

LOS ANGELES
CACTUS
AND
SUCCULENT
SOCIETY

CACTUS CHRONICLE

April
2012

Visit Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society ONLINE at www.lacss.com

For more information

Contact:

LACSS.contact@gmail.com



Next Meeting: April 5, 2012



Editor: Phyllis Frieze

Contact:

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The Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society is a non-profit organization. Since 1935 our purpose has been the education, conservation, & study of cacti & succulents. The "Cactus Chronicle" is the official bulletin of the Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society, an affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America, Inc. Any material in the "Cactus Chronicle" may be copied or reproduced by other clubs on our mailing list, or any non-profit organization, provided proper credit is given to the author and the Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society.

Peru: Discovery of Wonders- Gregg DeChirico

Gregg DeChirico has grown plants of all types for over 30 years. He has a nursery, Gregg's Greenhouse, located in the Santa Barbara area and specializing in seed-grown rare and exotic plants. Gregg is a frequent participant and vendor at many local club shows and sales. He has travelled throughout Latin America to photograph the flora and fauna. He has served as president of both the San Francisco Succulent & Cactus Society and Santa Barbara Cactus & Succulent Society and most recently has been elected to the CSSA board.

Peru: Discovery of Wonders--a travelogue starting in arid coastal Northern Peru, heading south and traversing the Andes three times before ending in Peru's southern highlands. Our zig-zagging journey takes us through cactus gardens in the lush hills and valleys of Amazonia and Cajamarca, then west to the seemingly barren pacific coast where life teems on offshore islands. Then high into the Andes to the slopes of the Cordillera Blanca where forests of orchids and bromeliads grow within view of glaciers, then across the Altiplano where stands of huge *Puya raimondii* tower over grassy plains, and finally to the cultural wonder of Machu Picchu and historic city of Cusco. Along the way there are many splendid and wondrous sights of flora and fauna, as well as culture- both past and present- all captured in photos illustrated in this presentation.



Machu Picchu



Chicalayo Saipan Museum Figure



Echeveria andicola



Matucana Aurantiaca



Melo Peruvianus



Vicuana

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

April 2012

We have lots of news and announcements, so please read on.

New LACSS Monthly Meeting Hours at the Sepulveda Garden Center

We have extended our contracted hours with the Sepulveda Garden Center so we now have access to the facility from 6:00 PM until 10:00 pm. This gives us additional set-up time, shopping time, and socializing. Our meeting will begin promptly at 7:00.

New “Rookie” Division in Plant of the Month (POM) mini-competition

We consider the POM display as one of the most important educational opportunities provided by our club. Members learn about plant care, appearance, rarity, new species, and staging tips while enjoying the satisfaction that comes with nurturing a plant into a healthy and attractive specimen. An annual list of monthly plant categories appears in the *Cactus Chronicle*, which includes descriptions and photos submitted by our members. Examples are also featured at prior month meetings. Plants are judged by at least one plant expert, and this year, two club members will be randomly selected each month to accompany our expert judge as apprentices.

As of April 1, we are adding a “Rookie Division” to encourage participation at a beginner level with less stringent criteria. Please refer to the POM chart in this *Cactus Chronicle* for changes in entry division criteria and awards for this activity.

As we transition to this system, we ask members to enter the appropriate division according to their prior award total, based on an honor system. Members will “graduate” to new levels at the end of the year only, celebrated at the December holiday party.

Succulent Wreath Workshop

Thank you, Kathleen Misko, for hosting 2 workshops to make well-rooted succulent wreaths to sell for LACSS at our upcoming June show. If you missed the first workshop, the second is scheduled for Saturday, April 14 at 10:00 am at Kathleen’s lovely home. Please find the flyer in this issue.

2012 Roster

The 2012 LACSS is available for pick-up at the April meeting. Copies will be held for members who are not present. Thank you, Richard Roosman, for making our roster happen.

