



*Gates Cactus  
and  
Succulent Society*

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**DECEMBER 2006**

**NEXT MEETING: " WEDNESDAY " DECEMBER 6th**

**AT THE SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM**

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

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**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Are you ready for a wonderful evening? Our annual Christmas Pot-luck dinner is upon us and I can't wait. We get to kick the season off for our members every year with the festive evening. We will have the Rubidoux HS Madrigals again this year. Their entertainment perfectly highlights the season. Great food, enjoying the fellowship of the group, it doesn't get any better. Please look at the write up on the evening elsewhere in this Open Gates. We start earlier than regular meetings.

Our Auction was a big success! Thanks to all who donated plants, pots and jelly and to those who bought them. We bought \$1445 of stuff and that's the highest total in many years! Thanks again,

We will select a new recipient of the Hazel and Davis Newman Award at the December Pot-luck.

There is at least one nomination letter in this issue of the Open Gates. If you wish to nominate any other person or people, you must present a nomination letter to either Joe or myself prior to the start of the Pot-luck. It can be done electronically or by hand, but it must be prior to the start of festivities on the 6th.

Welcome to our two returning Board of Directors members, Judy Horne and Dan Griffith.

If I don't have the chance to do so personally, Merry Christmas to all members of the Gates C&SS and your families. I hope that you have a safe and wonderful season. See you at the meeting.

*Buck*

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**LEADERSHIP TEAM -- 2007**

**.MINI-SHOW AWARDS WILL BE PRESENTED IN DECEMBER**

At our December Christmas party the 10 persons with the highest point totals for the 2006 Mini-Shows will receive beautiful pots handcrafted **by Joe Wujcik**. Last year it was more fun and more of a surprise to announce the 10 winners at our Christmas party rather than publish the winners in this Open Gates. This year we will do the same! The results will then be printed in the January 2007 Open Gates Newsletter.

*Dennis Kucera*

**MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

**Joella Olson** joined Gates in 1998 after seeing an ad for our show while judging a garden show. She is a retired pharmacist who lives in Fallbrook. She belongs to the Fallbrook Garden Club, Fallbrook Gem and Mineral Society, Garden Club Judges Council, and the San Diego Iris Society. Joella's favorite cactus and succulent plants are rebutia and adromiscus.

**Margaret and Steve Avila** came to the recent Green Faire and joined Gates because of the friendly folks and to learn new things. Peggy is a potter and the Site Director for an after school program at Kimbark Elementary in Devore. Steve is an engineer with the San Bernardino City Fire Department. Peggy is a member of the Red Hat Society. Her first cactus purchase was a turkish cap. Peggy and Steve reside in Devore.

**---- QUOTE: Giving With Spirit**

**It's not how much we give  
but how much love we put into giving.**

**And Mother Teresa Said:  
Forgiveness is the final form of love.**



**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

**To all we send our best wishes.**

- 12/02 Paula Miller (??)
- 12/07 Barbara Lauck (64)
- 12/14 Tony Jones (62)
- 12/14 Clara Jones (62)
- 12/16 Gayle Lease (59)
- 12/19 Jacque Johnson (??)
- 12/21 Helen Teunissen (81)
- 12/25 Christmas
- 12/26 Dennis Bauers (54)
- 12/28 Dana Klatt (64)
- 12/29 Kathy Conway (55)
- 12/30 Stuart Lease (60)



We offer special good wishes to those having birthdays in December; they usually get short changed, being in the shadow of the Great Christmas Birthday.



**DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES**

- 12/09 Eleanor & Don Grecian (58)
- 12/21 Dana Klatt & David (11)
- 12/31 Barbara & Karl Lauck (27)

**Have a Great Celebration mixed in with  
all the other holiday activity!!**

**And remember:**

**A Love Shared  
Is A Love Doubled.**

# CHRISTMAS PARTY

Pretty much the same as last year and hopefully it will be as GOOD as last year.

Thanksgiving and the Black Friday Sales are barely behind us, and like it or not, it's time to plan for our Christmas Meeting. It is almost as late as it can be this year, on the sixth day of December.

