

**San Gabriel Valley
Cactus & Succulent Society**

COMMUNIQUE

An Affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America, Inc.

April 2014 - Volume 47, Number 4

**April Meeting:
Thursday,
April 10 at 7:30 pm**

Meetings are held on the
2nd Thursday of the month
at **7:30 pm** in Ayres Hall,
Los Angeles County Arboretum,
Arcadia.

Mini-Show Plants:

CACTUS:
Variegated

SUCCULENT:
Variegated

C&S Workshop:

The Workshop will meet on Wednesday, April 16th in the Palm Room, Los Angeles County Arboretum at 7:30 pm. The topic will be:

Spring Seed Workshop

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President's Message

As you may know, we had some internet problems and our website was down for a few days. It's working fine now. However, if the site goes down again we have a mirror site at <http://desertsong.com>.

Thirty-nine folks were able to join us on our recent bus trip to the Living Desert and Sunnylands. We all had a good time. Our return trip was made more interesting thanks to our "Mr. Toad's Wild Ride" bus driver. A special thanks to Jeane Mullens for helping organize the trip.

Our next trip will be to the San Diego summer show on June 7th. We may make a short stop at San Diego County's Waterwise Botanicals Nursery which is hosting a two-day Succulent Celebration, on Friday and Saturday, June 6 -7. The cost of the bus trip is \$10. Admission to the show is free. If you would like to make a reservation you may do so at the next meeting or by emailing me at geisel@citruscollege.edu.

Just as a reminder, our Anza-Borrego overnight trip has been postponed. We will try again at some future time.

On April 16th we will hold our annual Spring Seed Workshop. This is one of your most popular workshops! The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. in the Palm Room. And don't forget – there is always an informal raffle; everyone takes home a plant or plant cuttings. We hope to see you there. A special thanks to Joe Clements who made the March California Natives C&S workshop so enjoyable and informative.

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March Mini-Show Results

Cactus - Rebutia, Sulcorebutia, Weingartia

Novice

1st	Jose Esparrago	Sulcorebutia aranacea
2nd	Jose Esparrago	Rebutia krainziana
3rd	Minh Au	Rebutia fulvasita
3rd	Minh Au	Rebutia vulpina

Intermediate

1st	Rita Gerlach	Weingartia saipinensis
2nd	David Hawks	Sulcorebutia candiae

Masters

1st	John Matthews	Sulcorebutia mentosa
2nd	Frank Nudge	Sulcorebutia candiae/ Rebutia glomeriseta
3rd	John Matthews	Sulcorebutia candiae
3rd	Cindy Arakaki	Rebutia heliosa

Succulent - Echeveria

Novice

1st	Nilda Howard	E. agavoides
2nd	Fred Parrales	E. x Neon Breaker
3rd	Fred Parrales	E. hybrid

Intermediate

1st	Tom Howard	E. Ebony
2nd	Rita Gerlach	E. agavoides

Masters

1st	John Matthews	E. subrigida "Fire & Ice"
2nd	John Matthews	E. cante
3rd	John Matthews	E. elegans "Super Clone"

Mini-Show Judges Signup

Pete Kimbrell will assist Head Judge Manny Rivera in judging the entries for this month's Mini-Show.

Be sure to take a look at the Club's website at www.sgvcss.com. Thanks to Gunnar Eisel for managing our website. If you wish to receive your **COMMUNIQUE** on-line please notify the editor at yvonne@pricklypalace.com.

President's Message (cont. from page 1)

Our April speaker is Kelly Griffin. Kelly holds a degree in Applied Physics from UCSD, but his love for plants has led him to such positions as curator of Xerophytes at Rancho Soledad Nurseries and currently as Plant Research and Developer at Altman's Plants. Kelly has led many expeditions to South Africa, Madagascar, Yemen, Socotra, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Mexico, and Peru. His presentation will be on his recent trip to Mexico. Don't miss this one!

See you at the meeting.

Gunnar Eisel

This Month's Program

"Mexico - Visiting Old Friends and Making New Ones"

Kelly Griffin

This past year in addition to going to other places in the world, I have made three trips to Mexico with at least two more planned. This talk will be about those excursions.

It is new so a little unpolished but that's half the fun, right? I traveled the length of Baja and to several of the islands but that is just a part of the talk. I also traveled to Sonora, Mexico and jumped over to the state of Nuevo Leon to see the delights in the Lampeduzas Mountains.

It is an adventure of people and plants....mostly plants! Expect to see Agaves, Dudleyas, Echeverias, Cactus and even a few Cycads!



Member plant sale - Oscar Flores

April 26th & 27, 9 am to 5 pm
6146 Cleon Ave., North Hollywood, 91606

The sale will include a small auction on Saturday that will conclude at 2 pm. Please contact Woody Minnich at 661-406-9816 or by email at cactusdata@msn.com for more information. Oscar has been collecting for over 20 years and has a large selection of most genera. Buy one or a bunch, all at wholesale rates. Something for everyone!

Refreshment Signup

Fred Parrales
Lynn Olson
Deanna Catalano
Yvonne Hemenway
Roberta Eisel

The first five club members who sign up and bring refreshments each month will receive a **FREE** plant as thanks.

C&S Workshop

Wednesday, April 16th • Spring Seed Workshop

The study group is an informal, hands-on learning experience that is fun for expert and novice alike. Come and learn from the experience of others. We are always happy to share our knowledge.

Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Palm Room at the LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia.

Review of January-February 2014 CSSA Journal by Tim Harvey

Volume 86 begins with a clarification of the identity of *Agave gigantensis* by Robert Webb and Gregg Starr. The article well illustrates the differences between this species and *Agave sobria* from the same area, with which *A. gigantensis* has been confused.

Gideon Smith and Estrela Figueiredo give us a guided tour of the Hanbury Gardens (also known as La Mortola) in Italy.

Two new species of *Avonia* are created by Graham Williamson's article, where he elevates them from subspecies level to full species.

Featured on the cover is a beautiful specimen of *Pediocactus nigrispinus*, one of many shown in Dixie Dringman's article on them in habitat on the land owned by Dave Bishop in Washington State. Duke Benadom's Super Succulents features a highly contrasting pair this month, a bizarre *Astrophytum* cultivar and *Lithops lesliei*.

Sharp eyes and a convenient place to sit resulted in the discovery of *Sedum minimum* in Veracruz, Mexico, a new record for the state, documented by Miguel Chazaro and co-workers.



Root Gorelick brings the issue to an end with an account of *Sclerocactus parviflorus* growing along the trails in Arches and Canyonlands National Parks. Root has also been busy completing Haseltonia 19, which amongst many interesting, has a must-read article on *Huernia* by Darrel Plowes. If you didn't order a copy when you renewed your membership, now is the time to do so.

SGVC&SS LEADERSHIP TEAM - 2013

Gunnar Eisel, President
Tom Vermilion, Vice President
Donn Muhleman, Treasurer
Pat Swain, Secretary
Rebecca Mallonee, Director
Mary Brumbaugh, Director

Louise Stack, Director
Shaun Adams, Director
Dean Elzinga, Director
Horace Birgh, Director
Manny Rivera, Winter Show Chair
Tom Glavich, Intercity Show Chair

Jim Hanna, CSSA Affiliate Representative
Gunnar Eisel, Website Chair
Woody Minnich, Program Chair
Bill Gerlach, Membership Chair
Cindy Arakaki, Librarian

Plants Of The Month

Enter your specimen plants in our monthly mini-show. It will help you prepare for the real shows and give you an additional opportunity to show others your pride and joy. If you don't have any of these species of plants you can learn about them at the meeting.

CACTUS & SUCCULENTS OF THE MONTH — *Varietates*

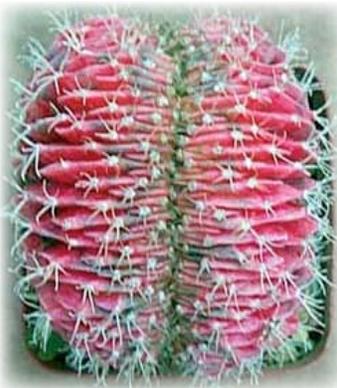
All variegates are mutants. Something has gone wrong with the cellular structure of the leaf or stem growth tip (apical meristem) of the plant. As a result of this mutation, chlorophyll is missing from some or all layers of the plant epidermis.

Variegation is known in most plant families, and variegated plants have a place in most gardens. The bright yellow and white of variegated foliage adds pattern and rhythm to many herbaceous borders. In succulent plants variegates are generally separated from normal plants, and compete against other variegates to put them on an equal footing. Variegated plants grow slower and are generally smaller than non-variegates of the same species. Colored areas are also generally weaker, and more susceptible to fungus, sunburn and other defects. A large well grown variegate of any species is truly an achievement.

Great Variegates

Agave – A striking form of *Agave truncata*, a common garden *Agave*, is well known but since it is slow to propagate, is not generally affordable. There are several forms of variegated *Agave americana*. There are forms with a green center stripe and yellow edges, a yellow stripe and green edges, a green center and white edges, a white center and green edges, yellow centers and crinkled edges, random yellow and green banding, and dozens more. Other species of *Agaves* have also produce variegates, with the same variety of variegation.

Cacti - variegates can be found in many genera. *Gymnocalycium* are the most often seen, but some



Variegated *Gymnocalycium*

columnar variegates and some *Ferocactus* variegates are also common in cultivation. The odd variegate appears in many seedling batches. Variegated *Turbiniacarpus*, *Astrophytum*, *Matucana* and *Ariocarpus* have been seen at some of recent shows.

Many of these are artificially propagated by grafts.



Variegated *Monstrose Lobivia*

The famous 'Red Caps' and 'Yellow Caps' are *Gymnocalycium* or *Lobivia* variegates that have no

chlorophyll at all, and live only by being grafted onto a root stock. These are harder to grow well than they appear.

Sansevieria - There are dozens of named and unnamed varieties. Look for Bantel's Sensation, Futura, Silver Moon, Silver Princess, and variegated varieties of some of the cylindrical forms. Unlike normal *Sansevierias*, these can be difficult to grow. They will not tolerate cold and wet conditions. *Sansevieria* variegates can only be propagated through the tuber. Cuttings of the leaves will root, but will almost always revert to an unvariegated form. On the other hand, normal *Sansevierias* will often put out a variegated pup. These should be removed from the main plant and grown on their own roots to preserve the variegation.

Gasteria -

The Japanese have made an art of *Gasteria* and *Haworthia* variegated cultivation. Read the 2000 CSSA Journal for just a sampling of the wonderful cultivars. Miniature white species, yellow species, even the occasional pink can be found. There are dozens of variegated *Gasterias* shown at our shows, and available from all of the local vendors. Look for *Gasteria* 'Little Warty', a nice white and green species, as well



Gasteria armstrongii Variegate

as many of the yellow and green species such as the Japanese hybrid *Gasteria* 'shozodan'.

Euphorbia - A number of columnar variegates are available, *E. ammak*, being one most often seen. There are also some cristate and monstrose variegates as well.

Haworthia - 'Gray Ghost' is a *Haworthia retusa* variegate. There are several *Haworthia limifolia* variegates that look as if they were painted with mustard. Offsets are produced on the flower stalks, these are variegated, as are the flowers themselves.

Crassulaceae - *Aeonium* 'Kiwi' is only one of the many variegates found and propagated in this large family.



Aeonium 'Kiwi' Crested Variegate

Reference: G. Rowley, Teratopia

Tom Glavich, June 2008



Thank you to Tom Glavich for putting together the Plant of the Month article. If you would like to participate by submitting a plant of the month write up for the **Communique**, please contact Tom Glavich at tglavich@sbcglobal.net.



Welcome New Members



Please welcome new members and make them feel welcome at our functions.

Sadie Heitman, San Francisco
Kyle Hart, Pasadena



Save The Date

Desert Creations

Spectacular Beginning of the Year Sale

Date: Saturday, April 12

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

All cactus and succulent club members are invited to this special opportunity

Save 20 percent on all plants

The above price reduction covers recently arrived plants from Africa - We have made some special purchases and look forward to sharing them with you.

Special Staging Demonstration from 11:00 to 12:30
You can purchase a plant, pot, top dressing, and have your plant staged

Located in the San Fernando Valley
15914 Rayen Street North Hills California 91343

Directions: Exit the 405N Freeway at Nordhoff (go west after exiting for approximately two blocks, turn left on Haskell and then right on Rayen - (look for the cactus garden on the South side)

Call (818) 482-8795 for additional information



39th Annual Show, Sale & Dinner Gates Cactus & Succulent Society



May 16 & 17, 2014
From 9:00AM till 4:30PM

New Venue!

Landscapes Southern California Style

450 Alessandro Blvd.
Riverside, CA

951-360-8802 for Information

www.gatescss.org

Dinner & Auction

Friday May 16 6:30pm

Barbeque Dinner with a Rare Plant Auction to follow. Vendors are invited to enter plants, revenue shared 70/30. Call Karen Roholt 951.369.7180 to make reservations, \$20.00 per person.

Huge Succulent Plant and Pottery Sale

Thousands of rare and interesting succulent plants for the Landscape and for the Collector. Sold by the Grower and by the Potter.

Judged Cactus & Succulent Show

open Saturday only

More than 500 rare and Exotic Plants on Display

Children's Activity

Plant a garden for \$1.00
(Kids Only)



Calendar of Upcoming Events

April 5 and 6, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm — American Ceramic Society Clay Festival at the Arboretum, Ayres Hall, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Admission to the Festival is free with admission to the Arboretum (\$9).

April 12 and 13, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Show & Sale at the South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes, CA. For information call 310-378-1953

Wednesday, April 16, 7:30 pm — Workshop, SPRING SEED WORKSHOP. Palm Room of the LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia.

April 19 and 20, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — Green Scene plant sale at the Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton, CA 92831

April 27, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm — Huntington Spring Plant Sale at the Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. For more information call 626-405-2160.

May 4, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale at the South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes, CA. For information call 310-833-6823.

May 3 and 4, — Sunset Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale at Veterans Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City. For information call 310-822-1783.

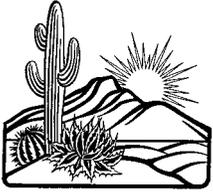
May 16 and 17, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm — Gates Cactus and Succulent Society Annual Show and Sale, at the Waterwise Garden, 450 Alessandro Blvd, Riverside, CA. (New venue!) For information call 951-360-8802.

May 17 and 18, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm — Long Beach Cactus Club Show and Sale at Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA. For information call 310-922-6090 or visit www.lbcss.org.

May 24 and 25, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm — Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Annual Show and Sale at the Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, CA. For more information call 805-237-2054 or visit www.centralcoastcactus.org.

2014 Plant-of-the-Month and Study Group Topics

	Cacti of the Month	Succulent of the Month	Workshops
Jan.	Mammillaria Clusters	Succulent Bulbs	Landscaping with Succulents
Feb.	California Native Cacti	California Native Succulents	Plant Identification
Mar.	Rebutia, Sulcorebutia, Weingartia	Echeverias	California Natives
Apr.	Variegated Cacti	Variegated Succulents	Spring Seed Workshop
May	Gymnocalycium	Stem Euphorbias	Vegetative Propagation
June	Notocactus and Parodia	Bursera & Commiphora	Stem Euphorbias
July	Crested and Monstrose	Crested and Monstrose	Staging Workshop
Aug.	Favorite Cactus	Favorite Succulent	Crests and Monstrose
Sept.	Cephaliated Cacti	Monadenium	Succulent Orchids
Oct.	Ariocarpus	Sedums	Sansevierias
Nov.	Grafted Cacti	Grafted Succulents	Winter Seed Workshop



COMMUNIQUE

Newsletter of the San Gabriel Valley
Cactus and Succulent Society
c/o Yvonne Hemenway
5890 Grinnell Drive
Riverside, CA 92509

FIRST CLASS MAIL

If you have a cactus or succulent related event that you would like to have announced in the **COMMUNIQUE**, forward the information to the address below. Please verify the event date. Articles, Notices and Corrections can be sent via email to: yvonne@pricklypalace.com or via mail to: San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter Editor, c/o Yvonne Hemenway, 5890 Grinnell Drive, Riverside, CA 92509. Material must be received by the last Thursday of the month to be considered for publication in the next issue of the **COMMUNIQUE**.