

C A C T U S CHRONICLE

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 4

VOL. 92 ISSUE 2

MONTHLY PROGRAM

TOM GLAVICH

Exploring Euphorbias



ARID PLANTS A-Z

ELI COHEN

Remember to bring in
your problem plants, plant ID
+ special interest plants



**REFRESHMENTS
THIS MONTH:
LAST NAMES
BEGINNING WITH
'A' AND 'D'**

MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE HELD EVERY FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

MEETING START TIME: 7PM, DOORS OPEN AT 6:15PM

ONE GENERATION: 18255 VICTORY BLVD. RESEDA CA.

Refreshments!

It is a collective effort and responsibility each month to supply our members with sustenance,

THIS BRINGS US TO THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY AND THE ALPHABET ASSIGNMENT IS FOR THE MONTH IS LAST NAMES BEGINNING WITH LETTERS "A & D"

If your last name begins with that letter, please bring something to share, enough for approximately 10 people. If you'd like to bring more that is okay too.

To facilitate set-up and clean-up, we ask that your contribution be in individual portions and/or a disposable container. At the end of the meeting, all leftovers, including containers, will be discarded. If you are available to help set up or tear down the refreshment center, please see me at the meeting at the Refreshment Table.

If you are unable to contribute, the club will also have a jar/bowl at the refreshment table if you would like to donate money so that the club can continue to supplement refreshments brought by the attendees.

February - Members whose last name begins with "A, D"

March - Members whose last name begins with "B"

April - Members whose last name begins with "C"

May - Members whose last name begins with "E, H"

June - Members whose last name begins with "F, G, I"

July - Members whose last name begins with "J, K, L"

Aug - Members whose last name begins with "M"

Sept - Members whose last name begins with "O, P, R"

Oct - Members whose last name begins with "S, T, U, V"

Nov - Members whose last name begins with "W, N, Q, Y, Z"



Photo credit: Tom Glavich

**THIS MONTH'S
PROGRAM**



EXPLORING EUPHORBIAS

This presentation looks at Euphorbias from South Africa, Madagascar, Northern Africa and North America, to see the similarities that define the genus as well as the differences that geography and thousands of years of isolation make to their appearance. We will have short digressions on cultivation and staging, and end with a quick look at a few habitat plants.

**T H I S
M O N T H ' S
S P E A K E R**

TOM GLAVICH



Tom Glavich is a long time grower and propagator of succulent plants. He is a member of several LA based clubs, is part of the Inter-City Show committee and has two books published by the Cactus and Succulent Society. He was Vice President and a CSSA Board member for several years.



Photo credit: Tom Glavich

FROM THE MESSAGE PRESIDENT

I trust this message finds you all in good spirits. With the winter chill settling in and all the rain, I couldn't help but think about our resilient succulents. As the temperatures dropped, hopefully most of your plants survived and were able to withstand the cold. It's fascinating how these hardy plants adapt to different conditions.

Cacti and succulents are no strangers to harsh conditions, but it's always interesting to learn from each other's experiences. Did you implement any specific measures to protect them from the cold? Perhaps relocating them to a warmer spot or adjusting their watering routine?

If you get a chance, I'd love to hear how your cacti are faring. How are your winter growers doing, and how did the others do? Are they showing signs of resilience, or did they suffer frost bite? At the February 1st meeting, ask Eli your questions! We have a wealth of knowledge, and wonderful resources for you to learn from at our club. Just come and ask your questions.

Opportunities will be coming up in the near future. We will be needing help for our April sale. I hope that you will all consider volunteering. There will be lots to do. It will be a whole weekend of sales, auctions, and hopefully a kid's day program too.

Hope to see you all at the upcoming meeting February 1st.

Warm regards,
Cande Friedman



OF BOARD DIRECTORS

2 0 2 4

LACSS 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.

PRESIDENT

Cande Friedman

PAST PRESIDENT

Artie Chavez + Joyce Schumann

1ST VP, PROGRAMS

Ron Behar

2ND VP, PLANT OF THE MONTH

Manny Rivera

3RD VP, EDUCATION

Desiree Alexander + Emily Diebold

SECRETARY

Kate Eplboim

TREASURER

Nick Steinhardt

DIRECTOR 1 MEMBERSHIP

Kelsey Osterman

DIRECTOR 2 SPECIAL EVENTS

Jim Esterle

CACTUS CHRONICLE EDITOR

Kimberly Gomez-Tong
newsletter@lacactus.com

MEETING REFRESHMENTS

Angela Clubb + Nikki Bova

CSSA LIAISON

Roxie Esterle

SALE + FESTIVAL CHAIR

Kimberly Gomez-Tong

INTER-CITY REPRESENTATIVES

Manny Rivera
with Artie Chavez + Kimberly Gomez-Tong

MONTHLY DRAWING

Al Mindel

PLANT PROCUREMENT

Collin O'Callaghan

HISTORIAN

Sandy Chase

AWARDS DINNER CHAIR

Vacant

LIBRARIAN

Joyce Schumann

POM PLANT DESCRIPTIONS

Kyle Williams

SOCIAL MEDIA COMMITTEE

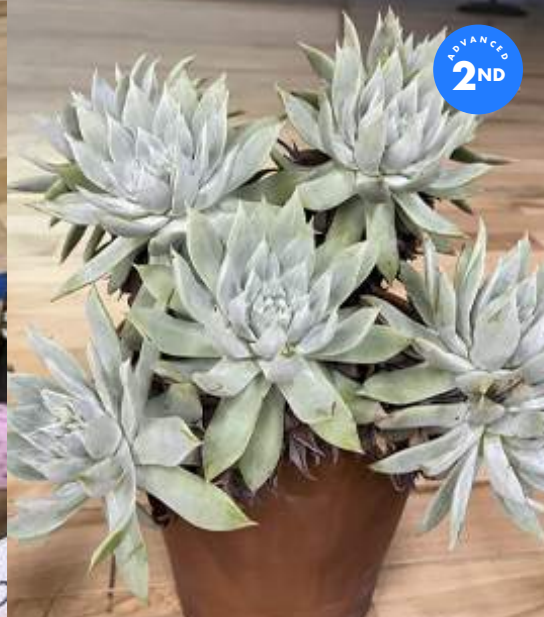
Kim Thorpe Chavez
Kate Eplboim
Kimberly Gomez-Tong





