



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

An Affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America
February 2017—Volume 50, Number 02

The next meeting of the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society will be Thursday, February 9 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 February
Copiapoa and Eriosyce
Tylecodon and Cotyledon

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Cactus and Succulent Workshop
Wednesday, February 15
Topic: Caudiciforms and Medusoid

The C&S Workshop will meet on in the Palm Room at the Los Angeles Arboretum 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:
The Other Africa
Panayoti Kelaidis

Panayoti Kelaidis is a plant explorer, gardener and public garden administrator associated with Denver Botanic Gardens where he is now Senior Curator and Director of Outreach. He has designed plantings for many of the gardens at DBG, he is particularly noted for the plantings of the Rock Alpine Garden. He has introduced hundreds of native ornamentals from throughout the Western United States to general horticulture. He has taken seven collecting trips to Southern Africa researching the high mountain flora there, as well as travels to the Andes, Central Asia (Kazakhstan and Mongolia), the Himalaya (from both Pakistan and China) as well as travels throughout much of Europe from Spain to Turkey and most recently, New Zealand. Many of his plant introductions are available through Plant Select®, (a plant introduction program he helped launch along with staff from Colorado State University and nurseries across America). He has lectured in over 140 cities in twelve countries, and has been featured in dozens of television, newspaper and magazine pieces. He has published widely in popular and technical horticultural journals.

One of the commonest programs presented at various Cactus clubs is on “African succulents.” Who hasn’t seen an endless parade of *Euphorbia*, *Mesemb*s of all descriptions, *Crassula*, *Adromischus* and all the myriad treasures that fill the Richtersveld, Namibia, the Tankwa and Little Karoo with wonder. There is another side of South Africa—perhaps not quite so rich in succulents as the Western half of the country — the succulents of the eastern half of the country possess significantly greater cold tolerance and many are summer bloomers since the rains often come at that season.

I’ve been fortunate to explore South Africa on seven trips over the last 25 years—in the course of which I’ve brought back succulents that are being propagated by the million around the globe. And they aren’t only Delospermas!”



SGVC&SS LEADERSHIP TEAM - 2017

Tom Vermilion, President
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 Richard Roosman, Newsletter Editor

****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.

President's Message

I'd like to ask those who come to our meetings to please help with setup when you arrive. If each of us set up a few chairs then the task gets taken care of quite easily. If you are unable to set up chairs that's ok. Just do what you can. Our vendors in the back of the room should be some of the first to chip in and help.

Vendors: Set up your tables where you want to sell from to reserve your spot, but then please get the room set up before beginning to sell.

Cacti of the Month February 2017 – **Eriogyce** and Copiapoa

Article and photos by Tom GLavich

Eriogyce is an interesting genus recently growing to envelop what were previously considered several other species. The genus *Eriogyce* was first created in 1872, and consisted of a single species, *Eriogyce sandillon*. The cacti of Chile (where almost all are *Eriogyce* are from) were poorly known. Britton and Rose, the first of the great cacti classifiers, kept the genus as monotypic, but described very similar species as being in the genus *Malacocarpus* and *Neoporteria*, based on flower shape and the spination of the fruit. In 1934 Backeberg divided the genus into *Neoporteria*, *Neochilenia*, *Islaya*, *Horridocactus*, and *Pyrrhocactus*. After this several others jumped in with several other short lived generic names, mostly based on minor differences in floral characteristics.

Late in the 20th century, Fred Kattermann, after more than a decade of study, revised the genus and placed all the above genera into *Eriogyce*. This has been generally accepted and is how things appear in current literature including the recently published authoritative reference, the New Cactus Lexicon.

Cultivation of *Eriogyce* is relatively easy. They will do well in pots in Southern California, and require protection only from excessive water and rain in the winter. They will grow well in the ground, as long as they are provided with good drainage. They grow much faster in the ground than they do in pots, and impressive specimens can be grown in just a few years. The spination on some of the plants, particularly in the old *Neoporteria* is so dense that the body is invisible. Some of the old *Neochilenia* live in areas that are only fed by fogs. The bodies of these plants vary from gray to dark purple. In habitat, only the uppermost surface would be above the ground, the rest protected by sand and gravel. In cultivation, these almost always become globular cacti.

All of the *Eriogyce*, and all of the incorporated genera, have great spination, interesting flowers, and are well worth growing. Most are only available as seed, or through some of the growers that specialize in obscure genera. They are easy to grow from seed. (We always have some available as part of the April Seed Propagation Workshop. They are fast, and make show worthy plants in just a few years.

Although the *Eriogyce* and *Neoporteria* show tables always have entries, this genus is underexplored. There are many wonderful species and cultivars to be grown and shared.

