

# COMMUNIQUE

## SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

An Affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America, Inc.  
Meetings are held at **7:30 PM** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month  
in the Palm Room, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia  
**September 2008 Volume 41 Number 9**

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**Monthly Meeting:** Join us **Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup>** at 7:30 pm.

Our speaker for September will be **Jeff Moore**. Jeff is the owner of Solana Succulents. He's been into succulents since the early 80s after seeing Rudy Lime's bonsai succulents at the Del Mar fair. Started as an obsessive compulsive collector, began selling at street fairs, opened his nursery in 1992 on the Coast Highway in Solana Beach, and has been there ever since. He has gained a measure of fame for his "undersea", coral-reef succulent gardens, which he's done for the Del Mar Fair, Sea World, Quail Botanical Gardens and the Philadelphia Flower Show. He'll feature some photos of these gardens in his slide show and is bringing plants for sale.

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### ● **New Dues Structure: Effective immediately.**

As most of you know our membership dues have not gone up for over 10 years although postage and the cost of producing the newsletter and other costs have gone up considerably in that time. To deal with this the Board has approved a new dues structure as follows. Membership is on a per household basis and is available in two forms:

**\$15 per year with the newsletter being e-mailed to you**

**\$20 per year with the newsletter being delivered to you by the US Postal Service.**

If you have paid in advance for 2009 or beyond then this change will not affect you, the Club will honor your previous renewal. I hope most of you will consider the e-mail option since it saves the club money and makes things easier on those who distribute the newsletter. If you have any doubts as to whether you can view the newsletter on your computer just go to the Club's website at [www.sgvcss.com](http://www.sgvcss.com) and click on the newsletter link near the top of the page.

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**Plants of the Month:** (see write-ups attached)

**CACTI – *Crests and Montrose***

**SUCCULENT -- *Crests and Montrose***

Bring your specimens in for 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 this type of plant you can learn about them at the meeting

Thanks to **Anne Keegan** for putting together the article on Crests and Montrose plants. Remember you also can write a POM article, just coordinate with **Tom Glavich**.

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**Study Group: Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>; Topic – Euphorbias**

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

If you are interested in joining some fellow members for dinner prior to the Study Group, you will find them at the Dumpling House which is located on Baldwin, just north of Fairview, on the west side of the street. They meet at 5:30pm. Any questions, see **Camille**.

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**New Members:** SGVCSS wishes to extend a warm welcome to its newest members: **Mary Clark, Reynaldo** and **Ronnie Martinez**. Be sure to take a look at the Club's website <http://www.sgvcss.com>. If you wish to receive your COMMUNIQUE on-line please notify the editor at [sgv\\_css@prodigy.net](mailto:sgv_css@prodigy.net).

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**Refreshments:** The following club members have signed up to bring refreshments for the September meeting: **Anne Keegan, Tommy Dodson,** and **Una Yeh**. Remember the first three people to sign up and bring refreshments will receive a plant.

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● **Selling goods or services at meetings:** The Board established the following policy last year. "Anyone who wishes to sell goods or services at club meetings must be an active member for 3 months prior to selling those goods or services." By active it is meant that the member must attend meetings. They do not have to attend 3 in a row but the new member must attend 3 meetings before they begin to sell.

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**Receptionist:** **Phil Skonieczki** will be working with **Ralph Massey** to greet you and aid you in making your visit to SGVCSS enjoyable. Be sure to give them a big "Hello" as you arrive.

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**Huntington Symposium:** **Ralph Massey** and **Martha Rund** were selected to attend the Symposium. We will be looking forward for a report from them.

