

CACTUS CHRONICLE



MISSION STATEMENT

The Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society (LACSS) cultivates the study & enjoyment of cacti & succulent plants through educational programs & activities that promote the hobby within a community of fellow enthusiasts & among the greater public.

This month:

SUCCULENTS: Liberated in the Ground or Constrained Containers?

with Ernesto Sandoval

As with much of life there are benefits and challenges the choices that we make and how we grow our succulents is part of that. Without getting too philosophical about life's choices Ernesto will explore the benefits of growing succulents in the ground versus in containers. There are reasons for doing both and we'll explore, visually the results and challenges of each option. Ernesto will take you through these options using examples of growing plants in the collections of the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory in Northern California, where Ernesto cares for a plethora of plants, as well as examples from private and public growers and gardeners.



**PLEASE SEND ME PHOTOS OF YOUR AZTEKIUMS,
GEOHINTONIAS, PACHYPODIUMS FROM
MADAGASCAR & PLUMERIA! TO BE FEATURED
IN OUR NEXT ISSUE!** (REPLY TO THIS EMAIL)

PLEASE READ ALL EMAIL UPDATES IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, A ZOOM LINK ALONG WITH INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE POSTED IN AN EMAIL BLAST EARLY IN THE WEEK, THIS WILL TAKE YOU TO OUR VIRTUAL MEETING ON THURSDAY! FEEL FREE TO ASK ME ANY QUESTIONS, CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU ALL!!!

-Kimberly



ERNESTO SANDOVAL



Ernesto Sandoval has been wondering and seeking questions and answers to why plants grow and look the way that they do for nearly 40 years.

Now he explains and interprets the world of plants to a variety of ages and from amateur to professional gardeners. He regularly lectures to a variety of western Garden Clubs throughout the year and particularly to Succulent Clubs throughout California.

Desert plants are his particular passion within his general passion for plants. He describes himself as a "Jose of All Plants, Master of None" and loves learning from the experiences of others as well as his own. Ernesto thoroughly enjoys helping others, and gardeners in particular, to understand why and how plants do what they do.



When he was about 13 he asked his dad why one tree was pruned a particular way and another tree another way. His dad answered bluntly "because that's the way you do it." Since then he's been learning and teaching himself the answers to those and many other questions by getting a degree at UC Davis in Botany and working from student weeder/waterer to Director over the last 30 years at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory.

He's long left the "mow blow and go" monoculture landscape gardening world and has immersed himself in the world of horticultural biodiversity by growing several thousand types of plants at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, many of them succulents! Several of his favorite garden projects involved converting lawns and or water loving landscapes to drought tolerant an diversity filled gardens! He likes to promote plant liberation by encouraging gardeners of all sorts to grow more plants in the ground when possible. He loves the technical language of Botany but prefers to relate information in more understandable methods of communication! By helping people to understand the workings of plants he hopes to help us better understand how to and why our plants do what they do and how we can maximize their growth with less effort.



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MEETING REFRESHMENTS**POM PLANT DESCRIPTIONS**

Kyle Williams

A Word From Our President



Greetings to Everyone,

Has everyone finished their backyard projects yet? Not me! I am very skilled in making a mountain out of a mole hill. What started out as a minor clean-up after the tree trimmers left has turned into a complete revamping of the entire cactus and succulent placement. Do we ever learn? One of our members posted a photo of Agave-caused damage to her arm. Lots of blood – little sympathy from those who saw it. Several years ago, LACSS held a Saturday session cleaning the Sepulveda Garden Center Cactus Garden. I chose to clean out the weeds from a mound of Agaves. By the time we were finished, I looked like the poster person for “why you should not have Agaves.” Moral – use appropriate Personal Protective Equipment.

Today’s joke – instead of photos for our POM segment, maybe we should send in photos of injuries caused by our plant collections.

Have you taken advantage of the several on-line programs offered by CSSA and LACSS? Consensus has it that they have been very entertaining and informative. It’s not like being there in person, but the quality of each program has been top notch. We have not heard any news regarding allowing large groups to meet any time soon which means this is our way of life for now. I do miss seeing everyone and feeling the energy that is generated at our live meetings.

Our monthly meetings will continue to be via ZOOM on Thursday, log in at 6:00 PM. Saturday Sessions will be scheduled in between the CSSA’s “every other Saturday” Zoom program.

