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 2nd Thursday of the month
in the Lecture Hall, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia

*September 2006 Volume 39 Number 9*

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**Monthly Meeting:** Join us **Thursday, September 14th** at 7:30 pm when our guest speaker will be **Woody Minnich.** Woody’s presentation will be on Gymnos, Acanthos and Soehrensias. New members you won’t want to miss this. Woody is one of our most knowledgeable members and whether a new member, or old, we all learn something from his presentations.

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**Plants of the Month:** (see attached write ups)

**CACTI** – Eriosyce  
**Succulent** – Lithops

Yes, we are all a little tired after the Inter-City Show. However, you still want to bring in your Eriosyce and Lithops to earn points toward prizes to be awarded at the Holiday party.

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**Study Group:** **Wednesday, September 20th**: Topic Yucca

Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the Grapevine Room, San Gabriel Adult Center, 324 South Mission Drive, San Gabriel (between the San Gabriel Mission and Civic Auditorium). These exciting events feature expert group leaders and mentors, free give-a-ways (some of the best plants you’ll ever get!), and lively discussion. Everybody learns something!

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**Lifetime Member:** SGVCCS is proud to honor **Tom Glavich** with a Lifetime Membership.

In 1988 Tom found himself at the 3rd Inter-City Show and has been hooked on cacti and succulents ever since. Tom has been very active in SGVCCS holding a number of positions, including President, and has worked tirelessly as co-chairman of the Inter-City Show for a number of years. He is also a member of other local cactus clubs as well as the CSSA where he is a member of the Board of Directors and interim editor of To the Point. We all enjoy the articles he writes each month for the COMMUNIQUE describing Plants of the Month. In addition to writing and teaching about our hobby, he is an excellent grower.

Congratulations and thanks for all of your many years of service. Our thanks also to your wife, Jeanette, and your children for supporting you in your passion.
**Inter-City Show:** Thanks to the work and support of many people, we had the best Inter-City Show in many years. We set many new records, the most important of which is the number of entrants. 89 people entered plants in the show, 43 of them novices. Both these numbers are records and much higher than we’ve had in previous years; they bode well for the future of the show. We had many first time entrants and several first time winners on the trophy table. There were 1636 entries in the show, and when display and collections were counted approximately 1800 plants. We had more tables on the floor than in any other show we have ever had. The quality of the entries from Novice through Open was extraordinary!

The biggest plant we could get on a table took an entire 4 foot round table, and two were too large to put on tables and stood on the floor. The smallest pots were well under an inch. We had great public response, with the Arboretum parking lot full for much of Saturday and Sunday. There were several people who drove over from Tucson and Phoenix, and at least two who flew down from San Francisco, just to come to the show. This says a lot about the quality of this year’s show as well as previous years. There were two people from Denver who attend most years. They were completely in awe at the quality and size of the plants, and the care that went into the display including the pots and staging. There is nothing approaching this show anywhere else.

We won’t single out individual names, because so many people helped make this a great show, but the contributions of everyone who participated before during and after the show made this one of the best and easiest of shows to put on. When we add the entrants, the sales people, the judges and clerks, publicity, and all the people who staffed the back gate, the information table, the cashiers, the holding tables, the food buying and preparation, and all the others who helped, there were well over 120 people participating in the show. The three show chairs, the sales chairs and everyone on the show committees appreciate all the time and energy that went into making this such a success.

The Arboretum management and staff also went out of their way to make this a great show, helping us with shade, lending us ladders, putting up signs, and getting the show much needed publicity. It was great to see some of them come back over the weekend with their families to see the show.

**New Members:** SGVCSS wishes to extend a warm welcome to its newest members Bob Berger, Glen Carlzen, Soledad Dias, Tom Howard, James and Patricia Lorenzo, John O’Neill, Linda Thunes and Nick Wilkinson and Kara Suzuki. Carefully review the COMMUNIQUE and the Roster in order to learn about all of the many benefits of membership in our club. Also take a look at the Club’s website [http://www.sgvcss.com](http://www.sgvcss.com). If you wish to receive your COMMUNIQUE on-line please notify the editor at sgv_css@prodigy.net.

**Member’s Corner:** Evelyn Maxwell will be holding a plant sale Saturday, Sept. 2nd at her home located at 337 N. Sixth St., Montebello, CA from 9am to 1pm. She has multi-colored plumbagins, succulents and geranium hanging baskets.

