



*San Gabriel Valley  
Cactus & Succulent Society*

# **COMMUNIQUE**

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

December 2012 - Volume 45, Number 12

**Holiday Party  
Sunday,  
December 9 at 5:00 pm**

The Holiday Party will be held in Ayers Hall on Sunday, December 9 at 5:00 pm, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia.



**Study Group:**

Study group will reconvene on Wednesday, January 16th in the Palm Room, Los Angeles County Arboretum at 7:30 pm. The topic will be **Tips, Tools & Techniques**

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**President's Message**

It's hard to imagine, let alone remember, that I've been President of this group for 4 years. Time really does fly when you're having fun. I was and will be honored to serve the San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society in any way that helps the club.

Many of you know that I had a small issue with my heart. One procedure done, another to go in early January, and I'll be good to go. In the mean time, no restrictions (other than a handful of pills every day).

There is an article in this Communiqué regarding the passing of Leo Pickoff. Our early involvement with San Gabriel was with the Pickoffs. We used to ride-share with them from Riverside. They were stalwarts of this and other C&S groups. Leo's passing is very sad for everyone who knew him. We wish Lillian the very best.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday Party. Remember, there is no regular meeting nor study group in December. The Holiday Party is Sunday, December 9. We want to begin eating by 5:00 or so. There's a lot of activity at the Party. Be sure to read the article in this Communiqué.

We all thank Panayoti Kelaidis for a terrific presentation on Rock Gardening with Succulents. His talk was particularly relevant to those of us who garden in cooler areas of Southern California.

In closing, let me wish the new Board of Directors and Officers the very best and all of our members a wonderful Holiday season.

See you at the Party! Buck Hemenway

**In This Issue**

<b>President's Message</b> . . . . .	<b>1</b>
<b>November Mini-Show Results</b> . . . . .	<b>2</b>
<b>Study Group</b> . . . . .	<b>2</b>
<b>Hi Points Results</b> . . . . .	<b>2</b>
<b>Club Bulletin Board</b> . . . . .	<b>3</b>
<b>CONVENTION 2015</b> . . . . .	<b>5</b>
<b>CSSA CORNER</b> . . . . .	<b>5</b>
<b>ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY!</b> . . . . .	<b>6</b>
<b>Calendar of Upcoming Events</b> . . . . .	<b>7</b>
<b>Welcome New Members</b> . . . . .	<b>7</b>

**November Mini-Show Results**San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society  
Winter Show 2012**Monsters - Cactus****Novice**

1st Shaun Adams Cactus crest

**Intermediate**

1st C &amp; C Arakaki Crested Echinopsis sp.

2nd C &amp; C Arakaki Crested Echinopsis sp.

3rd C & C Arakaki Crested Mammillaria  
matudae**Masters**1st Tom Glavich Mammillaria perbella  
crest2nd Ken Shaw Mammillaria pringlei  
crest**Monsters - Succulents****Novice**

1st Shaun Adams Agave potatorum

2nd Shaun Adams Ledebouria socialis

3rd Shaun Adams Agave potatorum

**Intermediate**1st C & C Arakaki Crested Luckhoffia  
beaukmanii2nd C & C Arakaki Crested Euphorbia  
grandicornis**2012 Mini-Show Prize Plants will be awarded at  
the Holiday Party!****Study Group****The Study Group will reconvene on  
January 16, 2013**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.Be sure to take a look at the Club's website at [www.sgvcss.com](http://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](mailto:yvonne@pricklypalace.com).**Hi Points Results****Novice Cacti:**

Peter Claridge 37

Mary Brumbaugh 16

Gary &amp; Jamie Mancuso 15

**Novice Succulents:**

Rebecca Mallonee 68

Mary Brumbaugh 53

Peter Claridge 36

**Novice Overall:**

Rebecca Mallonee 74

Peter Claridge 73

**Advanced Cacti:**

Paul &amp; Carol Maker 64

Calvin &amp; Cindy Arakaki 61

Glen Carlzen 39

Greg &amp; Anna Cavanaugh 39

**Advanced Succulents:**

Calvin &amp; Cindy Arakaki 64

Horace Birgh &amp; Tommy Dodson 54

Barbara Hall 50

**Advanced Overall:**

Calvin &amp; Cindy Arakaki 125

Paul &amp; Carol Maker 76

**Open Cacti:**

Pat Swain 75

Peter Walkowiak 61

Charles &amp; Joann Spotts 58

**Open Succulents:**

Peter Walkowiak 72

Charles &amp; Joann Spotts 64

Buck &amp; Yvonne Hemenway 56

**Open Overall:**

Peter Walkowiak 133

Charles &amp; Joann Spotts 122

**SWEEPSTAKES WINNER:****PETER WALKOWIAK**



## Club Bulletin Board

### — SGVCSS Winter Show and Sale



The Trophy Table showcases the best of the best. Below are a few of the fabulous plants that were on display at our Winter Show.

These smiling faces are some of the winners whose outstanding plants were chosen by our judges to receive a trophy for the SGVCSS Winter Show.

L to R: Rebecca Mallonee, Kyle Robinson, Martin Ostler, Karen Ostler, Cindy Arakaki, Petra Crist (holding Rusty), Peter Walkowiak, Tom Glavich, Charles Spotts, Joann Spotts, Woody Minnich, Barbara Hall, Tim Harvey, Pat Swain, Kim Thorpe, and Mary Brumbaugh. Contratulations to all!



Working hard to make their plants look fabulous.  
Left: Rob MacGregor.  
Top: John Matthews, Bill and Rita Gerlach.  
Right: Karen Ostler.



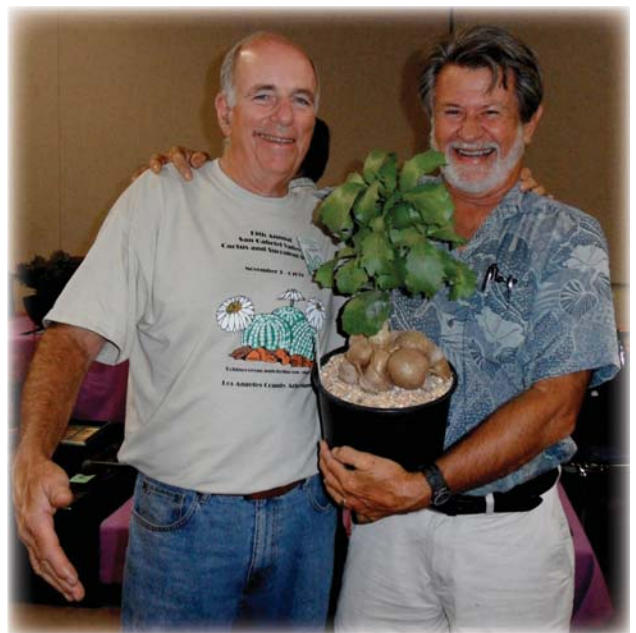


Judges selecting the best plants in each category.  
Judges L to R: Charles Spotts, Petra Crist, and Woody Minnich.  
Clerk Mary Brumbaugh.

The Tabulation Team:  
L to R: Martin Ostler, Rita Gerlach, Paul Maker, Carol Maker, Buck Hemenway and Yvonne Hemenway (taking the picture).



The Winter Show Trophy Table showcases the best of the best.



Saturday Dinner & Auction. Plenty of delicious BBQ and fixin's.  
Auctioneers (L to R) Buck Hemenway and Woody Minnich provided a fun evening of bidding on specimen plants.





**Leo Pickoff**

Our dear friend Leo Pickoff passed away on Nov. 18, 2012. He was 91 years old and is survived by his wife Lillian. They settled in Riverside, California following Leo's retirement as a Lt. Colonel in the Air Force.



Leo and Lillian have been the consummate volunteers, giving countless hours to botanic gardens in Southern California. They served the Cactus and Succulent hobby tirelessly and Leo served as President of the CSSA in 1975-6.

