

MAY 2025 | VOL. 58, ISSUE 5



SAN GABRIEL VALLEY
CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

COMMUNIQUE



REBUTIA FIEBRIGII
PHOTO: ANTHONY CANTIELLO

**SANDY
MASUO**

SUCCULENT SUPERSTARS



**STAGED AS
MINIATURE**

PLANTS OF THE MONTH



MEETING 5/8 | WORKSHOP 5/21

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE & MORE:

A MESSAGE FROM NICK RENTERIA, SGVCSS PRESIDENT:



To My Fellow SGVCSS Members:

While at the recent **CSSA Convention** in San Diego, I had the opportunity to meet fellow cactus and succulent hobbyists from all over the world. Meeting people from different walks of life, backgrounds, and beliefs reminded me that united by a common interest, we can still get together and enjoy each other's company in spite of any differences we might have.

Closer to home, we have two opportunities later this month to share our love of cacti and succulents. First off, we have our general meeting on May 8 with guest speaker **Sandy Masuo**, botanical garden specialist at *The Huntington*, speaking on "Succulent Superstars". A week later we have our workshop on **Echinocereus**.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the general meeting.

Regards,
Nick Renteria

ABOUT SGVCSS



Chartered in 1967,
**San Gabriel Valley
Cactus & Succulent Society's**
objectives are to promote
knowledge, study, & interest in
cacti and other succulent
plants through educational
programs, public exhibits, & the
sharing of these interests to the
general public.

SNACKS FOR OUR MEETINGS

MAY M-N-O



JUN

P-R-S



JUL

T-U-V



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

PLEASE BRING IN SNACKS OR DRINKS
FOR OUR MEETINGS BASED ON THE
LETTER OF YOUR LAST NAME ABOVE.

COOKIES, PASTRIES, FRUIT, VEGGIES,
APPETIZERS, SODA, OR WATER ARE
ALWAYS WELCOME!



**NAME BADGES
AVAILABLE**
NEW OR REPLACEMENT
SEE OUR MEMBERSHIP
COORDINATOR TRAVIS

ONLY
\$5
EACH



Scenes from our popular Spring Seed Workshop in April.

FOLLOW US ONLINE



SGVCSS.COM



@SGVCSSCLUB



@SGVCSSCLUB



/SANGABCACTUS

SEND AN EMAIL



SGVCSSCLUB@GMAIL.COM

MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS:

2025

PLANTS OF THE MONTH

JAN

THELOCACTUS
ALOE HYBRID

FEB

ECHINOPSIS
TYLECODON / COTYLEDON

MAR

BUININGA / UEBELMANNIA
HAWORTHIA

APR

NOTOCACTUS / PARODIA
AGAVE

MAY

STAGED AS MINIATURE

JUN

COLUMNAR CACTUS
STEM EUPHORBIA

JULY

STENOCACTUS
CADEX

AUG

FAVORITES

SEP

ERIOSYCE
ASCLEPIADS

OCT

OPUNTIA
SANSEVIERIA

NOV

VARIEGATED



UPCOMING MEETINGS

MAY 8 - MONTHLY

MAY 21 - COLUMNAR CACTUS
WORKSHOP

JUN 12 - MONTHLY

JUN 18 - CADEX
WORKSHOP

ALL PROGRAMS START AT 7:30 PM



MEETINGS
2ND THURSDAY
OF THE MONTH
DOORS 6:00PM
STARTS 7:30PM
AYRES HALL, LA ARBORETUM
ENTER SIDE GATE

LOS ANGELES ARBORETUM
301 NORTH BALDWIN AVE,
ARCADIA, CA 91007



WORKSHOPS
3RD WEDNESDAY
OF THE MONTH
STARTS 7:30PM
PALM CLASSROOM,
LA ARBORETUM
ENTER MAIN GATE



2025

WORKSHOPS

JAN TYLECODON / COTYLEDON

FEB HAWORTHIA

MAR NOTOCACTUS / PARODIA

APR SPRING SEED

MAY COLUMNAR CACTUS

JUN CADEX

JUL PRUNING

AUG ASCLEPIADS

SEP OPUNTIA

OCT OVERWINTERING

NOV WINTER SEED

GUEST SPEAKER:

SANDY MASUO

SUCCULENT SUPERSTARS



SUCCULENT SUPERSTARS

Succulents are more popular than ever, but beyond being versatile, beautiful, and low maintenance, these plants have a fascinating natural history and evolutionary course that has produced the remarkable adaptations that make them so desirable.



Sandy Masuo is an editor, educator, author, and conservationist on a mission to enlighten and to inspire wonder in the world around us. She currently serves as the Botanical Content Specialist at *The Huntington*. Prior to that she was the Associate Editor in the *Los Angeles Zoo* publications division for 18 years.

In 2016, she published her debut novel (as Rosana DuMas), *Unnatural Selection: Life and Death on the Paper Trail* is the story of a horticulturist / detective investigating the dubious death of a zoo docent.

She has taught fiction and business writing, as well as a variety of classes from succulent gardening to bird watching at local community colleges. She holds a BA from *Brown University* and an Ed. M from the *Harvard Graduate School of Education*.

CACTUS & SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH:

STAGED AS MINIATURE

This month, the cactus and succulent of the month are both **Miniaturess**. While the definition may seem straightforward, 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. But don't worry, we'll use the broad definition for the Plant of the Month: The inside pot 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 the staging. 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* 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.

--Tom Glavich



Haworthia parksii



Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus



Turbinicarpus lauii

CACTUS OF THE MONTH:

STAGED AS MINIATURE



Suitable as Miniatures:

- **Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus** - the classic entry
- **Blossfeldia** - 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.
- **Pelecyphora asseliformis** another classic from Mexico.
- **Turbinicarpus** another genus of slow growing, small cacti from Mexico. There are many great species in this genus, all small and all worth growing.
- **Lithops** aka "Living Stones"
- **Conophytum** and many other mesembs.
- Smaller **Haworthias**
- Smaller **Sedums**
- Small **bonsai succulents**
- **Dwarf bulbs** in all families

--Tom Glavich



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MINI-SHOW RESULTS



April Mini-Show Results:

• Novice Cactus

- 1st - Russell Kibbee - *Parodia buiningii*
- 2nd - Russell Kibbee - *Parodia erubescens*
- 3rd - Anthony Cantiello - *Parodia penicillata*
- 3rd - Russell Kibbee - *Parodia haselbergii*

• Novice Succulent

- 1st - Tony Mao - *Agave pumila lechuguilla x victoriae-reginae*
- 2nd - Nora Sandoval - *Agave victoriae-reginae*
- 3rd - Charlene Sandoval - *Agave bracteosa*

• Intermediate Cactus

- 1st - Angela Clubb - *Parodia sp.*
- 2nd - Richard Salcedo - *Parodia leninghausii*
- 3rd - Richard Salcedo - *Parodia scopa*
- 3rd - Tricia Kangrga - *Parodia buiningii*

• Intermediate Succulent

- 1st - Richard Salcedo - *Agave 'Praying Hands'*
- 2nd - Richard Salcedo - *Agave toumeyana*
- 3rd - Angela Clubb - *Agave sp.*

• Masters Succulent

- 1st - Tom Vermillion - *Agave 'Barbed Wire'*
- 2nd - Tom Glavich - *Agave albopilosa*
- 3rd - Gunnar Eisel - *Agave victoriae-reginae*
- 3rd - John Matthews - *Agave stricta 'Nana'*



SHOWS, SALES, & MORE:

LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB CACTUS & SUCCULENT SALE

THOUSANDS
OF PLANTS, CERAMICS,
AND OTHER ITEMS

SUNDAY MAY 4TH
11AM - 3PM

STAGING
WORKSHOP
12:00 PM



FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

9402 OAK ST
BELLFLOWER, CA



LAJSS SPRING CACTUS SALE

MAY 17TH & 18TH
9am - 3pm

CACTUS • SUCCULENTS • POTTERY

MUSIC & FOOD TRUCKS

SATURDAY SUNDAY

AUCTION 1pm

KIDS DAY

TALKS 10am & 11:30am

10am - 2pm

MEMBERS
ONLY
10% OFF
TOTAL
PURCHASE

TARZANA COMMUNITY & CULTURAL CENTER
19130 Ventura Blvd., Tarzana, CA 91356



SANTA BARBARA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Annual Show and Sale

FEATURING
POTTERY
SILENT AUCTION
PLANT DISPLAYS

FREE ADMISSION AND
PARKING

MAY 10 2025
10AM - 3PM

SANTA BARBARA WOMAN'S
CLUB

670 MISSION CANYON ROAD

FOR MORE INFORMATION
VISIT SBCACTUS.ORG



You're invited to the
Gates Cactus & Succulent Society's

50th Annual Show & Sale

May
9th & 10th
2025

FREE ADMISSION & PARKING

PLANT SALE: Friday 9-4
Saturday 9-4

SHOW: Saturday 9-4

Located at the
Redlands Church of the Nazarene
* 1307 East Citrus Ave
Redlands CA 92374

Thousands of rare and unusual
cacti and succulents for sale!
Unique handmade pottery! Free
exhibit show! Live raffles! Photo
ops & more!

Chat with professional growers
and learn about drought
tolerant plants.

Information:
909/910-9195
909/222-3326

www.gatescactusandsucculentsociety.com



SCAN FOR SOCIALS

SHOWS, SALES, & MORE:



58TH ANNUAL
CSSA
SHOW
& SALE

JUNE 27-29, 2025
10AM-5PM DAILY

@ THE HUNTINGTON
1151 OXFORD RD, SAN MARINO, CA

CSSASHOW.COM + @CSSASHOW

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CACTUS CALENDAR



MAY

Sacramento CSS Show & Sale

May 2-4, 1PM-5PM/9AM-5PM/9AM-3PM
sacramentocss.com

Long Beach Cactus Club Show & Sale

May 4, 12PM-4PM
longbeachcactusclub.org

Gates CSS Show & Sale

May 9-10, 9AM-4PM
gatescactusandsucculentsociety.com

Santa Barbara CSS Show & Sale

May 10, 10AM-3PM
sbcactus.org

SD Epyphyllum Society Show & Sale

May 10-11, 9AM-4PM
sdepis.org

LACSS Spring Cactus Sale

May 17-18, 9AM-5PM
lacactus.com

Epiphyllum Society of America S&S

May 18, 10AM-4PM
epiphyllums.org

JUNE

Fresno CSS Show & Sale

May 31-June 1, 10AM-5PM/10AM-4PM
fresnocss.com

San Diego CSS Summer Show & Sale

June 7-8, Times TBD
sdcss.net

San Francisco Succulent Expo

June 13-15, TBD/10AM-5PM/9AM-5PM
sfsucculent.org

CSSA Show & Sale

June 27-29, 10AM-5PM
cssashow.com / huntington.org (res req'd)

San Jose CSS Show & Sale

June 27-29, 3-7PM/10AM-5PM/10AM-3PM
csssj.org

NOTE: All dates and times are subject to change.



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

If you have a cactus or succulent related event that you would like to have announced in the **SGVCSS Communiqué**, forward the information to the address below. Please verify the event date.

Articles, notices, photos, and any corrections may be sent via email to: SGVCSSCLUB@GMAIL.COM

Material must be received by the **15th of the month** to be considered for publication in the next issue of the newsletter.

SGVCSS EXECUTIVE BOARD:



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