacti.

**PLANTS OF THE MONTH FOR JUNE**  
**Kalanchoe, Melocactus, Discocactus**

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**SHOW TROPHIES**

Please bring your winning trophy from the 2005 Show to the Jun Meeting

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Well here we are in June. The annual Show and Sale are just about here. More about this in a separate article. Just remember the date is JUNE 10, next weekend!

We are putting the final touches on our trip to Lotus Land in August. I think that the available spots are spoken for. Karen Roholt is keeping track. We will keep a waiting list for those who have not yet signed up.

Don't forget the CSSA Show and Sale at the end of the month. The Sale is one of the best of the year in the parking lot at the Huntington Library. The Show is a very high quality effort and brings together participants from all over the LA basin. there are plants on display that you will not see anywhere else. You can enter your plants in the show whether or not you are a member of CSSA. And it is very easy, there is

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**LEADERSHIP TEAM -- 2006**

only one entry class.

It was nice to see quite a few Gates members at the Primevera in the Gardens at UCR Botanic Gardens on May 21st. Joe and Helen, Amber and Dennis, the Roholts, the Platzers, Susan Sims, Earlene Ketchum, Marilyn Reimann, Dana Klatt, Oscar and Marissa Clark, Steve Morgan (of course), Jill Coleman's husband Brookes and his dixieland Band were the stars of the show. I didn't see Jill, though. This is one of the nicest garden events anywhere, anytime. Susan won the 2nd Grand Prize in the raffle which was a case of donated 'select' bottles of wine from the vintners who were there. Where's the party?

In another article in this month's Open Gates, we are highlighting a few of the more interesting C&S web sites. I can personally vouch for [www.cactiguide.com/forum](http://www.cactiguide.com/forum) as one of the most interesting of the bunch. This is a lively discussion forum with contributors from all over the world comparing pictures, notes and identifications of our most favorite plants. The contributors are all nice people who don't think they know everything.

Your Board of Directors is hard at work on next year's speaker schedule already. If you know of any special presentations of presenters in our C&S world, let us know so we can get them included in our program schedule. We are working on a two part program where Gary Lyons, the Curator of the desert Garden at the Huntington Library will be our January speaker and then lead a tour for us later in January.

We will need volunteer help during set up for the Show and Sale and during Saturday to watch the show floor and help man the sales tent and kids table. See you at the meeting. *Buck*



THE MORE YOU COMPLAIN, THE LONGER  
GOD LETS YOU LIVE.

## MINI-SHOW RESULTS FOR MAY 2006

### CACTUS variegated, monstrose, crested

Don Fitzgerald, Dennis Kucera judging

#### NOVICE small, 6" pot or less

1<sup>st</sup> Mary Alice McGrew Cactus crest

#### INTERMEDIATE LARGE over 6" pot

1<sup>st</sup> Judy Horne Opuntia subulata crest

#### ADVANCED small, 6" pot or less

1<sup>st</sup> Bob Laughlin Mammillaria elongata cristata  
Var. Copper King

2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Laughlin Mammillaria elongata crest

#### ADVANCED LARGE over 6" pot

1<sup>st</sup> Yvonne and Buck Cerioid crest

2<sup>nd</sup> Dennis Kucera Cereus peruviana monstrose

2<sup>nd</sup> Yvonne and Buck Mammillaria crest

2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Laughlin Mammillaria spinosissima crest

## MINI-SHOW RESULTS FOR MAY 2006

### SUCCULENTS variegated, monstrose, crested

Don Fitzgerald, Dennis Kucera judging

#### NOVICE small, 6" pot or less

1<sup>st</sup> Karl D. Osborn Luckhoffia beukmannii crest

1<sup>st</sup> Michael J. Green Euphorbia pseudocactus

2<sup>nd</sup> William, Valesca Dwyer Senecio articulatus  
variegated

2<sup>nd</sup> William, Valesca Dwyer Euphorbia crest

2<sup>nd</sup> Michael J. Green Euphorbia

2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Alice McGrew Aeonium cv. 'Sunburst'

3<sup>rd</sup> Betty Ann Kent Luckhoffia Crest

#### NOVICE LARGE, over 6" pot

1<sup>st</sup> William, Valesca Dwyer Senecio Crest

1<sup>st</sup> William, Valesca Dwyer Sedum Crest

#### INTERMEDIATE small, 6" pot or less

1<sup>st</sup> Karen Roholt Gasteria liliputana variegated

#### INTERMEDIATE LARGE, over 6" pot

1<sup>st</sup> Karen Roholt Luckhoffia beukmanni crest

#### ADVANCED small 6" pot or less

1<sup>st</sup> Yvonne and Buck Gasteria variegated

3<sup>rd</sup> Bob Laughlin Portulacaria afra variegated  
 H.M. Bob Laughlin Cotyledon ladismithiensis  
 variegated

**ADVANCED** LARGE, over 6" pot  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Bob Laughlin Haworthia cymbiformis  
 variegated  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Dennis Kucera Sansevieria fasciata laurentii

There were many requests for this item, so here's how to make it. Thanks *Yvonne*.

**Irish Creamy Fudge**

- ½ cup evaporated milk
- 1 cup light brown sugar
- 1 cup white sugar
- ¾ cup unsalted butter
- ¼ tsp salt
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- ¼ cup Irish Cream liqueur
- 2 ¼ cups icing sugar, sifted

In a large saucepan, on medium heat, bring the first 5 ingredients to 235 deg, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and add vanilla, Irish Cream liqueur and icing sugar. Beat with electric mixer until smooth. Spread in 8-inch x 8-inch buttered pan. Refrigerate until set (about 2 hours). Cut into 1-inch squares.

Yvonne Hemenway

And if you are worried about calories remember;

**FORGET THE HEALTH FOOD. WE NEED ALL THE PRESERVATIVES WE CAN GET.**

**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

Our Very Best Birthday Wishes to these members:

- 6/01 Louis Shapiro (78)
- 6/02 Tom Clothier {55}
- 6/07 Shirley Zeber (67)
- 6/07 Jim Higdem (59)
- 6/08 Ted Alford (74)
- 6/08 Bob Laughlin (66)
- 6/10 Don Grecian (81)
- 6/11 Mary Alice McGrew (70)
- 6/16 Oscar Clarke (??)
- 6/22 Susan Sims (56)
- 6/24 Dennis Kucera (78)
- 6/28 Irene Gomez (68)

We are again especially proud of a bunch of birthday seniors and Susan, Jim and Tom, in their fifties, moving up to join them!

**JUNE ANNIVERSARIES.**

Our congratulations and Bst Wishes for the Future to all:

- 6/09 Carol & Joe Wujcik (41)
- 6/10 Judy & Jerry Horne (34)
- 6/14 Roberta & Bill Alexander (??)
- 6/19 Marilyn & Ric Newcomer (13)



LIFE IS A GREAT BIG CANVAS, AND YOU SHOULD THROW ALL THE PAINT ON IT YOU CAN.



**CACTUS and SUCCULENTS  
OF THE MONTH FOR YR 2006**

**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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**OTHER TABLES**

Plant Sales, Discussion, and Refreshment  
Tables will be open for the June 2006  
Meeting.

If you can, bring some 'Goodies' to support  
the **Refreshment Table**. They will be  
appreciated.

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

If you have a plant or two that you wish was  
not there taking up valuable space on your  
bench(es), it will look great on our raffle table!

**Calendar of Garden Events - 2006**

**June 10th** Gates C&SS 29th 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

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

**July 15-16th** Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent  
Society Show and Sale Sepulveda Garden Center,  
16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA Show  
Info call (818) 363-3432

**August 19th-20th** 21st 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 2nd** 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 14th-15th** 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**

## SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH JUNE 2006 KALANCHOE

The genus *Kalanchoe*, previously called *Bryophyllum*, includes about 130 species of annual biennial and perennial succulents. Depending on the species they grow as shrubs, climbers or small trees. They grow wild in semi-desert to shady areas and tropical forests, in Saudi Arabia, Yemen, central and south Africa, Madagascar, Asia, Australia and tropical America.

