



LOS ANGELES
CACTUS
AND
SUCCULENT
SOCIETY

CACTUS CHRONICLE

June 2010

June Speaker
information is
on
Page 6

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Next Meeting: June 3, 2010



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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.

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

It's SHOWTIME !!!!!

Our **Drought Resistant Plant Festival** is upon us. We are in the final stages of fine tuning, gathering and preparing all materials.

We appreciate you volunteer you offering your plants for the Display Gardens, the Gardens could not be done without your support. Some plants still needed are cacti of all sizes and shapes (tall, short, round, etc), some blue or silver plants for the Color Coordinated garden, and whatever else you have that you think will fit into our themes...the themes are Blue and Silver color coordinated, Kid and Pet Friendly, Cacti and Succulents, and Cacti with Native Plants. Our fifth display garden will contain more advanced plants and is being designed by Barbara, Efren, and Manny.

Please bring your plants to the Sepulveda Garden on Thursday, June 10 between 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM.

Continued On Page 2

New Members—Month of May

John Suciu (April)

Saturday night's dinner and auction were discussed at the May meeting and dinner is bar-b-que chicken & tri tip, beans, salad, and beverages. The cost is \$22.00 per person.

DON'T MISS THE AUCTION The plants are exotic, rare, exquisite, and most are staged (ready to earn a few points in future competitions). The auction is an enjoyable way to add valuable plants to your collection.

If you like to eat, spend time with friends and have the opportunity to bid on fantastic plants then **YOU NEED TO BE HERE!**

Please bring your plants to the Sepulveda Garden on Thursday, June 10 between 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM.

Thank you all in advance for your participation.

Sandy and Joyce
Co-Chairs

What Events are planned?

A series of workshops and Guest speakers on topics that include the following:

A presentation from the Theodore Payne Foundation on California Native Plants- *Lili Singer*

Landscaping with Drought Resistant Plants-*Matt Maggio*

Propagation, Fertilizer and pest control-*Tim Harvey*

Container garden-*Sandy Chase*

How to Take Care of Cacti and Succulents- *Artie Chavez*

Irrigation for a Drought Tolerant Garden-*Peter Walkowiak*

Aloes for the Garden- *Duke Benandom*

Gardening with bromeliad plants- *The Bromeliad Society*

Landscape exhibits showing the various types of plants that might be used in a typical drought resistant garden and how they can be arranged - the exhibits will incorporate boulders, rocks, drift wood, and other materials to enhance the garden's appearance.

Display gardens planned:

Silver and blue garden

General cacti and succulents

Pet and child friendly garden

Exotic succulent garden

Bromeliad garden

Patio and Container garden

Vendors will be selling similar plants displayed in the exhibits at their booths

DROUGHT RESISTANT CACTUS and SUCCULENT FESTIVAL

SCHEDULE OF GUEST SPEAKERS

SATURDAY, JUNE 12th

9am-10am	General Care	Artie Chavez
10:30am-11:30am	Landscaping	Matt Maggio
12:00pm-1:00pm	California Native Plants	Lili Singer
1:30pm-2:30pm	Bromeliad Plants	Steve/Richard

SUNDAY, JUNE 13TH

9am-10am	Propagation	Tim Harvey
10:30am-11:30am	Irrigation	Peter Walkowiak
12:00pm-1:00pm	Aloes	Duke Benadom
1:30pm-2:30pm	Container Gardening	Sandy Chase



CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Keeping in mind that this is OUR Festival, we need all members to commit to volunteering in one of the below categories.

FRIDAY, JUNE 11

Table and chair set up in the Garden Building
Hospitality table set up
Set up display gardens

SATURDAY, JUNE 12

Table and chair set up in the Garden Building
Hospitality table set up and staff
Breakfast & lunch set up & clean up (check with Kim)
Set up & take down tables & chairs for bar-b-q & auction
Informational staffing for display gardens
Set up speaker/workshop area inside the center
Floaters to assist wherever needed

SUNDAY, JUNE 13

Hospitality table set up and staff
Breakfast & lunch set up & clean up (check with Kim)
Dismantle display gardens and clean up areas
Informational staffing for display gardens
Set up speaker/workshop area inside the center
Floaters to assist wherever needed

All volunteers will get breakfast and lunch
Shifts are for 2 hours

Please see the co-chairs Sandy and/or Joyce to sign up

PLANTS FOR THE YEAR 2010
LOS ANGELES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY (LACSS)

Month	Cacti	Succulent
January	Hooked Spine Mammillaria	Senecio and Othonna
February	Monotypic Cacti	Adromischus, Anacampseros & Avonia
March	Copiapoa	Aeonium, Sempervivum & Sedum
April	Astrophytums	Cucurbitaceae
May	Echinopsis, Lobivia, & Trichocereus	Agavaceae
June	Thelocactus	Caudiciform Euphorbia
July	Melocactus	Cissus & Cyphostemma
August	Favorite	Favorite
September	Miniatures	Miniatures
October	Variegates	Variegates
November	Echinocactus	Haworthia Retuse Type
December	<i>Holiday Party</i>	

Entry Classes: All new members, new to the hobby, should enter plants in the Novice class. Novices must move to the Advanced class after they have won a total of 40 first place awards in the Plant of the Month competition. Individuals who own a nursery are required to enter in the Open class. Although it is not advised, LACSS members are free to enter a plant in the Open class at any time.

Prizes: All prizes are awarded at the Holiday Celebration in December. Trophies are awarded by entry class for those members who scored the most points in either the cacti or combined succulent categories. In the Novice and Advanced classes the top three scorers in each of the plant categories will also receive a prize (typically a plant). These prizes are awarded based on the total number of points scored during the year. Finally, a trophy is awarded to members, regardless of class, who have earned the most points in the cactus or two succulent categories during the prior year.

Entry Requirements: All entrants must be LACSS members. Members are restricted to 3 plants per entry category per month – a total of 6 plants. In the Advanced and Open Classes, members must have been in possession of their plants for at least one year. Those members showing in the Novice class may immediately enter a recently obtained plant. You can only enter plants that conform to the Plant of the Month schedule described above.

Plants that are in flower and the rarity of the entry are two additional criteria judges employ in determining monthly winners

Judging Scale		Points Awarded	
Condition	50%	First	5
Size and Maturity	25%	Second	3
Staging	20%	Third	1
Nomenclature	5%		

Run out of Room for your collection??? John Matthews, John Martinez and Tim Harvey can be of great assistance. They have space for rent located in SOMIS, an exceptional growing environment. There is a shade cloth structure, hoop house and space for raised beds. Affordable rent and the water is less expensive. Please contact John Matthews (661) 297-5364.

A South Africa Succulents Sabbatical

By Ernesto Sandoval

In January and February of 2008, Mr. Sandoval, director of the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, took a working vacation in South Africa. He served as a botanist on a UC Davis Quarter Abroad course being taught by two UC Davis professors and they focused on Fynbos vegetation. This allowed Ernesto to participate in a variety of field trips to biological reserves and other areas of interest and make weekly visits to Kierstenbosch National Botanical Garden. Visiting South Africa and Namibia had long been a dream for Mr. Sandoval's after hearing so much about the incredible plant diversity to be found in that part of the world. Seeing plants in the field, such as Aloe pillansii, dichotoma, ramosissima and hereroensis, and weird ones such as Welwitschia had made a dream many years in the making come true. Ernesto traveled there and has the pictures to prove it was a memorable experience, even for a summer visit to the desert. He'd looks forward to sharing some of the beauty and tenacity of life he encountered there with all of you!

Also, Ernesto will be bringing a nice selection of succulents to sell to Benefit the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory. Expect a nice mix of well grown plants such as: Aloes, Haworthia, Ariocarpus, Euphorbia, and other plants including UCD's signature plants; Dorstenia gigas and Dendrosicyos socotrana all at reasonable prices. Ernesto calls this a green for green program where he shares plants from UCD's collection and your purchases directly help to continue this amazing collection.