**The Club Winter Cactus Show and Sale:** Our 13th ANNUAL WINTER SHOW is rapidly approaching and time to get your plants ready! This is our last major event of the year to raise money for field trips, books and other events so be sure and promote the show by passing out flyers and telling friends and neighbors. The show schedule is in the September newsletter and show entry tags will be available at the next meeting and at the September study group. I will not be at the Winter Show this year but instead attending a family reunion. Tom Glavich will be in charge, so be sure to give him plenty of help and support. Set-up: We will need plenty of helpers on Thursday morning (8:30 am) October 12th to set-up
tables and get the show & sales area ready by noon! Show and sale plants can then start coming in on Thursday from noon till 9:00 pm. Remember...all show plants must be in by Friday Oct. 13th at 4:00 pm.

Clerks and helpers will be needed Friday evening, October 13th during judging. This is a great opportunity to hear what the judges are saying and to learn more about the show. If you would like to be part of the judging process, be sure and sign up at the next meeting! Can’t make the next meeting but want to sign up, give Vince a call at (714) 738-1422 or email cactoholic@sbcglobal.net.

SHOW DINNER will be Saturday evening, October 14th at 6:00 pm at Ayers Hall in the show area. Dinner will be a special meal, prepared by Richard Jones Pit BBQ Catering. The menu will include three meats; Chicken Breast, Beef Brisket (cooked for 16 hours) and Pork Spare Ribs. It will be accompanied by 4 side dishes including BBQ beans, Green Beans & Almonds, Mixed Green Salad and Seasonal Vegetable Medley. Also included are Rolls, Butter, BBQ Sauce, Beverage, and Peach Cobbler for dessert. Total cost is $17.50 per person. There will be an awards presentation, auction and lots of fun! Please be sure to sign up at the next meeting! All reservations and payments must be in by Thursday, October 12th so the caterer will know how many people to prepare for. Please reserve your seat with Amber Jones at the next meeting!

2005 Trophy Winners... reminder, if you won a trophy at last years show, please be sure and have your name engraved on it before the show.

Our club mini shows have been outstanding and I want to encourage everyone to show plants, especially our new members! See you next meeting...Vince

August Plant-of-the-Month Mini Show Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>August Plant-of-the-Month Mini Show Results</th>
<th>Favorite - Cactus</th>
<th>Favorite - Succulent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Favorite - Cactus</strong></td>
<td><strong>Favorite - Succulent</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Beginner</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Pat Swain</td>
<td>Mammillaria campotricha</td>
<td>1st Birgh-Dodson</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd John Matthews</td>
<td>Ariocarpus retusus</td>
<td>2nd Carlos Ruiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Pat Swain</td>
<td>Notocactus magnificus</td>
<td>3rd William Molina</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Intermediate</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st Alan Hooker</td>
<td>Echinocactus grusonii crest</td>
<td>1st Alan Hooker</td>
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<td>2nd Barbara Nolan</td>
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<td>2nd Barbara Nolan</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Barbara Nolan</td>
<td>Notocactus</td>
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<td><strong>Advanced</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1st The Hemenways</td>
<td>Haageocereus crest</td>
<td>1st Rita Gerlach</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Frank Nudge</td>
<td>Epithelantha micromeris crest</td>
<td>2nd Rita Gerlach</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Rita Gerlach</td>
<td>Ariocarpus retusus</td>
<td>3rd The Hemenways</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd Rita Gerlach</td>
<td>Mammillaria species</td>
<td>3rd Rita Gerlach</td>
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<td><strong>Master</strong></td>
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<td>1st No Entries</td>
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The genus *Eriosyce* was first created in 1872, and consisted of a single species, *Eriosyce sandillon*. The cacti of Chile (where almost all Eriosyce are from) was poorly known. Britton and Rose, the first great encyclopedical classifiers kept the genus as monotypic, but described very similar species as being in the genus *Malacocarpus* and *Neoporteria*, based on flower shape and the spination of the fruit. In 1934 Backberg, divided the genus into *Neoporteria*, *Neochilenia*, *Islaya*, *Horridocactus*, and *Pyrhocactus*. After this several others jumped in with several other short lived generic names, mostly based on minor differences in floral characteristics.

Fred Kattermann, after more than a decade of study revised the genus, and placed all the above genera into *Eriosyce*. This has been generally accepted, and is how things appear in current literature, including the recently published New Cactus Lexicon.

Nonetheless, show classification, catalogs, seed and plant lists still divide the genus into *Eriosyce*, and *Neoporteria*, and to a lesser extent some of the smaller genera.

