

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 2nd Thursday of the month
in the Lecture Hall, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia
October 2006 Volume 39 Number 10

Monthly Meeting: Join us **Thursday, October 12th** at 7:30 pm when our guest speaker will be **Tom DeMerritt**. Tom's presentation will be on Madagascar Flora.

Plants of the Month: (see attached write ups)

CACTI – *Cacti of the Southwest*

SUCCULENT – *Succulents of the Southwest*

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

Study Group: Wednesday, October 18th; Topic Bulbs

Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Grapevine Room, San Gabriel Adult Center, 324 South Mission Drive, San Gabriel (between the San Gabriel Mission and Civic Auditorium). These exciting events feature expert group leaders and mentors, free give-a-ways (some of the best plants you'll ever get!), and lively discussion. Everybody learns something!

New Members: SGVCSS wishes to extend a warm welcome to its newest members: **John Hartman, Sharon and Michael Peters, Mirium Fine and Kim Ilan Manfredi**. 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.

The Club Winter Cactus Show and Sale: October brings the last public event of the year, the **13th Annual SGVCSS Winter Show**. This show was designed to be late enough that the Mesembs, Haworthias, Pelargoniums, Tylecodons, and all the other wonderful plants that start to grow with cooler nights look their best. Cacti are still at their best, after putting on some late summer growth, just prior to their winter dormancy.

This show helps us raise funds for the show meetings, speakers, the Study Group and Field Trips. More importantly, many of our new members first exposure to the hobby is through the shows. The Winter Show is away from the summer busy period, and we get many first time growers attending. Please support the show, bring in plants to show, bring your friends to the show to see how you did, and the complete display and sale.

We need club members to help set-up starting about 8:30 on Thursday October 12th, and help during set-up on Friday. Help early on Thursday is our most critical need. Set-up is usually complete by 11:00.

Plants can be brought in any time after 1:00 on Thursday October 14th. Set-up will be open until 10 PM, so you can bring in plants before or after the club meeting! Set up will also go from 8 to 5 on Friday. Judging starts shortly after 5 PM. Entry tags will be available on the show floor, and at the next meeting.

The Show Dinner and Auction will be Saturday evening, October 14th starting at 6 PM in Ayres Hall. This is a unique dinner, surrounded by some of the best cactus and succulents in California, with equal quality plants for auction. This is the time of year to get great bargains on show quality plants. The dinner will be a special meal, prepared by Richard Jones Pit BBQ, the same great chefs who provided last year's dinner. The menu will include Chicken, Beef Brisket and Pork Spare Ribs with BBQ beans, green beans and almonds, salad and a seasonal vegetable medley. The dinner includes beverages and a peach cobbler for desert. The total cost is \$17.50, payable to either Bill Gerlach or Tom Glavich. Be sure to sign up at the next meeting, so we know how many are coming.

2005 Trophy Winners, if you won a trophy at last year's show, please be sure and have your name engraved on it and return it Thursday or Friday.

No show is complete without a plant sale, and this year we have two new sellers. Come early and see what they bring.

September – Plant of the Month Mini Show Results

	Cacti-Eriosyce		Succulent-		Lithops
Beginner					
1st	Pat Swain	Neoporteria cachetayensis	1st	Dodson-Birgh	L. Karasmontana
2nd	Dodson-Birgh	Eriosyce senilis	2nd	Dodson-Birgh	L. gesinae
3rd	Michael Romero	Eriosyce senilis	3rd	Michael Romero	L. species
Intermediate					
1st	No Entries		1st	No Entries	
2nd	No Entries		2nd	No Entries	
3rd	No Entries		3rd	No Entries	
Advanced					
1st	P & C Maker	Eriosyce ceratistes	1st	Frank Nudge	L. karasmontana
2nd	Frank Nudge	Pyrrhocactus bulbacalyx	2nd	Barbara Nolan	L. species
3rd	Frank Nudge	Pyrrhocactus umadeave	3rd	Barbara Nolan	L. species
3rd	Rita Gerlach	Neoporteria nidus			
Master					
1st	No Entries		1st	Karen Ostler	L. dorotheae
2nd	No Entries		2nd	Karen Ostler	L. leslei Ibinica
3rd	No Entries		3rd		

San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society

Cacti of the Month October 2006- *Cacti of the Southwest*

The Southwest, at least for this article, is the region from the Big-Bend in Texas to the California Border and from the Mexican Border to the Utah-Colorado borders. The Southwest is dominated by the Sonoran and Chihuahuan deserts, the mountains that separate them, and the southern part of the Colorado plateau. The environments vary from nearly tropical areas where frost is very rare and humidity can be near 100% to areas that are below freezing and snow covered for part of the year. Cacti thrive in all of these environments.