Sustenance

Just a reminder that we are relying on members whose last names begin with **I, J, K, L, or M** to provide nourishment during the April meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you on April 5.

Roxie Esterle

President

LACSS.contact@gmail.com



Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Succulent Wreath-Making Fundraiser



Ever seen these gorgeous succulent wreaths and wanted to learn to make one?

As suggested by new LACSS member Kathleen Misko, LACSS members and friends are invited to attend one or both of two sessions to make wreaths to sell at our June 9 – 10 Drought Tolerant Plant Festival. The workshops will take place at Kathleen's home (rumor has it, the garden is wonderful). Kathleen is donating the wreath frames and has other materials to get the wreaths started.

Members should bring some of their own unique cuttings to add to the wreaths to make each distinctive. Also bring any tools you might use (clippers, tweezers, gloves) if you have them. We will get the wreaths well-rooted by the time of our June 9 – 10 sale. Profits from the sale of the wreaths will go to support LACSS activities and the Sepulveda Garden Center Succulent Garden.

Dates:

Sunday, April 1, 9:30 am to 11:30 am
Saturday, April 14, 10:00 am to 12:00 noon

Location: 21341 Kickapoo Trail
Chatsworth, CA 91311
Near the #118 and Topanga Canyon

Please RSVP directly to Kathleen: 818-402-6031 or email her at leenest@aol.com
(make sure your computer doesn't auto-correct this address)

April 2012

Treasurer's Report

As your treasurer, I handle all club finances. You may be aware of our club revenues – membership dues and raffle money. Our club June Show and the Inter-City show are also sources of income, mostly from our vendors. What are our expenses? We pay rent for the monthly meetings, and we pay our speakers. We spent money for a projector, we buy library books and more. If you are interested in more detail, please attend board meetings where complete financial reports are provided.

In our March meeting, John Noster handed me Coffee Money donation. Thanks, John! We are already thankful for John for providing the coffee in our meetings.

I am making an effort to write receipts for monies received, and especially membership dues. I usually write them after each meeting, so they are available in the following month. Please come see me and claim your receipts.

Your treasurer,

Ronit Weiss



CACTUS AND SUCCULENT Calendar of Events 2012

Updated March 2012

- February 11** San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society -Winter Show & Sale
Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA **Info: (858) 382-1797**
- March 23 & 24** Orange County Cactus & Succulent Spring Show & Sale 9am - 5pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA
Contact Vince Basta (714) 267-4329
- April 7 & 8** South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes, CA
Info: (310) 832-2262
- April 14 & 15** Green Scene Plant Sale—Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton CA 92831
- April 28** South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale---9am - 4pm
South Coast Botanical Gardens **Info: (310) 833-6823**
- May 5 & 6** Sunset Cactus & Succulent Show & Sale
Veteran's Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA
Info: (310) 822-1783
- May 13** Huntington Plant Sale 10am - 5pm
Huntington Botanical Gardens
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA, **Info: (626) 405-2160**
- May 18 & 19** 31st Gates Cactus & Succulent Society Sale 9am - 4:30pm
Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center 7621 Granite Hill Drive, Glen Avon, CA **Info: (951) 360-8802**
- May 26 & 27** Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society
Annual Show & Sale 10am - 4pm
Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, CA,
Info: (805) 237-2054, www.centralcoastcactus.org
- June 2 & 3** San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA
Info: (858) 382-1797
- June 9 & 10** Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, June 11th 9am - 5pm, 12th 9am - 3:30pm
Sepulveda Garden Center 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA
Info: email: LACSS.Contact@gmail.com
- June 29-July 1** CSSA Annual Show & Sale –
Huntington Botanical Gardens 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA
Show Opens-June 30th - July 1st--Free to the Public, **Info: (626) 405-2160 or 2277**
- July 27 & 28** Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale--9am - 5 pm--Friday & Saturday
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA
Contact: Vince Basta (714) 267-4329
- August 11 & 12** 27th Annual Intercity Show & Sale
LA County Arboretum - 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 9am - 5pm
Info: Tom Glavich (626) 798-2430 or John Matthews (661) 297-5364
- September 1** Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA All Day at the Huntington
- September 23** Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction
18127 So. Alameda St., Rancho Dominguez, CA----12:00
- November 3 & 4** San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
LA County Arboretum 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA
- November 9 & 10** Orange County Cactus & Succulent Winter Show & Sale 9am - 5pm
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA
Contact: Vince Basta (714) 267-4329

