



San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society

COMMUNIQUE

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

February 2011 - Volume 44, Number 2

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

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

Mini-Show Plants:

CACTUS:

Miniature

SUCCULENT:

Miniature

Study Group:

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

***“Blue Collar Bonsai”
Staging by Ralph Massey***

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President’s Message

We had a very productive Board of Director’s meeting on the 19th of January. Here are a few of the decisions made and information about them.

1. The Board has revised our By-laws in order to reflect the proper wording that makes us eligible for 501 (c)(3) non-profit status with the Federal Government. We also passed changed wording in the Membership section and in the Officers section. All officers will now be elected for two-year terms with term limits of two terms. Please see the exact changes and wording on page 6 in this newsletter. The full By-laws will be available at the meeting for review, if anyone so desires.
2. We are moving forward with plans to implement bar code scanning at our Winter Show & Sale and the Inter City S&S. A meeting will be held in the near future. Anyone wishing to participate will be welcomed.
3. We are moving forward with plans to submit a proposal to the CSSA to co-host (with Gates C&SS) the 2015 Convention at Pitzer College. A steering committee has been appointed and you will hear more about this in the future.
4. Regarding the upcoming CSSA convention in San Diego (April 24 – 29), the club will once again help our members to attend. The

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Club Bulletin Board

ANZA BOREGO FIELD TRIP

March 31st thru April 3rd, 2011

*** Back by Popular Demand ***

The spring wildflowers and desert cacti will be showing off their beautiful colors, and it has been more than several years since we've explored the mountains & valleys of Anza Borrego State Park.

So get your cameras ready and come join us for a fun filled weekend.

Many of us will be staying at Stanlunds Motel (760-767-5501) and it will be our headquarters or morning starting point. We are planning to have our Saturday night dinner at the Palm Canyon Resort. (760-767-5341.) Friday night at the Taco House.

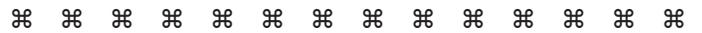
Some will be staying at the Hacienda del Sol (760) 767-5442. Wherever, you choose to stay, please make your reservations as soon as you can because the little town of Borrego Springs will be filled up when the flowers start showing up. For more information, please call Jean Mullens or email her at jeanemullens@earthlink.net. We need to know who all is coming so that we can complete the itinerary.

SANTA BARBARA BUS TRIP

Saturday, April 9th, 2011

Our annual bus trip is in the planning stages and the itinerary will be announced soon. The cost will be \$20.00 to reserve a seat, with a \$10.00 refund when you board the bus.

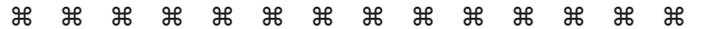
The main destination will be the Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens, with stops at the Pier for lunch and one or two nurseries/gardens on the way back. Save the date - April 9th - if you want to go. See Judi Romine or email judir5@sbcglobal.net to reserve your place.



It is with sadness that we note that fellow SGVCSS member Ed Watts of Los Angeles passed away in December.



The Celebration of Life for Ed will be held on February 5th at the South Pasadena Masonic Lodge, 1126 Fair Oaks Ave., South Pasadena, CA 91030.



CSSA 2011 CONVENTION



April 24 - April 29, 2011
Marriott Hotel - Mission Valley
San Diego, California

Hosted by the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society



CSSA Corner

The biennial Convention of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America is coming up fast. Early registration allows for a \$100 discount, but must be made by February 15, 2011 to qualify. Don't miss the best presenters anywhere and the social fun of a World-Wide C&S gathering. There will be field trips, plant workshops, a Judges Workshop, Newsletter Editors meeting, Affiliates meeting among all of the other activities. Remember, San Diego, April 24-30, 2011.

The New Year is here and it is time to renew subscriptions to the CSSA Journal. Do it soon so as not to miss the first issue of 2011.

SGVC&SS LEADERSHIP TEAM - 2011

Buck Hemenway, President
Tom Vermilion, Vice President
Donn Muhleman, Treasurer
Pat Swain, Secretary
Bill Gerlach, Director
Patty Caro, Director

Judi Romine, Director
Jean Mullens, Director
Tricia Kangrga, Director
Hannah Nguyen, Director
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

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.

CACTI and SUCCULENTS OF THE MONTH —

Miniatures

This month, the Cacti and Succulent of the Month are both miniatures. Miniatures are defined differently for different shows. In most cases, the definition is a mature plant in a pot with an inside diameter less than three inches. Some shows define the miniature category as any plant displayed as a miniature. This allows seedlings and young plants to be entered as miniatures. Others require the plant to be the smallest in a genus. We'll use the broad definition for the Plant of the Month: The inside dimension must be less than three inches, but anything else is allowed.

The miniature category is one of the most popular in our shows, with the number of entrants often one of the largest. The key to success is staging plants. Particular attention must be paid to the relation of the plant to the pot, the top dressing, and any rocks. The importance of color, geometry, and texture are all magnified in the smaller scale of miniatures.