*Eriosyce* is a genus from the Central and Northern Coasts of Chile, and the Southern Coast of Peru. This area has Mediterranean climate, with rain in the winter, and mostly dry summers. The climate is similar to Southern California, but generally somewhat drier. Fogs are more frequent, and can sometimes be the predominant source of water.

Cultivation of *Eriosyce* is relatively easy. They will do well in pots in Southern California, and require protection only from excessive water and rain in the winter. They will grow well in the ground, as long as they are provided with good drainage. They grow much faster in the ground than they do in pots, and impressive specimens can be grown in just a few years.

All of the *Eriosyce*, and all of the incorporated genera have great spination, interesting flowers and are well worth growing.

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References:

Britton and Rose, *The Cactaceae*
Cullman, Gotz and Groner, *The Encyclopedia of Cacti*
Pilbeam, J., *Cacti for the Connoisseur*
Innes, C. and Glass, C., *Cacti*

Tom Glavich August 2006
San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society

Succulent of the Month September 2006 - Lithops

*Lithops* are the most remarkable of all the succulent plants. At a gross level, they are very simple. All you get are two leaves, each mostly filled with water holding cells. They are dormant when the weather is too hot or too cold, and grow most in the spring.

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On a fine level, no other genus has such a wealth of variation in color, shape, texture and pattern. (except maybe Conophytum).

There are just under 60 species, about 800 or so known local variations of the species, and a few hundred named and unnamed cultivars.

No two *Lithops* plants look the same, yet a knowledgeable grower can identify most species.

There are as many successful ways of growing *Lithops* as there are growers, and the cultivation practices are modified to fit individual habits, and local microclimates. The basic cultivation routine is: Stop watering after flowering, or at the end of November, except for *L. optica* which needs water until the end of December. Start watering after the old leaves completely dry. (Usually late March or Early April) Water freely during the summer. Grow them in an open, fast draining mix. Most growers use at least 50% pumice, some sand, and little organic material. Keep peat out of the mix. Some good growers fertilize frequently, some hardly ever. Keep them dry during the winter.
Lithops marmorata

Lithops are small, they don’t take up much room.

Lithops fulviceps ‘Bismark’

They are easy to grow from seed, with seed planting best in either October or April. There are good growers who do it both ways, and some who do it both times.

Lithops hallii C176

Even the best growers have plants that mysteriously dry up, or leave during the night.

Lithops karasmontana ss.p bella C143a

Because they are small and inexpensive, it’s best to grow them in quantity. Most of the people who can’t grow Lithops, have killed a few one by one. They are best grown by the dozen.

Tom Glavich

July 2006
The San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society
presents
The 13th Annual Winter Show
October 14 & 15, 2006
At the Los Angeles County Arboretum
301 N. Baldwin Avenue Arcadia, CA (across from Santa Anita Race Track)

SHOW SCHEDULE
Set-up: Thursday October 12th from 8:30 am till noon(set-up tables, show & sales area) Exhibitors & sellers may bring in plants on Thursday from noon till 9:00 pm.
Set-up: Friday October 13th from 9:00 am till 4:00 pm.
Judging: Friday October 13th from 5:00 pm till 10:00 pm.
Take-down: Sunday, October 15th from 5:00 pm till close
Pre-sale: the sales area will be open for workers and participants from 3:00 p.m. till 5:00 p.m. on Friday the 13th. Plants bought during pre-sale must be paid for and removed from the show no later than 9:00 p.m. Friday the 13th or they will be placed back in the sales area.

Horticultural Classifications
Competitive entries shall be as follows:

NOVICE: Exhibitor has won no more than 40 blue ribbons total in recognized C&S shows.
ADVANCED: Exhibitor has won 41 or more blue ribbons. No commercial sellers.
OPEN: Exhibitor must have won 80 or more blue ribbons or be a commercial seller of C&S plants.
All entrants must register their total entries in the show registrar prior to placement on tables.