All species have fleshy stems with simple or compound leaves fleshy leaves that are toothed or scalloped. These leaves are arranged usually in opposite pairs. These plants often have showy, diurnal bell shaped or tubular 4 lobed flowers. They are frost tender and should be protected from freezing winter temperatures.

***K. beharensis*** is commonly called felt bush or velvet leaf, and forms a sparsely branched shrub or small tree up to 9 feet high. This perennial succulent with broadly triangular leaves, brownish above and silvery beneath, is covered with fine hair. In late winter mature plants produce many lateral panicles of urn shaped, greenish yellow flower, 1/4 inch long.

***K. beharensis* 'Fang'** is a cultivar with many pointed tubercles on the lower surface of its leaves.

***K. blossfeldiana*** is a small bushy perennial to 16high with oval to oblong glossy and notched leaves. Showy clusters of tubular scarlet flowers each ½ inch long, are produced in early spring. It originates from Madagascar. This is a popular flowering shrublet offered by nurseries and florists. Many new cultivars are now available with flowers in white, yellow, pink and other colors.

***K. delagoensis*, syn. *K. tubiflora***, is commonly known as the chandelier plant. It is an erect sparsely branched perennial with

cylindrical leaves to 6 inches long, that are gray green, spotted reddish from. The leaf tips have notches that produce many plantlets, that fall and sprout many weedy plants. In early spring when plants reach 1 to 3 feet they may produce showy panicles of tubular bell shaped orange or pink flowers. It is native to Madagascar.

***K. fedtschenkoi*** is an upright to sprawling perennial with hairless notched blue green leaves, 2 inches long. They have pendulous, bell shaped reddish flowers in summer. It comes from Madagascar.

***K. marmorata***, is called the pen wiper, because of its purplish black blotches on its gray green leaves. This perennial succulent branches from the base, with oval, toothed, gray frosted leaves 3 to 6 inches long. In spring mature plants have panicles of tubular erect white flowers about 2 ½ inches long. This plant is native to Zaire, Sudan, Somalia and Ethiopia.

***K. pumila*** is a spreading subshrub from Madagascar. It has oval, chalky white frosted leaves about 1 inch long. In spring it has pink, urn shaped flower ½ inch long.

***K. tomentosa*** from Madagascar, is called the panda plant or plush plant because of its densely white felted oblong leaves to 3 inches long, The coarsely toothed leaf tips have black spots.

***Kalanchoe* cultivars, 'Tessa' and 'Wendy'** are beautiful, pendent subshrubs with masses of orange to pink tubular flowers 1 inch long.

***K. pinnata*** from tropical India is called air plant, because of many plantlets that develop at the notches of large succulent leaves when removed. This plant prefers light shade and will grow 3 or more feet tall before blooming with open terminal panicles of pendulous 1 inch pink flowers.

***K. daigremontiana***, mother of millions, from Madagascar is similar in growth *K. tubiflora*. Instead of tubular leaves this succulent has

triangular gray green leaves 2 to 4 inches long. At every notch little plantlets develop. These two species commonly hybridize. All these Kalanchoes easily propagate from leaf cuttings or sprout numerous plantlets . I will bring leaves and stems from several kinds for interested members to grow.

Dennis Kucera

## DISCOCACTUS

This genus has about 7 species of spherical ribbed plants with prominent areoles and spines. They come from the hilly lowlands of Brazil, Bolivia and Paraguay. Older plants develop a woolly and spiny cephalium from which white or pinkish white flowers develop.

**D. hartmannii** forms a flattened spherical body to 10 inches wide and 4 inches tall. Funnel shaped, many petalled, fragrant flowers 4 inches across are produced in summer.