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# San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society

## Cactus and Succulent of the Month: September 2008

### Crested and Monstrose Forms

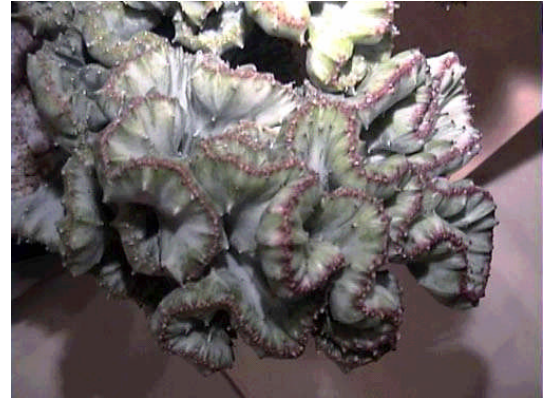
One of the most striking features of a non-branching cactus is its geometrical shape, arising from a single growing point at the tip of the plant where the stem and spines appear. Occasionally a genetic mutation gives rise to a crested or monstrose plant -- something has gone wrong with the cellular structure of the leaf or stem growth tip (apical meristem) of the plant.

In normal plants, the growth tips are points, and the biochemistry of the plant forces one tip to be dominant or locally dominant. A crest occurs when genetic mutation removes this dominance and the growth is elongated. Instead of a single growth tip, the area of active cell growth degenerates, into fan-like patterns when growing points occur in a straight line, or convoluted patterns if the line is wavy.

In monstrose plants, the mutation occurs over the entire plant, not merely at its tip. Growth tips can originate over all or many of the stems or branches of the plant, causing irregular growth. The resulting plants may bear little to no resemblance to other plants of the same species.

Crested and monstrose plants, though unusual, may flower. Grafting speeds their growth, but the mutation(s) is not always reproduced from seed.

Crested and monstrose growth are two of the three most common mutations, the other being variegation. Two or even all three forms are sometimes seen on a single plant. This month, any combination of crest or monstrosity -- alone, together, or combined with variegated growth -- is acceptable. Grafted plants are also welcome.



***Euphorbia lactea* Grey Ghost** Crest entered in the 2001 Intercity Show by Lem and Pat Higgs

Crests are not unique to succulents. Crests occur in many genera of non-succulent plants, including conifers and many common garden plants.



***Euphorbia* Zig Zag** entered in the 2001 Intercity Show by Duke and Kaz Benadom

### Culture of Crested and Monstrose Plants

Crests grow just like normal plants of the same species, though some crests have weak roots and only grow well as grafts. However others are robust growers, and do perfectly well on their own. Careful observation of the health of the plant -- and comparison to healthy non-crested plants of the same species -- will

quickly show whether grafting is needed. Crests tend to be more sensitive to poor growing conditions, getting sunburn quicker, and getting unsightly brown spots more easily than normal plants of the same species. Some may also split if over-watered.



**Parodia crest**

They are also more prone to attack from spider mites and mealy bugs than normal plants, and a careful eye must be kept on them to grow them well.



**Pachyphytum crest**

### **Propagation of Crested and Monstrose Plants**

Crested and Monstrose plants flower and produce seed, just as other plants do, but less often. Good strong growth is probably the best way to produce a flowering crest. Crests and Monstrosity are not generally transmitted by seed; however, seed from a mutant plant is

much more likely to be a genetic mutant than that from a normal plant. The genetic mutation is more likely to be the same as the parent, but the other mutations are also possible.



**Lophocereus schottii monstrose**

The most common method of propagation of crested plants is vegetative. Cuttings of crests are often grafted to speed growth and to preserve special growth forms. Cuttings of varieties that are on their own roots will generally root easily, as long as the cuts are taken during the growing season. After a few days drying, the cut sections are simply stuck into slightly moist potting soil. After a few weeks, there will be sufficient roots to resume normal watering.

Anne Keegan, September 2008

Sources: Tom Glavich, September 2005, [Cacti for the Amateur](#), Hazelton, and, [Crazy for Cacti and Succulents](#), Brooklyn Botanic Garden

## August 2008 Plant-of-the-Month Mini Show Results

### Cacti - Your Favorite

#### Beginner

1st	Louise Stack	Mammillaria hahniana
2nd	Stefan Szalkowski	Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus

#### Intermediate

1st	Barbara Nolan	Aztekium ritteri
2nd	Barbara Nolan	Copiapoa barquitensis
3rd	Barbara Nolan	Lobivia tegeleriana