NOVICE
1ST

GLENN MURRAY
DUDLEYA BRITTONII



ADVANCED
2ND

ROXIE + JIM ESTERLE
DUDLEYA CANDIDA



NOVICE
1ST

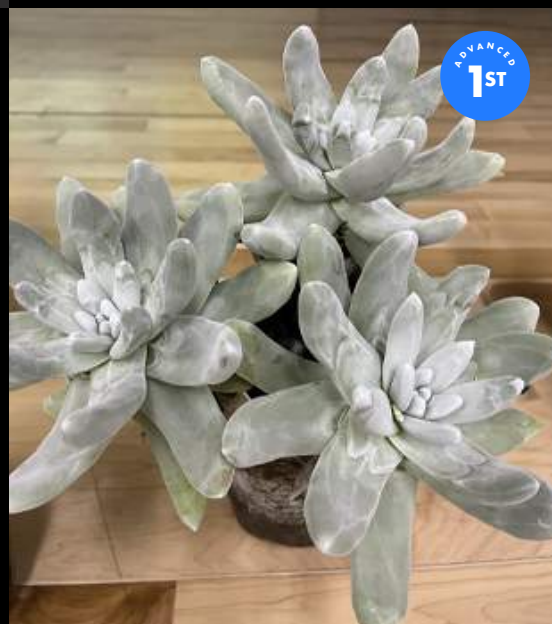
DESIREE ALEXANDER
BLOSSFELDIA LILIPUTANA



OPEN / MASTER
1ST

KAREN AND MARTIN OSTLER
BLOSSFELDIA LILIPUTANA

JANUARY
PLANT OF THE MONTH
BLOSSFELDIA, YAVIA
DUDLEYA, COTYLEDON
WINNERS



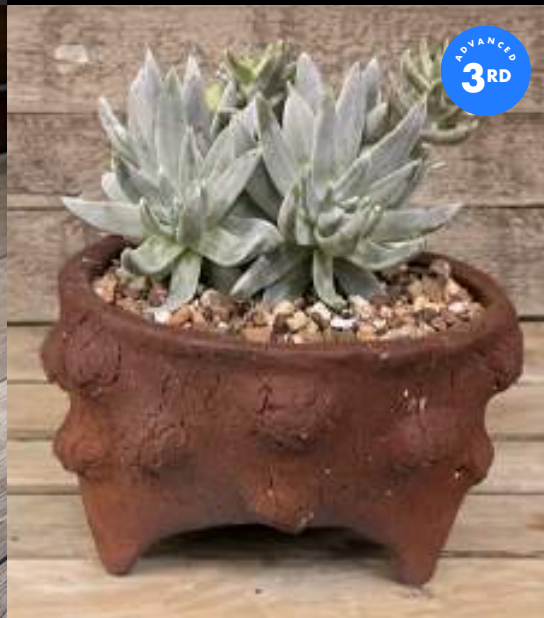
ADVANCED
1ST

ROXIE + JIM ESTERLE
DUDLEYA PACHYPHYTUM



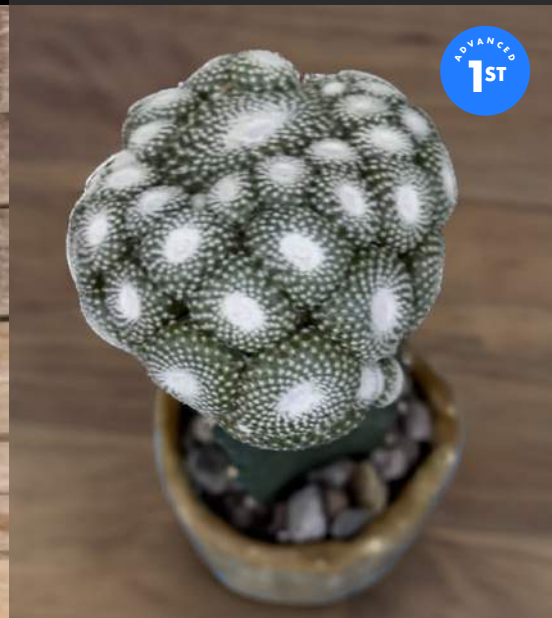
NOVICE
2ND

KENT BUTTERWORTH
DUDLEYA BRITTONII



ADVANCED
3RD

BONNIE IKEMURA
DUDLEYA GNOMA



ADVANCED
1ST

AL MINDEL
BLOSSFELDIA LILIPUTANA

2024

JANUARY

Blossfeldia, Yavia
Dudleya, Cotyledon

FEBRUARY

Mammillaria Hook Spine
Cheiridopsis, Dinteranthus

MARCH

Copiapoa
Tulista, Astroloba

APRIL

Cacti of Baja California
Succulents of Baja California Mex

MAY

Cacti staged as miniature
Succulent staged as miniature
(Diameter of pot
NO LARGER THAN 3")

JUNE

Favorites

JULY

Opuntia North America
Jatropha, Pedilanthus

AUGUST

Neochilenia, Neoporteria
Commiphora, Boswellia

SEPTEMBER

Ariocarpus
Fockea, Ipomoea

OCTOBER

Trichocereus
Hoya, Ceropegia, Dischidia

NOVEMBER

Variiegated

DECEMBER

Holiday Awards Party

PLANT OF THE MONTH



P L A N T O F T H E M O N T H

MAMMILLARIA WITH HOOKED SPINES

B Y K Y L E W I L L I A M S

Mammillaria is quite possibly the most popular genus of cacti, and is usual one of the first succulents a person buys. There are several reasons for this. With nearly 200 species, Mammillaria is one of the larger genera in the Cactaceae, which means there is an enormous amount of variety to choose from. Some species are fingernail size, others solitary globular plants, some are straight spined, some form sizeable clumps, while others are heavily spined with hooks. It is these hook spine species, often called fishhooks, that we focus on this month.