Those of us who knew him, were in awe of his boundless energy and cheerful good humor.

**CONVENTION 2015**

2015? June 2015? Isn't that 3 years away? Not exactly. If you haven't noticed we are nearing January 1, 2013.

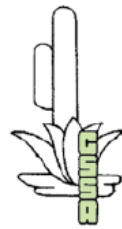
The San Gabriel Valley C&SS and Gates C&SS will be co-hosts of the 36th Biennial Convention to be held at Pitzer College in Claremont, CA. This is an opportunity for those of us in the Los Angeles Basin to strut our stuff in front of the C&S World. It will have been 14 years since the LA club last hosted a convention in our area.

The two clubs will hold their first organizational meeting on Sunday, February 10th at 2:00 PM. It will be at Buck and Yvonne's home. Anyone who has some interest in helping to put on this once-in-a-life-time event is welcome.

We are looking for people to chair committees such as Transportation, Banquets and Meals, Tours, Sales, Facilities Host, Publicity, printed program, etc.

Please rsvp your intent to participate by phoning 951-360-8802 or email Buckhem@sbcglobal.net.

**2015 2015 2015 2015 2015**



**CSSA CORNER**

We are working hard on the 35th Biennial CSSA Convention which will occur in Austin, Texas from June 15 through 20, 2013. We have a world class group of speakers scheduled and attendees will be able to buy plants from the leading growers of Cacti and Succulents in North America. Your club members should be planning a trip to Austin to join all of us for this terrific event. Your members can access current information and the registration form (from about Dec 10 ) at <http://.cssa2013.com>

**Preview of upcoming November-December CSSA Journal**

The last issue for 2012 starts with a well-illustrated report from Fred Kattermann on the IOS congress held in Cuba earlier this year. A spectacular Melocactus evae, seen on the post-conference field trip, graces the cover. Closer to home, an article by Gary James and Christopher Drover highlights Dudleya stolonifera, a narrow endemic from the coast of Southern California. Infestations of our plants are an inevitable feature of our hobby, and Matt Maggio



draws our attention to a new and relatively poorly known pest of Agave, Agave mite. The article illustrates symptoms and suggests remedies, which will also be of interest to Aloe aficionados. Duke Benadom's popular series Superb Succulents returns after a short break, featuring outstanding specimens of Ariocarpus retusus and

Pachypodium succulentum. John Pilbeam takes us across the 'Bridge of God' in search of Echeveria with a thoughtful look at the status of E. halbingeri and its subspecies sanchez-mejoradae. The issue closes with the all-important index to vol. 84, carefully compiled by Cody Howard.

– Tim Harvey,  
Journal Editor

## **ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY!**

Instead of our usual meeting, we'll have our annual Holiday Party & Potluck Dinner on Sunday, December 9th, in Ayers Hall at the LA County Arboretum. Park in the side parking lot and enter through the gate next to the hall. (Ayers Hall is where our Winter Show is held.)

Setup starts at 3:30 p.m., and WE CAN REALLY USE YOUR HELP to set up tables and decorate. Dinner starts at 5:00 p.m. The club will provide turkey, ham, gravy, mashed potatoes, plates, cups, and utensils. Appetizers, salads, relishes, side dishes, and desserts will be provided by you, our club members. Please bring stuffing, yams, that yummy casserole your family begs for....anything you'd like to share with your fellow enthusiasts. Suggested items to bring are (according to your last name):

A – F    Dessert  
G – L    Appetizer, Salad, Bread  
M – Z    Side Dish

Be sure to tag your container so that it gets back to you. Thanks in advance to EVERYONE for making this special event possible each year. There are some fantastic cooks in our club, and the meal is always outstanding.