Succulents entered as miniatures include representatives from almost every family, and a list would be far too long to print. Unusual entries often do well. Many *Haworthia* do fit, as do *Lithops*, *Conophytum* and many of the other smaller mesembs. Small *Crassulaceae* also do well.

With care, species that normally grow large can be kept small, by controlling root development. Even though small, miniatures need a little fertilizer to keep top growth looking fresh and frequent watering, since there is little storage either in the pot or the body of the plant.

Some Cacti suitable as miniatures:

Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus - the classic entry
Blossfeldia - a genus of miniature cacti from Brazil
Epithelantha micromeris a variable species from Texas and Northern Mexico.

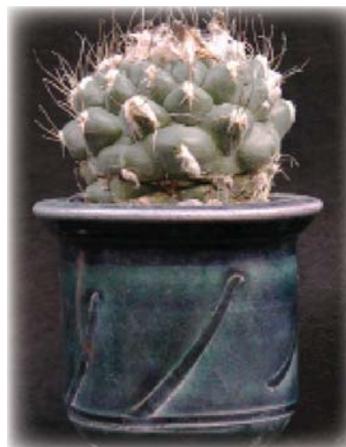
Frailea - a genus of small cacti, some of which clump.

Mammillaria saboae (discovered by club member Kitty Sabo!)

Mammillaria herrerae

Mammillaria hernandezii is a particularly beautiful species from Oaxaca.

Peleciphora asseliformis another classic from Mexico.



Turbincarpus lauii

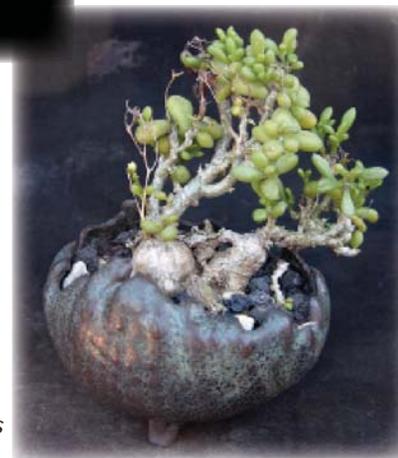
Turbincarpus another genus of slow growing, small cacti from Mexico. There are many great species in this genus, all small and all worth growing.



Mitrophyllum clivorum



Haworthia emelyae x herbaceae x emelyae
Japanese



Tylecodon schaeferanus

Tom Glavich February 2011



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.



Study Group

Wednesday, February 16th • Staging

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.

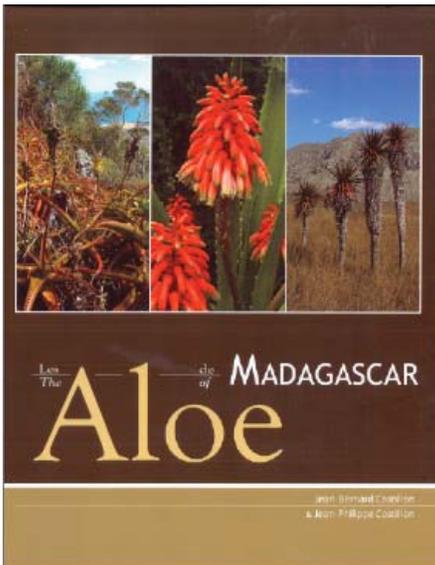
Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Palm Room at the LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia.

Book Review

The Aloes of Madagascar / Les Aloe de Madagascar

Reviewed by: Tim Harvey

Jean-Bernard Castillon and Jean-Philippe Castillon
Self Published. 1st Ed. 2010. English & French
400 pages, ISBN 978-2-7466-1872-5



Interest in the genus *Aloe* has always been strong, and this is reflected currently by a sudden burst of activity in publications dedicated to the genus. Since Reynolds' two magnificent volumes, enthusiasts have had to hunt through numerous journals in many languages to keep

up with publication of new taxa. This volume by the father-and-son team from Reunion will be eagerly sought out by all who love this genus, the first dedicated exclusively to species from Madagascar and the Mascarene Islands.

The book, with both French and English text, begins with a useful introduction and glossary, so the reader will be familiar with terms used later. A short section on taxonomy concludes with several changes of status that the reader may or may not agree with, depending on their particular views on lumping or splitting. There are a few inconsistencies here. Comments made later in the text, that a particular species is really only a form of another species (e.g. *Aloe makayana* and *A. imalotensis*), yet no formal reduction to synonymy is made.

Descriptions of the 110 species are organized according to their distribution, and this is perhaps my biggest criticism of the book. Unless one knows the region that a particular plant originates from, it is necessary to use the index to locate it. Species are not even in alphabetical order within each region. Maps in the book are rather poor, and much could have been gained, without revealing locality details, by the addition of better distribution maps. Even those delineating the various regions have no place names.

Each species is lavishly illustrated, usually with close-up details of flowers and leaves to go with more general images of habitat, where appropriate. Often, multiple variations of a particular species are illustrated, but disappointingly, no efforts are made to indicate where a particular form originated. There are also illustrations of plants in cultivation, but this is not noted explicitly.