Mammillarias, both straight and hooked spined, are ubiquitous at any nursery, big box store, or even supermarket that sells plants. Most species are small, easy to grow, and have a “cute” factor that make even non-gardeners want to buy one for their patio or windowsill. The most commonly grown species are also quite tolerant of abuse and neglect. Hooked spine species such as *M. bombicyna* have an attractive contrast between the small white radial spines and the large hooked spine. Be careful handling these plants as the spines act like sharp velcro and will stick to your fingers very easily and are a pain to remove. While some fishhook species are closely related, two species having hooks does not necessarily mean they are more related to each other than to straight spine species.

One of the most distinctive features of Mammillaria are flowers born in the axils of the tubercles that as a group form a ring around the stem. They are usually small, but many can be open at once providing a nice display. Flowers range in color from white and yellow to pink and red. Other species have orange, salmon, or even bicolor flowers.

Mammillaria ranges from Columbia all the way to Canada. Approximately ten species are found in the south western portion of the United States, including California. The heart of Mammillaria diversity is Mexico however. Most species occur there and you can see the full range of variation the genus has to offer. While some species are extremely hardy (particularly the North American species), others are more frost sensitive. Almost all Mammillaria will do just fine in Southern California, with little or no winter protection, as long as they are potted in a freely draining potting mix. If you live in areas that get hard frost in the winter (e.g. the Antelope Valley) be sure to check the frost tolerance of your species.

The secrets to good growth are a continual supply of water and fertilizer during the growing season (typically from March through October), strong light, intense heat if available, and maintenance of a clean and insect free growing environment. Many people starve and under water their plants, in attempt to avoid rot. Most Mammillaria will take quite a bit of water and fertilizer when in growth. During the summer heat growth slows for a time, picking up again when the weather cools, before stopping around Thanksgiving.



Mammillaria bombicyna



Mammillaria saffordii



Mammillaria duwei

CHEIRIDOPSIS & DINTERANTHUS

B Y K Y L E W I L L I A M S

*Dinteranthus wilmotianus**Dinteranthus vanzylii*

For this month's succulent we look at two lesser known Mesemb genera that are definitely worth growing, Cheiridopsis and Dinteranthus. Both are native to western South Africa and southern Namibia.

Cheiridopsis are often called Ice Plants, but not to worry, the terrible beach weeds we see in California called Ice Plant are a totally different genus of Mesembs known as *Carpobrotus*. So, these are safe to grow without hurting the environment. There are around 100 species in the genus. Most are low growing, clumping plants that can form a ground cover in time. Generally, the leaves are fleshy and finger-like in being long and narrow but rounded. While most species have leaves of that basic shape, some buck that trend, such as *Cheiridopsis peculiaris* which has broad flattened leaves and doesn't really spread. Many species are a pale blue to white color as long as they are given sufficient light. They also have pellucid dots on the leaves which add additional interest. A curious feature of the genus is that each set of leaves is slightly to greatly different in appearance to the pair of leaves that came before it. Sometimes they are just a little shorter or wider, other times they look way different and even form a sheath-like structure. For the winter growing species that go dormant in the summer this sheath dries out at the end of the growing season and protects the next year's growth. The new growth will emerge in the fall and the dried-up leaves of the previous year crumble away.

Dinteranthus is a small genus of approximately six species that look similar to, and are close relatives of, *Lithops*, the Living Stones. The technical characters that separate it from *Lithops* include a line or ridge (keel) on the back of the leaves in most species, much smaller seeds, and the cotyledons (seed leaves) being more bubble like or pronounced than on *Lithops*. Given that two characters (seeds and seedlings) aren't always around and hard to see when they are, combined with a third character (keels) that are usually but not always there, you'd think it might be hard to tell them apart. Fortunately, in five of the six species this isn't a problem at all. Those five species have leaves that are more rounded and upright than any *Lithops*. They are often a purplish or bluish color and may even have polka dots! Often, they retain their old leaves for months or up to a year, compared to *Lithops* that soon lose their old leaves once the new ones form. Other than being little mesembs with plump leaves they are quite distinct. Since that would make things too easy, now we have to look at *Dinteranthus vanzylii*! This species looks nearly identical to *Lithops*, so much so that it was originally named *Lithops vanzylii* and only later determined to belong to *Dinteranthus*. Honestly, this is the one time you have to use the seed and seedling characters to prove it isn't a *Lithops*. In practical terms as a succulent enthusiast just accept it is a *Dinteranthus* but otherwise don't think about it. The good news is that *D. vanzylii* and the rest of the genus require the same care as *Lithops*, and you can happily grow them alongside each other.