DIVISION 1 INDIVIDUAL POTTED SPECIMENS, CACTI

1 Ariocarpus up to 5”
2 Ariocarpus single over 5”
3 Ariocarpus cluster over 5”
4 Astrophytum
5 Aztekium, Pelecyphora, Epithelantha
6 Borzicatus, Matucana, Submatucana, Oroya
7 Blossfeldia, Frailea
8 Buiningia, Uebelmannia
9 Columnar - Cereoid types (N or S American)
10 Obregonia, Strombocactus, Encephalocactus
11 Copiapoa
12 Coryphantha, Escobaria, Gymnocalcus, Neobesseya, Neolloydia, Ortegocalcus
13 Discocactus
14 Echinocereus up to 5”
15 Echinocereus over 5”
16 Echinopsis, Lobivia, Acanthocalycium
17 Echinocactus, Ferocactus, Hamatocactus
18 Eriosyce (Neopoteria, Neochilenia, Pyrrhocactus, Horridocactus)
19 Gymnocalcyium up to 5”
20 Gymnocalcyium over 5”
21 Mammillaria hooked up to 6”
22 Mammillaria hooked over 6”
23 Mammillaria w/o hooks single up to 6”
24 Mammillaria w/o hooks single over 6”
25 Mammillaria w/o hooks cluster up to 5”
26 Mammillaria w/o hooks cluster 5 to 10”
27 Mammillaria w/o hooks cluster over 10”
28 Melocactus
29 Notocactus, Parodia, Weingartia
30 Opuntia (all Opuntioideae)
31 Pediocactus, Sclerocactus, Turbinicarpus
32 Rebutia, Medioboivia
33 Sulcorebutia
34 Stenocactus (Echinofossulocactus)
35 Thelocactus
36 Epiphytic Cacti (Aporocactus, Hatiora, etc.)
37 Any other genus
38 Variegated Cacti
39 Crested Cacti (fan-shaped growth)
40 Montrose (multiple, irregular, growth centers)
41 Seed grown by exhibitors up to 5 years
42 Miniature Cacti (3” maximum pot size)
43 Cacti Collections of 5-12 plants
DIVISION 2 INDIVIDUAL POTTED SPECIMENS, SUCCULENTS

Aizoaceae (Mesembranthemaceae) family
44 Lithops
45 Conophyton
46 Other genera - with prominent stems/roots:
   Aloinopsis, Faucaria, Mestoklema, etc.
47 Other genera - without prominent stems/roots:
   Dinteranthus, Lapidaria, etc.

Asphodelaceae family
48 Aloe under 6"
49 Aloe 6" and over
50 Gasteria
51 Haworthia & Astroloba under 5"
52 Haworthia & Astroloba 5" and over

Crassulaceae family
53 Adromischus
54 Cotyledon, Tylecodon
55 Crassula, Kalanchoe
56 Dudleya
57 Echeveria
58 Other Crassulaceae: Aeonium, Pachyphytum
   Graptopetalum, Monanthes, Sedum,
   Tacitus, Orostachys, etc.

Euphorbiaceae Family
Euphorbia - species endemic to Madagascar
59 Caudiciform or Geophyte (capsaintmariensis,
   cylindrifolia v. tubifera, etc.)
60 Other Madagascan (decaryi, milli, etc.)
Euphorbia - species not endemic to Madagascar
61 Caudiciform (knuthii, squarrosa, etc.)
62 Medusa type (esculenta, gorgonis, etc.)
63 Stem type (abdelkuri, obesa, suzannae, etc.)
Other genera of Euphorbiaceae;
64 Jatropha, Monadenium, Pedilanthus, etc.

Geraniaceae family
65 Pelargonium
66 Sarcocaulon

Apocynaceae family
67 Adenium & Plumeria
68 Pachypodium - African
69 Pachypodium - Madagascan

Asclepiadaceae family
70 Fockea, Raphionacme, Brachystelma
71 Caralluma, Hoodia, Huernia, Pseudolithos,
   Stapelia, Trichocaulon, etc.
72 Other Asclepiadaceae: Ceropogia,
   Sarcostemma, Hoya, etc.

Succulents in Other Families
73 Agavaceae: Agave, Nolina, Yucca
74 Asteraceae: Senecio, Othonna
75 Bromeliaceae: Abrometiella, Dyckia, etc.
76 Burseraceae: Bursera, Commiphora
77 Didiereaceae: Alluaudia, Decaryia, Didiera
78 Dracaenaceae: Sansevieria (may include
   variegates)
79 Moraceae: Dorstenia (enter Ficus in 83 or 84)
80 Passifloraceae: Adenia
81 Portulacaceae: Anacampseros, Avonia,
   Ceraria
82 Vitaceae: Cissus, Cyphostemma

Pachycals, Caudiciforms & Geophytes
   Adansonia, Bombax, Chorisia,
   Cucurbitaceae, Dioscorea, Fouquieria
   Pachycormus, etc.
83 Pot size under 8"
84 Pot size 8" and over
85 Any other genus
86 Variegated Succulents
87 Crested Succulents (fan-shaped growth)
88 Monstrose (multiple, irregular, growth centers)
89 Seed grown by exhibitors up to 5 years
90 Miniature (3" maximum pot size)
91 Collection of 5 - 12 plants