This is our last get together for the year and usually a most joyous occasion. We will enjoy a terrific pot luck, finish up the remaining Society business matters and celebrate the achievements of Society Members. We will be entertained and receive a present. Hopefully the peace and serenity of the Christmas season will be with us to calm our concerns related to terrorism and unrest. Maybe, just maybe, some of this seasons peace, love, tranquility and harmony will rub off on the troubled spots around our world.

You newer members, read on. The old timers can zip ahead of the following items!

## Here are the Xmas Party details.

The Gates C&SS had a wonderful year and we will have a Great Big Party to close it out. December is here and our meeting time **is** near. We're going to have good food, good entertainment and good visiting to make for an enjoyable evening. With the Gates Society, we get to celebrate the earliest holiday party of the Christmas season, and it is less than a week away!. The potluck runs pretty much like the BBQ, that is, you bring a food dish, hot or cold, **AND/OR** a dessert dish. **The Society will provide sliced turkey**, with gravy and dressing and a **baked ham**, prepared by our members. We'll cover the preparers in the January Open Gates, and honor them next month.

In addition to those meat dishes prepared by volunteer members who have done a great job of

it in the past, We will have rolls and butter, and a large bowl of "smashed potatoes" ( I love to say that!). The Society will provide the drinks (hot coffee, hot tea plus a cold punch) and all the necessary plates and silverware, plastic, of course!. The great food we receive at the buffet line is not finger food. *You can be assured that the food and dessert will be fiesta quality and will be in great abundance.* You don't want to miss the December 6th Meeting. Start now to think about, "What should I bring? Which favorite dish of mine?" Then make it and bring it! Don't forget to put a serving tool in each dish (tape your name on the bottom of the dish).

**MOST IMPORTANT.** This meeting starts **earlier**, plan on being at the Museum by 6:15. That's 6:15 PM walking in the front door with your dishes!! We will then have only 15 minutes to set up and arrange the serving lines. Be prompt and be quick so we can begin **servicing at 6:30**. If we start on time, and if the events of the evening proceed in a reasonably timely manner, we be on our way home shortly after 9:00 PM.

The serving tables are always crowded, full of your great food dishes. **Someone**, most likely both **Eva Dye and Helen Hughes**, will be there, working on the setup, ask them if you want help, placing your offerings. Above all, **please try to be prompt** to avoid the upheaval necessary if we have to position your late dish on the serving table after our members have formed on both sides of the buffet tables and are filling their plates. **Please??**

**NEW MEMBERS.** *This is your special invitation--*

***new members, we want you to make the extra effort to attend this meeting;***

you will enjoy the evening and get to know the other members. Speaking of 'other members', please offer the 'new guys' a special greeting and show our hospitality by inviting them to join us at our tables so they can feel genuinely welcome in our Society and be with friends.



## CHRISTMAS PARTY PROGRAM.

The evening will be devoted to eating, drinking, voting, entertainment, and a lot of visiting. It will conclude with a free plant, a "Christmas Present" from your Society. Be sure you get a free ticket for this event. One ticket per member please.

At some point in the middle of the evening, hopefully, about 7:45pm, we will be treated to a great vocal program by the

### Rubidoux High School Madrigal Singers.

This wonderful Choral Group will probably invite us to join in on a few Christmas Carols. Better warm up your voice now.

Our President, Buck Hemenway, made the arrangements, and will tell us about the group when he introduces them. We loved them over the last few years!! We can expect an exciting and entertaining half hour with them and we look forward to their encore performance.



### ONE FINAL WORD ON THE PARTY.

*This is a membership only affair.* Membership means dues paid members, (Yr2006), their families, and *their house guests.*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND A VERY  
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**FRIENDSHIP  
IS A GROWING THING  
THAT BLOSSOMS EVERYWHERE**

**Yr 2007 DUES ARE DUE**, and will be accepted by our **Membership Person, Joe C.** Dues are **\$12.00, individual or family.** You **must** renew by 3/15/07 for continued membership and to be included on the **Yr 2007 Membership List.** *Yes, there will be one this year.*

The December meeting is busy, but if you wish to renew your membership during this meeting, fill out the renewal form, give **Joe C.** a check, No Cash!