*Cheiridopsis speciosa*



LACSS ANNOUNCES A CUSTOM FIELD TRIP TO

SOFI STADIUM

FOR AN EXCLUSIVE LANDSCAPE, ARCHITECTURE,
AND SUSTAINABILITY TOUR

**SPACE IS
LIMITED!**



MARCH 23

MEET AT THE STADIUM AT 9:30AM
FOR A 2 1/2 HOUR TOUR

LACSS MEMBER COST: \$20.00 SPECIAL RATE

REGISTRATION IS LIMITED, FIRST COME FIRST SERVE

Reserve your space NOW by contacting
Jim Esterle, LACSS Director of Special Events
jimesterle@gmail.com

Blooming Knowledge

EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS BY THE LOS ANGELES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

The Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society (LACSS) is proud to invite plant enthusiasts, gardeners, and curious minds alike to join us on a journey of exploration and learning through our educational workshops. As an organization committed to the appreciation and conservation of cacti and succulents, these workshops aim to empower participants with knowledge and hands-on experience, fostering a deeper understanding of these unique and resilient plants.

OUR EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS SPAN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, EACH MONTH FEATURING A DIFFERENT THEME AND EXPERT SPEAKER. LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AT WHAT AWAITS ATTENDEES IN THE COMING MONTHS:

JANUARY

Photography with Brian Gold:
January's workshop focuses on capturing the allure of cacti and succulents through the lens of acclaimed photographer Brian Gold.



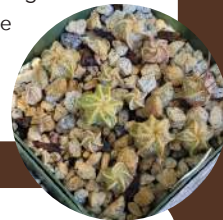
FEB + MARCH

We pause our workshops for essential activities such as cleanup at Sandy's and an engaging field trip. These events not only contribute to the community but also provide participants with an opportunity to witness the diverse habitats that support cacti and succulents.

APRIL

Spring Seed Workshop with Ed Reed

Join expert Ed Reed as he delves into spring seeds. Participants will gain insights into the propagation and cultivation of these plants from seed, equipping them with the skills to nurture new life in their own gardens.



MAY

Staging with Karen Ostler:
Renowned designer Karen Ostler takes center stage in May, offering a workshop on the art of staging succulents. From container arrangements to landscape design, participants will learn how to showcase these plants in aesthetically pleasing and harmonious compositions.



JUNE

Fertilization and Pest Control (TBC)

June holds the potential for an insightful workshop on fertilization and pest control. Stay tuned for further details as we finalize arrangements with an expert in the field!

JULY

Pollination with Ernesto

Explore the fascinating world of pollination in July with expert Ernesto. Discover the intricate relationships between cacti, succulents, and pollinators, gaining a deeper understanding of the ecological dynamics that contribute to plant reproduction.

AUGUST

Take a breather in August, allowing participants to reflect on the knowledge acquired thus far and prepare for the upcoming workshops.

SEPTEMBER

Grafting with Kal

Join us in September as Kal shares the art of grafting succulents. This hands-on workshop will provide participants with practical skills in plant propagation, opening up new possibilities for creating unique and resilient hybrids.



OCTOBER

Winter Seed Workshop with Tom Glavich:

Round off the year exploring the beauty of winter seeds. Participants will learn about the different adaptations of cacti and succulents during the colder months and how to capture their seasonal charm.



LACSS Annual Awards Dinner

photo recap



Photo credit: Ricardo Fong

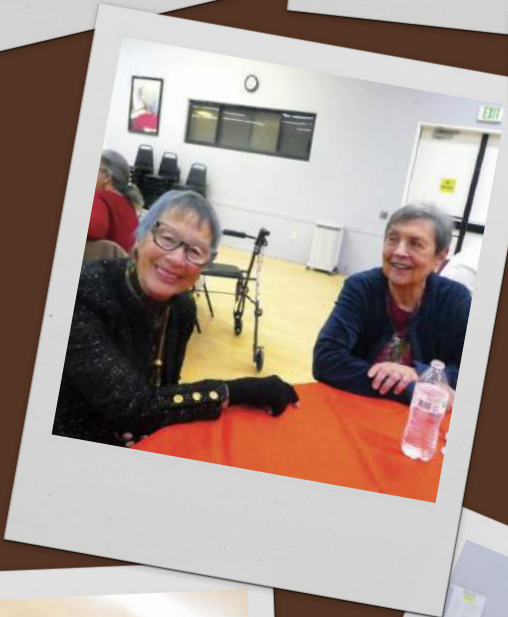


Photo credit: Ricardo Fong

REBUTIA HELIOSA

BY ELTON ROBERTS



Soon after its introduction into cultivation in the 1970s, *Rebutia heliosa* became the most wanted of any of the *Rebutia* plants of the time. If you were a grower and had say, twenty-five of the plants and offered them for sale, they would all be sold in less than six days. Cactus lovers, love affair with *Rebutia heliosa* has cooled quite a bit. The reason being, the plant is killed by most people in a very short time. After buying several plants, most people have given up on growing the lovely plant. It is a jewel of a plant among cactus plants but it is a plant that does not like how most people try to grow it. I think there are two things people do that kill the plant. One is watering it too often, two, is cooking it to death in too much sunshine or in a hothouse. Description of *Rebutia heliosa*; From the web, punctuated as on the web.

Rebutia heliosa is a miniature plant simple at first, it forms a clustering mound of tiny heads in cultivation. Stem: Heads compressed spherical to short cylindrical 2.5 cm wide, rarely higher than 5 cm. Areoles: small, brown, and narrow, elongated 1-2 mm long, less than 0,5 mm broad, forming 35-40 spirals on the minute tubercles. Spines: 24-26 all radials, short, about 1 mm long, distinctively silvery-white, * dense, spreading laterally and pectinate, covering almost completely the small stems in a spiral pattern. Roots, fleshy tap root. ** Flower: Large, funnel-shaped, long-necked, 4 cm in diameter, 4,5-5,5 cm long, orange-red. Tube up to 3 cm long 2-3 mm across, solid for more than half its length, deep rose to orange pink. Tepals orange with lilac mid-stripe. It flowers profusely in spring. Fruit: 4mm in diameter, deep crimson to purple. Seeds: Hemispheric to helmet-shaped. black, papillate.

