



*San Gabriel Valley
Cactus & Succulent Society*

COMMUNIQUE

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

March 2009 - Volume 42, Number 3

**March Meeting:
Thursday,
March 12 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:

U.S. Native Cacti

SUCCULENT:

U.S. Native Succulents

Study Group:

Study group will meet on Wednesday,
March 18th in the Palm Room,
Los Angeles County Arboretum at
7:30 pm. The topic will be:

***Mexico Road Trip with
Vince and Rene***

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President's Message

Yvonne and I hated to miss the February meeting, but the Baja was calling. We had a fantastic time, saw thousands of succulent plants and missed all of that rain and cold weather. Our nursery is none the worst for wear, rain seems to perk up all of the plants.

I understand that Jim Hanna was at the San Diego show and sale and is healing very well. We'll look for him at the March meeting.

The Club is looking for another way to project our speakers' voices at the meetings. If anyone has any background with wireless devices that can be set near the rear of the room, please let me know.

Your Board of Directors met last Wednesday and have set plans in motion for 2009. It looks like it will be another standout period for the club. Our membership continues to grow. If you have not paid your dues for 2009, your name will likely not be in the roster for this year.

See you at the meeting!

Buck Hemenway

This Month's Program

Our speaker for March is our own Woody Minnich. He will present his recent trip to the Brazilian Highlands, Bahia to Minas Gerias. Enjoy the beautiful small cities in the Brazilian interior along with those exquisite cacti that grow there. Fantastic melocacti, ceroids and lots more. This will be one of Woody's only meetings at San Gabriel this year and his only talk. Don't miss it.

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Mini-Show Results

Cacti - Ceroids

Beginner

1st	Hannah Nguyen	Oreocereus densilanatos
2nd	Hannah Nguyen	Oreocereus celsianus
3rd	Louise Stack	Cereus cv "Ming Thing"

Intermediate

1st	Pat Swain	Stenocereus pruinosus
2nd	Barbara Hall	Monvillea spagazzinii cristate
3rd	Barbara Hall	Cereus daysni monstrose

Advanced

1st	Alan Hooker	Lophocereus schotii monstrose
2nd	Alan Hooker	Espostoa nana
2rd	Rita Gerlach	Cereus species

Succulents - Gasteria

Beginner

1st	Hannah Nguyen	G. lilliputana
2nd	Rebecca Mallonee	G. vlokii
3rd	Tricia Kangrga	G. graciosus variegata
3rd	Ana Wisnev	G. excelsa cv "Calla"

Intermediate

1st	Pat Swain	G. batesiana ssp barberton cv "Super Clone"
2nd	Glen/Linda Carlzen	G. cv "Little Warty"
3rd	Pat Swain	G. batesiana x armstrongii

Advanced

1st	Rita Gerlach	G. cv "Nishi"
2nd	Rita Gerlach	G. pulcra
3rd	Rita Gerlach	G. species

** NOTE **

The 2009 Roster is complete and will be available at the March meeting. Pick up your copy of the Roster at the meeting and save the Club the mailing expense.

Be sure to take a look at the Club's website at 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.

Book Review

Reviewed by: Chuck Everson

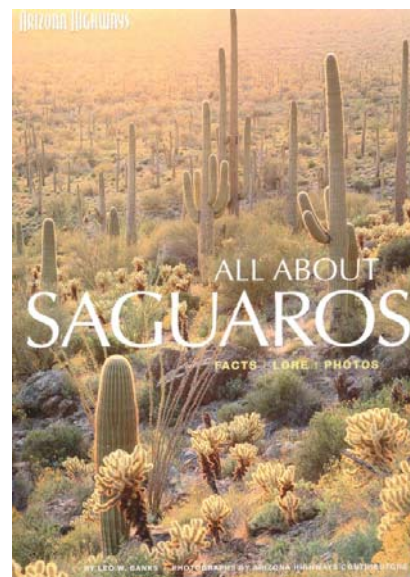
ALL ABOUT SAGUAROS: Facts/Lore/Photos
Banks, Leo W., Arizona Highways, Phoenix, AZ
1st Ed., 2008. English

The story of how the giant saguaro cactus (*Carnegiea gigantea*—or "El Gigante", the giant) lives and grows in the Sonoran Desert.