Carnegiea gigantea and *Opuntia*
near Tucson

There are 120 to 130 species of cacti in the Southwest, depending on the exact borders, and how you lump or split the various genera. There are several web pages that give complete lists, www.whitethornhouse.com/cacti/cacti.htm being

one of the first of many to appear on Google. Some of these pages use unusual and not generally accepted names for a few genera, but still provide a good guide.

A large fraction of any species list is devoted to *Opuntia*. Some of the best of the Cacti of the Southwest are *Opuntia*, and some of the best of these are the Chollas. However, few of these make good pot or garden plants, unless you have a very large garden (and a gardener).

The best known of all Southwest cacti is *Carnegiea gigantea*, or the saguaro. This native of the Sonoran desert defines the image of the Southwest. It does not transplant from its home well. Seedlings are readily available, and grow quickly, but large plants succumb to our wetter winters. The further inland you go, the better their chances of survival.

Nearly as impressive is *Stenocereus thurberi*, found mostly in United States in the Organ Pipe Cactus National monument and surrounding areas. It extends throughout Sonora and into Baja California.

When wandering through Southern Arizona or New Mexico, the most impressive cactus flowers belong to the *Echinocereus*. Almost all the members of this genus have bright colored, usually red, flowers. There are at least a dozen species found through the southwest.



Ferocactus covillei

One of the most popular of the genera of the Sonoran desert is *Ferocactus*. *Ferocactus acanthodes*, *covillei* and *wislizenii* are all found in the Southwest desert.

A less obvious member of the Sonoran desert of Arizona is *Peniocereus greggii*, a tuberous rooted scrambler that climbs through shrubs, usually evident only during brief flower periods at night. Surprisingly, this plant is easy to grow, and does well in pots in Southern California. Relatively rare in collections, it is easily grown from seed, and develops a great tuberous root in just a few years.



Mammillaria microcarpa

The genus *Mammillaria* is represented by *M. grahamii*, *M. tetrancistra*, *M. microcarpa* and several others. These are easily found in the field, and worth seeking out. They do well in pots, and should be shown more often.

Cultivation of most of the Sonoran desert cacti is surprisingly easy. They are perfectly happy outside of their normal environments, and do fine in pots, unprotected from Southern California winter rains. The few exceptions include the larger ceroid species, which are more frost sensitive, and suffer from our periods of extended dampness. *Pediocactus* and *Sclereocactus* are hard to keep through Southern California summers.

References

E. Anderson, **The Cactus Family**

Cullman, Gotz & Groner, **The Encyclopedia of Cacti**

Arizona Sonora Desert Museum Web Page

Tom Glavich September 2006

San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society

Succulents of the Month October 2006- *Succulents of the Southwest*

The Southwest is dominated by the Sonoran and Chihuahuan deserts, the mountains that separate them, and the southern part of the Colorado plateau. The environments vary from nearly tropical areas where frost is very rare and humidity can be near 100% to areas that are below freezing and snow covered for part of the year. Succulents thrive in all of these environments.



Fouquieria splendens in Southern Arizona

When we think of Southwest plants, we immediately think of the Saguaro (*Carnegiea gigantea*) of the Sonoran Desert. As widespread and striking as this species is, there are far more miles where the scenery is dominated by other succulent plants. In many places, the landscape is dominated by Yucca forests, in other places by endless lines of Ocotillo, and in others by acre after acre of Agave.



Jatropha podagrica entered in the 2006 Intercity Show by Alex Abrahamian

photo T. Nomer

The succulent genus with the most members in the Southwest is clearly the Agave, with dozens of species.



Agave parviflora entered in the 2006 Intercity Show by Jim Schlegel

photo T. Nomer

Fouquieria, *Jatropha*, Agave, Yucca, Dudleya, Crassulaceae, *Nolina* are all represented

Tom Glavich September 2006

The San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society

presents

The 13th Annual Winter Show October 14 & 15, 2006

At the Los Angeles County Arboretum

301 N. Baldwin Avenue Arcadia, CA (across from Santa Anita Race Track)

SHOW SCHEDULE

Set-up: Thursday October 12th from 8:30 am till noon(set-up tables, show & sales area) Exhibitors & sellers may bring in plants on Thursday from noon till 9:00 pm.

