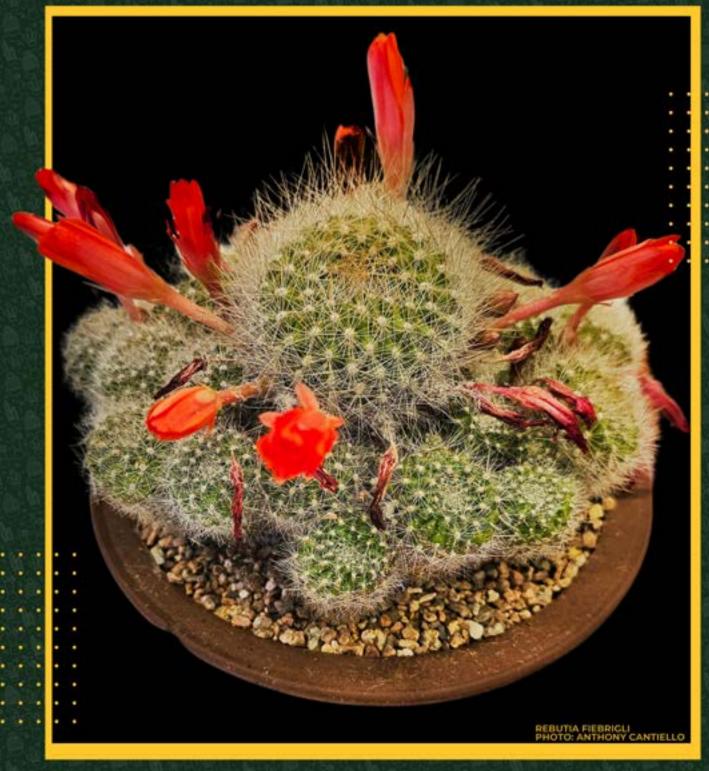
MAY 2025 | VOL. 58, ISSUE 5



# CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY COMMUNIQUE



SANDY MASUO SUCCULENT SUPERSTARS



STAGED AS MINIATURE PLANTS OF THE MONTH



# 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





Scenes from our popular Spring Seed Workshop in April.

# 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.





# MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS:

# PLANTS OF THE MONTH

JAN

THELOCACTUS ALOE HYBRID

E = 3

**ECHINOPSIS** TYLECODON/COTYLEDON

MAR

**BUININGA/UEBELMANNIA HAWORTHIA** 

APR

NOTOCACTUS / PARODIA AGAVE



STAGED AS MINIATURE

**NUL** 

COLUMNAR CACTUS STEM EUPHORBIA

JULY

STENOCACTUS CAUDEX

**AUG** 

**FAVORITES** 

SEP

ERIOSYCE ASCLEPIADS

OCT

**OPUNTIA** SANSEVIERIA

NOV

VARIEGATED

# **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

MAY8-MONTHLY

MAY 21 - COLUMNAR CACTUS WORKSHOP

JUN 12 - MONTHLY

JUN 18 - WORKSHOP



ALL PROGRAMS START AT 7:30 PM



2ND THURSDA OF THE MONT STARTS 7:30PM AYRES HALL, LA ARBORETUM

ENTER SIDE GATE

# WORKSHOPS

3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH TARTS 7:30PM



PALM CLASSROOM, LA ARBORETUM ENTER MAIN GATE



**WORKSHOPS** 

JAN TYLECODON / COTYLEDON

**HAWORTHIA** 

SPRING SEED

COLUMNAR CACTUS

PRUNING AUG **ASCLEPIADS** 

**OVERWINTERING** WINTER SEED

**GUEST SPEAKER:** 

# SANDY MASUO

SUCCULENT SUPERSTARS



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.

#### 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.





# **CACTUS & SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH:**

# STAGED AS MINIATURE

This month, the cactus and succulent of the month are both **Miniatures**. 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.

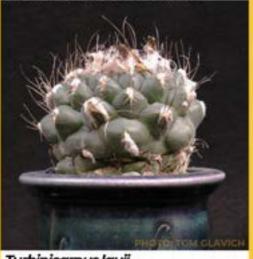
:-- Tom Glavich



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 Vermilion Agave 'Barbed Wire'
- 2nd Tom Glavich Agave albopilosa
- 3rd Gunnar Eisel Agave victoriae-reginae
- 3rd John Matthews Agove stricta 'Nana'

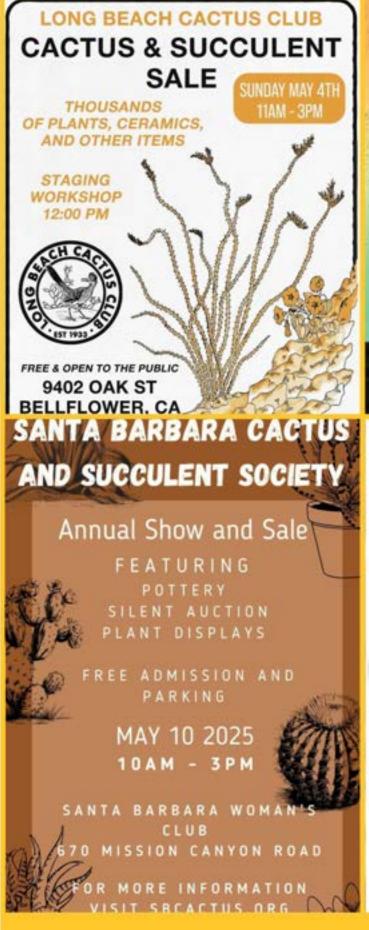








# SHOWS, SALES, & MORE:





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

50" Annual Show



May 9\*&10\* <sup>2025</sup>

FREE ADMISSION & PARKING

Thousands of rare and unusual cacti and succulents for sale!
Unique handmade pottery! Free SHOW: Saturday 9-4

Located at the

Redlands Church of the Nazarene

† 1307 East Citrus Ave

Redlands CA 92374





ops & more! Chat with professional growers and learn about drought tolerant plants.

exhibit show! Live raffles! Photo

Information: 909/910-9195

rww.getrocectusandruccolentrociety.com

# SHOWS, SALES, & MORE:



# **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

NOTE: All dates and times are subject to change.

# **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

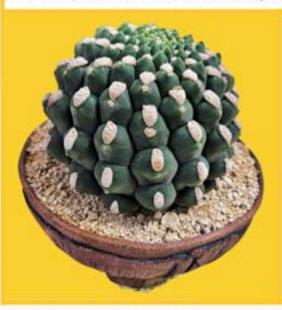
June 13-15, TBD/10AM-5PM/9AM-5PM sfsucculent.org

#### CSSA Show & Sale

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

#### San Jose CSS Show & Sale

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



#### 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 <u>15th of the month</u> to be considered for publication in the next issue of the newsletter.

# SGVCSS EXECUTIVE BOARD:

