



# ***San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society COMMUNIQUE***

An Affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America  
April 2017—Volume 50, Number 04

**The next meeting of the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society will be Thursday, April 13 at 7:30 pm in Ayres Hall at the Los Angeles County Arboretum in Arcadia.**

Meetings are on the second Thursday of the month.

### **Mini-Show Plants for**

Cacti: Cephaliated Cacti  
Succulents: Haworthia

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### **Cactus and Succulent Workshop Wednesday, April 19 Topic: Spring Seed Workshop**

The C&S Workshop will meet on in the Palm Room at the Los Angeles Arboretum on April 19 at 7:30 pm

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

Workshops are held the third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Palm Room at the Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia.

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**This Month's Presentation:**  
**Staging — Presented by Karen Ostler**

- Staging plants for show is a method of enhancing the intrinsic characteristics of Cacti and succulents.
- The California method of staging had its greatest innovator in Larry Grammer, an absolute master, and involves using both Bonsai and naturalistic styling.

Karen has been growing plants from age ten, beginning with houseplants like Sansevierias and Epiphyllums. Her first real cactus was in 1979, a *Gymnocalycium*. After that she was hooked. She is also a member of CSSA, the Central Coast, the Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society, the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society, and the Sunset Cactus and Succulent Societies. Ten years ago she moved from the San Fernando Valley to the Mojave Desert, where she lives at an elevation of 4100 feet.



Karen Ostler next to a *Trichocereus*, unknown species.



This is the *Mammillaria* Wing of Karen Ostler's greenhouse

## San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society

**Cactus of the month — April 2017 — Cephaliated Cacti**

When some cacti reach sexual maturity, they undergo one of the most remarkable transitions in the plant world. They produce a flowering and fruiting structure known as a cephalium. A cephalium is a change in the entire structure of the plant body. The internal support structure of the plant changes, the epidermis changes, areoles become crowded, structural ribbing in the cephaliated region disappears, spines become crowded and thin until they are essentially dense hairs, usually brightly colored. Flowers and fruits are produced only in the cephalium.

There are several advantages to this change. The buds and flowers are protected from predators by the dense hairs. The flower temperature remains constant as does the ovary throughout the seed producing period. The bright colors attract passing pollinators who are protected from the otherwise dense spination by the hairs. Cephalium generation is clearly a function of both size and age, but the triggers are unknown. There is much to be studied in cephaliated plants. However, they make fantastic specimens.

Cephaliated plants are not difficult to grow. Most come from tropical or semi-tropical regions so they need some protection from frost. The globular cacti need a fast draining potting mix, mostly pumice works well along with steady fertilization throughout the growing season. Cephaliated structures are easily damaged, and do not recover if scarred or nicked, so some care needs to be taken with placement and potting.