#### Advanced

1st	Frank Nudge	Epithelantha micromeris
2nd	Buck & Yvonne Hemenway	Ferocactus herrerae
2nd	Rita Gerlach	Weingartia saipinensis
3rd	Manny Rivera	Stromocactus disciformis
3rd	Buck & Yvonne Hemenway	Astrophytum capricorne

### Succulent- Your Favorite

1st	Oscar Flores	Euphorbia cylindrifolia
2nd	Stefan Szalkowski	Euphorbia sp
2nd	Stefan Szalkowski	Welwitschia mirabilis

1st	Barbara Nolan	Uncarina roseliana
2nd	Barbara Nolan	Aloe sp
3rd	Birgh-Dodson	Weedia roadsideii

1st	Manny Rivera	Sarcocaulon peniculinum
2nd	Rita Gerlach	Aloe descoingsii
3rd	Buck & Yvonne Hemenway	Euphorbia bubeliflora
3rd	Rita Gerlach	Haworthia cymbiformis

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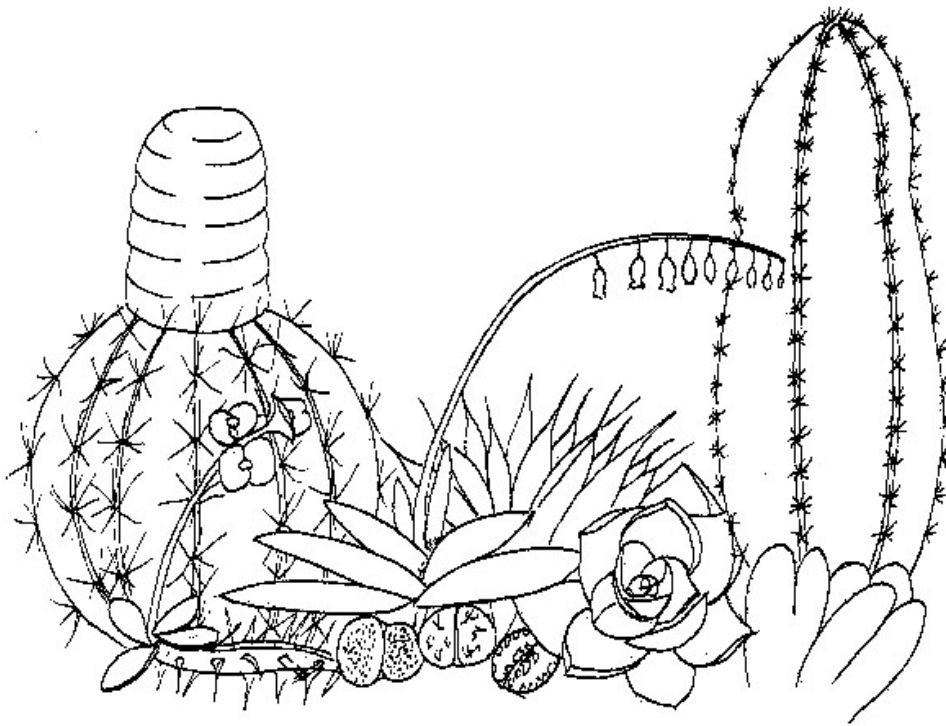
## CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR OF UP COMING EVENTS FOR 2008

- SEPT. 28<sup>th</sup>** PLANT AUCTION, LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB,  
18127 S. ALAMEDA ST., RANCHO DOMNGUES, CA 12 NOON
- NOV. 8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup>** SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
SHOW AND SALE---LA COUNTY ARBORETUM  
301 N. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA
- DEC. 6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>** ORANGE COUNTY SHOW AND SALE AT THE FULLERTON ARBORETUM  
1900 ASSOCIATED ROAD, FULLERTON, CA 92831  
SHOW AND SALE OPEN FROM 10AM TO 4PM  
FOR INFORMATION CALL 714-870-4887
- DEC. 14<sup>th</sup>** HOLIDAY PARTY- AYERS HALL, LA COUNTY ARBORETUM
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# **San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale**