UPDATED MEMBER ROSTER

**All LACSS members will be able to receive
their copy at the April meeting.**

IMPORTANT

***Volunteers needed for LACSS Annual Drought
Tolerant Plant Festival
June 9 and 10, 2012***

We need many volunteers to help coordinate, publicize, and host activities during our Annual Drought Tolerant Plant Festival. If you are eager to serve and be an active part of this exciting event, please contact Joyce Schumann at 818-705-3224 or send an email to ropojo@pac.bell.net.

LACSS
GENERAL BOOK LOAN POLICY

- You must be a member of LACSS for 3 months and attend at least 3 meetings before you may check out books.
- ◆ Book loans are for 1 month – borrow it this month, return it next month.
- ◆ Check out card must include date (month and year), your name, and your phone number.
- ◆ Only 2 general books may be checked out at a time.
- ◆ Books must be returned before you can check out more books.
- ◆ Borrower will be assessed a fee of \$5.00/month for each overdue book.
- ◆ If a book is not returned within 120 days, borrower will be billed for the total replacement cost of the book.
- ◆ If restitution is not made for late, lost, or unreturned books, borrower will lose their library privileges.

Librarian will provide a receipt for returned book (s).

April 2012



**Our librarian, Joyce is on
Vacation**

**Look for new and exciting
Books in May**

April 2012

A Way to Help the LACSS LIBRARY...

*We know there are several sources for book purchases and this is an option to benefit the LACSS Library at the same time. Go to this website : **exoticplant-books.com** for complete information and catalog.*

An excerpt from the "ExoticPlantBooks.com website:

- "Help your society build its library! Exotic Plants Books will donate 10% of your purchase to the society of your choice!

Background

Exotic Plant Books is owned and operated by me, Daiv Freeman. I've long been a proponent of the local clubs and societies. I firmly believe these organizations are extremely beneficial not just to the members, but for the overall advancement of the hobby – especially as it relates to the next generation of enthusiasts. While my personal focus has been cactus plants, the above is true for palm societies, bromeliad groups, orchid growers, etc.

How it Works

When an individual customer orders books from Exotic Plant Books, a credit equal to 10% of the purchase price will be applied to the society or organization that the individual customer is associated with. At the time of order the customer will designate which organization to credit. This can be selected from a drop-down list on the customer sign-up page. If the buyer is a member of multiple organizations they may assign each order to a different organization."

We know there are several sources for book purchases and this is an option to benefit the LACSS library at the same time. Go to this website: exoticplant-books.com for complete information and catalog.

Respectfully submitted,
Joyce the Librarian

LOS ANGELES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
NEW PLANT OF THE MONTH POLICIES for 2012

Competition Divisions:

- Rookie: 0 – 25 combined 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place “rookie” award points
Novice: 1 - 100 combined 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place “novice” award points
Advanced: Over 100 combined 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place “novice” award points
Master/Open: Any experienced grower may compete in this division, but this required for individuals who **sell** at shows outside of LACSS.

Submissions:

Members may submit up to three plants in each designated monthly cactus and succulent category. In the Advanced and Master/Open divisions, members must have cared for their plants for at least 1 year. In the Novice division, the ownership requirement is 6 months. Rookies may show newly purchased plants. Entries should be labeled and placed on the display table by 7:00 pm.

Judging Criteria:

Plants are evaluated according to the following guidelines:

Condition (health, form, damage-free)	50%
Maturity and size	25%
Staging (complementary container, top dressing, composition)	20%
Nomenclature (identification and label)	5%

Other factors include rarity, growing difficulty, and whether or not the plant is in flower.

