

# Espinas y Flores

*Newsletter of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society  
an affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America*

Volume 51, Number 10

October 2016



**SDCSS General Meeting: Saturday October 8th, 1:00 - 4:00 pm**

Pre-Meeting Workshop 11:00 am: "Fun with Winter Growers, Basics and More" by Peter W.  
New Member Orientation, 12:30 pm, hosted by Pat and Jay

**Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society  
Show & Sale - October 22nd & 23rd**

**Club Holiday Party ~ December 10th!**

**SDCSS Winter Show & Sale February 11th, 2017**

See inside for more details on these and other events!



## San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society

### SDCSS Executive Board

President:	Kelly Griffin
Vice president:	Chris Miller
Secretary:	Jennifer Harris
Treasurer:	Leslie Sheridan

### SDCSS Directors

Rick Bjorkland	Jerry Garner
Wendy Goldman	Kienan Parr
Brian Shepherd	Christine Vargas
Peter Walkowiak	

### Committees & Sub Committees

Conservation:	Herb Stern
Brag table:	Tina Zucker & Denise Griffin
Plants of the Month:	Don Hunt
Summer/Winter Show:	Kelly Griffin, Bill O'Daniel, Tom Knapik
Historian:	Terry Parr
Grants:	Jerry Garner
Library:	Don Hunt, Steve & Kathy Harris
Exchange Plants/Seeds:	Michelle Heckathorn/Sara Schell
Annual sales:	Chris Miller
Auction & Holiday Plants:	Kelly Griffin
Show Auction Manager:	Peter Walkowiak
Monthly Plant Sales:	Jim DeForrest/Lynn Elliott
Monthly Supply Sales:	George & Jerry Plaisted
Benefit Drawing Table:	Collette, Kienan, & Terry Parr
Programs:	Kelly Griffin
Reception:	Susan Hopkins/Judy Walkowiak
Monthly Regalement:	Cathy Clark
Picnic Regalement:	Chris Miller

### Liaisons

Balboa Park Desert Garden:	Susan Hopkins
CSSA Affiliate Rep:	Peter Walkowiak
SD Botanic Garden:	Phyllis Flechsig
SD Botanic Foundation:	George Plaisted
SD Floral Association:	Jeanette Dutton
SD Zoo Safari Park, Baja & Old World Gardens:	May Fong Ho
Palomar CS Society Liaison	Brita Miller

### Membership & Publicity

Membership:	Paul & Carol Maker
Newsletter Editor:	Sue Thomas
Webmaster:	Paul Maker
Publicity:	Christine Vargas

### Contact SDCSS

Website:	<a href="http://www.sdcss.net">http://www.sdcss.net</a>
Membership:	<a href="mailto:membership@sdcss.net">membership@sdcss.net</a>
Newsletter Editor:	<a href="mailto:newsletter@sdcss.net">newsletter@sdcss.net</a>

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## Classifieds

### A Success Story

As a result of an ad placed in last month's *Espinas y Flores*, Tina Zucker was able to locate a book she was searching for.  
Congratulations Tina!

### Ad Circulation

*Espinas y Flores* is circulated among approximately 720 SDCSS members online and in print. It is also made available and archived permanently, for the general public's viewing.  
If you would like to place an ad, please contact Sue at: [newletter@sdcss.net](mailto:newletter@sdcss.net)

## On the Cover:

### Clockwise from top left

*Conophytum calculus*  
*Cheiridopsis peculiaris*  
*Didymaotus lapidiformis*

Photos by Kelly Griffin  
Photographed in habitat, South Africa

## SDCSS.net

If you haven't already done so, take a minute or two to visit our Club website at [www.sdcss.net](http://www.sdcss.net)! There is a wealth of information and resources at your fingertips and thanks to the ongoing efforts of our "Webmaster Extraordinaire" Paul Maker, information is kept current and relevant.

### Here are just a few things the website has to offer:

Meeting and event information, Plant show and brag table photos, announcements, library of *Espinas y Flores* (newsletters) dating back to 1965, membership benefit information, SDCSS Directors, Board Members, and contact Information, payment portal for memberships, events, donations, newsletter copies, etc.

Opinions expressed in articles and editorial comments are solely the opinions of the author or the editor and do not necessarily represent the opinion of the SDCSS, the board of Directors, or the organization as a whole. All material submitted to the *Espinas y Flores* for possible publication may be edited in form and content. All material contained in the *Espinas y Flores* may be reprinted by other non-profit organizations unless permission is expressly denied in a note accompanying the article. Please send one copy of the printed material to the editor. Reproduction in whole or part by any other organization without the express consent of the editor is prohibited.