Chapters include the past, present and future concerning the giant Saguaro: its lifetime, the basics, uncertainty, searching, and lore.

119 color photos, all contributed by friends and the staff of Arizona Highways. 5 b/w photos, 4 color drawings, 1 color map. 95 pages. 7-1/2" x 10", softbound.

Retails for: \$19.95 (however, Amazon.com sells it for about \$15.50 (no tax --and check out free shipping!)).



Refreshment Signup

These club members have signed up to provide refreshments at our January meeting.

Yvonne Hemenway
Judi Romine

The first three club members who sign up and bring refreshments each month will receive a **FREE** plant as thanks.

Study Group

Wednesday, March 18th • Mexico Road Trip with Vince and Rene

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.

CSSA Convention

The Convention is fast approaching (April 10-15). It has been the policy of the Club to help sponsor attendance at the convention. We are continuing that by offering to pay 1/2 of the early registration fee (\$169 / 2 = \$84.50) for each member who attends. You must let Bill and Rita know prior to the convention. After you return, you can present any evidence that you actually attended and the Club will help out. This is available to members in good standing from before November 2008.

ALOE WALK AT THE JURUPA MOUNTAINS CULTURAL CENTER



Aloe globuligemma in bloom



Some of the SGVCSS Club who enjoyed the walk



A group of about 50 aloe enthusiasts turned up for the tour led by Buck Hemenway



An early Notocactus bloom

SGVC&SS LEADERSHIP TEAM - 2009

Buck Hemenway, President
Horace Birgh, Vice President
Rita Gerlach, Treasurer
Anne Keegan, Secretary
Manny Rivera, Board Member and Winter Show Chair

Cindy Arakaki, Board Member
John Matthews, Board Member
Phil Skonieczki, Board Member
Karen Ostler, Board Member
Ralph Massey, Board Member
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 minishow. 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 OF THE MONTH —

U.S. Native Cacti

Cacti are found throughout the United States, with at least one species native to most states except those in the extreme northeast, Hawaii and Alaska. There are *Opuntia* native to New Jersey, and *Escobaria* that grow into the Dakotas and as far east as Missouri. Florida has many species including some remarkable epiphytes. As might be expected, the Southwest from Texas through California are the home to most genera and species.

Environments vary from 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.

There are about 150 species of cacti in the United States, depending on how you lump or split the various genera. There are several web pages that give complete lists; a quick search on Google will turn up many. 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 Cacti of the United States 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.

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.

One of the most popular of the genera of the Sonoran desert is *Ferocactus*. *Ferocactus cylindraceus*, *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.

The genus *Mammillaria* is represented by *M. dioica grahamii*, *M. tetrandra*, *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 US 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.



Ariocarpus fissuratus

A very incomplete list of US Cacti (only one or two US species listed for most genera):

- Ariocarpus fissuratus
- Astrophytum asterias
- Carnegiea gigantea
- Coryphantha ramillosa
- Coryphantha recurvata
- Cylindropuntia arbuscula
- Cylindropuntia imbricate
- Echinocactus horizonthalonius
- Echinocactus polycephalus
- Echinocactus texensis
- Echinocereus engelmannii
- Echinocereus rigidissimus
- Echinomastus intertextus
- Escobaria desertii
- Escobaria missouriensis
- Ferocactus cylindraceus
- Ferocactus eastwoodiae
- Grusonia emoryi
- Mammillaria dioica
- Mammillaria grahamii
- Opuntia basilaris
- Opuntia fragilis
- Pediocactus (all)
- Peniocereus greggii
- Sclerocactus papyracanthus
- Sclerocactus uncinatus
- Stenocereus thurberi
- Thelocactus setispinus



Coryphantha sulcata v nichelsai



Agave utahensis 'Grand Canyon'

A very incomplete list of Succulents of the United States. (In particular the Agave and Dudleya are much shorter than they deserve.) A few of the species listed just barely make it into the United States in border regions of Texas and Arizona.