*The description says that the spines are silvery-white, but the spines are translucent like tiny glass rods that are clear and are straight to semi curved. they taper to a sharp tip; some have a slight hook on the tip. When the photo is enlarged so the spines are to 5 cm long [2"] it is easy to see they are mostly clear. Being as small as they are, light reflecting off the spines gives a silvery-white look to the plant.

**The above description is fairly accurate but out of four books that I have, that mention *Rebutia heliosa* in them none mention a tap root, 'fleshy or not.' I have quite large plants, several with 35 or so stems per plant and another plant with 50 + stems on it, and smaller plants also, not a single one of the plants has a tap root. Here is more of what the site says; "They have a thick taproot and are of difficult cultivation and rot prone. Needs deep pot and good drainage to accommodate its tap root." [[I do not know what plant they were thinking about but I have never seen a *Rebutia heliosa* with a tap root.]]



Photo 1



Photo 2



Photo 3



Photo 4



Photo 5

I live in the central valley of California, here we can have temperatures as low as 10 degrees F. [-12 C] in the winter to as high as 120 degrees F. in the shade [48 C] in the summer. I have learned that some high elevation cactus plants, cannot take being watered in the heat of summer. There are a lot of plants that are heat dormant in the summer temperatures. They grow in the fall and in the spring. The high elevation plants go dormant when the night time temperatures stay above a certain temperature. This is called Crassulacean Acid Metabolism or CAM for short. In short, it is saying that when the night time temperatures stay above a certain temperature, succulent plants do not open their stoma and so go dormant. This allows them to conserve body moisture.

When I first read about CAM many years ago, the book said that the temperature that CAM comes in to play in cactus plants is at 62 degrees F. [16.67 C] That helped me understand why some plants did not grow or like being watered in the summer time. Many of the large high elevation plants did not show any dislike to being watered in the heat of summer, that I noticed. But when a 1-meter tall *Oreocereus* or an *Echinopsis* plant would rot off, well it just happened. No, it did not just happen! Water the plants when they are dormant and you can cause the plant's roots or plant base to rot. If you have Anderson's book, *The Cactus Family*, look on page 526 under the heading of *Oreocereus* and there he is telling of seeing some *Oreocereus* at over 10,500 feet and some at over 14,500 feet elevation. That explains why a lot of *Oreocereus* seedlings rot off in the summer heat when watered. If that happens to large plants it also happens to small plants. I have heard many times when someone has bought a *Rebutia* or *Sulcorebutia* plant, they complain in a few weeks that the plant rotted away. 'Did you water it?' I may ask. They answer "Oh yes, I always water any plants I buy right away and a couple times a week."

Rebutia heliosa grows at elevations of between 8,300 to 9,850 feet. At my place [elevation of 65 ft] when it is 85 degrees F., at 8,300 feet elevation the temperature is 54 degrees F. and at 9,800 feet it is 48 degrees F. If you take a plant from habitat at 54 degrees F. and move it to 85 degrees F. it is not going to be very happy. For sure a plant that comes from habitat with a temperature high at 48 degrees F. it is not going to be happy at 85 degrees F. I do not know at what temperature *Rebutia heliosa* goes heat dormant but I do know that they do not come out of dormancy here, till the night time temperatures drop to at least 54- or 55- degrees F. Above that the plants are what I call heat dormant or CAM dormant. Being small plants, the plants try to conserve moisture but it is hard for a stem only 5 mm or less in diameter to conserve moisture for 6 to 8 months in temperatures up to 95 to 120 degrees F. in the greenhouses. Very soon the stems look shriveled, so people pour the water to the poor plant and it dies. It is dormant, it does not need water it needs cooler temperatures.

Another thing people do with the plant is to put it in a very bright sunny location or even in their greenhouse where the plant gets cooked. If the temperature is 60 degrees F, at sea level it is only 29 degrees F. at 8,300ft elevation, it is 23 degrees F. at 9,800 feet elevation. That alone should indicate that the plants do not like hot temperatures. If you have a *Rebutia heliosa*

and it is not happy in the heat, take it in and put it in the refrigerator. Remember to take it out the next morning and put it in a shady spot. If you do put it in the refrigerator overnight give it a drink of water once every 10 days depending on the size pot the plant is in. Once you get the plant happy again and you are tired of hauling it in every night you can stop for a while but do not water the plant if it is in night time temperatures over about 56 degrees F.

Photo 1, This plant has 35 stems. It is kind of hard to count stems that are only about 3-4mm in diameter and there are lots of them, without getting confused. The largest stem is 18mm in diameter the tallest is almost 7cm or 3.75" tall. That is the tallest stem on the plant in photo 2. It is hard to believe that the plant is mainly a single stem plant in habitat, maybe that is where the 2.5cm diameter stems come from. In cultivation, if grown and not killed, the plant will make hand size clumps in a few years. Photo 2 is of my largest clump, it is 12.5 cm in diameter and has 50 or more stems. Again, hard to count and not lose track, stem size is just like the stems of plant 1. The small heads are not quite the diameter of a wooden office pencil. In the description it says that the stems are to 2.5cm or 1" in diameter, I have never seen a *Rebutia heliosa* stem that large. The largest I have seen in my time of growing the plants is about 20mm which is about $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Maybe in habitat they will grow to 25 mm in diameter. On the small stems it is quite easy to see the areoles for they are covered with dark brown fuzzy wool. Even with the overhead watering the wool remains on the areole. On the smallest heads the areole fuzz shows up and gives the plants a spiraling pattern. If that dark brown wool was not there the plant would be all one color.