Awards:

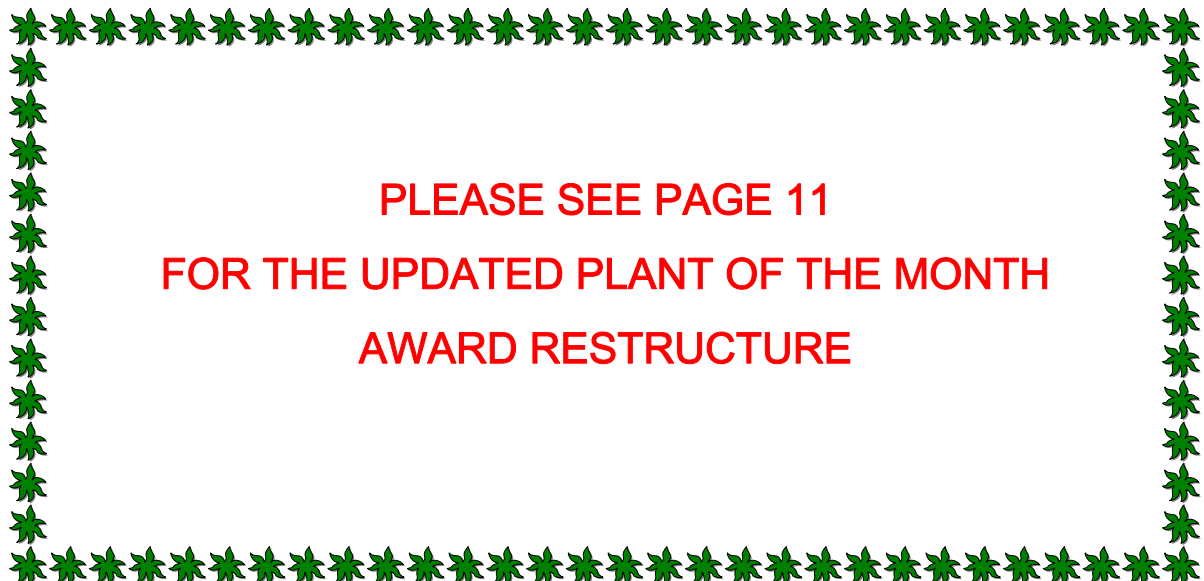
First place	6 points
Second place	3 points
Third place	2 points
Other submissions	1 point per plant to acknowledge entry

Entry slips are collected by the 2nd Vice President in charge of Plant of the Month who coordinates tabulation, record keeping, and publication in the *Cactus Chronicle*.

Annual cumulative prizes are awarded at the **holiday party in December** to the top three scorers in each division for cacti and for succulents. Additional prizes are awarded for overall total scores from highest to lowest across all divisions. Every individual who has brought plants during the year is acknowledged with a prize. Individuals who “graduate” from one division to the next for the following year will also be recognized.

Plant-of-the-Month

	<i>Cacti</i>	<i>Succulent</i>
January	Mammillaria	Othonna & Senecio
February	Monstrose and Crest	Monstrose and Crest
March	Variegates	Variegates
April	Echinocereus	Haworthia
May	Echinopsis	Gasteria
June	Cephalium bearing cacti	Adenium
July	Eriosyce	Cyphostemma
August	Favorite	Favorite
September	Gymnocalycium	Euphorbia - Caudiciform Type
October	Parodia (includes Notocactus)	Stemless Mesembs - no Lithops
November	Frailea & Blossfeldia	Tylecodon
December	<i>Holiday Party</i>	<i>Holiday Party</i>



PLEASE SEE PAGE 11

FOR THE UPDATED PLANT OF THE MONTH

AWARD RESTRUCTURE

Plant of the Month - March Winners

Novice Division

Succulent - Variegates

Award	Name	Plant
First	Ronit Weiss	Aloe brevifolia
Second	Bob Morris	Aloe nobilis
Third	Bob Morris	Aloe arborescens

