

Mammillaria thornberi

Espinas y Flores

The Newsletter of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society

Affiliated with the Cactus and Succulent Society of America

Volume 48 Number 4

April 2013

Happenings This Month

Regular Meeting

Saturday April 13, 2013

Balboa Park Room 101, 1pm to 4pm

Agenda:

Pre Meeting Workshop at 11:00

Selecting Pots for Staging

By Jerry Garner

Plant of the Month

Mammillarias of the Southwest

By Steve Harris

Program

The Plants and Habitats of Madagascar

By Jeremy Spath



Coffee in the Garden

Don Patterson's Home

April 20th—10 to 1

Marilyn & Ric Newcomer's Home

April 27th— 10 to 1



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Well normally I would be reflecting on the past meeting and thanking all those involved for all they did to contribute to make it a stellar event but I think you all could do a better job of that since I managed somehow not to be there.

I was doing what all of us plant nuts should want to do ~ I made an escape to see some wonderful plants in Baja and Cedros Island.

I think Chris will share a glimpse of some of what we saw!

I do want to thank Woody Minnich for making the long drive from New Mexico to present his program. I also wanted to thank Peter Walkowiak for the workshop presentation and Rich Ryan for his presentation on Xeriscaping.

It is time to dust the cob webs off your favorite plants and get them ready for the up coming summer show...it is only three meetings away!

Our April speaker, Jeremy Spath is a rising plant star

and he will present a wondrous program on the spectacular red island, Madagascar! His trip was made possible by contributions from the CSSA and SDC&SS among other donors.

Don't miss outMark your calendars and see you April 13th!

Kelly Griffin



Ferocactus (emoryi) rectispinus
In Sierra San Francisco in Baja Sur



Dudleya pachyphytum on
Cedros Island Baja

Editor's Note: The electronic version has notifications for several upcoming events not included in the paper version

The Plants and Habitats of Madagascar



Madagascar is the 4th largest island on the globe, and is slightly less than twice of Arizona or 44% larger than California. It's landmass is home to as many as 12,000 plant species, 70-80% are endemic- making it one of the most diverse floras on the planet. In comparison, tropical Africa covers 35x the landmass and has only 30-35,000 species. Of the 8 species of baobab found in the world, six are endemic to Madagascar. Jeremy received a grant from the Cactus and Succulent Society of America and the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society to search for an unknown *Aloe suzannae* population in the Southwest of Madagascar. It is widely accepted that *Aloe suzannae* is on the brink of extinction, with only a few populations left containing a handful of plants each all in the Southeast region of the country. Did he find more? Is there hope for this majestic and unusual *Aloe*? Jeremy will reveal the answer to this question in his April program for the SDCSS. Additional features will include many more species of *Aloes*, baobabs, palms, plants of the *Didieraceae*, *Pachypodiums*, palms, lemurs, tortoises, and reptiles .

Jeremy Spath began his plant career approximately 8 years ago at San Diego Botanic Gardens. There he was exposed to a vast array of plant types, and despite loving them all was most attracted to cycads, succulents, palms, bromeliads and bamboos. Plant groups that he remembers one docent at the gardens refer to as, 'man plants.' Jeremy left the garden to begin his own landscape design business, Spath Gardens, as well as working with Kelly Griffin at Xeric Tissue Culture. Today, he continues to run a successful landscape design business and work part time at Rancho Soledad Nursery, in Rancho Santa Fe. Jeremy loves working with plants, but is happiest in the field, as he believes, nature is truly the best landscaper.

Coffee in the Garden

April 20th 10 to 1

Epi. Velvet Whisper

Don Patterson is Easily Seduced!

Plant life has been an interest of mine for a few decades. Initially, my collecting interests were focused on the "Orchid Cactus" aka the *Epiphyllum*. Over the span of a few years of collecting and growing epis, I decided to flex my creative muscles and experiment with growing these plants from seed. This began years of hybridizing.

Some of the results (by the way, be prepared to wait four or five years for the first bloom) have met with some popular acceptance. Registered epis of mine include: "Mr.P", "Lily Dasche", "Smarty Pants", "Mousekateer" and "Lips Betrayed". Within a decade, I shifted my attention to *Bromeliads*. During the 1980's, I grew and exhibited *Neoregelias*, *Aechmeas*, *Cryptanthus*, etc.

Next, I heard the call of the Cactus and Succulent...the terrestrials of the cactus world. Easily seduced, I began to whole-heartedly grow *Gymnocalacium*, *Ariocarpus*, *Copiapoa*. etc. Not to forget the succulent world, I grow some *Euphorbia*, *Gasteria* and *Haworthia*. All these plants are grown in my backyard, some under shade cloth, others in an unheated fiberglass structure and a few in direct sun. There they continue to die; though mostly they thrive due to constant attention! There's not much room for another plant, I vow...except for the transient temptation of "just one more."