## President's Message



I trust the picnic was a great success. I hope the new botanical garden venue was a good change of pace. I wish I could have been in two places at the same time but I am still in South Africa as I write this. A big thank you to all who contributed and a special thank you to San Diego Botanic Garden for use of their facilities.

Our next meeting will feature Guillermo Rivera, who we are fortunate to have back. This will be I believe, his fourth time here. He will also be speaking on a different subject at the Bromeliad Society which precedes our meeting. So if you like, you can get two programs in one day!

I will not be at the October meeting, and I feel I should explain. Some of our long term members might remember the little boy that used to attend meetings with me.....my oldest son Sean. He brought his plants to show in the early 90's. Well he has grown up and has chosen that weekend to get married, so again I need to find a way to be in two places at the same time. Again I fall short. I look forward to meeting up with everyone again in November!

South Africa has been beautiful and I hope to share with you all the new and interesting things we have found. Until next time...! ~ Kelly

### October Program

## **“Exploring South Africa from Cape Town to Richtersveld”**

By Guillermo Rivera

Guillermo will take us on a journey through the provinces of the Western and Northern Capes, exploring the great succulent diversity of South Africa. We will explore several National and State Parks: Namaqua, Richtersveld, and others. Conophytums, Lithops, Aloes, Pachypodium, and many Mesembs are among the plants we are going to highlight in this presentation. There will also be some wildlife shots from Kruger National Park and photos of the incredible event of mass flowering in the desert.



Guillermo was born in Argentina and is owner of South America Nature Tours (former Cactus Expeditions), a company dedicated to the organization of tours for the last 15 years, throughout South America (Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador), Mexico and South Africa, Madagascar, and Namibia with emphasis on plants (bromeliads, cacti, and orchids), and birding.

Former researcher at the University of Cordoba, Argentina. BS degree in Biology University of Cordoba

MS Marine Biology. Northeastern University. PhD in Botany University of Cordoba.

Next year we are planning another trip to Namibia, Mozambique, Ecuador, Bolivia, and Southern Patagonia. All these trips will focus on the succulent and bromeliad flora of these places. (except Southern Patagonia.

If you wish to be informed about future trips, please join Facebook Groups:

“Cactus and Succulent Field Tours”: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1066757093389430>.

Bromeliad Tours: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/190792077971404/>

Please feel free to contact me directly: [riversa@intecar.com.ar](mailto:riversa@intecar.com.ar) or [info@cactusexpeditions.com](mailto:info@cactusexpeditions.com)

## "My Cardon (*Pachycereus pringlei*); How it Makes a Living."

by Stan Yalof



About thirty five years ago (1980ish), I was given a 6-inch bare root Cardon by a grower. "I don't want anything for it. They don't sell. They grow too slow." I planted it and forgot it ... for a while. In 1995, a small fire went through our property. I noticed the Cardon, then about three feet high, was seared near its crown. The resulting scar is mostly faded today. I decided to track its growth. As it aged, its growth accelerated with its growing photosynthetic area. As its height reached beyond my reach, I used the pixels of my camera to measure its changing height and width.

Plants obtain their energy from the sun and use atmospheric carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) and internal water as its feedstock. From this process they reduce atmospheric  $\text{CO}_2$ , provide oxygen, and build their biomass. I have calculated this digestion for my friend, the Cardon, now over 8-feet.

Stan Yalof

## Support the Anza-Borrego State Park

*First Deadline is September 30th...*

The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society is a continuous supporter of the Anza-Borrego Foundation, the official non-profit partner of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. The Foundation acquires land for conservation in and around the Park, educates the public about the Park's resources, and supports research relevant to the region.

Members of SDCSS have already supported the Anza-Borrego Foundation through participation (bidding) on Auction Plants at the Summer Show. Not only will the proceeds from this auction (\$700) be donated to ABF, but SDCSS will match dollar for dollar the amount collected at the auction PLUS all donations made by members through November 30, 2016. **There is an additional incentive to send your donation by September 30th; the Anza Borrego Foundation has a challenge grant from the Parker Foundation that will also double any amount up to \$45000.** All moneys collected will be sent to the Anza-Borrego Foundation in December, along with a list of donors.

If you wish to make a donation to help preserve the beautiful and unique Anza-Borrego State Park, please send a check payable to SDCSS, and mail to the following address:

San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society  
Attn: Anza-Borrego Donation  
P.O. Box 33181  
San Diego, CA 92163-3181

You may also make a donation via the website: [www.sdcss.net](http://www.sdcss.net) or present your payment to a cashier at any General Meeting through November.