- Agave chrysantha
- Agave deserti
- Agave lechuguilla
- Agave mckelveyana
- Agave schottii
- Apodantheria undulate (Cucurbitaceae)
- Bringhamia insignis (Hawaii)
- Bursera microphylla
- Dasyliirion wheeleri var. wheeleri
- Dudleya abramsii
- Dudleya caespitosa
- Dudleya cymosa
- Dudleya greenei
- Dudleya viscida
- Echeveria strictiflora
- Euphorbia gradyi (Euphorbiaceae)
- Fouquieria splendens
- Ibervillea tenuisecta (Cucurbitaceae)
- Jatropha cathartica
- Jatropha cinerea
- Marach macrocarpa (Cucurbitaceae)
- Nolina bigelovii
- Nolina parryi
- Pedilanthus tithymaloides (Euphorbiaceae)
- Sedum divergens
- Sedum glaucophyllum
- Sedum lanceolatum
- Talinum appalachianum (Portulaceae)
- Yucca arkansana
- Yucca brevifolia
- Yucca rupicola



Fouquieria splendens

References

E. Anderson, The Cactus Family

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH —

U.S. Native Succulents

Succulent plants live in a variety of environments in the United States, covering the range from the hottest deserts to coastal plains to mountain tops.

Although we tend to think of the deserts of the United States as dominated by Cacti, there are is a far greater area where the scenery is home to 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.

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



Yucca whipplei

Tom Glavich February 2009



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.



FIELD TRIP TO LOTUS LAND

Your board of directors is putting the finishing touches on our field trip to Lotus Land. We will hire a 50 passenger bus that the club pays for. The trip will be on Saturday, July 18, 2009. We'll leave the parking lot at the Arboretum at 7:00AM and have a 10:00AM appointment at the gardens for our tour. We plan to stop somewhere along the 101 freeway to pick up the 'Valley' residents so they don't have to come all of the way in to the Arboretum. We'll stop at at least one and probably two nurseries on the way home. The cost will be \$25.00 per person, plus your lunch. We plan to stop at a fairly large shopping center to give people a choice of prices and cuisine. Bill and Rita will take your reservations and money at upcoming meetings. First come first served. The trip is reserved for members and immediate family.

Incredible Show Plant Auction

Mike Hackett

CDP will be auctioning off 102 of his best succulents

Saturday, March 21, 2009

At

The Caro Desert Nursery (CDP West)

It is not often that a collection such as this is made available! Like the Larry Grammer & Steve Sobel collections, Mike's plants are some of the primo succulents to be found in the hobby today. Many of his plants have been recent show winners at the biggest show in the country, The Inter-City Show. He has won Best Caudiciform, Best Madagascar Succulent and Best Staged, along with many other blue ribbons!

Some of the genera represented include;

Operculicarya, Pachypodium, Bursera, Commiphora, Aloe, Euphorbia, Pachycormus, Sarcocaulon, Tylocodon, Adenium, Cyphostemma, Adenia, Dorstenia, Zygosicyos, Cibirhiza, Boswellia, Agave, Haworthia, Dendrosicyos, Abromeitiella and many, many more!

To view some of these great plants go to Mikes website: <http://gallery.me.com/michaelhackett1#100015>

For more information, please contact:

Patty & Rene Caro Desert (CDP West) 9607 Ave S-12 Littlerock, CA 93543

661-456-0787 Nursery website www.CaroDesert.com

Woody Minnich 505-281-5884 or 661-406-9816;

For auction list: cactusdata@msn.com

Calendar of Upcoming Events

March 7 and 8, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society 2009 Show and Sale at the South Coast Botanical Gardens, 263 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verde Peninsula. For more information call 310-832-2262.

March 21, 9:00 am to late - 8th Annual POTTERS SALE at Caro Desert Nursery, 9607 Ave. S-12, Littlerock, CA 991-456-0787. Refreshments will be offered and everyone who attends is invited to a Welcome Back to California Barbecue in the evening. This event features four fine potters.

March 21, 9:00 am - Show Plant Auction of 102 of Mike Hackett's best succulents. This event will be held in conjunction with the Potters Sale at Caro Desert Nursery. For more information contact Woody Minnich at 505-281-5884 or 661-406-9816. For auction list visit cactusdata@msn.com.