Seductions continue.

Welcome...bring a camera. The epis will be a'bloomin'. Don Patterson
4655 56th Street, San Diego



Mammillaria of the Desert Southwest

By Steve Harris

If you attended the March meeting, we were treated to an informative and scenic tour of our back yard by Society Fellow Woody Minnich. We live in an amazingly diverse area of the world and have amazingly diverse flora, as well.

Don Hunt asked me to do a Plant of the Month on Mammillaria. With more than 400 species names being bandied about, and approximately 175 described species in various publications, this seemed to be a daunting task. Kathy suggested well before Woody's program that I break off a little piece of the task and focus on the Mammillaria of the Desert Southwest, basically what we have here in California and our neighboring states of Arizona and Nevada.

Mammillaria can be found from Venezuela, Guatemala and the Caribbean north to the Desert Southwest, with the vast majority of species to be found in Mexico. The genus was first described by Adrian Haworth in 1812 and named for the nipple-like tubercles which are a key characteristic of the genus. The common names are Fishhook or Nipple Cactus.

Our local varieties here in San Diego County include *M. dioica*, the California Fishhook Cactus, which occurs in the local area from La Jolla south into Mexico and east to the foothills, and then again throughout the Anza-Borrego region north to the Coachella Valley. Also found here in the county is *M. tetracistra*, the Common Fishhook Cactus, which ranges from the Sea of Cortez north through the Colorado and Mojave Deserts as far as the southwestern corner of Utah and east into most of Arizona.

The only other species found in California is *M. grahamii*, the Graham Fishhook Cactus, which are found in the triangle formed at the state's extreme eastern point in San Bernardino County where *Carnegiea gigantea*, the Saguaro Cactus, also has a foothold in California. *M. grahamii* is also known as the Arizona Fishhook Cactus, and is widespread throughout the Sonoran Desert region into Mexico.



M. dioica

Arizona has several varieties of *Mammillaria*, including *M. heyderi*, which in its various subspecies ranges from Arizona and Texas north into the grasslands of the Great Plains and south into virtually all of Northern Mexico. Another wide-ranging species is *M. lasiacantha*, found from Arizona to West Texas and south into Chihuahua, Durango and Zacatecas, Mexico. *M. mainiae* and *M. thornberi* range west of Tucson in the Sonoran Desert extending into Mexico. *M. wrightii* ranges throughout southwestern Arizona and into New Mexico.

M. grahamii

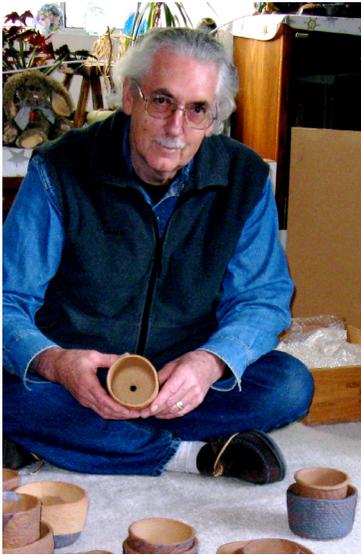


Future Coffee in the Garden Events

If you are interested in sharing your wonderful garden with other members let me know. The schedule is pretty open for the rest of the year. If you would like to see another member's garden make the suggestion and I can check to see if they were interested. If this is a program you would be interested in managing let me know. Chris Miller— c.miller@cox.net

April Pre-meeting Workshop

Selecting Pots for Staging, Practical and Aesthetic Issues



In the April pre-meeting workshop we will look at the issues involved in selecting a particular pot for the staging of cactus and succulent plants. There will be a brief history of how and why cactus and succulent staging evolved. We will look at materials, shapes, sizes, finishes, and how they combine to accentuate a plant being prepared for the show bench. There are issues of practicality; what is the best pot to keep the plant happy in your growing conditions. Also, there are issues of aesthetics; does a particular pot enhance the qualities of the plant and present those qualities to the viewer. How does positioning the plant in the pot affect the visual dynamics of the presentation.

The two sets of issues present a wide assortment of possibilities for plant staging. The trick is to find a meeting point where the grower, the plant and the viewer are rewarded in the outcome.

Starts at 11 am.



2013 Winter Show Trophy Winners

Tapio Haaparanta, Geoff Twitchel,
Carol Maker, and Peter Walkowiak

UPCOMING EVENTS

Apr 13 & 14: South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes, CA. Info: 310-832-2262

Apr 20 & 21: Green Scene Plant Sale, Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton, CA.