When was the last time you checked out our website? Our webmistress, Nancy Neymark, continues to update it and add new features. Each month she will be adding new entries to the “Glossary” and maybe someday she will include a quiz. That part is still under construction.

So far, I think LACSS has fared well with the pandemic restrictions. We are continuing to offer excellent speakers, hold Board meetings, communicate with other clubs, plan for the future, and keep our eyes on our plants and their well-being. Throughout all this, we have managed to stay positive because of the participation and positive feedback from our members after each presentation. This has encouraged everyone to continue our efforts to fulfill our Mission Statement.

Hope to see you at our next meeting. In the meantime, stay safe, healthy and positive.

Sincerely,
Joyce, LACSS President

TIPS FOR ZOOM

SIGNING ON

- You do NOT need to have a Zoom account. Just click on the link that is emailed to you and your screen will open in Zoom.
- Some meetings may require passwords, sent via email
THE LACSS MEETING WILL NOT REQUIRE A PASSWORD.
- If your internet connection is weak you can use your phone to dial the number shown on the Zoom invitation.
- If you sign in early, you'll see a message that says "Host will join soon."



NAVIGATING ON SCREEN

- VIEW: Toggle between Speaker View or Gallery View, click on screen to enlarge it or find the "full screen" icon. I pads may not be able to show all participants simultaneously, so you may have to scroll to the left or right. The speaker will automatically show in any case.
- MUTE – keep your screen on mute unless you are speaking. Host has the ability to "mute" all.
- STOP VIDEO – to temporarily turn it off and not appear on the screen
- PARTICIPANTS – gives a list of names of all participants
- CHAT – Talk to one person or everyone. Remember to turn in back to "everyone" option in order to be included on future messages. Message is sent when you push the "enter" or "return" key.
- RECORD – requires permission from all participants, can be done only by the host. Recording can be given to anyone who misses the meeting.
- REACTIONS – show you agree with thumbs up; hand can be used to say something or to applaud a comment. Goes off automatically after a few seconds.

OTHER TIPS

- Look at the webcam when you are speaking, and try to stay relatively still
- If you want to ask questions during the meeting, please use the "chat" function
- Assign a chat monitor so that questions asked on chat will not be overlooked
- Phones should be on "mute" when the speaker is presenting

SECURITY

- When you use "share screen", going into your directory to search for document can be seen by all. Have your document ready and open behind the Zoom screen.
- Chat messages for one person can be seen by the host if the meeting is recorded.
- Recording requires permission of all
- Never post a meeting publicly
- Lock the participants when everyone is on

LET'S LEARN

Want to understand more words you see (or hear) in relation to cacti and succulents?? Of course you do. Here are two words that will add to the fun of our hobby.

CAUDEX AND CAUDICIFORM

What the heck do those words mean? For a quick answer go to the LACSS website at lacactus.com and click on the "Glossary" tab near the top of the page. More Let's Learn coming soon!

That's all for now.
Nancy N
Web Mistress

PLANT^{of the} MONTH CORRECTIONS

Here's a list of plant ID corrections from June POM:

Crassula "little Freddie" = *Lapidaria margaretae*. Gretchen Davis.

Crassula mesembryanthemiopsis not to confuse with *Crassula mesembryanthemoides*. Gretchen Davis.

Haworthia reinwartia = *Haworthia reinwardtia* named after Adrian Haworth and Caspar Reinwardt English and Dutch Botanists of the 19th Century. G D.

Fenestraria 'baby toes' = *Fenestraria aurantiaca*. MA Bjarkman.

Opuntia variegated = *Opuntia monacantha*. Ron Cooper.