Photo 3 is another wonderful plant; I didn't even try to count the stems on it. Most of the small heads are $\frac{1}{8}$ - $\frac{1}{4}$ " in diameter, or 3-6 mm. This plant is in a 3.5" pot [90mm] and will be up potted into a 5" [12.5cm] shallow pan when it grows a little larger. Besides this plant in the 90 mm pot, I have four plants also in 90 mm pots, not large enough yet to go into a larger pot. The areoles and spine clusters all in rows. The areoles look to be flying insects all lined up and ready to take off flying. In photo 4 the areoles remind me of fighter planes lined up on the deck of an aircraft carrier in World War 11.

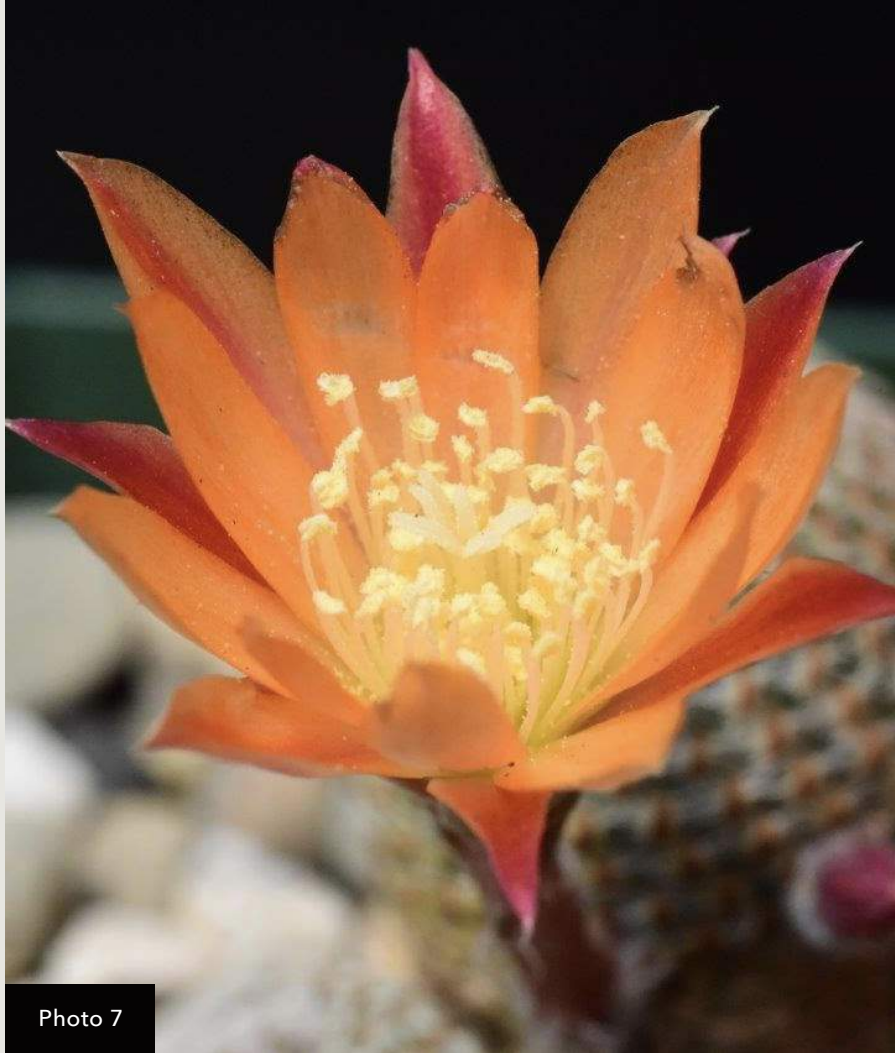


Photo 7



Photo 8

The wool appears to be curly and very dense. On the new areoles at the top of the plant the spines are pointing downwards. When the areole grows over the shoulder of the plant the spines slowly move to sticking straight out of the side of the areole. The base of the spines are covered with the dense brown wool. Most spines are straight, some have a bit of a curve. They look like tapered glass rods. Some are quite long, others are very short, if a spine 1-2 mm long is long. At the bottom of the areole there are from 4-8 short dagger point spines pointing toward the bottom. The skin under the spines is close to black, it is very dark green. The dark skin makes the clear spines stand out and gives it that glass winged insect look.

In Photo 5, the pot is a 3.5", the plant is a clump of 8 stems. On all my plants the largest diameter stem is 1.8cm. On this small plant the largest stems are 15mm diameter. This shows that the buds are not very large, the outer petals are starting to open. In the close up, at the base of the bud stem there is white wool and curly ribbons. At first, I thought the buds broke through a patch of wool but the wool has grown out of the lower part of the stem. I have never seen anything like that before, that I remember. The ribbons are flat, curling and twisting white spines. The rest of the wool is white looking cotton like wool.

Photo 7 is a single flower: here is the description of the flower taken from the description above. Large, funnel-shaped, long-necked, 4 cm in diameter, 4,5-5,5cm long, orange-red. Tube up to 3 cm long 2-3mm across, solid for more than half its length, deep rose to orange pink. Sepals orange with lilac mid-stripe. I have no problem with the shape of the flower or even the length of the flower, I have a problem with the color they say parts of the flowers are. I see no lilac in the tepals [tepals being the outer petals with the darker color and midstripe] The description is talking about the flower from the word 'Large to orange-red. Then it talks about the flower tube for the next sentence. Then it is back up to the flower, which is confusing.

Photo 8 is a bouquet of six flowers. The flower petals are orange and a little bit lighter at the base. There is a wonderful glow from the middle of the flowers. The outer petals are orange with a bit of a darker midstripe. The filaments and style are light orange and the stigma is pinkish, the pollen is light yellow.