Please call your dinner coordinators Mary Brumbaugh 626/852-2914 or Rebecca Mallonee 626/967-0716 to volunteer your set-up and/or clean-up services, or for questions. If you volunteered to bring the turkey or ham, or to perform any other function and will be unable to, please call either Mary or Rebecca AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

**Gift Exchange:** Anyone may participate in this optional activity. Bring a cactus, succulent, or related item (one item per person). It must be in good condition (something you would like to receive). Attach a label with your name on one side and, if it's a plant, the species on the other. The plant or item that is deemed most desirable will be sold during the plant auction. The person who brought in that item gets first pick from all remaining items. The person who brought that item gets to pick next, and so on. As you can see, the more desirable the item you bring, the earlier you will likely get to pick!

**Holiday Plants:** Each member receives a Holiday Plant as an annual gift from the Club. Members are invited to bring in all surviving plants from previous Holiday Parties to show how well they have been grown, so remember to bring in your plants from years gone by.

**Plant Auction:** Bring Money! This is a great opportunity to purchase or sell rare or specimen sized plants. Items will be auctioned by some of our knowledgeable members. Auction Rules are:

- Must be a club member to sell.
- Limit of 3 plants or cactus/succulent-related items per member. (Other items may include artwork such as paintings and pottery, or just neat items with a cactus/succulents theme.)
- Plants must be mature, well-grown specimens rather than immature plants.
- Club gets 30% of the proceeds, seller gets 70%.
- Label your auction items with your name, and the minimum bid you'll accept. If the item is a donation to the club, then indicate such.

The auction is always great fun so, again, bring money, and come prepared to buy yourself a present! (After all.....who knows you better?)

**SEE YOU SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, AT THE ARBORETUM!**

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

**Sunday, December 9**, 5:00 pm — Annual San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society **HOLIDAY PARTY !** in Ayers Hall, LA Arboretum.

**Saturday, January 19**, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm — DESERT FORUM at the Huntington Botanical Gardens. CSSA members and affiliate clubs are invited to a free day at the Desert Garden including a tour with knowledgeable staff, plant sale, and forum led by Director of the Gardens, Jim Folsom. Wear your name badge!

**Saturday, January 26**, 9:30 am - 11:00 am — 12th Annual ALOE WALK at the Jurupa Mountain Discovery Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive, Glen Avon, CA. Phone 951-685-5818 for directions. The 6-acre succulent gardens at the Center were planted by local succulent enthusiasts in the late 1960's and early 1970's. Buck Hemenway will lead the tour among the many specimens of blooming aloes and discuss their wide ranging natural habitats and how they survive in our Inland Empire climate. This event is Free.

**Saturday, February 9**, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale, Room 101, Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego.

Dues for 2013 are now due. The rate for 2013 is unchanged and will be \$15.00 per household member for electronic delivery and \$25.00 per household per year for postal delivery. Please make your check payable to SGVCSS and mail to: Bill Gerlach, 719 S. Albertson, Covina, CA 91723.

Checks must be received by January 31 to be included in the 2013 Roster.

## Welcome New Members

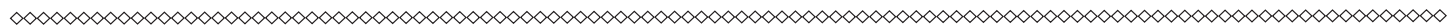


Please welcome these new members and make them feel welcome at our functions.

**Kim & Kimo Thorpe, Van Nuys**

**Kathy Harris, Duarte**

**Erika Clemens, Chatsworth**

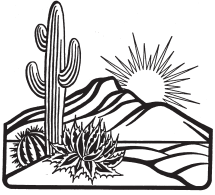


### SGVC&SS LEADERSHIP TEAM - 2012

Buck Hemenway, President  
Horace Birgh, Vice President  
Ana Wisnev, Treasurer  
Irma Juarez, Secretary  
Phil Skonieczki, Board Member  
Karen Ostler, Board Member

Ralph Massey, Board Member  
Bill Gerlach, Board Member  
Patty Caro, Board Member  
Judi Romine, Board Member  
Manny Rivera, Winter Show Chair  
Tom Glavich, Intercity Show Chair

Jim Hanna, CSSA Affiliate Representative and Plant Sales Chair  
Woody Minnich, Program Chair  
Bill Gerlach, Membership Chair  
Liz Alba, Library Chair  
Gunnar Eisel, Website Chair



***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](mailto: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***.