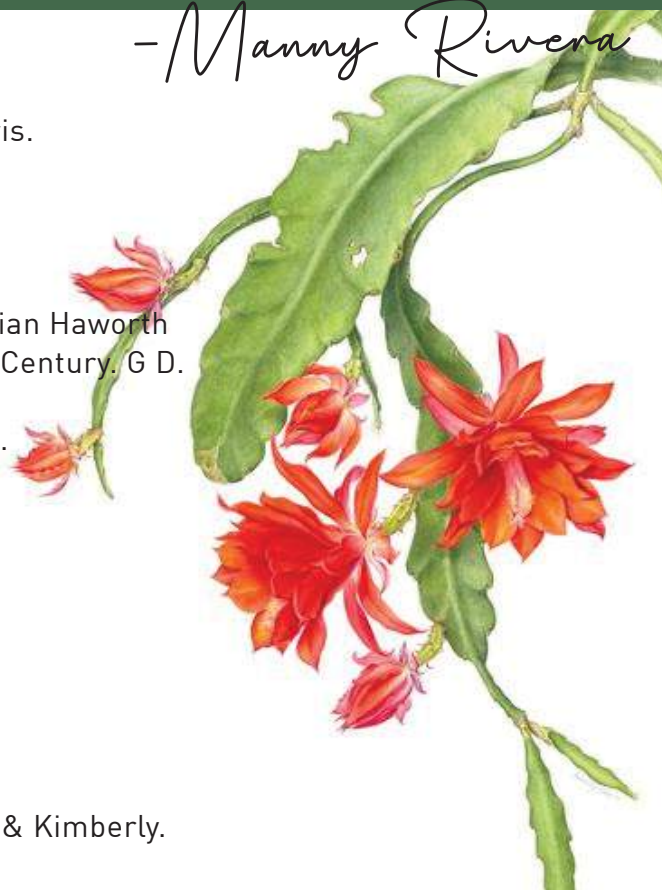
Oroya borchersii = *Oroya peruviana*. Ron Cooper.

? Al Mindel = *Haworthia fasciata* cv/var concolor.

? Al Mindel = *Echeveria minima*.

Gymnocalycium paraguayense = *Gymnocalycium horstii*. Collin & Kimberly.

-Manny Rivera



AUGUST PLANT^{of the} MONTH

AZTEKIUMS, GEOHINTONIAS, PACHYPODIUMS FROM
MADAGASCAR & PLUMERIA

PLANT^{of the} MONTH SUBMISSIONS

THESE PHOTOS HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR THE CHRONICLE, PLEASE ATTEND LACSS FIRST ZOOM MEETING ON JULY 2ND TO VIEW ALL SUBMISSIONS!



OPUNTIA CRESTA
RON COOPER



HAWORTHIA LIMIFOLIA VAR
RON BEHAR



ECHINOPSIS SP.
RICH SCHMITTDIEL



PSEUDOLITHOS MIGIURTINUS
JOHN VAN UNEN



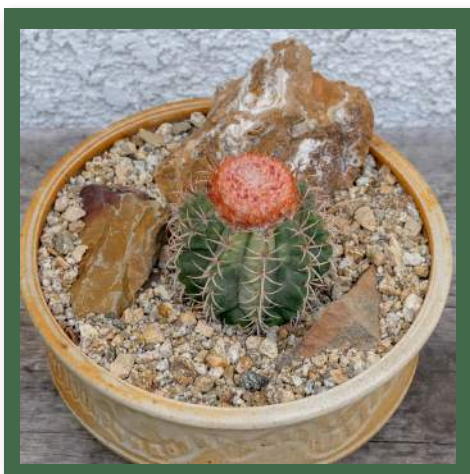
COPIAPOA HASELTONIA
JOHN VAN UNEN



REBUTIA KRAINZIANUS
FREDDIE + JONICE ANDERSON



PACHYPODIUM ROSULATUM VAR. GRACILIS
JOHN VAN UNEN



MELOCACTUS MATANZANUS
JOHN VAN UNEN



PSEUDOBOMBAX ELLIPTICUM
JIM DEGEETER

PLANT^{of the} MONTH SUBMISSIONS

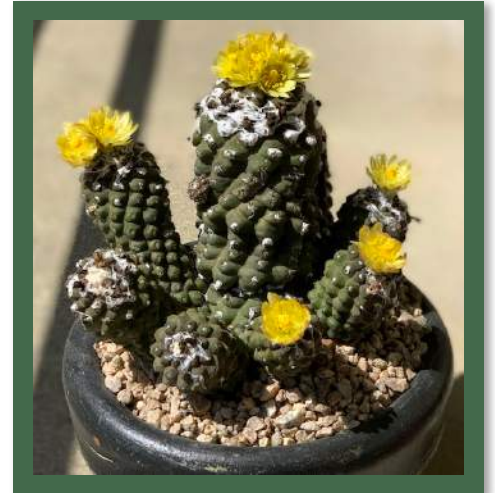
THESE PHOTOS HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR THE CHRONICLE, PLEASE ATTEND LACSS FIRST ZOOM MEETING ON JULY 2ND TO VIEW ALL SUBMISSIONS!