I have a problem with the description of the flowers size. It says the flowers are 4 cm in diameter. 4cm is 1.5". The pot is 9cm across, it is 10cm or 4" from flat corner to flat corner. If the flowers are 4 cm in diameter each, then the three flowers open in a row would span 12cm and that would put them over the side of the pot corner to corner. Also, there is a space of about 1cm between the flowers. I did not think about measuring the diameter of the flowers but if they are 2.5cm across then the 3 of them would only span 7.5cm and that leaves 2cm shy of the diameter of the pot and that is not counting the space between the flowers. There is more room than that so I would guess the flowers are only about 1.8 to 2cm in diameter.

I have been growing and flowering *Rebutia heliosa* for over 36 years and I have never seen a flower that is 4 cm in diameter on any *R. heliosa* plant!! So, either I have plants with miniature flowers or someone wrote down the wrong diameter for the flowers when they described it, and every one since just copies that mistake when they put a description in a book. The NCL = 4.5 - 5.5 x 4cm, Anderson, = 4.5 - 5.5cm (1.8 - 2.2") long to 4 cm (1.6") in diameter, Innes & Glass, = 1 3/4 - 2 1/4" long, 1.5" in diameter, Pilbeam, in the *Rebutia* book, = 4cm wide. If the plant in habitat has a flower 4cm in diameter, then the plants in cultivation will also have the same size flowers! But they do not seem to!

On the web the description says that the plants grow at elevations of 2,500-3,000m. That is right around 8,200-9,840 ft elevation. When the temperature at sea level is 95 degrees F. the temperature at 8,000 is 56 degrees F. and at 10,000, 49 degrees F. That indicates to me, the plants do not like temperatures much over maybe 60 degrees F. This is why people that buy a plant usually kill it. The plant is heat dormant and so it slowly shrinks and seeing that it is shrinking, they pour water to the plant, all that does is kill it. I have seen that the plants are CAM dormant till the temperature drops to about 54 degrees F. at night. If you have a plant and want to keep it alive and you live in an area that has quite warm night time temperatures then keep the plant in a shaded place where it is cool. Do not have it in a hothouse or greenhouse where it gets to 100 to 130 degrees F. for you will cook the plant.

I give my plants my regular soil mix and a shallow pot as the plants have shallow roots. There is no tap root on any of my dozen plants. If you live where the summers are hot and have a plant or two go very easy on the water till night time temperatures drop to around or below 54 or 55 degrees F. If you live where the humidity is high most of the year go easy on the water for the soil may stay damp too long and the plants will rot!



NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY

One of the most popular books in our Library (we have over 250 books) has been "Caudiciforms and Pachycaul Succulents by Gordon Rowley."

It has been loved to pieces (literally), replaced by a second copy, and now finally upstaged by a brand-new book. The title is "Pachyforms – A Guide to Growing Caudiciform and Pachycaul Plants" by Philippe de Vosjoli. To quote its cover "More than 680 Color Photographs and Cultivation Notes on 180 species." That alone should pique your interest!!! The photos are preceded by 100 pages of easy-to-understand descriptions on topics related to selection and cultivation, e.g. "What are Pachyforms", "Growing for Display", "Temperature and Evaporative Rate" and, of course, "Ontogeny". Almost every page has a "side bar" of additional information.

Following the incredible photos is a short section on select, specific species covering cultivation, propagation, and availability. The author completes this masterpiece with a Special Section on "Growing Pachycaul Trees, Pachyform Dorstenias and Caudexed Yams (Dioscorea)". You know you wanted to start collecting these plants but didn't know which ones.... You already have some but know little about them..... The author has shared his expertise to help you become more knowledgeable and successful.

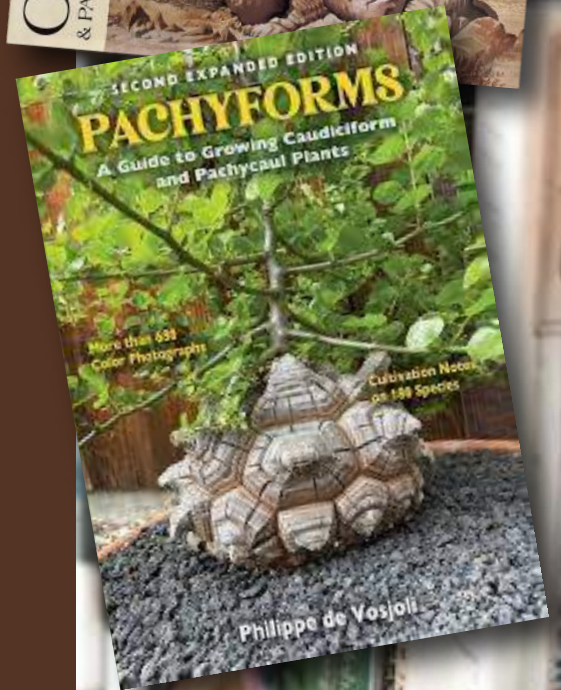
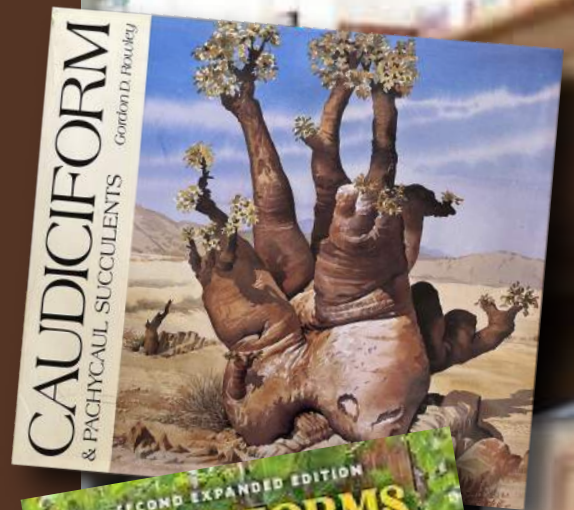
This book is a must-read for everyone who wants to know more about Pachyforms!!!