Apr 27: South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale, 9am To 4pm, South Coast Botanical Gardens. Info: 310-833-6823

Apr 28: Huntington Plant Sale, 10 to 5, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino CA. Info: 626-405-2160

May 4 & 5: Sunset Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, Veteran's Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Ave, Culver City CA. Info 310-822-1783

May 17 & 18: Gates Cactus & Succulent Society 32nd Show & Sale, Friday & Saturday 9 to 4:30 pm. Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive, Glen Avon, CA. Info 951-360-8802

May 25 & 26: Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Annual Show & Sale (10-4pm), Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, ca. Info 805-237-2054, www.centralcoastcactus.org

Jun 1-2: SDCSS Annual Summer Show and Sale

CSSA Convention



The Austin Cactus & Succulent Society would like to invite you to Austin, Texas for the 2013 CSSA Convention. It will be held June 15th through 20th at the Sheraton Austin Hotel at the Capitol. The Sheraton is located in the heart of downtown – within walking distance of many Austin attractions.

All members of the Society are invited to join in the gathering which will feature world renowned authors and experts in the field of Cacti & Succulents. The web site for the Convention is located at <http://cssa2013.com>.

March 2013 Brag Table Winners

Judged by Mark Fryer

CACTUS

Novice

- 1st Place, No Name – *Stenocactus crispatus*
- 2nd Place, Wendy Goldman – *Mammillaria hamniana*
- 3rd Place, Wendy Goldman - *Mammillaria pennispinosa unazasensis*

Intermediate

- 1st Place, Don Hunt – *Glandulicactus uncinatus* ssp. *wrightii*
- 2nd Place, No Tag
- 3rd Place, Jim DeForest & Chuck Ramey – *Gymnocactus pungens*

Advanced

- 1st Place, Peter Walkowiak – *Cintia kunzleri*
- 2nd Place, Peter Walkowiak – *Neoporteria bicolor*
- 3rd Place, Peter Walkowiak – *Stenocactus multicostatus*



SUCCULENTS

Novice

- 1st Place, No Name – *Aloe variegata*
- 2nd Place, Ed Wirth – *Sanseveria parva*

Intermediate

- 1st Place, Bev Grant – *Dudleya britonii*
- 2nd Place, Candy & Jerry Garner – *Pachypodium namaquanum*
- 3rd Place, Rick Bjorklund – *Aloe 'Viper'*
- 3rd Place, Candy & Jerry Garner – *Euphorbia francoisii*

Advanced

- 1st Place, Peter Walkowiak – *Euphorbia esculenta* hybrid
- 2nd Place, Peter Walkowiak – *Euphorbia esculenta* hybrid
- 3rd Place, Phyllis Flechsig – *Andromischus leucophyllus*



Submitted by
Candy Garner

Photos by
Paul Maker





Coffee in the Garden II CACTI AND SUCCULENT COLLECTION BEING SOLD April 27, 2013

After much deliberation I have decided to sell my entire collection of cacti and Succulents. I spent 20 years searching for my favorite genus – which are *Haworthias*, *Gymnocalyciums*, and *Mammillarias*. Of course who can stop there? It includes *Euphorbia*, *Pachypodium* and many other interesting cacti and succulents.

In total there are well over 400 plants – of which 150 are *Haworthias*. ALL are for sale. In addition 95% of the plants are in ceramic show pots. They have been well taken care of and grown in my greenhouse.

I might add that none of Ric's plants are for sale! The sale will be held on April 27 from 10:00-1:00 at our home in Menifee. FYI our address is listed under Sun City on your GPS. Snacks and drinks will be provided. The address is 25265 Lyra Court

Marilyn Newcomer



Shopping at the
March Meeting

What's the Status? Baja & Old World Succulent Gardens

By Chris Miller

It's Spring and that means rain and sun and weeds galore! We need to set up some work parties for the gardens that we maintain at the San Diego Zoo's Safari Park in Escondido. We have a few volunteers that regularly go up and work to maintain the gardens, but this time of year makes it impossible to be ahead on the work. I'd like to set up some **Saturday and Tuesday work parties** to give the regular volunteers a hand and get the weeds under control before they are taller than the plants. I'm thinking **April 23rd and 27th** for a start. I will need names 3 days before each event so that I can get an access list to the Park. We will start around 8 and work for 4 hours at most. You will need to bring gloves, water and whatever tools you use to weed with.