Plant of the Month - May Winners

Novice Division

Succulent - Agavaceae

Award	Name	Plant
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First	<i>Information missing</i>	
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Second		
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Third		
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Cactus - Echinopsis, Trichocereus, and Lobivia

First	Gerald Richert	Lobivia schieleura
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Second	Gerald Richert	Lobivia mentosa
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Third	None	
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Advanced Division

Succulent - Agavaceae

Award	Name	Plant
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First	Barbara Hall	Agave filifera compact 'Minnie Belle'
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Second	Barbara Hall	Agave 'Kissokan'
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Third		
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Cactus - Echinopsis, Trichocereus, and Lobivia

First	Barbara Hall	Lobivia wrightii
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Second	Barbara Hall	Lobivia ferox ssp. Longispina
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Third	<i>None or missing</i>	
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Open Division

Succulent - Agavaceae

Award	Name	Plant
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First	Barbara Nolan	Agave victoria reginea
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Second	Barbara Nolan	Agave lophantha X
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Third	Barbara Nolan	Agave victoria reginea
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Cactus - Echinopsis, Trichocereus, and Lobivia

First	Barbara Nolan	Sulcorebutia breviflora
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Second	None	
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Third	None	
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LACSS 2010 Board Members

Artie Chavez, President

John Martinez, VP, Programs

Manny Rivera, VP, Plant of the Month

Doug George, VP, Special Events

Sandy Chase, Treasurer

Helen Frank, Secretary

Phyllis Frieze, Newsletter Editor

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Cactus of the Month June 2010 - *Thelocactus*

Thelocactus are spectacularly beautiful cacti with dense multicolor spination, well shaped tubercles, and large colorful flowers. They have been a favorite with collectors since they were first discovered.



***T. phymatobelos* (now *rinconensis*) entered in the 2004 SGVCCS Winter Show by Vince Basta**

Thelocactus is a small genus in the cactus family, with only 11 or 12 species. In addition to the species, there are also half a dozen legitimate varieties, and a large number of less legitimate varieties that can be found in reference books and collections. The larger number of questionable varieties is due to variability of some of the species between populations from isolated locations.

Thelocactus are found from Southern Texas through central Mexico, mostly in the Chihuahuan Desert, but extending into brushland and thorn scrub in the western parts of its range, and into the Rio Grande Plains region in Texas. *Thelocactus bicolor* has the largest range, extending from central Chihuahua in the west into Texas in the north, and as far south as San Luis Potosi.

Thelocactus are easily grown, tolerant of heat and moisture, but not cold and moisture. They benefit from protection from being cold and wet, although plants left unprotected during the last several winters survived in good shape. Some species develop fairly large tap roots, and should be planted in deep enough pots to give them room to grow. They are easily propagated from seed, and this is the best way to develop a good collection from different populations. They can also be propagated from offsets, with a cutting allowed to dry, and then replanted.

Although all the species and all the varieties of this wonderful genus are worth growing, a few stand out.

Thelocactus hexaedrophorus has the best tubercles of any of the *Thelocactus*, and is a must for any collection.



Thelocactus hexaedrophorus

Thelocactus rinconensis has the largest body of all the species, getting to 8 inches in diameter in cultivation and habitat.

Tom Glavich May 2005
Edited, Steve Frieze, June 2010

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Succulent of the Month June 2010 –*Caudiciform Euphorbias*

Euphorbias are among the most successful of the plant families, covering an amazing geographical and environmental range. In horticulture, they span the range from English Garden plants to trees, stem succulents, geophytic miniatures, to medusoid globulars to caudiciforms.

This month we are interested in caudiciform euphorbias, plants that use a swollen base or root to store water and nutrients through dry periods that may be from several months to several years long. When the rains finally arrive, the stored water and energy give them a head start over the surrounding vegetation.

Although many caudiciform *Euphorbias* are very easy to grow, with the swollen root making them very tolerant of under watering, some are very difficult, turning immediately to mush when over watered, or watered out of season. Care must be given in watering, keeping them warm and wet while growing, and cooler and dry when dormant. *Euphorbias* from tropical areas (Madagascar, and central Africa) are particularly prone to rot if left cold and damp while dormant. Protection in a greenhouse, or even a garage for a month or two in the middle of the winter will greatly increase the survival rate.

