

San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society COMMUNIQUE

An Affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America
July 2017—Volume 50, Number 07

The next meeting of the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society will be Thursday, July 13 at 7:30 pm in Ayres Hall at the Los Angeles County Arboretum in Arcadia.

**Mini –Show Plants for Cacti: Monotypic cacti

Succulents: Adenium**

Our annual picnic is Saturday, July 15th. There will be plenty of food and fun including our semi world-famous opuntia toss. Bring a side dish, and we will supply everything else. There will also be a plant auction. The picnic will be held at Pitzer College in Claremont. The meal will be served at 12:00 noon. Please arrive a bit early. More details and maps will be available at the club meeting.

**Cactus and Succulent Workshop
Wednesday, July 19.
Topic: Echinopsis**
The C&S Workshop will meet on in the Palm Room at the Los Angeles Arboretum on Wednesday, at 7:30 pm

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THIS MONTH'S PRESENTATION: Kelly Griffin

As a function of his work at Altman plants, Kelly Griffin is charged with finding and creating new and different plants. Some of Kelly's hybrid aloes and agaves are well known in the industry and are collected by enthusiasts.

Kelly is a manager of Succulent Plant Development for Altman Plants, the largest producer of succulent plants in the country. His inclination has been towards Agaves, Aloes and Echeverias, but there are many more plants that have garnered his attention. As part of his life's work, he has introduced many succulents and created many cultivars that have been nudging their way into gardens and patios.

Although Kelly's area of study in college was physics, his love of plants continued to steer him towards horticulture as a career. He has travelled extensively worldwide documenting plants and collecting seed and pollen for propagation and hybridization.

Agaves at home in habitat . . . Into the wild!

He will present some of the strange, beautiful, and wonderful Agaves and associated flora that he has had the good fortune to see in his travels, sharing his passion to observe plants in the wild in order to understand how they grow, and under what conditions. He will share insights into the plants and habitats that are not well known. Included will be photos of some of his latest plant finds from Mexico.



A photo of the July speaker,
Kelly Griffin, is on page 10.

San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society
Cactus of the month — July 2017— Tom Glavich
Monotypic Cacti

There is a hierarchy in the world of plant names. *Cactus* is the Family name. In this family there are about a hundred genera and a little over 2000 species. In order to make the relationships of the plants to each other comprehensible, a number of smaller breakdowns are used. The family is divided into four subfamilies. Some of these subfamilies contain the primitive members of the *Cactus* family and have only a few genera. Some of the subfamilies are large and are divided further into tribes. The tribes are then further divided into genera, and the genera into species. Species within a genus can generally interbreed. Genera are also the names used in our show schedules for classes. Species are the more descriptive name. Some genera, such as *Mammillaria*, have more than a hundred species and some genera have only one. The genera that have only one species are monotypic and are the subject of this month's competition.

Although everyone agrees on the *cactus* family and nearly everyone agrees on the subfamilies, things get increasingly complicated and divisive after this. There have been heated debates on the relationship of plants and whether some species or genera are valid. The division of *cacti* into genera and species is mostly based on the inspection of the flowers. The flowers are the sexual organs of the plant, and by allowing or encouraging specific pollinators, preserve the genetic purity of the genus. In the last 30 years DNA analysis has been used to revisit some of the decisions (and arguments) on the structure of genera and species. These continue. This write-up relies heavily on Anderson's **The Cactus Family** as a recent 'correct' compilation of Monotypic genera. On-going work is making this obsolete. The names in parathensis are other commonly used names for the same species.

Some Monotypic cacti are common and some are so rare that they are probably not in anyone's collection. Cultivation and propagation varies so no hints are given. Bring any you have, particularly if it is rare, even if it wouldn't normally be show-worthy .

Monotypic Cacti from B to Y:

Blossfeldia liliputana from Southern Bolivia and Northern Argentina. Other species names exist, but the species is too variable for these to hold up.

Brachycereus nesioticus from the Galapagos, a rarely seen ceroid.

Calymmanthium substerile — not only Monotypic but the only member in its tribe! It is a ceroid with strange growth, and unusual flowers. It is obscure as can be from Northern Peru.

Carnegiea gigantea is at the other end of the scale. Large ceroids from Arizona, California and Northern Mexico. Very common, (and commonly known as Saguaro) and available at Home Depot and every tourist trap in Arizona.

Cintia knizei discovered in 1996, but not uncommon in collections. It was found at 13,000 feet near Otave, Potosi, Bolivia Recently moved to Rebutia

Denmoza rhodacantha from Argentina (Mendoza, an anagram of the genus). It is not often seen but a very good spined species.