If you would like to volunteer on a regular basis I can get you the information to do that. For those of you that live in apartments or condos and dream of a bigger yard this is your chance. You get to work in a beautiful area full of plants you love and have a great sense of satisfaction at the end of the day to see how much your efforts have improved the area.

E-mail me or stop and see me at the meeting if you are interested.

2013 Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale

Presented by

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

June 1nd & 2rd

At **Balboa Park** in

The Casa Del Prado

**Show: Room 101, Sat June 1, 10 to 3,
Sun June 2, 10 to 4**

**Sale: Courtyard, Sat June 1, 10 to 5,
Sun June 2, 10 to 4**

SDCSS Members only shopping Sat Jun 1, 9am to 10am

Strange and exotic plants from the far corners of the world gathered together for your viewing amazement!!



Courtyard sale of choice specimen plants for the novice and collector as well as handmade stoneware planters and pots!!

**Potting service will be available along with cultural information
See a great selection of “water wise” plants for landscaping.**

For additional information visit:

www.sdcss.net

If you have trouble finding a parking spot, use the **Balboa Park TRAM**. The free tram provides access to Balboa Park's museums and attractions. You can park in the Inspiration Point lot and wait at Tram Central, a shady arbor with benches. The tram will deliver you to the heart of Balboa Park. Trams pick up every 8 to 10 minutes. Riders may also board at one of the designated pick-up areas around the Park. The tram operates seven days a week from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm.

CCSS May Field Trip

The Cascade Cactus and Succulent Society of Washington State is planning its May field trip. We are going to visit our local member's collections and would love to have your clubs join us. Some years ago there were some excellent opportunities to cross pollinate between our clubs. That has fallen off, but last year CCSS went to the Portland area to see cactus and met with the Portland club. We had such a great time, we want to do it again.

Date: May 18 & 19

We plan to start at the home of one of our members with a lunch provided by members of our club. We will then visit a couple more collections before ending up at Bill Hickey and Karen Summers' home in Shoreline to view their window sill collections, enjoy a good meal and social time with fellow succulent-o-philes. Evening entertainment will include an auction of some prized items, chosen with those who have to cross the border in mind.

On Sunday we'll continue to visit collections and offer a variety of options for viewing on your trip home whether you are going north or south. Included on Sunday is a friendship plant/plant gift item swap.

CCSS members are opening up their homes to offer hospitality to spare you the cost of hotel rooms and to increase the socializing time. We hope you will join us for this fun weekend.

All collections will be in the north Seattle, and north of Seattle area.

Please let me know if you'd like more information and how many people to plan for. We need to know numbers for food, and beds. Names for name tags.

Karen Summers

Program Chair

Cascade Cactus and Succulent Society of Washington State

206-365-0315



South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society 41st Annual Show and Sale

- Beautiful displays
- Expert advice
- 1000s of plants for sale

April 13-14, 2013

9 am to 4 pm

South Coast Botanic Garden
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
Palos Verdes Peninsula

Entry free with paid admission to garden: adult \$8; senior/student \$6; child 5-12 \$3; under 5 free.

www.southcoastcss.org

The due date for submission of all material to be published in EyF will be the second-to-last Saturday of the month preceding the next monthly meeting. All submissions are to be made to the Editor. Please e-mail your articles to **Chris Miller** at c.miller@cox.net.



Desert Creations

Spectacular Club Sale

You save 20 percent on all plants

Your club receives 10 percent of the total purchase not including taxes

All plants will receive the discount including
collected African plants

The above price reduction covers hundreds of new plants from Madagascar and Africa - Euphorbia, Adenia, Pachypodium, etc.

Dates: April 7 and 8, 2013 from 9:00 to 5:00

Only club Members (any Southern California cactus and succulent society) will be allowed to make purchase during this weekend - there will be no public sale

**Located in the San Fernando Valley
15914 Rayen Street North Hills California 91343**

Directions: Exit the 405 Freeway at Nordhoff (go west after exiting for approximately two blocks, turn left on Haskell and then right on Rayen – look for the cactus garden on the left)

Call (818) 482-8795 for additional information



P.O. Box 968 - Bonsall, CA 92003 PHONE (760) 728-2641 FAX (760) 451-0265 www.waterwisebotanicals.com

More information: [Jamie Higgins](#), Waterwise Botanicals, 760/728-2641
[Debra Lee Baldwin](#), 760/749-6272

**SUCCULENT CELEBRATION AT WATERWISE BOTANICALS,
JUNE 7-8**

North San Diego County's [Waterwise Botanicals](#) nursery will host a two-day Succulent Celebration on Friday and Saturday, June 7-8, 2013.