Picture is *Buiningia brevicylindrica*  
Photo by Tom Glavich

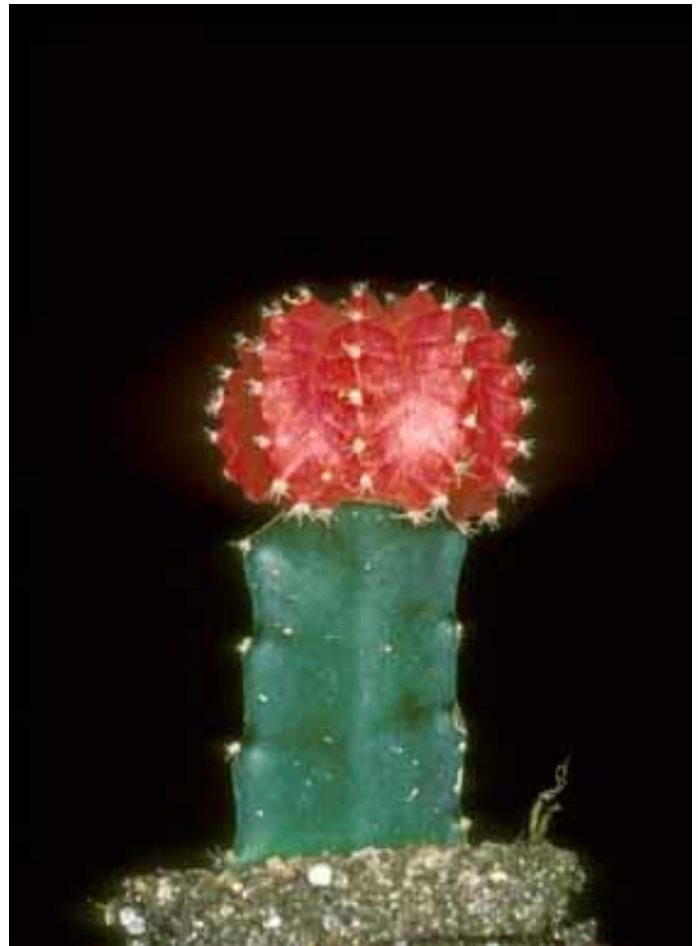


*Discocactus heptacanthus*  
photo from Larry Nichols'  
personal collection  
Photographer was Daiv Freeman

**(Cephaliated Cacti continued)**

The following is a list of some of the Genera with cephaliated species (not every species of every genus produces a cephalium):

Arrojadoa  
 Backbergia (now a Pachycereus)  
 Buiningia  
 Cephalocereu  
 Cephalocleistocactus  
 Coleocephalocereus  
 Discocactus  
 Espostoa  
 Facheiroa  
 Micranthocereus  
 Melocactus  
 Pachycereus  
 Pilosocereus



Article by Tom Glavich  
 April 2017



Photo from Wikimedia Commons  
 Melocactus

The plant above is **NOT** a cephaliated cactus. You may have seen plants like the one above in nurseries. Don't be fooled into thinking that the red part is a cephalium. The plant above is really two separate plants. The top plant is a *Gymnocalycium mihanovichii* grafted onto a *Hylocereus*.

This paragraph is paraphrased from an article titled "Cephalia: Juvenile/Adult Phase" found on the internet.

Article by J. D. Mauseth.  
 Photo by J. D. Mauseth

**Note from the President:**

The Arboretum has two major events scheduled in December and that has caused our annual dinner to be moved to January.

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, January 7th, 2018** for our Annual Banquet.

We'll be having all the events and activities we normally have at our Holiday Dinner.

But we'll be having them in January instead.

Tom Vermilion

The San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society was chartered in 1967.

Larry Lawin played in a 1967 episode of Dr. Who.



Doesn't Larry look like a cactus?  
He's green and he has spines.

**SGVC&SS LEADERSHIP TEAM - 2017**

- Tom Vermilion, President
- Gunnar Eisel, Past President
- Vince Basta, Vice President
- Louise Guerin, Secretary
- Margie Wilson, Treasurer
- Rebecca Mallonee, Director
- Mary Brumbaugh, Director
- Jean Mullens, Director
- Gunnar Eisel, Director
- Sharon Sedillo, Director
- Kal Kaminer, Director
- Manny Rivera, Winter Show Chair
- John Matthews, Winter Sales Chair
- Tom Glavich, Inter-City Show Chair
- Jim Hanna, CSSA Affiliate Rep
- Gunnar Eisel, Website Chair
- Woody Minnich, Program Chair
- Mary Brumbaugh, Membership Chair
- Cindy Arakaki, Librarian
- Richard Roosman, Newsletter Editor

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**\*\*Note \*\*** Membership Dues are Due!  
Your 2017 Club membership renewal can be paid at the next meeting or mailed direct to Mary Brumbaugh, 2123 Pinehurst St., Glendora, CA 91741.

Regular membership is \$20 per year or \$30 if you request the Communique by mail. Make checks to SGVCSS.

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## San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society

**Succulent of the Month — April 2017 — Haworthia**

Haworthia, along with Aloe and Gasteria, are part of the Aloaceae family. Almost all Haworthia come from South Africa and most from a Mediterranean environment not that different from Southern California. Most species are easily grown, preferring some shade and growing mostly in the winter and spring.

Haworthia in general are tolerant of varying potting mixes, 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. Haworthia can be naturalized as a ground cover, placed under shrub cover in shadier parts of California gardens. They appreciate natural rainfall. The low pH of rainwater helps wash any residual salts from the potting mix. Control of the pH (acidity of the water) and regular fertilization during growing periods will really pay off in the quality and speed of growth.