March 28 and 29, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — The Prickly Palace Garden Tour and Plant Sale in the Hemenway gardens, 5890 Grinnell Drive, Riverside, 92509. Call 951-360-8802 for more information.

April 10 thru 15 — CSSA Convention at the Westin La Paloma Resort, Tucson, Arizona. For more information go to www.cssainc.org.

April 18 and 19 — Green Scene Plant Sale at the Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton, CA

May 2 and 3 — Sunset Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale, Veterans Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Avenue, Culver City. Call 310-822-1783 for more information.

May 3, 9am to 4pm — South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale, South Coast Botanical Gardens, 263 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verde Peninsula. Call 310-833-6823 for more information.

May 9, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm — Gates Cactus and Succulent Society 2009 Show and Sale at the Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive, Glen Avon (Riverside). For information call 951-360-8802.

2009 Plant-of-the Month and Study Group Topics

	Cacti of the Month	Succulent of the Month	Study Group
Mar.	U.S. Native Cacti	U.S. Native Succulents	Mexico Road Trip with Vince & Rene
Apr.	Echinocereus	Haworthia	Spring Seed Workshop
May	Echinopsis	Echeveria	Vegetative Propagation Workshop
June	Cephalium bearing Cacti	Adenium	Astrophytum
July	Eriosyce	Cyphostemma	Staging
Aug.	Favorite	Favorite	Sansevieria
Sept.	Gymnocalycium	Euphorbia (caudiciform type)	Photo Tour
Oct.	Parodia & Notocactus	Stemless Mesembs - No Lithops	Ariocarpus
Nov.	Frailea & Blossfeldia	Tylecodon	Winter Seed Workshop

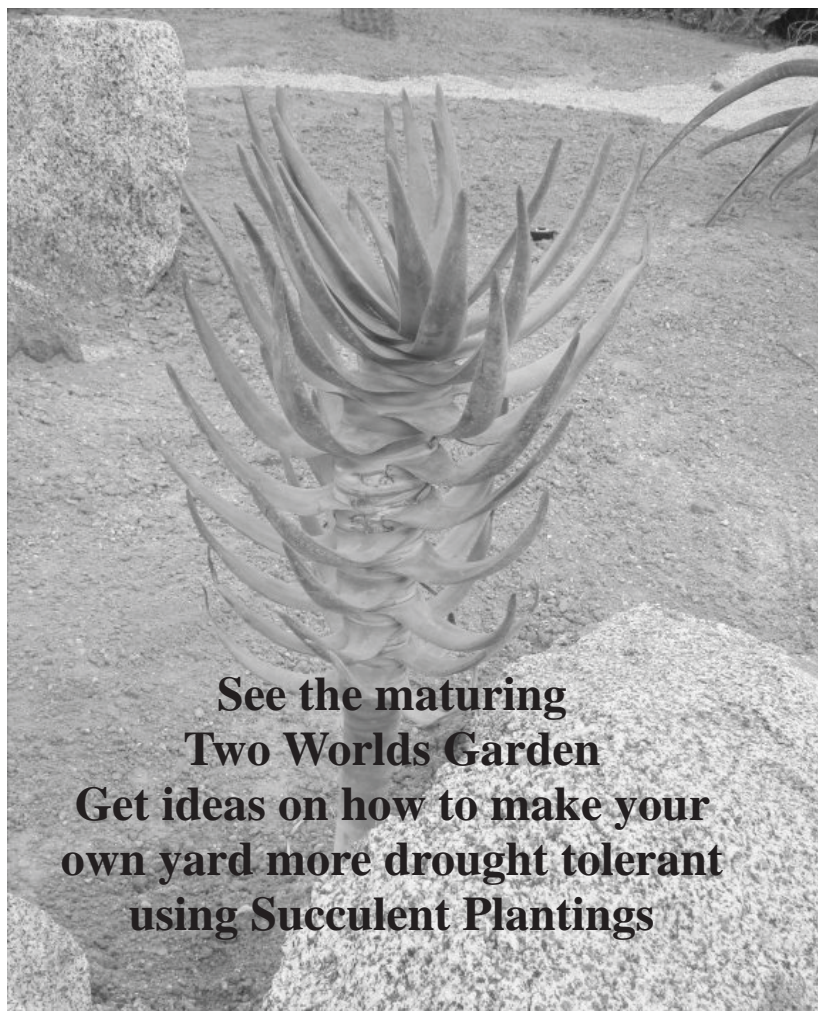
YOU'RE INVITED
TO
BUCK AND YVONNE
HEMENWAY'S
9th ANNUAL
GARDEN TOUR
AND
PLANT SALE
2009