Escontria chiotilla is an arboreal ceroid with stubby yellow flowers from tropical Mexico. The fruits are sold in Oaxaca in the summer.

Estopstopsis dybowskii (was ***Austrocephalocereus***) — where this belongs is still uncertain.

Geohintonia mexicana from the cliffs of Nuevo Leon, discovered in 1991. It may be an old natural hybrid of *Aztekium hintonii* and something yet to be identified!

Isolatocereus dumortieri is widespread in tropical Mexico. It was known as *Cereus*, *Lemaireocereus*, *Stenocereus* and *Rathbunia* in prior lives. It was common a few years ago as *Lemaireocereus dumortieri*.

Jasminocereus thouarsii is a ceroid from the Galapagos.

Leocereus bahiensis — another obscurity. It is from Northern Bahia to Northern Central Minas Gerais Brazil.

Leuchtenbergia principis is a very common, but unique plant closely related to *Ferocactus*. It is from the Northern and Central Chihuahuan desert.

Mila caespitosa is a small cactus which occurs widely in Peru. Its name is an anagram of Lima. Thirteen species were described, but there really is only one variable species

Miqueliopuntia miquelii is from the Chilean coast. Really spiny, really obscure.

Monotypic Cacti (continued)

Obregonia denegrii from the valley of Jaumave, Tamaulipas, Mexico, a beautiful artichoke-like plant.

Ortegocactus macdougallii is common, although hard to grow well, from limestone rocks in Oaxaca

Rauhocereus riosaniensis was *Browningia*. It has a nice white flowered ce-roid from northern Peru.

Samaipaticereus corroanus, a tree-like species from Samaipata, Santa Cruz, Bolivia

Stetsonia coryne grown as a living fence in high arid regions of Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay.



Isolatocereus dumortieri
 Monotypic cactus
 Photo from public.folki.com



Carnegiea gigantea (Saguaro)
 Monotypic cactus
 photo from Wikipedia
 Credit W. Clarke

San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society

Succulent of the Month – Adenium – July 2017 –**Tom Glavich**

Adenium is a member of the *Apocynaceae* and a relative of *Plumeria*, *Pachypodium*, *Amosonia*, *Carrisa*, *Oleander*, *Thevetia* and *Vinca*. The *Apocynaceae* is home to many showy flowering plants used for ornamental and medicinal purposes. *Oleander* is a staple of much of Southern California gardening, *Vinca* is used worldwide, and *Thevetia*, and *Carrisa*, although not as often seen, are spectacular shrubs.

Adenium are native to Africa and the Saudi Arabian peninsula. They are easy to grow, requiring only good fertilizer and lots of water when in growth and protection from cold and damp when dormant. In the summer they should not be treated like succulents. Give them plenty of water, and lots of room in the pot for root growth. They need a fast draining potting mix. Many successful growers use a potting mix that is mostly or all pumice.

Once night time temperatures drop below 50 degrees the plants slow quickly. Watering has to be done much more carefully and fertilization should stop. When leaves drop or temperatures drop into the mid 40s the plants go dormant. Several growers place their plants in their garages in late fall to force dormancy and protect them from cold and damp. Many others bring them indoors either at night or for the entire winter. Those with heated greenhouses do best of all. However many successful growers leave them out all night right through the winter. If the plants are grown in pumice or some other very fast draining mix outdoor winter survival is not at all difficult.

Adenium are attractive to mealybugs, white flies, and spider mites. Check under the leaves and look for very fine webs. Any good miticide will take care of the spider mites and the ones available in most nurseries for roses work well. Frequent washing of the plants with a strong stream from a hose keeps them from becoming established and is the preferred preventive treatment.

There is either one variable species, *Adenium obesum* with six subspecies, or six species, depending on your choice of reference. In either case, the species or subspecies are closely related and hybridize readily with each other. The care for all is the same, with *Adenium socotranum* being more cold sensitive than the others.

Adenium hybrids and cultivars are created for showy caudexes, great flowers, or some combination of the two. One of the best local hybridizers was Bill Hagblom, well known to many of our older club members. He has produced spectacular flowered forms, as well as fast growing, well shaped caudexes. Shown with this article is *Adenium* 'Calypso', from Plants of the Southwest in Tucson. Many great cultivars appear on the show and sales tables at the Intercity and CSSA Shows.

Adenium

There are groups of hybridizers producing great flowers and terrific caudexes in Tucson, Florida, India, and Thailand. The golden age of *Adenium* hybridization is just starting.