SO, STEP RIGHT UP AND CHECK IT OUT!!!!!!

We have a lot of new members so I will restate a few policies of the library:

- AFTER YOU HAVE BEEN A MEMBER FOR THREE MONTHS, YOU MAY CHECK OUT TWO BOOKS.
- BOOKS ARE DUE BACK AT THE NEXT MEETING.
- ONLY TWO BOOKS MAY BE CHECKED OUT AT ANY TIME.
- YOU WILL BE ISSUED A RECEIPT WHEN YOU RETURN THE BOOK(S).

See you soon.
Joyce



South Coast
Cactus & Succulent Society

GARY DUKE

"CHILE: MORE THAN COPIAPOAS"

Gary Duke, long time collector of cacti and succulents, will describe the family of Copiapoas and how he cares for them. He will present drone footage of them during his travels in Chile.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2024
1:00 PM

South Coast Botanic Garden,
26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes
Peninsula 90274.

Free admission for SCCSS members and
their guests. For more information visit
southcoastcss.org



2024 CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- FEB. 9-11 SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY WINTER SHOW AND SALE
SALE FRI.-SAT. 8AM-5PM, SUN. 8AM-4PM SHOW SAT. 9AM-5PM, SUN. 9AM-4PM
INFO. MANNY RIVERA 626-780-6957 OR JAMES LEMOS 626-201-5519
ARCADIA MASONIC CENTER, 50 W DUARTE RD., ARCADIA, CA
- FEB. 10 SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY WINTER SHOW AND SALE
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA INFO. CALL 619-990-2051
- MAR. 1-3 FRESNO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SALE
10AM-5PM FREE WITH PAID ADMISSION TO FRESNO HOME & GARDEN SHOW
FRESNO FAIRGROUNDS, GARDEN PAVILION, 1121 S. CHANCE AVE., FRESNO, CA
- MAR. 22-23 ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SALE
FRI. NOON-6PM, SAT. 9AM-4PM INFO. CALL 657-549-0702
1000 S. STATE COLLEGE BL., (ANAHEIM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH)
- APR. 6 - 7 LACSS DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANT FESTIVAL
SAT. 9AM-4PM SUN. 9AM-2PM
INFO LACACTUS.COM OR @LACSSCLUB
SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, ENCINO CA.
- APR. 12-14 MONTEREY BAY AREA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SALE & SHOW
FRI. 3PM-6PM MEMBERS ONLY, SAT. 9AM-5PM, SUN. 9AM-3PM
INFO MBACSSPRESIDENT@GMAIL.COM OR MBSUCCULENT.ORG
ISTW PORTUGUESE HALL, 124 ATKINSON LANE, WATSONVILLE, CA 95076
- APR. 14 CONEJO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SALE 9AM-4PM
INFO. WWW.CONEJOCSS.COM OR CONEJOCSS@HOTMAIL.COM
558 N. VENTU PARK ROAD, THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91320
- APR. 13-14 SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE
DAILY 9AM-4PM INFO. WWW.SOUTHCOASTCSS.ORG OR CALL 310-346-6206
PALOS VERDES ART CENTER, 5504 CRESTRIDGE RD., RANCHO PALOS VERDES
- APR. 27 PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING FESTIVAL
SAT. 11AM-3PM C&S SALES AND FREE WORKSHOPS ON GROWING C&S
THE PARK AVE. COMMUNITY CENTER, 210 E. PARK AVE., ESCONDIDO, CA
- APR. 27-28 SAN JOSE CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE
SAT. 10AM-5PM, SUN. 10AM-4PM INFO. WWW.CSSSJ.ORG
PETERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL, 1380 ROSALIA AVENUE, SUNNYVALE, CA
- APR. 28 HUNTINGTON SPRING PLANT SALE - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
10AM-5PM IRESERVATIONS- WWW.HUNTINGTON.ORG, SALE CALL 626-405-3571
HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD RD., SAN MARINO, CA

29TH ANNUAL
SGVCSS



WINTER SHOW & SALE



ARCADIA MASONIC CENTER
FEB 9-11, 2024

SALE:
FRI/SAT 8AM-5PM
SUN 8AM-4PM

SHOW:
SAT 9AM-5PM
SUN 9AM-4PM



TWO DOZEN VENDORS!

- BOTANIC WONDERS
- DESERT CREATIONS
- CACTUS DATA PLANTS
- CALIFORNIA CACTUS CENTER
- GROW UP LA NURSERY
- HANNA'S SUCCULENTS
- KYLE'S PLANTS
- DISTINCTIVE FLORA
- SKYVIEW SUCCULENTS
- DESERT WONDERS
- CORONA CACTUS
- RAIN SHADOW DESIGNS
- SUCCULENT GEMS LA
- MASSEY FARMS
- PEETY POTS
- SUCCULENT PLANTS
- JUNE'S POTS
- LUANNE'S PLANTS
- SOMIS TOP DRESSINGS
- CINDY'S PLANTS
- SUCCULENT GERANIAC
- JIM'S PLANTS
- LA SUCCULENTS
- RENE'S PLANTS

NEW LOCATION!

Arcadia Masonic Center
50 W Duarte Rd
Arcadia, CA 91007



29TH ANNUAL
SGVCSS
WINTER
SHOW & SALE

FEB 9-11

FRI/SAT 8AM-5PM
SUNDAY 8AM-4PM

MORE INFO:

@SGVCSSCLUB