Set-up: Friday October 13th from 9:00 am till 4:00 pm.

Judging: Friday October 13th from 5:00 pm till 10:00 pm.

Take-down: Sunday, October 15th from 5:00 pm till close

Pre-sale: the sales area will be open for workers and participants from 3:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m. on Friday the 13th. Plants bought during pre-sale must be paid for and removed from the show no later than 9:00 p.m. Friday the 13th or they will be placed back in the sales area.

Horticultural Classifications

Competitive entries shall be as follows:

NOVICE: Exhibitor has won no more than 40 blue ribbons total in recognized C&S shows.

ADVANCED: Exhibitor has won 41 or more blue ribbons. No commercial sellers.

OPEN: Exhibitor must have won 80 or more blue ribbons or be a commercial seller of C&S plants.

All entrants must register their total entries in the show registrar prior to placement on tables.

Show Chairman: Vince Basta (714) 738-1422 **Sales Chairman:** Jim Hanna (562) 920-3046

Treasurer: Amber Jones (951) 827-5220 **Publicity:** Bill Gerlach (626) 332-8008

DIVISION 1 INDIVIDUAL POTTED SPECIMENS, CACTI

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | <i>Ariocarpus</i> up to 5" | 21 | <i>Mammillaria</i> hooked up to 6" |
| 2 | <i>Ariocarpus</i> single over 5" | 22 | <i>Mammillaria</i> hooked over 6" |
| 3 | <i>Ariocarpus</i> cluster over 5" | 23 | <i>Mammillaria</i> w/o hooks single up to 6" |
| 4 | <i>Astrophytum</i> | 24 | <i>Mammillaria</i> w/o hooks single over 6" |
| 5 | <i>Aztekium, Pelecyphora, Epithelantha</i> | 25 | <i>Mammillaria</i> w/o hooks cluster up to 5" |
| 6 | <i>Borzicatus, Matucana, Submatucana, Oroya</i> | 26 | <i>Mammillaria</i> w/o hooks cluster 5 to 10" |
| 7 | <i>Blossfeldia, Frailea</i> | 27 | <i>Mammillaria</i> w/o hooks cluster over 10" |
| 8 | <i>Buiningia, Uebelmannia</i> | 28 | <i>Melocactus</i> |
| 9 | Columnar - Ceroid types (N or S American) | 29 | <i>Notocactus, Parodia, Weingartia</i> |
| 10 | <i>Obregonia, Strombocactus, Encephalocarpus</i> | 30 | <i>Opuntia</i> (all Opuntioideae) |
| 11 | <i>Copiapoa</i> | 31 | <i>Pediocactus, Sclerocactus, Turbinicarpus</i> |
| 12 | <i>Coryphantha, Escobaria, Gymnocactus, Neobesseya, Neolloydia, Ortegocactus</i> | 32 | <i>Rebutia, Mediobivia</i> |
| 13 | <i>Discocactus</i> | 33 | <i>Sulcorebutia</i> |
| 14 | <i>Echinocereus</i> up to 5" | 34 | <i>Stenocactus (Echinofossulocactus)</i> |
| 15 | <i>Echinocereus</i> over 5" | 35 | <i>Thelocactus</i> |
| 16 | <i>Echinopsis, Lobivia, Acanthocalycium</i> | 36 | Epiphytic Cacti (<i>Aporocactus, Hatiora</i> , etc.) |
| 17 | <i>Echiocactus, Ferocactus, Hamatocactus</i> | 37 | Any other genus |
| 18 | <i>Eriosyce (Neoporteria, Neochilenia, Pyrrhocactus, Horridocactus)</i> | 38 | Variegated Cacti |
| 19 | <i>Gymnocalycium</i> up to 5" | 39 | Crested Cacti (fan-shaped growth) |
| 20 | <i>Gymnocalycium</i> over 5" | 40 | Montrose (multiple, irregular, growth centers) |
| | | 41 | Seed grown by exhibitors up to 5 years |
| | | 42 | Miniature Cacti (3" maximum pot size) |
| | | 43 | Cacti Collections of 5-12 plants |

DIVISION 2 INDIVIDUAL POTTED SPECIMENS, SUCCULENTS

Aizoaceae (*Mesembrianthemaceae*) family

- 44 *Lithops*
- 45 *Conophytum*
- 46 Other genera - with prominent stems/roots:
Aloinopsis, Faucaria, Mestoklema, etc.
- 47 Other genera - without prominent stems/roots:
Dinteranthus, Lapidaria, etc.

Asphodelaceae family

- 48 *Aloe* under 6"
- 49 *Aloe* 6" and over
- 50 *Gasteria*
- 51 *Haworthia* & *Astroloba* under 5"
- 52 *Haworthia* & *Astroloba* 5" and over

Crassulaceae family

- 53 *Adromischus*
- 54 *Cotyledon, Tylecodon*
- 55 *Crassula, Kalanchoe*
- 56 *Dudleya*
- 57 *Echeveria*
- 58 Other *Crassulaceae*: *Aeonium, Pachyphytum, Graptopetalum, Monanthes, Sedum, Tacitus, Orostachys*, etc.

Euphorbiaceae Family

- Euphorbia* - species endemic to Madagascar
- 59 Caudiciform or Geophyte (*capsaintmariensis, cylindrifolia v. tubifera*, etc.)
- 60 Other Madagascan (*decaryi, milli*, etc.)
- Euphorbia* - species not endemic to Madagascar
- 61 Caudiciform (*knuthii, squarrosa*, etc.)
- 62 Medusa type (*esculenta, gorgonis*, etc.)
- 63 Stem type (*abdelkuri, obesa, suzannae*, etc.)
- Other genera of *Euphorbiaceae*;
- 64 *Jatropha, Monadenium, Pedilanthus*, etc.

Geraniaceae family

- 65 *Pelargonium*
- 66 *Sarcocaulon*

Apocynaceae family

- 67 *Adenium* & *Plumeria*
- 68 *Pachypodium* - African
- 69 *Pachypodium* - Madagascar

Asclepiadaceae family

- 70 *Fockea, Raphionacme, Brachystelma*
- 71 *Caralluma, Hoodia, Huernia, Pseudolithos, Stapelia, Trichocaulon*, etc.
- 72 Other *Asclepiadaceae*: *Ceropegia, Sarcostemma, Hoya*, etc.

Succulents in Other Families

- 73 **Agavaceae**: *Agave, Nolina, Yucca*
- 74 **Asteraceae**: *Senecio, Othonna*
- 75 **Bromeliaceae**: *Abromeitiella, Dyckia*, etc.
- 76 **Burseraceae**: *Bursera, Commiphora*
- 77 **Didiereaceae**: *Alluaudia, Decaryia, Didierea*
- 78 **Dracaenaceae**: *Sansevieria* (may include variegates)
- 79 **Moraceae**: *Dorstenia* (enter *Ficus* in 83 or 84)
- 80 **Passifloraceae**: *Adenia*
- 81 **Portulacaceae**: *Anacampseros, Avonia, Ceraria*
- 82 **Vitaceae**: *Cissus, Cyphostemma*

Pachycauls, Caudiciforms & Geophytes

- Adansonia, Bombax, Chorisia, Cucurbitaceae, Dioscorea, Fouquieria, Pachycormus*, etc.
- 83 Pot size under 8"
- 84 Pot size 8" and over
- 85 Any other genus
- 86 Variegated Succulents
- 87 Crested Succulents (fan-shaped growth)
- 88 Monstrose (multiple, irregular, growth centers)
- 89 Seed grown by exhibitors up to 5 years
- 90 Miniature (3" maximum pot size)
- 91 Collection of 5 - 12 plants

DIVISION 3 ARRANGEMENTS

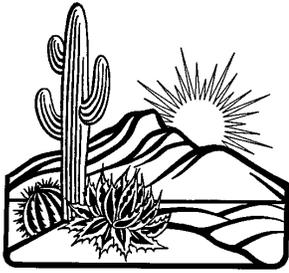
- 92 Dish gardens (miniature scene)
- 93 Planters (group of the same or assorted plants)
- 94 Bonsai (Succulent Media of Living Art)

DIVISION 4 DISPLAYS

- 95 Individual display
- 96 Commercial display
- 97 Educational display

DIVISION 5 ALLIED INTERESTS

- 98 Photography
- 99 Art Work & Handicrafts



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

Calendar of Events – 2006

October 14th-15th SGVC&SS Winter Show and Sale, LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia CA.

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 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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