Photo above

Adenium calypso

Photo by Tom Glavich

Photo to the right

Monotypic cactus

Geohintonia mexicana

Photo by Tom Glavich



Cactus and Succulent Workshop

Workshops are held on the third Wednesday of the month. 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.

SGVCSS Annual Picnic
Saturday, July 15th
at Pitzer College.
Details at the July meeting.

Sad news:
Longtime member
Michael Burr
recently passed.
He frequently attended
meetings up until the
end of 2016.

SGVC&SS LEADERSHIP TEAM - 2017

Tom Vermilion, President
Gunnar Eisel, Past President
Vince Basta, Vice President
Louise Guerin, Secretary
Margie Wilson, Treasurer
Rebecca Mallonee, Director
Mary Brumbaugh, Director
Jean Mullens, Director
Gunnar Eisel, Director
Sharon Sedillo, Director
Kal Kaminer, Director
Manny Rivera, Winter Show Chair
John Matthews, Winter Sales Chair
Tom Glavich, Inter-City Show Chair
Jim Hanna, CSSA Affiliate Rep
Gunnar Eisel, Website Chair
Woody Minnich, Program Chair
Mary Brumbaugh, Membership Chair
Cindy Arakaki, Librarian
Richard Roosman, Newsletter Editor

****Note **** Join the San Gabriel Valley
Cactus and Succulent Society.
Membership Dues are \$20 per year
or \$30 if you request the newsletter
(the Communique) by mail.
Your 2017 Club member dues
can be paid at the next meeting
or mailed direct to Mary Brumbaugh,
2123 Pinehurst St.,
Glendora, CA 91741.
Make checks to SGVCSS.

July Refreshments

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

Bringing Snacks:

M. A. Bjarkman

Una Yeh

Lydia Gantt

2017 Cactus and Succulent Workshops

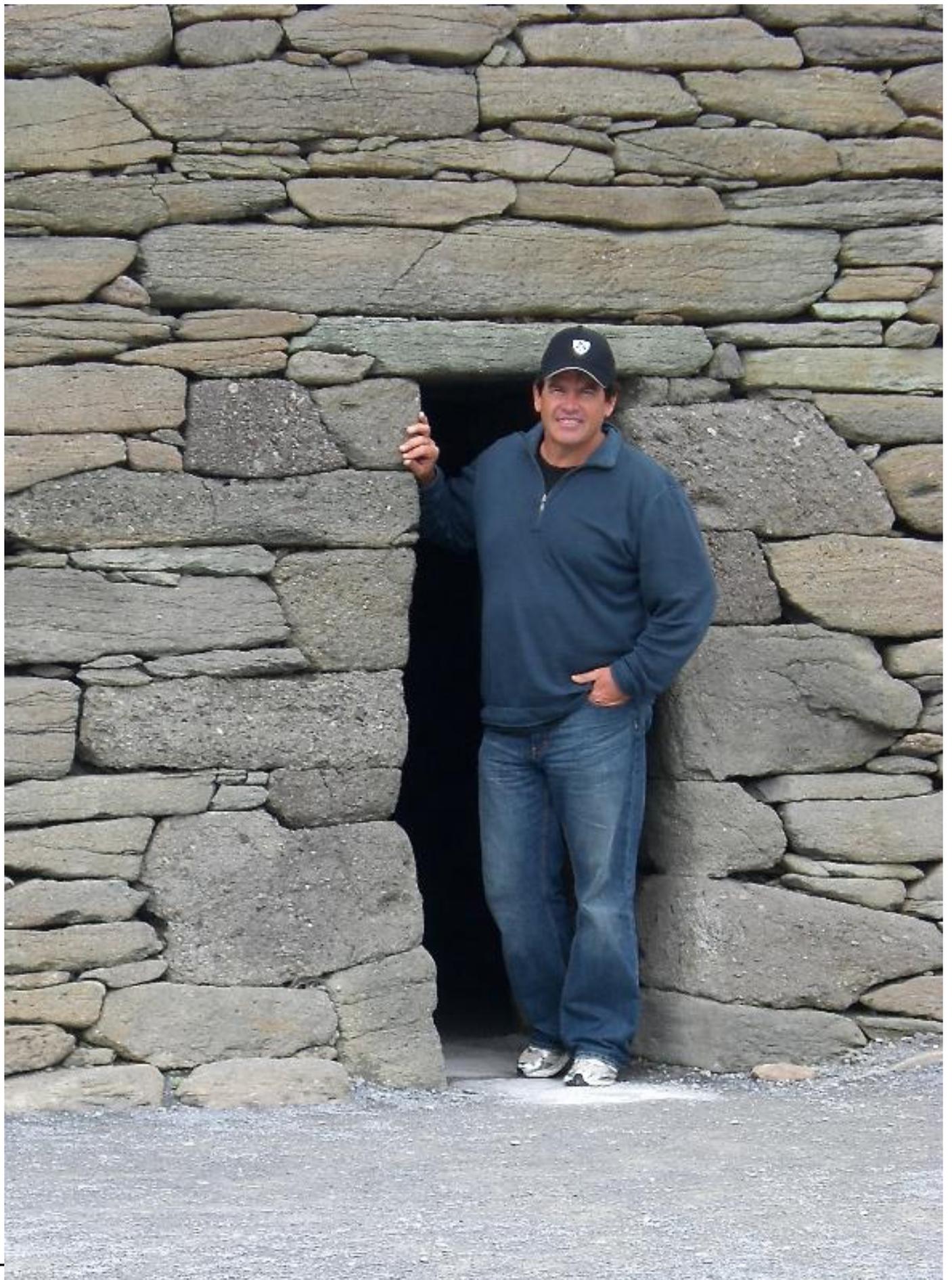
- Jan Othonna and Senecio
- Feb Caudiciforms and Medusoid
- Mar Crests and Monstrose
- Apr Spring Seed Workshop
- May Vegetative Propagation
- Jun Staging Workshop
- July Echinopsis
- Aug Member Photo Tour
- Sep Astrophytum
- Oct Mesembryanthemum
- Nov Winter Seed Workshop
- Dec None