With its 1100 color pictures, the book is a remarkable catalog of what is unfortunately a rapidly changing part of our planet. Nobody with even the slightest interest in *Aloes* could resist leafing through its pages and probably finding a plant they have never heard of, but most likely will want to obtain. At the time of writing, it is only available directly from the authors (<http://www.aloe-de-madagascar.com/>). It is worth getting together with friends to order several copies and save on the cost of shipping which is considerable, but very, very well worth it.

The Membership will be asked to vote and approve the changes to the By-laws as approved by the Board of Directors at its regularly scheduled meeting held on January 19, 2011. Changes are noted with underlined words and the entire Article 13 is added.

Article 3 – Membership and Dues

Section 3. Annual dues shall be paid at a rate determined by Executive Board. Membership will run from January to December of the same year and shall lapse if not renewed by the February meeting. Reinstatement to regular membership will only be made by full payment of annual dues to the Treasurer. New member payments made at or after the National Show CSSA Show and Sale will cover dues of the current and the next year.

Article 4 – Officers

Section 1. The officers of the Society shall be President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. Their term of office shall be ~~one~~ two calendar years.

Article 13 Amendment to the By-laws

Requirements to be exempt as an Organization

Described in section 501 (c)(3) of the internal Revenue Code

Section 1. Said organization is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, or scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Section 2. No part of the net earnings of the organization shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributed to its members, trustees, officers, or other private per-

Refreshment Signup

The following three club members have sign up to bring refreshments this month and will receive a **FREE** plant as thanks.

Dick Tatman
Rebecca Mallonee
Mary Brumbaugh

sons, except that the organization shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in the purpose clause above.

Section 3. No substantial part of the activities of the organization shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the organization shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for office.

Section 4. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the organization shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by an organization exempt from federal income tax under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by an organization, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Section 5. Upon the dissolution of the organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the organization is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Welcome New Members



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

Elizabeth Eubank, Pasadena
Brian McGurty, Diamond Bar
Dorothea Schiavo, San Gabriel
Douglas Johnson, Pasadena
Mike Nealon, North Hollywood
Kathy Weiser, Glendale

**** Note ** Membership Dues are Due!** Your 2011 Club membership renewal can be paid at the next meeting or mailed direct to Bill Gerlach, 719 S. Albertson, Covina, CA 91723. \$15 regular membership or \$25 if you request the Communique by mail. Checks to **SGVCSS**.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

February 12, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — San Diego Winter Show and Sale, Room 101, Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego.

February 16, 7:30 pm — Study Group, STAGING by Ralph Massey. Palm Room of the LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia.

March 19, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — Annual POTTERS SALE and Master Growers Invitational Plant Auction (1:00 pm) at Caro Desert Nursery, 9607 E. Avenue S12, Littlerock 93543. Phone 661-456-0787 or visit www.carodesert.com for details.

March 26 and 27, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — The Prickly Palace Garden Tour and Plant Sale in the Hemenway gardens, 5890 Grinnell Drive, Riverside, 92509.

March 31 - April 1 — ANZA BOREGO FIELD TRIP. The SGVCSS is planning a field trip to Anza Borego State Park. If you want to join this fun event make your reservations early! See the write up on page 3 for more information.

April 9, 8:00 am to 5:30 pm — SGVCSS BUS TRIP to Santa Barbara Botanical Gardens and other interesting stops. More details next month. See Judi Romine or email at judir5@sbcglobal.net to make your reservations.

April 9 and 10, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society 2009 Show and Sale at the South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verde Peninsula. For more information call Show Chair Jim Gardner at 310-378-1953 or Vendor Coordinator Jim Hanna at 562-920-3046.

April 16 and 17 — Green Scene Plant Sale at the Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton 92831

April 24 thru 29 — **CSSA 2011 Convention** at the Marriott-Mission Valley, San Diego, California. For more information and updates go to www.cssainc.org. Early bird discount ends February 15th.

2011 Plant-of-the-Month and Study Group Topics

	<u>Cacti of the Month</u>	<u>Succulent of the Month</u>	<u>Study Group</u>
Feb.	Miniature	Miniature	Ralph Massey Staging Workshop
Mar.	Hooked Spined Mammillaria	Echeveria	Echeveria
Apr.	Seed Grown by Exhibitor	Seed Grown by Exhibitor	Spring Seed Workshop
May	Rebutia-Sulcorebutia-Weingartia	Hoya & Dischidia	Vegetative Propagation Workshop
June	Notocactus & Parodia	Ficus & Dorstenia	Coryphantha & Escobaria
July	Dish Gardens	Dish Gardens	Staging
Aug.	Members 3 oldest (longest owned)	Members 3 oldest (longest owned)	Echinopsis-Trichocereus-Lobivia
Sept.	Coahuila Native Cacti	Madagascan Euphorbia	Eriocyce
Oct.	Crests/Monstrose/Variiegates	Crests/Monstrose/Variiegates	Crests/Monstrose/Variiegates
Nov.	3 Ribbon-winning Plants from Intercity or Winter Show	3 Ribbon-winning Plants from Intercity or Winter Show	Winter Seed Workshop