When?
Saturday and Sunday
March 28th and 29th
9:00AM till 4:00PM

Learn more about
the successful planting
and care of Cacti and
Succulents,
Visit

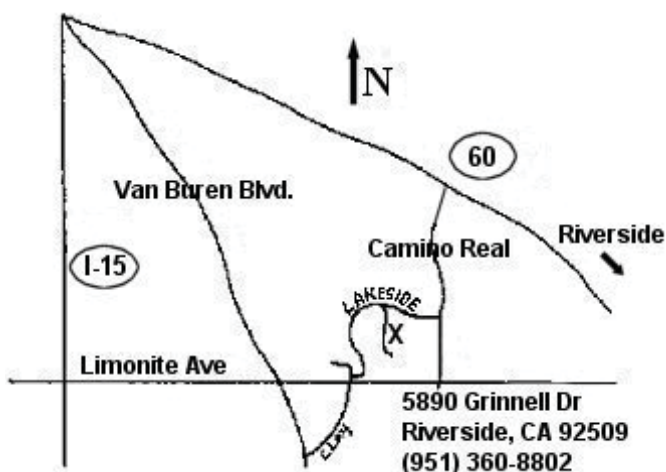
www.PricklyPalace.com
for more details.

Landscape Sized Plants
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Aloes (20 species)
Agaves (15 species)
Kalanchoes, Yuccas,
Golden Barrel Cacti
Many Many More



Unusual Plants for Sale
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Dasyliirions, Hesperaloes
Ground Covers (see them in use)

5890 Grinnell Dr. Riverside, CA 92509
(951) 360-8802
www.PricklyPalace.com



CDP West at the Caro Desert Nursery 2009

8th Annual, Potters' Sale

& Welcome Back to California Barbecue

Sat. March 21st 9:00_{am} to late

Presenting fine potters, all featuring unique cactus & succulent containers for your first of the year show pot acquisitions.

Mark Muradian

From the Fresno area, specializing in hand built iron wash pots with marvelous engraved patterns of rustic character.

Joe Wujcik

From the Fallbrook area, specializing in wheel thrown textured and glazed pots to match the uniqueness of the succulent plants.

Karenn Ohlinder

From Gardena, Karenn is becoming well known for her very fine pots. She has been a potter for 20 years. Karenn has been selling pots for cactus and bonsai plants since 2005. We are very happy to add her to our group.

Plus a fourth surprise potter.

Each of the potters will be presenting some of their first new offerings for the Spring of 2009.

This is your opportunity to get first pick from each of these great potters.

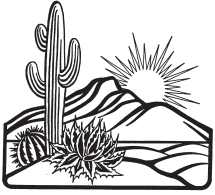
Buy in quantity and ask the potters for discounts?

Lunch will be available for everyone attending and a great BBQ for any staying a bit later.

Caro Desert Nursery also invites you to see a full greenhouse of cacti & succulent plants, many at discounted prices for the Potters Sale. *You will be the first to visit CDP West at the Caro Desert Nursery. Rene and I are very proud to be working with Woody to resurrect a fantastic desert nursery for the exotic plants we all love to collect.*

CDP West at the Caro Desert Nursery 9607 E. Ave. S-12 Littlerock, CA 93543 for more info. Ask for Patty at 661-456-0787 or visit www.CaroDesert.com

Our Nursery is also proud to host a special auction for Mike Hackett. This auction will be conducted by Woody Minnich and will consist of 100 or so of Mike's Trophy winning caudisiform plants. These are all show and specimen quality plants no one should miss out on.



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 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***.