Plant of the Month: Cacti

Plant of the Month: Succulent

- 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

- 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 June 2017

Open Succulent

- 1st — Cindy Arakaki — Graptopetalum bella (Tacitus bellus)
- 2nd — Cindy Arakaki — Pseudolithos migiurtinus
- 3rd — Manny Rivera — Aeonium 'Sunburst' crest

Intermediate Cactus

- 1st — Louise Stack — Echinopsis "sasquatch"
- 2nd — Tricia Kangrga — Echinopsis deserticola
- 3rd — Tom Howard — Trichocereus grandifloras

Intermediate Succulent

- 1st — Tricia Kangrga — Huernia kennedyana
- 2nd — Tom Howard — Agave filifera compacta
- 3rd — Tricia Kangrga — Haworthia chloracantha

Novice cactus

- 1st — Fred Parales — Echinopsis sp.
- 2nd — Mike Pearson — Trichocereus grandiflorus
- 3rd — Richard Salcedo — Echinopsis lageniformis

Novice succulent

- 1st — M. A. Bjarkman — Crassula capitella thyrsoiflora
- 2nd — Shaun Adams — Avonia alstonii
- 3rd — M. A. Bjarkman — Fenestraria aurantiaca "Baby Toes"
- 3rd — M. A. Bjarkman — Echeveria crest

Calendar of Upcoming Events

July 15 – SGVCSS Annual Picnic

Saturday. Pitzer College. Details at July meeting.

July 20, 21, 22— 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

July 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31 – CSSA Convention in Tempe, Arizona.

CSSA Convention complete information:

<http://cssaconvention.com>

Online reservation:

<https://cssa.myshopify.com/collections/convention.memberships>

You'll need to copy these addresses onto your browser.

August 12 & 13 – 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

John Martinez 805-390-2139

September 2 – Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium.

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

September 17— Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction.

Sunday from noon to 5 pm. Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach,. Information 562-631-5876

October 7 & 8 Bakersfield Cactus & Suculent Society Show and Sale

Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm and Sunday from 11 am to 3 pm. St. Paul's Church, 2216 17th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304 Free admission & parking, Information 661-831-8488

.Calendar of Upcoming Events (continued)**October 28-29 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 ---

Los Angeles County Arboretum, 310 North Baldwin, Arcadia, CA .

Information: Manny Rivera 626-780-6957

or John Matthews 661-714-1052

Sunday, January 7, 2018 San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society Annual Banquet at the Arboreum.

List compiled by Jim and Roberta Hanna
modified by Richard Roosman

2017 SGVCSS Winter Sale

As mentioned in the February 2017 Communique, 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. In the May 2017 Communique, I outlined the details of being a club vendor.

Because there is a selection process involved, you must notify me (by phone, text, email, or in person) by July 1 if you want to be a club vendor at this year's sale. You will receive the official invitation to participate by August 15 if there is room for you this year. That will give you plenty of time to prepare your sales items and show plants.

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 20th of the month to be considered for publication in the next issue of the **COMMUNIQUE**.