*Haworthia arachnoidea v. setata*

Photo by Tom Glavich



*Haworthia 'lemon lime'*

Photo by Tom Glavich

## (Haworthia continued)

Many of the species in this genus offset easily, and propagation is simple from offsets. Seed is sometimes available, and easily germinates in cool weather, with best results coming in November and December. Seed is not long lived, and can be planted any time it becomes available, except the hottest months of summer. The plants do most of their growing in the spring, and flower mostly in the spring, but sporadically all year round. Some species tend to lose roots easily. If these are grown in pure pumice or pumice-perlite mixes, most root loss will stop. Plants grown in pure pumice or pumice-perlite mixes need steady fertilization during peak growing periods. Most species have a summer dormant period, with low-to-no growth during hot weather. They are more sensitive to warm night time temperatures than day time highs.

Haworthia morphology ranges from grass-like plants, to thin leaved plants, to those that grow in flat rosettes with hard, nearly shiny leaves. These are the retuse plants. They are the ones most favored by collectors, and have been used to make many hybrids and cultivars. For many years, the genus Haworthia was divided into sections. Haworthia taxonomy has recently gotten more complicated with the genus being divided into three parts. We will ignore this for the near future.

All types of Haworthia are welcome this month.

Article by Tom Glavich  
April 2017



Haworthia reticulata

Photo from [www.karacactus.com](http://www.karacactus.com)



Haworthia coarctata var. tenuis

From Dave's Garden

**March Refreshments**

The first three club members who sign up and then bring refreshments for the meeting will receive a **free** plant.

My apologies to those people who signed up at the March meeting.

The clipboard with the names of the people who signed up disappeared from the table near the entrance.

Bringing Snacks:  
 Richard Roosman  
 Richard Salcedo  
 Rosie Garcia

**2017 Cactus and Succulent Workshops**

- Jan Othonna and Senecio
- Feb Caudiciforms and Medusoid
- Mar Crests and Monstrose
- Apr Spring Seed Workshop
- May Vegetative Propagation
- Jun Staging Workshop
- July Echinopsis
- Aug Member Photo Tour
- Sep Astrophytum
- Oct Mesembryanthemum
- Nov Winter Seed Workshop
- Dec None

**Plant of the Month: Cacti**

- Jan Mammillaria clusters
- Feb Copiapoa and Eriosyce
- Mar Crests
- Apr Cephaliated Cacti
- May Miniatures
- June Echinopsis
- July Monotypic Cacti
- Aug Favorite cactus
- Sept Astrophytum
- Oct Columnar Cacti
- Nov Variegated Cacti

**Plant of the Month: Succulent**

- Agave
- Tylecodon and Cotyledon
- Crests and Monstrose
- Haworthia
- Pachypodium
- Miniatures
- Adenium
- Favorite succulent
- Bursera and Commiphora
- Mesembryanthemum
- Variegated Succulents



## **Plant of the Month Mini Show Results for March, 2017**

### **Open Cactus**

- 1st — John Matthews — *Leuchtenbergia principis* montrose
- 2nd — Karen Ostler — *Mammillaria crucigera* ssp. *minnichii*
- 3rd — Karen Ostler — *Turbinocarpus pseudopectinatus*
- 3rd — Karen Ostler — *Mammillaria huitzilopochtli* crest

### **Open Succulent**

- 1st — Cindy Arakaki — *Euphorbia grandicornis* crest
- 2nd — Karen Ostler — Agave 'Filigree'
- 3rd — Manny Rivera — *Aeonium* 'Sunburst'

### **Intermediate Succulent**

- 1st — Sandy Chase — *Euphorbia lactea*
- 2nd — Tom Howard — *Mammillaria huitzilopochtli* crest
- 3rd — Tom Howard -- *Euphorbia* crest

### **Novice cactus**

- 1st — Richard Salcedo -- *Cereus peruvianus* monstrose
- 2nd — Richard Salcedo — *Cereus peruvianus* monstrose
- 3rd — Nilda Howard— *Cereus forbesii* monstrose

### **Novice succulent**

- 1st — Richard Salcedo — *Aeonium* crested
- 2nd — Richard Salcedo — *Aeonium* 'Sunburst' crested
- 3rd — David Lew — *Alluaudia procera*

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## Calendar of Upcoming Events.

