



COMMUNIQUE

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

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

Meetings are held at **7:30 PM** on the second Thursday of the month in the Lecture Hall, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia

December 2002 Volume 35 number 12

Annual Holiday Party

December Meeting: Instead of our usual meeting we will be having our annual Holiday Party & Pot Luck Dinner on *Saturday, December 14th*, at the Los Angeles County Arboretum in Ayers Hall (where our Winter Show and InterCity Show is held). Park in the side parking lot and enter through the gate next to the hall rather than the main entrance. Setup starts at 5:00pm, we could use a few people to help setup tables and decorate. Pot luck dinner will start at 6:30pm. The club will be providing turkey, ham, plates and utensils. Rita Gerlach, Petra Crist and Joanne & Bernie Wilner will each prepare a turkey, and Roberta Hanna will be purchasing a Honey Baked Ham and making her delicious holiday punch! The remaining side dishes will be pot luck provided by our club members. Please bring a hot dish such as mashed potatoes, stuffing, yams, hot vegetables, a casserole or your own specialty that goes with ham and turkey or bring a salad or dessert to share with other club members. Having trouble deciding what to bring??? Use the follow as a guideline: If your last name is from A - M bring hot side dishes, N - R bring salads, bread, etc. S - Z bring desserts. Thanks to everyone for making this special event possible each year. We have some great cooks in our club and the meal is always outstanding!

Holiday Auction: Bring Money!! The auction of plants and cactus & succulent related items will be different this year as it will be up to all of us to provide items for the auction. Auction Rules: Limit your total plants and/or items to 3 (must be club member to sell) Finances; club gets 30%, seller gets 70%. Plants should be mature well grown specimens rather than small immature plants. Other items may include artwork, such as paintings, line drawings, ceramics or other crafts made by many of our talented club members! Or maybe you have come across some neat items with cactus or succulents on them, so bring them in! A minimum bid should be noted along with the name of the seller for each item if you are opting for the 70/30 split, however, donations will gladly be accepted. If you have any questions, give Vince Basta a call at (714) 738-1422. Liz Alba and Patty Caro will be auctioning the C&S related items and plants will be auctioned by one or two of our knowledgeable plantmen.

Gift Exchange: Anyone may participate in this optional activity. Bring a cactus or succulent plant (or related item). It should be in good condition (something you would like to receive). Include a label that identifies the plant species on one side and has your name on the other side. The first plant selected will be auctioned off during the party. The person who brought in the first selection gets the first pick from all the remaining items. Whoever's plant is then picked gets next choice and so on (the more desirable the item you bring, the earlier you will get your chance to pick). Only one item per person please!

Plant of the Month Awards: Participants in the monthly Plant of the Month mini-shows will receive plants based on their total points accumulated. Jim Hanna does a great job of picking out some real gems as award plants, so if you participated this year, be sure you show up and get your plant.

Holiday Plants: Don't forget to bring your *Echinocereus pectinatus* v. *rubispinus* you received at the party last year to compare with other club members. We'll see which members plant is the largest, best grown etc. Bring in your plants from previous years if you still have them; *Euphorbia aeruginosa* minor - 2000, *Mammillaria deheardtiana* - 1999, *Raphionacme flanaganii* - 1998, *Ortegocactus macdougallii* - 1997, *Euphorbia bupleurifolia* - 1996 and *Sulcorebutia candiae* - 1995. *Members who have paid their dues* will receive a new plant at the holiday party.