Cactus - Variegates

First	Rio Cernik	Echinocereus davasii
Second	Rio Cernik	Notocactus
Third	none	

Advanced Division

Succulent - Variegates

Award	Name	Plant
First	Kim Thorpe	Fockea edulis
Second	Sandy Chase	Haworthia cymbiformis
Third	Cheryl White	Agave parryi minima

Cactus - Variegates

First	Kim Thorpe	Oreocereus trolli
Second	Kim Thorpe	Ferocactus sp.
Third	none	
Third		

Open Division

Succulent - Variegates

Award	Name	Plant
First	Artie Chavez	Agave victoria-regina
Second	Norma Lewis	Haworthia limifolia
Third	Walt Wegner	Euphorbia milii

Cactus - Variegates

First	None	
Second	None	
Third	None	

EXCITING NEW ADDITION
TO OUR
CHRONICLE

This addition cannot happen without your participation.

We want to feature your plant/s in our Chronicle every month!

All you need do is take a picture of your plant, let us know who you are, tell what kind it is, approximate age, how was it grown, seed, root, etc. Tell a little about the species i.e. where it comes from, how it is grown, winter grower, summer grower, best care, type of soil.

Your picture and written information will be featured in our Chronicle.

Our first viewing was submitted by Joyce Citron. Photographed by Jorge Ochoa.



LACSS Membership Form (Please print the following information)

Name _____ Phone _____

Name of Additional Members: _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

E-Mail Address _____

Send me the newsletter by E-Mail Send me the newsletter by U.S. Mail(\$5 extra fee)

Send me a plastic name badge (\$6.50 each)

Type of Membership: New Member Renewal

- Single Membership \$20 annually \$10 1/2 year (July or after)
- Family Membership \$25 annually \$12.50 1/2 year (July or after)
- Newsletter by U.S. Mail \$5 fee in addition to the membership charge
- Cash Check: number _____

Special Interests _____

Monthly Meeting Refreshments

Each month different members whose last name begins in a particular letter are requested to furnish refreshments for the club. Below is the list, by month, for 2012.

January	T U V W X Y Z	July	T U V W X Y Z
February	A B C D	August	A B C D
March	E F G H	September	E F G H
April	I J K L M	October	I J K L M
May	N O P R	November	N O P R
June	S	December	HOLIDAY PARTY

Members were selected by the approximate number of members attending each meeting.

**Refreshments for the month of February are members whose last names begin in
I, J, K, L, M**

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Cacti of the Month April 2012 - *Echinocereus*



Vince Basta's *Echinocereus baileyi* shown in the 15th InterCity Show

Echinocereus species can be found throughout the Western United States, and the range of species stretches through the American west and through Northern and Central Mexico to about Mexico City. As might be expected from a genus covering such a large range, *Echinocereus* are extremely varied in form, ranging from nearly spineless green balls such as *E. knippelianus*, to very spiny short columnar species such as *E. engelmannii*, to pencil thin sticks such a *E. poselgeri*.

In general, *Echinocereus* is an under-appreciated genus. Most growers have one or two, but having killed a few in their early collecting days, usually because of over watering, concentrate on other genera. Most of the species are in fact easy to grow. Many of the species are quite variable, and exhibit different spination and flower colors depending on the local environment. As a result, a large number of species were named. These are being reduced to a more conservative 30 to 50 species. The varieties and local growth forms provide

an enormous range of interesting plants to grow.

Most *Echinocereus* have spectacular flowers, giving rise to such common names as Claret Cup, Strawberry Cactus, Calico Cactus. These common names are often attached to more than one species. *Echinocereus* flowers erupt through the skin, leaving scars. Offsets also erupt through the skin.

Propagation from cuttings is relatively easy, but attention needs to cleanliness is important. Use of Rootone, or another rooting compound containing a fungicide helps ensure success.