The first of its kind in southern CA, the event celebrates the beauty of succulent plants in low-water, easy-care landscapes, garden vignettes and container compositions. The event also celebrates and launches Debra Lee Baldwin's new book, [Succulents Simplified: Growing, Designing and Crafting with 100 Easy-Care Varieties](#) (Timber Press).

The stellar lineup of speakers includes garden photojournalist and bestselling author [Debra Lee Baldwin](#); plant explorer and hybridizer Kelly Griffin of [Altman Plants](#); and nurserymen/garden designers Tiger Palafox of [Mission Hills Nursery](#), Jeff Moore of [Solana Succulents](#), Michael Buckner of The Plant Man Nursery, and Tom Jesch of [Waterwise Botanicals](#).

Additional highlights include tours of beautiful, low-water gardens; potting demonstrations and workshops; a huge assortment of succulents and low-water plants for sale; experts on hand to answer landscape design and plant-care questions; 20 acres of nursery and display gardens to explore; and vendors offering succulent-themed gifts, container gardens and more.

Hours: 8:00am to 6:00pm both days. Free parking and admission. RSVP required to talk-plants@waterwisebotanicals.com or call (760) 728-2641.

Location: Waterwise Botanicals nursery (formerly Daylily Hill), just off Interstate 15 northwest of the Highway 395 exit (midway between Escondido and Temecula), at 32183 Old Highway 395, Escondido, CA

Photos: Access our [online library](#) of captioned, downloadable high-res images.

Another Incredible Auction!

The Charles & Joann Spotts

Show Plants

On Saturday, April 27,th 2013 CDP will be auctioning 108 specimens of the Charles and Joann Spotts show plant collection.

These plants are the **best in the country** and many have been recent trophy table winners at the Inter-City, CSSA, SGVCSS Winter and the CCCSS shows. Most of these specimens are beautifully staged in show quality pots including; traditional bonsai, and pots made by Joe Wujcik, Erika Van Auker, Mark Muradian, Steve Pate and Rita Gerlach.

Some of the genera include; *Aloe*, *Agave*, *Ariocarpus*, *Astrophytum*, *Conophytum*, *Copiapoa*, *Coryphantha*, *Echinocactus*, *Echinofossulocactus*, *Euphorbia*, *Ferocactus*, *Gymnocactus*, *Gymnocalycium*, *Haworthia*, *Lithops*, *Lobivia*, *Mammillaria*, *Matucana*, various *Opuntioides*, *Oroya*, *Parodia*, *Rebutia*, *Sulcorebutia*, *Thelocactus*, *Weingartia* and *Yucca*.

You do not want to miss out on getting some of these fabulous trophy winning show specimens!

The auction will take place at the home of Charles and Joann Spotts in Paso Robles. Attendees are welcome to come to review the plants from 10:00am until close of the auction event. Lunch will be provided at 11:30 am and the verbal auction will start at about 1:00pm. You will also be able to see the next 100+ plants that will be available for the **second auction**, which will be held on **Saturday July 13th**.

The Spotts' address is **5941 Lone Pine Place, Paso Robles CA.**

This event will follow in the tradition of the Sobel, Wakamatsu, Grammer, Johnson, Hulett, Hacket, and Chan auctions. The auction format will be the same and will be conducted by CDP, Woody Minnich. You may place email, phone or in-person bids on the plants as listed from the auction list.

For more information or a copy of the auction list, please email Woody at

cactusdata@msn.com or phone

505-281-5884 or 661-406-9816.



Epi. Imperial Tiger



Epi. Beautiful Isle

SDC&SS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

Dues are \$15.00 per year per individual, and \$5.00 per year for each additional household member. Newsletter is E-mailed. **Mailed paper copies are available for an additional \$5 a year. Each member has all the rights and benefits of the organization.**

Annual Dues (E-mail Newsletter) \$15.00 _____
 (Paper Newsletter) _____
 First class delivery USPS \$5.00 _____
 Annual Dues – International (Paper) \$30.00 _____
 Additional Household Member(s) \$5.00 _____
 Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Check **ONE** for type of membership:
NEW _____ **RENEWAL** _____

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City and State: _____

Zip + 4: _____

Phone Number: _____

Cell/FAX: _____

E-mail 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 payable in US Funds to SDCSS to:

**SDCSS Membership Dept
 c/o Paul Maker
 1245 San Pablo Drive
 San Marcos CA 92078-4816**

(Rev. E-2, 2012-11-13)

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Editor: **Chris Miller** (619) 258-9810 c.miller@cox.net
Webmaster: **Gunnar Eisel**
Web Site: www.sdcss.net

Please address correspondence to:
 The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society
 P.O. Box 33181
 San Diego, Ca 92136-3181