**D. horstii** also grows into a flattened sphere with a white woolly cephalium. The plant body may have up to 22 ribs and many white areoles. It has funnel shaped flowers in summer.

**D. placentiformis** forms a spherical body 3 inches high and 4 inches across. This plant is blue green with up to 16 ribs and few white areoles. It also grows a white woolly cephalium which produces funnel shaped flowers in summer.

Dennis Kucera

The following article was posted by a man in Mexico who contributes to the Cactiguide.com web forum. He is a teacher and researcher on an agronomy faculty.

## **Prickly pear burritos and pitayas for lunch**

“Today I walk around in a botanic garden where I make some work and found some pitayas. I have "Nopalitos" (Prickly pear pads) for lunch, so I decided to take some fruits to complete my meal....let me tell you about:

In Mexico we call "pitaya" to a lot of fruits. The cacti from where they come is different in different regions, but all pitayas:

- 1.- Come from a cacti
- 2.- Are globosus fruit
- 3.- They are delightful

But we not call "pitaya" to Prickly pear (*Opuntia ficus indica*) fruit, we call it "tuna".

In the Northern-center of Mexico, where I live, *Echinocereus stramineus* is the "pitayo", so their fruit is the "pitaya". So people go to the natural places in search of the tasty and refreshing fruits. The flavor is something like the strawberry.

In my photobucket album you can see the picture of the plant and the dessert of my lunch

<http://i26.photobucket.com/albums/c105/mavaz/echstramineus.jpg>

<http://i26.photobucket.com/albums/c105/mavaz/pitaya.jpg>

You can also see the first dish in my lunch at

<http://i26.photobucket.com/albums/c105/mavaz/pnopalitoz.jpg>

I found baby Prickly pear pads (cladodes) ready to eat at local Wall Mart. They are soft boiled and then placed in vinegar with little pices of zucchini, onion, carrot and (of course) slices of chili. So I made a pair of tasty "burritos de nopal". They are good, and easy to eat, so "fast food" cacti is already in Mexico stores. I bought this just for know about this product, because we can have fresh cladodes to make it in a lot of ways.

At [www.noplaitoz.com](http://www.noplaitoz.com) you can find information about this company and what they sale... is interesting..

Bon Appetit”

# THIS and THAT

by Leo Pickoff

I think the expression is, “Into each life a little rain must fall.” No one told me it would be a deluge that would take out my external hard drive with all my word processor files in it and a lot more. Almost all of it is burned onto a disc using a software program called Roxio. I can’t restore the files and the people at Roxio haven’t answered by query on how to!

We have had weather since my last article. We have had lows in the 20s, highs in the 90s, and even some pleasant days in the 70s. Today, it made it to ninety. More of the same is predicted for the rest of the week. Today is May 20 and summer has arrived.,

Our flower garden is doing great. The hard freezes gave us an idea of what not to plant. Last year we got a late start. Now we have plants starting their second year of growth and they are really taking off. Flowers appeared and so did the butterflies.

The reason we have such a great garden is due to Lillian’s choice of plants and where to plant them. When we started with a lot of bare space in our flower beds, I was a great helper digging holes in this hard clay. With all the compost and mulch we have put in , the ground is richer and softer. That is just as well because so many of the flowers have dropped seeds and they are coming up. Now Lillian has to do all the digging since I can’t see well enough and she doesn’t want me stepping on the seedlings. To say the least, it is Lillian’s garden and we both can enjoy it.



*Lupinus texensis*, the Texas bluebonnet. We started with three small plants close to the edge of the edge of the bed and a couple of more further back. (I like to use “we” because you will think I had something to do with it.) They flowered and set seed. What you are looking at is

the second year. Obviously, the seeds germinated and we had a wonderful show of bluebonnets. Now we don’t have to drive out into the country to look for wildflowers. We have them right here. Almost everything we have in our garden are Texas natives, including Lillian and I.