A very popular species of *Echinocereus*, often found in the shows, is *pectinatus* v. *rubispinus*. This plants produces a vibrant rose-colored flower during the spring and its spines retain a reddish tinge throughout the year.



Echinocereus pectinatus v. *rubispinus*

Echinocereus viridiflorus v. *canus* is a gorgeous plant that produces stiff white spines tinged with red in the mature

specimen and develops greenish flowers during the spring season. This plant originates from the Trans-Pecos area of Texas.



Echinocereus viridiflorus v. canus

References

D. Hunt, The New Cactus Lexicon
C. Innes and C. Glass, Cacti

Tom Glavitch, 2004
Edited Steve Frieze, 2011

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Succulent of the Month April 2012 - Haworthia



Haworthia retusa

Haworthia are native to South Africa, and grow in a winter-rainfall, Mediterranean environment not very different from Southern California. Most are easily grown, preferring some shade and growing mostly in the winter and spring. Many will grow year round if watered properly and maintained at a reasonably warm temperature. Haworthias flower during the spring, and some species will remain in flower for an extended period of time; two months or longer. However, the flowers are small and generally off-white and not particularly notable. Haworthias are grown for their beautiful leaf shapes and colors.

Haworthia in general are tolerant of almost any potting mix, and success has been reported with everything from straight pumice to potting soil-pumice or perlite mixes, to plain potting soil, and even garden soil. They like light fertilization when growing, any balanced fertilizer will do. An application of time release fertilizer in late winter will improve growth from late

winter and early spring rains. Healthy Haworthias generally have stiff thick white roots. When repotting, it's important to inspect the roots for mealy bugs, and for old, dried brown or hollow roots, which are often the source of infection or rot. These should be removed back to healthy tissue. Haworthias are subject to root rot if watered excessively or sit in damp conditions for long periods. The plant is often salvageable by removing the damage roots and other decayed material and then placing it in a rooting medium such as pumice.

The genus *Haworthia* is divided into three subgenera, and these are further divided into 8 sections. Section *Retusae* contains the many of the best known plants including, *Haworthia retusa*, *Haworthia comptoniana*, *Haworthia magnifica*, and *Haworthia reticulata*. These are all characterized by thick fat leaves, with intricate patterns, usually in a lighter green than the main leaf color. Also characteristic of this plant are the transparency of the leaves allowing for photosynthesis to occur within the plant body.

Haworthia retusa is found in the Riverdale area of South Africa under bushes or in similarly protected areas. *Haworthia comptoniana*. Named after Professor R. H. Compton, this species is endemic to the Willowmore district of South Africa. This species often grows under quartz patch stones and is difficult to locate in the field.



Haworthia comptoniana

Haworthia magnifica v. *splendens* like the previous species found in South Africa. This plant grows even to the ground and its coloration helps to camouflage it from damage from insects and other potential predators.



Haworthia magnifica v. *splendens*

Also found in South Africa, is *Haworthia reticulata*, a species which has a number of subspecies associated with it. *Haworthia reticulata* is a liberally clustering plant that will turn reddish-bronze color in bright light.



Haworthia reticulata v. *reticulata*

References

M. Bayer, **Haworthia Revisited**
R. Schulz, *Haworthia For The Collector*

Tom Glavich March 2002
Edited by Steve Frieze, November 2010

General Meeting starts at 7:00 PM on the **first Thursday** of the month at the Sepulveda Garden Center located at 16633 Magnolia Blvd. in Encino between Hayvenhurst and Balboa.
Set-up and social hour starts at 6:30 PM.

Bring a smile! Make new friends! **GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!**

Visit *Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society ONLINE* at www.lacss.com

Upcoming Program for
April 2012

Gregg DeChirico
Wonders of Peru

First Class Mail

Sepulveda Garden Ctr. 16633 Magnolia Bl. Encino

Next Meeting:
April 5, 2012

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PO Box 280581, Northridge, CA 91328

CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
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