Sat. and Sun. November 8 & 9, 2008 9 to 5

Los Angeles Arboretum and Botanic Garden  
301 N. Baldwin Ave. Arcadia, CA



**Information, Please contact  
Manny Rivera 626-793-6917  
Tom Glavich 626-798-2430  
Jim Hanna 562-920-3046**

**Sponsored by the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society**

**CERB**  
THE COLLABORATIVE Eagle Rock Beautiful  
Presents  
**A CELEBRATION OF THE EAGLE ROCK CANYON TRAIL**

On Saturday and Sunday, September 13 and 14, 2008, the Collaborative Eagle Rock Beautiful will present a festive event to celebrate its FRIENDS OF THE ROCK PROJECT, the Eagle Rock Canyon Trail. Featured both days from 10 AM to 4 PM will be a Plant and Art Sale at the beautiful GLAD Center, located one block west of Eagle Rock Blvd. at 2222 Laverna Avenue in Eagle Rock. Plein Air painters will be painting on-site throughout the GLAD garden and will offer their work for sale. Unique items will be offered at a silent auction and raffle.

On Sunday, September 14, please join us in the GLAD garden at 4 PM for an Evening Gala of champagne and hors d'oeuvres, followed by dessert in the Penthouse, during which we will showcase the history, trailblazing and amazing progress of the Trail.

All proceeds will benefit the purchase and maintenance of the Eagle Rock Canyon Trail which is being transformed into a unique nature preserve. This project encompasses the last remaining open space between Eagle Rock and Pasadena and when completed promises to provide plein-air painters, hikers and sightseers with extensive hiking trails surrounded by a native and drought-resistant botanical garden in a magnificent setting with vistas to the sea.

Tickets to the Sunday Evening Gala are \$35. For further information or to purchase tickets, visit our website: [WWW.CERB.US](http://WWW.CERB.US), or call John Stillion at 323.254.6540 or Ursula Brown at 323-255-9400. Checks or credit card payments may be mailed to CERB, P. O. Box 411441, Eagle Rock, CA 90041.

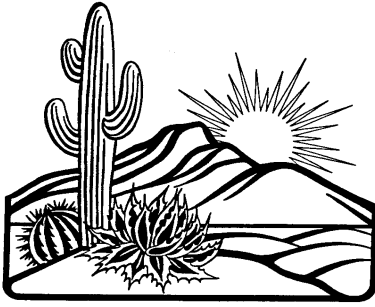
The Collaborative Eagle Rock Beautiful is a non-profit organization founded in 2001 to bring local volunteers and agencies together to enrich and beautify Eagle Rock.

8/25/08

**For Sale - CSSA journal complete 1929-1973. Mostly complete 1974-current. Make offer.**

**John Matthews. (661) 297-5364. [jgplants@aol.com](mailto:jgplants@aol.com)**

**Cactus Collection for Sale:** Glen Carlzen has 600+ Cacti, Succulents and Orchids for sale in all sizes, lots of cacti for landscaping; all are in pots. Call (562) 696-7853 (house) or (562-777-5352 (cell), ask for Glen or Linda. Visitors welcome by appointment only. Email [colenyx2@yahoo.com](mailto:colenyx2@yahoo.com); place CACTUS in title.



COMMUNIQUE  
Newsletter of the San Gabriel Valley  
Cactus and Succulent Society  
C/o Evelyn Stevens  
10119 ½ E Olive Street  
Temple City CA 91780

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

If you have a cactus or succulent related event that you'd like to have announced in the **COMMUNIQUE**, please forward the information to the address given below. Please verify event dates - sometimes events are rescheduled or canceled without adequate advance notice. Articles, Notices and Corrections can be sent via E-mail to: [sgv\\_css@prodigy.net](mailto:sgv_css@prodigy.net) or via post to: San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter Editor, c/o Evelyn Stevens, 10119 ½ E. Olive St., Temple City, CA 91780-3345. Material must be received by the last Thursday of the month to be considered for publication in the next issue of the **COMMUNIQUE**.

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