 San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society

 Cacti of the Month February 2017 – **Copiapoa** and **Eriosyce**

Article and photos by Tom Glavich

Copiapoa is a unique genus of spectacular plants from the North Coast of Chile. The genus has no close relatives and is confined to a region of ecological change that is becoming steadily drier for the past several hundred years. The Southern limit of *Copiapoa* is where reliable winter rains can be found. The Northern limit is the tropical region of reliable summer rains. *Copiapoa* live along the coast and through the river valleys cut through the coastal mountains. Some species live completely on dense fogs that appear regularly for months at a time. The hills and valleys of Northern Chile are still not well explored from a botanical point of view, with new species still being described, and additional species to be found in the future. In the past, there were more species than there are now, with some going extinct due to steadily decreasing rainfall.

Given these extreme conditions one would expect the cultivation of these plants in Southern California, with our frequent winter rains, fogs, and “June gloom” to be quite a challenge. Fortunately, this is not so and *Copiapoa* are relatively easy to grow. They respond happily to the same potting mix, watering, and fertilization as most cacti growing many times faster than they would in habitat. Some species can even be grown in the open ground in the San Gabriel Valley as long as the soil is well drained. They do tend to be slower growers than many.

Copiapoa are easily propagated from cuttings or division of clumps. Seed is available from the CSSA seed bank, and most cactus seed houses, and germinates quickly in the spring. They should be started in moist potting soil, and moved to drier media after germination. They do very well in a mineral potting mix with almost no organic matter.

All of the *Copiapoa* are worth growing. This is a genus unparalleled in excellent species.



Copiapoa humilis
ssp. *tocopillana*



Copiapoa hypogaea
ssp. *laui*



Eriosyce heinrichiana



Agave potatorum cv. "cubic"

The two photos of
Agaves on the right
were left out of the
January Communique
Photos by Tom Glavich



Agave utahensis var. *nevadensis*

Succulent of the Month February 2017 - *Tylecodon*

Article and photos by Tom Glavich

Tylecodon is a genus of plants in the Crassulaceae Family almost exclusively confined to South Africa and Namibia and closely related to three other genera: *Adromischus*, *Kalanchoe*, and *Cotyledon*. They are winter growers and generally look their best from mid-fall through late-spring. *Tylecodon* lose their leaves as the summer heat arrives but generally flower during the summer after all leaves are gone.

Tylecodon is a relatively new genus first published in 1978. In books published before this date most plants that we know today as *Tylecodon* will appear as *Cotyledon*. *Tylecodon* is an anagram (rearrangement of the letters) of *Cotyledon* reflecting the extremely close relationship between the two genera. In habitat, *Tylecodon* are almost always deciduous, losing their leaves in summer, while *Cotyledon* are evergreen. This is usually but not always the same in cultivation. There are several other important distinguishing features principally the arrangement of leaves.

Tylecodon are extremely toxic to livestock; farmers and stockmen in South Africa routinely remove every *Tylecodon* they find. *Tylecodon wallichii*, shown below, is one of the main offenders.

Cultivation of *Tylecodon* is easy. They are all winter growers, dormant in summer. During dormancy *Tylecodon* prefer little or no water depending on size. The smaller species need water occasionally as they would get in nature. They should not be fertilized when dormant or their growth will get long and leggy very quickly. Minimal fertilization is best even in winter.

Propagation is also easy as almost all root from cuttings. *Tylecodon* root best at the beginning of the growing cycle (October through early January)

Seed is sometimes available. Best results are obtained by sowing the seed in November, and getting a full winter and most of the first summer before dormancy.

Succulent of the Month February 2017 - *Tylecodon* (continued)

Plants of Note:

Tylecodon atrofuscus is one of the best of the dwarf species. The small caudex looks dead for most of the year, sprouting outside leaves when the first fall rains come. This is one of the species that needs a small amount of summer moisture even though there is no visible growth.

Tylecodon buchholzianus is unique among the *Tylecodon*. It can grow branches without evidence of leaves. Microscopic leaflets perform the function of normal leaves allowing the branches to grow. It is also capable of setting normal leaves in the spring. Once rare, this has been propagated from cuttings and is now fairly easy to find.

Tylecodon paniculatus is notable for its fast growth rate, thick trunk and peeling yellow bark. Easy to grow with annual pruning to shape the growth this can become an amazing specimen in just a few years.

Tylecodon reticulatus is a medium size species that has the color and peeling bark similar to *Tylecodon paniculatus* but makes an excellent smaller bonsai. It is easy to grow and easy to come by. It propagates very easily from cuttings.