A Final Message from your President: As I sit down to write this message, I am amazed at how fast the last two years have gone by! I guess that is a good indicator that my term has been both fun and rewarding. I have had a great time getting to know all of you better and seeing first hand all the hard work many of you contribute to make our club successful year after year. I sincerely hope all of you have enjoyed the people and activities as much as I have over the last two years! Our monthly meetings have been both interesting and fun thanks to great slide programs procured by Woody Minnich and the many great raffle plants provided by Jim Hanna, Woody and Tom Glavich. Our Plant of the Month tables are filled with wonderful specimens which provide knowledge and interest to our newer members. Patty Caro and Liz Alba have done a great job of running the Library and Tom Glavich has done an excellent job of providing members with informational write-ups throughout the year. Our study groups are always well attended thanks to interesting presentations by Joe Clements, Peter Sharp and Victor Turecek. We have had two exciting field trips this year thanks to the planning of Jean Mullens and Paul & Carol Maker with trips to Anza Borrego and Lotusland. Tim Jackson has done a great job of handling the club finances and I know he will do a great job as our new President! Patty & Rene Caro have both done a great job of recording minutes at our board meeting and helping out where ever needed. And it has been great working with our board members Petra Crist, Amber Jones, Ron Young, Bill Gerlach, Tom Glavich, Carol Maker and Tom Vermilion who have contributed many ideas which have made the last two years fun and successful. And finally, be sure to attend our Holiday Party and Auction! I hope to see many of our newer members attend this fun event and introduce yourself to other club members. Don't forget to break open those piggy banks and bid freely!

Happy Holidays!

Vince

Board Meeting: There will be a short board meeting before the Holiday Party at 6:00pm. I would like for all the newly elected officers to attend and perhaps we could set a date for our first board meeting early next year. Hope to see everyone then!

Vince

10 years ago: The Christmas party was at Ayres Hall. Carol Wujcik presented a program entitled, "Never enough Space: From Ohio Windowsill to California Mini-yard"

20 years ago: The Christmas Party was at Woody and Eddy's Restaurant. Myron Kimmach, curator of the Botanical Gardens at the Huntington presented a program on recent collecting trips. Peter Sharp was again elected president.

30 years ago: The Annual Christmas party was held at the arboretum. New Officers included President Peter Sharp. (Thanks go to Tom Glavich for providing this interesting feature)

Membership Renewals: It's that time of year again to pay your dues. See Tim Jackson at the party or send your check to him at SGVC&SS Membership, 8959 Valley View Ave. Whittier, CA 90605 \$12.00 for individuals, \$15.00 for family membership (at the same address) Your prompt payment makes it easier on those keeping records and allows us to produce a new roster in a timely manner. Thanks.

Plant of the Month Schedule for 2003: Here are the POM topics for next year.

	Cacti of the Month	Succulent of the Month
January	Straight spined Mammillaria clusters	Pelargonium & Sarcocaulon
February	Notocactus & Parodia	Cotyledon & Tylocodon
March	Crested & Monstrose Cacti	Crassula
April	Stenocactus & Echinofossulocactus	Gasteria
May	Columnar Cacti	Bonsai Succulents
June	Cacti of the Sonoran Desert	Madagascar Pachypodiums
July	Common Cacti	Stem type Stapeliads
August	Discocactus	Medusoid Euphorbias
September	Chilean Cacti	Crested & Monstrose Succulents
October	AAA Cacti of Mexico	Lithops
November	Frailea & Blossfeldia	Echeveria & Dudleya
December	None - Holiday Party	None - Holiday Party

Library: The Library will be closed during the party. If you have books checked out be sure to bring them back at the January meeting so others may read them.

SGVC&SS Election: At the November meeting, the following slate of officers was elected.

President	Tim Jackson	Board Member	Mary Folck
Vice President	Ray Folck	Board Member	Bill Gerlach
Treasurer	Rita Gerlach	Board Member	Manny Rivera
Secretary	Camille Rutkowski		

Board Members serve a 2 yr. term. Returning Board Members are Tom Glavich, Carol Maker & Tom Vermilion.

SGVC&SS Online: Our club has an excellent web site online at <http://www.desertsong.com/sgvcss/> If you or someone you know has internet access be sure to have a look. The pages were created and are maintained by Gunnar Eisel who has done a fabulous job in creating an informative and classy looking web site. You can also download a version of the *Communique* complete with color photos. Look for the *Communique* link on the main page.

Articles, Notices and Corrections can be sent via e-mail to: grandicornis@earthlink.net or via post to: Tom Vermilion, 1009 E. Ruddock St., Covina, CA 91724

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