DIVISION 3 ARRANGEMENTS
92 Dish gardens (miniature scene)
93 Planters (group of the same or assorted plants)
94 Bonsai (Succulent Media of Living Art)

DIVISION 4 DISPLAYS
95 Individual display
96 Commercial display
97 Educational display

DIVISION 5 ALLIED INTERESTS
98 Photography
99 Art Work & Handicrafts
SHOW RULES

1) Showers must be members of the SGVC&SS.
2) Entries must be in the possession of the exhibitor for at least 6 months. Artificially propagated plant entries are encouraged. They must be clean (no weeds and debris), healthy (no insects, disease, and pesticide odor) and dry (to keep tables and table coverings from being ruined). Plant labels should be removed. Exhibitors are responsible for placing entry cards with exhibits prior to judging. The show committee may remove any entry which detracts from the show or jeopardizes the health of other entries.
3) Plants in Division I & II must be individually potted specimens. Pot size refers to the inside diameter of the pot at soil level (Irregular pots; the average diameter). Cristate & Monstrose plants should appear only in their specific classes. Miniature refers to the intrinsic characteristic of the species; i.e., a small, mature plant; not an immature, or stunted plant. A collection should be of individually potted, identified plants of one genus or some unifying theme.
4) Depending on the number of entries, prior to the judging, the Show Committee may combine or divide categories and rearrange entries. The Show Room is open to authorized people only during judging. Entries must remain until the end of the show.
5) Entries are judged on: Condition, Size & Maturity & Difficulty of Culture (70%); Staging (25%); and Nomenclature (5%). Entries are judged against “perfection”; awards are given only if the judges, whose decisions are final, believe they are merited.
6) The Society and Show Committee will take due care to safeguard entries but cannot be held responsible for damage to, or loss of, plants or other property.

AWARDS

First, second and third place ribbons may be awarded in each class in Divisions 1 through 5. In addition 18 rosettes will be awarded for outstanding entries in both Divisions 1 & 2. For Sweepstakes calculations 1st place = 6 pts, 2nd place = 3 pts and 3rd place = 1 pt. Rosettes will be tie-breakers.

TROPHIES

Best Cactus (all categories), donated by Cactus Data Plants
Best Succulent (all categories), donated by Steve Crider
Sweepstakes overall: High Points Cacti (all categories); High Points Succulents (all categories).

Other trophies awarded as perpetals include:
Best Agave donated by Darlene Osborn, Best Ariocarpus, Best Collection, The VIRGINIA SHAMBEAU trophy for Best Crassulaceae donated by the SGVC&SS, Best Dorstenia donated by Tom & Carol Loehman, Best Epiphytic Cacti donated by Rainbow Gardens, Best Euphorbia, Best Gymnocalycium, Best Haworthia, Best Mammillaria donated by Woody & Kathy Minnich, Best Mutant - includes variegates, crests or monstrose donated by Ken Felton, Best Opuntia donated by Jean Mullens, Best Pelargonium-Sarcocaulon donated by Arid Lands Greenhouses, Best Rebutia-Sulcorebutia, Best Winter Growing Succulent donated by David & Eileen Tufenkian, Best Pachypodium donated by Bill Hagblom and Vince Basta, The Dick Hulett trophy for Best Miniature, The Ellen Low trophy for Best Baja Plant, & The Virginia Martin trophy for Best Mexican Plant, all three donated by the SGVC&SS.

Show Chairman: Vince Basta (714) 738-1422  Sales Chairman: Jim Hanna (562) 920-3046
Treasurer: Amber Jones (951) 827-5220  Publicity: Bill Gerlach (626) 332-8008
Calendar of Events – 2006

September 2nd  Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium
                All Day at the Huntington.

September 24th Long Beach C&SS Annual Auction,
                Dominguez Adobe, 18127 So. Alameda St., Compton (Dominguez Hills), CA

October 14th-15th SGVC&SS Winter Show and Sale, LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave,
                Arcadia CA.

If you have a cactus or succulent related event that you’d like to have announced in the COMMUNIQUE,
please forward the information to the address given below. Please verify event dates - sometimes events are
rescheduled or canceled without adequate advance notice. Articles, Notices and Corrections can be sent via
E-mail to: sgv_css@prodigy.net or via post to: San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter
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