TRICHO CERUS GRANDIFLORUS
SOFIA LIMON



ECHEVERIA CUBIC FROST MONTROSE
AL MINDEL



COPIAPOA HYPOGAEA V. BARQUITENSIS
EMILY AKERS



ALOE SP.
BONNIE IKEMURA



COPIAPOA SP. CREST
EMILY AKERS



ABROMEITIELLA BREVI FOLIA
BONNIE IKEMURA



ALOE DYCKIA HYBRID (SEED GROWN)
BRYAN CHAN



ERIOCEPHALA MAGNIFICA
GRETCHEN DAVIS



ACANTHOCALYCIUM GLAUCUM
KAREN OSTLER

PLANT^{of the} MONTH SUBMISSIONS

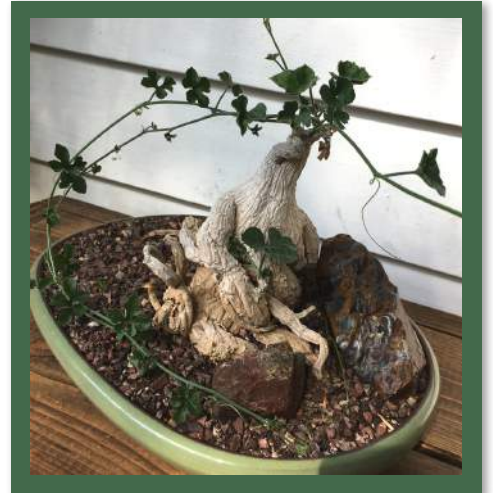
THESE PHOTOS HAVE BEEN SELECTED FOR THE CHRONICLE, PLEASE ATTEND LACSS FIRST ZOOM MEETING ON JULY 2ND TO VIEW ALL SUBMISSIONS!



TEPHROCACTUS GEOMETRICUS
KIM + ARTIE CHAVEZ



RAUSCHIA PULVINATA
KAREN OSTLER



IBERVILLEA SONORAE 'PENINSULAE'
COLLIN O'CALLAGHAN + KIMBERLY GOMEZ-TONG



ASTROPHYTUM ASTERIAS CV. HANAZONO
COLLIN O'CALLAGHAN + KIMBERLY GOMEZ-TONG



EUPHORBIA KNUTHII
COLLIN O'CALLAGHAN + KIMBERLY GOMEZ-TONG



ARIOCARPUS SP. CRISTATA
KIM + ARTIE CHAVEZ



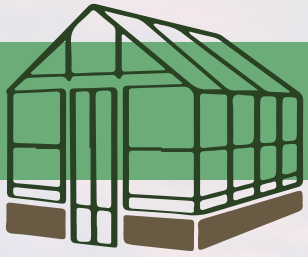
ARIOCARPUS SP. CRISTATA
KIM + ARTIE CHAVEZ



MYRTILLOCALYCIUM 'POLYP'
RON BEHAR



TURBINICARPUS PSEUDOPECTINATUS
EMILY AKERS



GREENHOUSE NOTES

BY KAREN OSTLER

Summer is here. I shouldn't be surprised when it arrives, but for some reason I always am. I have been working mornings in the greenhouse cleaning up after a long cold winter, pouring Dawn and water on the ants that decided that the greenhouse was a nice place to live when it was cold, a yearly battle.

And the ground squirrels! Yeow! They moved in; digging under the greenhouse and undermining the pavers. Dirty kitty litter. Yeah, I know gross, but it smells like a predator and it mostly works if you shove it down the nest hole and then water it in. Smells funky, but the squirrels don't like it either and dig a new hole out and move along. Over Memorial weekend we had a gopher snake sunning on the front porch and we enlisted him in rodent control as well, picking him up and introducing him to another ground squirrel nest in the back, in he went and we haven't had a problem with that nest since. Not a problem most of you will ever encounter.

But I know from living in the Valley that there are lots of other things nibbling on your plants; rat, mice, birds, grasshoppers, slugs and snails. I'll occasionally get a field mouse in the greenhouse and they are as destructive as heck. I use a live trap baited with peanut butter and a chocolate chip, works every time. Snails and slugs can be trapped with a lid full of beer; it will catch roly-pollies too. Birds are a little more difficult; they love sedum leaves and will pick them completely or make holes in them, old CDs hung from a string will keep them away, but you have to keep moving them around the yard, otherwise they get used to them and aren't afraid. For grasshoppers and other true bugs, a mix of Dawn (again, yeah, I know but it works) and water mixed with a little hot sauce works wonders.

One thing you aren't thinking of that will damage your plants is sunlight. If you have plants that have been shaded by your house during the winter, make sure they aren't exposed to full sunlight without being eased in to it. And be careful with plants up against a south wall, you can get reflected sunlight that will burn the back side. And be careful with your plants in plastic pots, a hot day can cook a plant in a plastic pot in a single day.

Walk around your yard and check your plants, give them all a little love; and they will reward you by growing well.

Stay safe, stay home and stay healthy.

Happy growing,
Karen

SECOND SATURDAYS *with LACSS*

WE ARE HAPPY TO ANNOUNCE THAT JANE EVANS OF LIVING STONES NURSERY IN TUCSON, ARIZONA WILL BE GIVING A PROGRAM ON THE CULTIVATION OF LITHOPS.

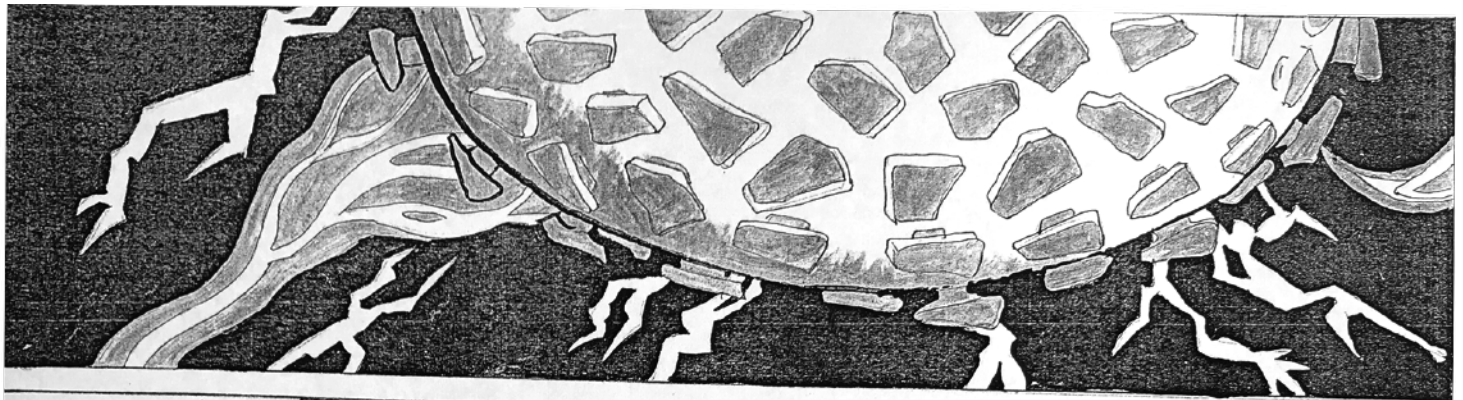
**SATURDAY, JULY 18TH
10:00AM**

A BLAST WILL BE SENT OUT AGAIN!

JOIN ZOOM MEETING
[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/83981814930](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83981814930)

MEETING ID: 839 8181 4930
ONE TAP MOBILE
+16699009128,83981814930# US (SAN JOSE)
+12532158782,83981814930# US (TACOMA)

DIAL BY YOUR LOCATION
+1 669 900 9128 US (SAN JOSE)
+1 253 215 8782 US (TACOMA)
+1 346 248 7799 US (HOUSTON)
+1 301 715 8592 US (GERMANTOWN)
+1 312 626 6799 US (CHICAGO)
+1 646 558 8656 US (NEW YORK)
MEETING ID: 839 8181 4930



Mealy bugs And Spider Mites,
weeds and root-rot -- GRRR!

Maybe I should have stayed with collecting
Chotskies; at least it would have fit in with
Staying at home during covin 19.

On the other hand there is that
Cute guy at the club. Maybe he
Can teach me grafting

Decisions, decisions ---
It's not easy being me.

RALPH ALLEN MASSEY