Most caudiciform *Euphorbias* are easy to propagate. The green stems can be removed, left to dry for at least week or even a bit more, and then replanted. The newly planted stems take a few weeks to establish, and then start growing.

Some cuttings will not form caudexes unless double cut. Once growth is strong, the top of the green shoot needs to be cut off again to force the plant to start a caudex. Some species form a perfectly symmetrical caudex when grown from

seed, but form distorted (but often more interesting) caudexes when grown from cuttings.

In collections or when entered into shows, the caudexes of these plant are often raised above the soil line to expose the intricate and exotic root system that are typically submerged in habitat. Once exposed, the caudex will no longer grow or expand.



Euphorbia knuthii

Euphorbia knuthii is a widely grown species that produces branches that, if not trimmed, can reach two feet in length.

A very highly prized species is *Euphorbia cylindrifolia* v. *tuberifera*. This species originates from Madagascar. When mature, the plant forms a round to spherical caudex-tuber from which arms protrude. The leaves are cylinder-like.



Euphorbia cylindrifolia v. tuberifera

Euphorbia persistens from Mozambique and Northern South Africa has spectacular patterned stems from a well developed caudex. More tropical and more difficult than some, it makes a wonderful specimen with age.



Euphorbia persistens

Euphorbia stellata is another South African species, similar in appearance and nearly as easy to grow. It too makes a caudex quickly.



Euphorbia stellata

Euphorbia squarrosa is one of the classic caudiciform species. Easily grown from double cut cuttings, it rapidly forms a great caudex. It tolerates being outdoors in Southern California without much protection even during the rainy season. It is native to South Africa.



Euphorbia squarrosa

Euphorbia capsaintemariensis is native to Madagascar and can be found in the southern most point in this island country in Cap Saint Marie. This euphorbia comes from a very sunny area with substantial amounts of wind. Plants in habitat often have a wind-swept look



Euphorbia capsaintemariensis

Lastly, *Euphorbia ambovombensis* is still another unique Madagascan plant that forms a sizeable caudex in a short period of time and produces handsome branches and leaf structure are almost burgundy in sufficient sun.



Euphorbia ambovombensis

References

Gordon Rowley **Caudiciform and Pachycaul
Succulents**

Herman Schwartz, **The Euphorbia Journals**

Tom Glavich May 2002
Edited, Steve Frieze, June 2010

1936: The club had weekly meetings at the Manchester School playground. Twenty-two (22) club members enjoyed a desert field trip during which some of the more daring members participated in the capture of a rattlesnake, then fried it and ate it as the main course. Members, Don & Murray Skinner's adventure into Baja, California, with a group of thirty (30), made it into a story featured in the September issue of "Desert Plant Life Magazine." The club was experiencing a tremendous growth in membership. The second annual cactus show held June 27th & 28th, also brought an additional ten-thousand (10,000) person attendance of the general public. The youngest member of the club was 4-year old Billy Olin, who could give the nomenclature of the plants that he owned. A cactus show was held in June where a sweepstake and contest for rarest cactus generated an increased interest from the general public.

Thank you, Sandy

Southern California 2010 Calendar of Events

JUNE

June 5 & 6 San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
Balboa Park, Room 101
San Diego, CA 619-477-4779

June 12 & 13 Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society
Drought Resistant Plant Festival 6/12 (9-5) 6/13 (9-3:30)
Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd, Encino, CA
Information: 818-367-0864

June 25-27 CSSA Annual Show & Sale - Huntington Botanical Gardens
1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA
Information: 626-405-2160 or 2277
Plant Sales Start June 25-27
Show Opens 6/26-27 FREE TO THE PUBLIC

General Meeting starts at 7:30 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 Programs:

June Guest Speaker
Ernesto Sandoval

First Class Mail

Next Meeting: June 3, 2010
Sepulveda Garden Ctr. 16633 Magnolia Bl. Encino

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED
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