Tylecodon wallichii has persistent leaf bases that dry to knobby spine like structures. This is one of the most poisonous of all the *Tylecodon* and one most quickly removed by ranchers and farmers. It holds its leaves as the grasses dry, making it particularly attractive to thirsty cattle.

Article and photos by Tom Glavich January 2017



Tylecodon buchholzianus



Tylecodon wallichii

February Refreshments

These people volunteered to bring refreshments to the February meeting

Una Yeh

Fred Parales

Richard Roosman

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

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 January, 2017

Open Cactus

- 1st — Tom Glavich — *Mammillaria dixanthocentron* Tres Pico form
 2nd — David Hawks — *Mammillaria karwinskiana nejapensis*
 2nd — Cindy Arakaki — *Mammillaria blossfeldiana*
 3rd — Cindy Arakaki — *Mammillaria crucigera*

Open Succulent

- 1st — Tom Glavich — *Agave potatorum* ‘Cubic’
 2nd — David Hawks — *Agave victoria-reginae* (yellow variegated)
 3rd — Tom Glavich — *Agave applanata* ‘Cream Spike’

Intermediate Cactus

- 1st — Dick Hammer — *Mammillaria magnimamma*
 2nd — Dick Hammer — *Mammillaria mystax huajuapensis*
 2nd — Dick Hammer — *Mammillaria voburnensis eichlamii*
 3rd — Tricia Kangrga — *Mammillaria haageana* ssp. *Schmollii*
 3rd — Tricia Kangrga — *Mammillaria hahniana*

Intermediate Succulent

- 1st - Tom Howard - *Agave kichijokan*
 2nd — Tom Howard -- *Agave filifera*
 3rd — Tom Howard -- *Agave titanota* (true dwarf)

Novice cactus

- 1st — Shaun Adams -- *Mammillaria geminispina* (long spine)
 2nd — Shaun Adams -- *Mammillaria plumosa*
 3rd — Nilda Howard — *Mammillaria camptotricha* ‘Bird’s Nest’
 3rd — Nilda Howard — *Mammillaria laui* f. *subducta*

Novice succulent

- 1st - Richard Salcedo - *Agave isthmensis* (variegated)
 2nd - Richard Salcedo - *Agave lophanta*
 3rd — Richard Salcedo — *Agave* ‘Royal Spine’

Calendar of Upcoming Events.

February 11, 2016 — San Diego Cactus & Succulent Show and Sale.

Saturday. Balboa Park, room 101, San Diego. Information: 858-392-1797

March 23 thru 25 — 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 S. State College Blvd, Anaheim. Information: 562-587-3357

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

Saturday and Sunday, South Coast Botanic Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes,. Information: 310-378-1953 or www.southcoastcss.org

April 29 — Huntington Plant Sale.

Saturday from 10 1 pm 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 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

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 5 pm and Sunday from 9 am to 3:30 pm. Sepulveda Gardens, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino. Information www.lacss-show.com

.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 13 & 14 — 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 Artie Chavez 818-482-8795

September 3 — Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium.

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

September 10 — 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 & Succulent 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 21-22 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 ---LA County Arboretum, 310 North Baldwin, Arcadia, CA . Manny Rivera 626-780-6957 or John Matthews 661-714-1052

List compiled by Jim and Roberta Hanna

2017 SGVCSS Winter Sale

The opportunity to be invited to be one of the many club vendors at our Winter Sale is a benefit of being a SGVCSS member. Because there is not room for all those club members that want to sell, there is a selection process. One change starting with the 2017 Winter Sale is that if you want to be a club vendor, you must be listed in the printed copy of the SGVCSS roster for that year. This means you need to pay your club membership fee early enough and not miss the print date cutoff. So pay attention to those requests for early renewal.

Club involvement will become more important in the selection process and will replace random selection as a criteria. Club involvement includes (but not limited to) participating as a member of the SGVCSS Leadership Team, volunteering and entering plants at the following : SGVCSS regular and workshop meetings, SGVCSS Winter Show/Sale, Inter-City Show/Sale, CSSA Show/Sale, and general promotion of our hobby.

Currently 3 of the 10 available half-table spots are reserved for the 3 club vendors with the highest sales (High Sellers pool). This will not change since it provides the incentive for club vendors to increase their sales. The current random selection process for the remaining half-table spots will be changed to an evaluation of your club involvement indicated above. Five of these remaining spots will be allocated to returning club vendors and two will be reserved for members who have not sold at least once in the 3 prior years.

Members wanting to be a club vendor must contact Winter Sales chairman by the designated deadline. This deadline has not been determined yet, but ample notice and more information will be given in future Communique notices and at club meetings. If you have any questions about the SGVCSS Winter Sale, please contact me.

John Matthews – Winter Sales Chairman

661-714-1052

jgmplants@aol.com



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 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**.