Agave by Marcy Yates



# Upcoming Events

## The next SDCSS General Meeting - October 8th

**The next SDCSS General Meeting** will be held on Saturday, October 8th, 1:00 - 4:00 pm, in Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101.

**Pre-Meeting Workshop** - 11:00 am: "Fun with Winter Growers, Basics and More"

by Peter Walkowiak (See details below)

**New Member Orientation** - 12:30 pm, guided by Pat and Jay

**Brag Table** - Please have your entries in place by 12:30



**Snacks/Appetizers** - Many of you have regularly and generously brought snacks to share during meetings. If you've enjoyed these yummy appetizers and have not recently shared something yourself, please bring a food item to the October meeting. This month's assignment are those with last names A-M.

### San Diego Botanic Garden Fall Plant Sale

Saturday & Sunday, October 15 & 16, 10 - 4

Plant donations from over 100 local growers, wholesalers, retail nurseries, and individuals make this one of the most interesting and diverse plant sales of San Diego County. Plant selections include California natives, cacti, succulents, bromeliads, fruit trees, and sub-tropicals. Visit our Botanic Attic for garden-related items. Also be sure to check out our huge selection of used books and homemade goodies such as specialty jellies. Enjoy an opportunity drawing at our popular sit-down Bakery Shoppe, which serves cakes, cookies, pies, and coffee.

**Larabee and Benefactor Society Members Only**  
**Pre-Sale: October 15, early access at 8 am**

**Members Only Pre-Sale, all levels:**  
**October 15, 9 - 10 am**

**Monday, October 17, 9 am - 1 pm**

**All remaining plant stock on sale for 1/2 price**



**\*NEW:** \$5 admission on Sunday, October 16 (all day) and Monday, October 17 (until 12 noon)  
**Cost:** Free with paid admission or membership.  
**NOTE:** Please bring your own wagons or carts to the garden to transport your plants home. This also makes checkout faster and easier.

**Also don't miss:**

**Master Gardener's Sale**

**Balboa Park Rm 101, Casa del Prado**  
**October 22nd, 9:00 - 3:00**

Pre-Meeting Workshop with Peter Walkowiak

### Fun with Winter Growers, Basics and More

For succulent lovers here in Southern California, we are blessed to have two seasons. The summer growing succulents season is coming to an end and the winter growers season is just beginning. Winter growers are native to areas where the rain and cooler weather occur during the winter. These areas include Western South Africa, Mediterranean, West coast of California and Baja Norte. I will bring some examples of winter growers, talk about their care and needs. Afterwards I will hold a Q&A where I encourage you to ask questions about any plants you like. I will provide a mixed flat of 3-1/4 pots, 25 plants at wholesale, \$3.00, all winter growers for all attendees.

## 2016 Cactus & Succulent Show and Sale

### Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

The North San Diego County Cactus and Succulent Society!

**October 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> Sat. 9 - 5 / Sun. 10 - 3**

**At San Diego Botanic Garden**  
**230 Quail Gardens Drive,**  
**Encinitas, CA 92024**

For Directions: [www.sdbgarden.org/directions.htm](http://www.sdbgarden.org/directions.htm)



See spectacular succulent specimens from around the world!

Plant judging is Saturday from 11am - 12:30pm.

The public can follow along as judges comment on entries and make their decisions.

All show plants will be available for viewing Saturday and Sunday, with winners identified after 1pm Saturday.

Specimen plants for the novice or collector, as well as handmade ceramic pots will be for sale.

**Cost: Free with garden admission or garden membership**

For more info contact: Brita Miller @ [eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org](mailto:eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org) or 858-776-7216

We're on Facebook! Website - [www.PalomarCactus.org](http://www.PalomarCactus.org)

# More Upcoming Events

Advertisement

## **"SUCCULENT GARDENING by Tina"**

**OPEN GARDEN and Plants for Sale**

**At our home:**

**552 Seabright Lane, Solana Beach, CA**

**www.succulents.us**

Ph: (858) 342-9781 Email: succulentsus@gmail.com

**Wednesday October 26<sup>th</sup> 11am - 4pm**

**Friday October 28<sup>th</sup> 10am - 4pm**

**Saturday October 29<sup>th</sup> noon - 4pm**

*Please RSVP, it helps us be prepared*



**Collector, Garden & Landscape Plants  
& Jerry's Pots**

**I am grateful to be part of the SDCSS club!  
Thank you all for your patronage!**

**Please share this invitation with friends & family  
and anyone interested in environmentally  
conscious watering.**

**Send us an Email to be added to our  
notification list!**

*Tina & Joe*

*SDCSS Executive Board and  
Board Directors Elections  
will take place  
at the General Meeting  
on November 12<sup>th</sup>!*

**Reserve the Date!  
The San Diego Cactus &  
Succulent Society  
Holiday Party is on  
Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**There will be no  
Coffee in the Garden  
in October.**

## **November Meeting Brag Table Faux Cactus and Succulents**

The Brag Table at the November meeting will be full of Faux (fake) plants made by members. This is a chance to get creative and develop plants that are fun and a bit twisted, not unlike the real ones. An example would be Oreocereus made of Oreo cookies. In the past we've had plants made from pipe cleaners, Legos, origami, blown glass, balloons and just about anything you can imagine. Look around for interesting elements, start imagining, and knock our socks off!

Here are the Rules:

1. No obvious plant material can be used
2. "Plants" should be staged
3. Plant name must be Latin (have fun with this!).
4. For example, if you use Q-tips, you might want to call your plant "Spinocereus Qtipii"
5. The more uncommon the materials, the better!
6. Artistic license is encouraged

**Please participate!**

The more plants we have, the better. Have fun with it!! Who knows, if you win, your special plant could make the cover of the newsletter, almost as good as making the cover of Time magazine!







## Euphorbia Latex Sap ~ A Precautionary Reminder

As a Cactus/Succulent enthusiast, there's a good chance you own or have owned at least one Euphorbia, a large genera of flowering plants belonging to the Euphorbiaceae family. Euphorbias contain a milky latex sap that serves to protect them from insects but it is also a toxic eye and skin irritant to humans. Below is an article about the potential remedies for eye exposure to latex, written by Andrew Wilson several years ago after he got euphorbia sap in his eye. Apparently most ophthalmologist and emergency room physicians don't know how to treat it. Hopefully, this will serve as a precaution rather than a remedy for an experience yet to be! Sue T.

Ocular inflammations caused by the latex of euphorbiaceae manifest themselves as lid swelling, severe conjunctivitis, keratitis and iritis with hypopyon. As therapy, the local application of corticosteroids is recommended. In severely affected cases intravenous injections of Sandosten-Calcium and Solutions of Dacortin (Merck) are indicated. The caustic effect of euphorbia cyparissias is caused by phorbol acid and phorbol acid ester. On the Canary Islands, the latex of euphorbiaceae is quickly removed by drop application of the sap of aeonium lindleyi, family crassulaceae. In the past, the sap of sempervivum tectorum which also belongs to the crassulaceae, was used as a household remedy for ocular inflammations.

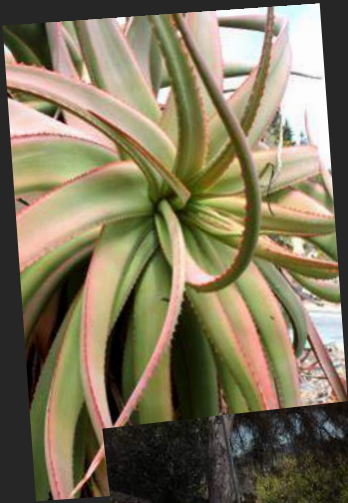
The use of corticosteroids needs to be reviewed. I've read that there are topical formulations that have been used for treating uveitis ( check that well known source Wikipedia for information <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Uveitis>) but I've also read that they "can cause permanent eye damage by inducing central serous retinopathy (CSR, also known as central serous chorioretinopathy, CSC)." It would be useful if an approved, safe formulation could make its way into the stores of emergency rooms. ~ Andrew Wilson

## A Day at the Huntington 2016 Symposium





# Summer Picnic



Thank you to everyone who worked hard to make this event successful and fun!





## Nominations and Elections News!



It's hard to believe our last election took place two years ago! Time has gone by quickly. Perhaps that is due to all the fun we've had at meetings, workshops, show and sales, picnics, and other great activities the club offers! It is time for Board nominations which will be held at the October general meeting (elections occur at the November meeting in even numbered years).

The Nominations Committee (Christine V, Kienan P, and Rick B) presented a list of candidates, including at least one or more candidates for each office, to the Board at their September meeting. Officer positions include President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Seven directors complete the board. Officers and directors cannot hold more than one elective office and can serve in a position for a maximum of two consecutive terms. Terms are two calendar years. Some of us have served for four years in the same position and are termed out for that position for the next 2017-2019 term.

According to the bylaws, nominations will be accepted during the October general meeting from the floor "provided the member being nominated is present and gives his or her consent to the nomination or, if not present, has given his or her written consent to the nomination prior to the meeting (Article VII, Section 2)." An election will be held at the November meeting and the newly elected officers and directors take office at the end of the December meeting.

After deliberation, we are pleased to present to you the proposed slate of officers for your consideration: President - Chris Miller, Vice President - Kelly Griffin, Secretary - Mary Reiser, Treasurer - Leslie Sheridan, and Directors - Christine Vargas, Wendy Goldman, Antonina Lansangan, Tina Zucker, Jerry Garner, Brian Shepherd, and Jim Reiser. Board members who served four years in their current position and will not be continuing on the Board for the next term are Jennifer Harris, Peter Walkowiak, Kienan Parr, and Rick Bjorklund. We would like to thank them for their contributions and support as board members for the past two terms.

## **SDCSS Bylaws - Proposed changes**

The SDCSS Board has proposed a couple of changes to the Club's bylaws. The wording is being finalized and will be presented at the November general meeting, followed by a vote by the membership. Below is a summary of the proposed changes:

It is proposed that the SDCSS Board may, by its discretion, call for an audit of Club finances and records at any time outside of the standard bi-annual schedule. Reasoning : There may be instances such as the resignation of the Treasurer, where the Board considers an audit prudent and/or necessary.

It is proposed that the SDCSS Board, at its discretion, allow the standing Treasurer to remain in his/her position for more than two consecutive terms as is currently prescribed. Reasoning: The Treasurer's position requires skill beyond the ability of many volunteers. It is also a difficult position to fill. In recognizing these challenges, the Board would like the authority to allow a willing, experienced, and skillful Treasurer to remain in the position for more than two terms.



# Save the Date!

## SDCSS Winter Show & Sale

### Saturday, February 11th

### 10:00 - 4:00

### Roomm 101, Casa del Prado

### Balboa Park

#### Member Photos



From top left: *Melocactus zehntneri* at the Huntington, by Wendy Goldman; *Pleiospilos compactus*, personal collection, by Candy Garner; *Agave melanacantha* at San Diego Botanic Garden, by Sue Thomas; Collection of lithops at the Huntington by Wendy Goldman; *Echeveria cante*, personal collection, by Tina Zucker



## CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2016 / 2017

- OCT. 8-9**      Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, Sat. 10-5, Sun. 11-4,  
East Hills Mall, Center Court, 3100 Mall View Rd., Bakersfield, CA 93306.  
Info: (661) 831-8488
- OCT. 15-16**    San Diego Botanic Garden Fall Plant Sale (see details in on previous page)
- OCT. 22-23**    Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4.  
San Diego Botanic Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Rd., Encinitas, CA.  
Info: hciservices@gmail.com. (858) 382-1797
- NOV. 5-6**      San Gabriel Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale,  
9am - 4pm both days, LA County Arboretum, 310 No. Baldwin, Arcadia, CA  
Info: Manny Rivera (626) 780-6957 or John Matthews (661) 714-1052
- DEC. 10**        SDCSS Holiday Party
- FEB. 11**        SDCSS Winter Show & Sale, Casa del Prado. Balboa Park

**Memberships can be paid online! Visit us at [www.sdcss.net](http://www.sdcss.net)**

### SDCSS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Dues are \$15.00 per year per individual, and \$5.00 per year for each additional household member. The Newsletter is emailed. Mailed paper copies are available for an additional \$10 a year. Each member has all the rights and benefits of the organization. **Please fill in all blanks and PRINT CLEARLY! Thank you!**

Type of Membership (please check one):	New _____	Renewal _____
Annual Membership Dues (E-mail Newsletter):	\$15.00 _____	
Add USPS delivery (Paper Newsletter):	\$10.00 _____	
Annual Dues – International (Paper):	\$30.00 _____	
Additional Household Member(s) each:	\$ 5.00 _____	
Amount Enclosed:	\$ _____	

**Member Information: (Please PRINT to fill in ALL blanks below!)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City and State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip + 4: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell/FAX: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Household Members: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to receive E-mail notifications of Club events and issues? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail this form or a copy, along with a check or money order in US Funds, payable to SDCSS to:

SDCSS Membership Dept, c/o Paul Maker  
1245 San Pablo Drive, San Marcos, CA 92078