### **April 8 & 9— South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Show and Sale.**

Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 4 pm, South Coast Botanic Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes,. Information: 310-378-1953 or [www.southcoastcss.org](http://www.southcoastcss.org)

### **April 28, 29 & 30 – Huntington Annual Spring Plant Sale 2017**

Friday (Huntington Members Only) Plant Sale Preview from 10 am to 5 pm, Saturday (Huntington Members only) Plant Sale Preview from 10 am to 1 pm. Saturday (open to the public) from 1 pm to 5 pm, and Sunday (open to the public) from 10 am to 5 pm. Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino. Information: 626-406-3504

### **May 6 & 7 – Sunset Cactus & Succulent Society Show and Sale.**

Saturday and Sunday. Veterans' Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Ave, Culver City. Information: 310-822-1783

### **May 7 -- South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale**

Sunday from 9 am to 4 pm. South Coast Botanical Gardens. Information: 310-833-6823

### **May 12 & 13 – Gates Cactus & Succulent Society Show and Sale.**

Friday and Saturday from 9 am to 4:30 pm at Land Scapes Southern California Style, 450 East Alessandro Blvd., Riverside. Information: 951-360-8802

### **May 20 & 21 – Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show and Sale.**

Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm. Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach. Information 562-631-5876

### **May 21 – Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale, Sunday 9 am to 5 pm, Ayres Hall,**

L A County Arboretum, 310 Baldwin Ave, Arcadia

### **May 27 & 28 – Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Show and Sale.**

Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm. Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo. Information: 805-237-2064 or [www.centralcoastcactus.org](http://www.centralcoastcactus.org)

### **June 3 & 4 – San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society Show and Sale.**

Balboa Park, room 101, San Diego. Information 858-382-1797

### **June 10 & 11 – Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society Show and Sale.**

Saturday from 9 am to 4 pm and Sunday from 9 am to 3 pm. Sepulveda Gardens, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino. Information [www.lacactus.com](http://www.lacactus.com)

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**.Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)**

**June 30, July 1 & 2— CSSA Show and Sale at the Huntington**

Plant sale Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Show Saturday and Sunday. Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino

**July 22 & 23 — Orange County Cactus & Succulent Show and Sale.**

Thursday from 6 pm to 8 pm, Friday from 9 am to 7 pm, and Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm. Anaheim United Methodist Church, 1000 South State College Blvd., Anaheim. Information 949-212-8417

**August 12 & 13 — Intercity Show and Sale.**

Saturday and Sunday from 9 am to 4 pm. Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia.

Information Tom Glavich 626-798-2430 or John Martinez 805-390-2139

**September 2 — Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium.**

All day Saturday at the Huntington. 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino.

**September 3 — Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction.**

Saturday from noon to 5 pm. Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach,. Information 562-631-5876

**October 7 & 8 Bakersfield Cactus & Suculent Society Show and Sale**

Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday from 11 am to to 3 pm. St. Paul's Church, 2216 17th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304 Free admission & parking, Information 661-831-8488

**October 28-29 Palomar Show and Sale**

Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm and Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm.  
San Diego Botanic Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Road, Encinitas  
Information: hciservices@gmail.com or call 858-382-1797

**November 4-5 San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society,**

from 9am to 4 pm both days show and sale ---Los Angeles County Arboretum, 310 North Baldwin, Arcadia, CA . Manny Rivera 626-780-6957  
or John Matthews 661-714-1052

**Sunday, January 7, 2018 San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society Annual Banquet** at the Arboreum.

List compiled by Jim and Roberta Hanna  
modified by Richard Roosman



**COMMUNIQUE**

Newsletter of the San Gabriel Valley  
Cactus and Succulent Society  
c/o Richard Roosman  
P.O. Box 5222  
Huntington Park, CA 90255

**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: [richardinwalnutpark@msn.com](mailto:richardinwalnutpark@msn.com) or via mail to:

San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter Editor, c/o Richard Roosman, P.O. Box 5222, Huntington Park, CA 90255. Material must be received by the last Thursday of the month to be considered for publication in the next issue of the **COMMUNIQUE**.