### ELECTIONS

Last month before the Auction, we elected the proposed slate of Officers. Because there were no other candidates from the floor they were elected by acclamation.. We will 'swear them in at this meeting. Those elected to serve for two years were:

- Board Member: Dan Griffith 2007-08
- Board Member: Judy Horne 2007-08

Congratulate and Thank our two new Directors when you see them.

The two carry over Directors, who will serve one more year, are Joe Casey and Dennis Kucera.

## HAZELLE & DAVIS NEWMAN AWARD.

## CSSA Promotional Article

Each year at the Christmas Party (December Meeting) we vote for a Society member(s) to receive this award of honor. NO nominations will be taken from the floor The nominations have to be written and given to Pres. Buck., or Joe C. The nominations received, are published in this December O/G, and will be read by the President. We'll then vote and announce the winner during the Christmas Party. The Award will be presented during the January 2007 Meeting.



### **NOMINATIONS**, for 2006— One Received.

I nominate Chris and Karen Roholt for the Newman Award. They have been members since March 2001 and have been actively involved in most of the Gates Society Activities ever since. Karen took over the very important position of Treasurer in 2003. She is always up to date with her record keeping, reports our financial health to the Board and insures that Society obligations are paid promptly. Joe says he appreciate this as his "Open Gates" publication expenses are paid when presented.

Karen and Chris have taken on the task of providing the cold drinks at our major events. This is no small endeavor as it includes positioning three large coolers filled with ice, soda and water. After the coolers are filled and in place for the Green Faire, the Roholts set about selling raffle tickets. This fund raiser provides coverage for The Judges Lunch and drinks for the working members. To increase ticket sales, Chris has become our most recognizable salesman as he walks among the visitors in his 'sandwich man' signs. He is ruthless and tireless in his pursuit of greater ticket sales. And encouraged by Karen!

In respect of their many hours preparing and performing these activities for our benefit, we should honor them with The Newman Award of Merit.  
Helen Hughes

CSSA's big event in a non-convention year is the Annual Show and Sale held at the Huntington Botanical Garden on 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. According to long-time aficionados, the show this year was the best in a dozen years and, indeed, it featured some of the most spectacular succulent plants I've ever seen. Sales, with over 20 vendors represented, were brisk, even though the weather was hot by California (not Texas) standards, but I haven't been informed as to whether they were as good as the previous year. Most board members, even those from elsewhere in the country, were on hand to help out in any way we could and that's a long-standing tradition. Folks in other parts of the country may well say that the show and sale is just a southern California affair, which it largely is, but the board has been discussing the possibility of regional shows sponsored by CSSA, so maybe someday there will be one in your neighborhood.

My last promotional article featured the CSSA Journal, so I thought it might be appropriate to say a bit about the CSSA Newsletter, "To the Point," a publication which CSSA members also receive along with the journal. Under the able editorship of Peter Bockenthien, the newsletter features a number of articles of interest to the general cactus and succulent hobbyist. Perusing recent issues, one can see that there are several regularly appearing columns, one by fellow board member Tom Glavich, who writes a beginners column on the cultivation of various groups of succulents, recently straight-spined mammillarias, agaves, and North American cerioid cacti. Another regularly appearing feature is the column by Roger Brown, retired veterinarian and talented succulent grower from the Omaha area. He offers much valuable advice on growing our favorite plants and occasionally provides always illuminating philosophical comments. Dan Mahr, our peripatetic president usually has interesting observations on plants he meets during his travels, as well. (See his column "Points to Ponder").

Each issue of the newsletter tends to feature a calendar of upcoming events and at least once a year an informative list of all the CSSA Affiliate Societies appears. Updates on seed availability from the Seed Depot appear quite regularly, as well.

Other articles of particular interest in recent issues include a lengthy two-part series on "A Four Corners Odyssey," a pre-convention tour offered with the Scottsdale Convention in 2005; an article on the history of greenhouses; and a summary of the results of the Affiliate Member Survey conducted in 2005. Here you can find out what CSSA members find of value in their CSSA membership. So, hopefully from this brief survey, readers will see that there is much information of value provided by the CSSA Newsletter. Join CSSA and receive your very own copy.

Bob Barth, Publicity Chair, CSSA Board of Directors