

Vol. 51, Number 1 - January, 2016

Espinas y Flores



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

Aloe merlothii - Garden of Jean and Bill O'Daniel
Photo by Sue Thomas



SDCSS
Winter
Show & Sale
February 13th
Details inside!

SDCSS General Meeting
Saturday, January 9, 2016
1:00 pm, Room 101
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park



Interested in learning about soil
and how to stage plants
for the Winter Show?
See page 9 for details on
The next Pre-Meeting Workshop!

Sign up Today!...

Don't miss out on a Field Trip to the "FREE CSSA Day at the Huntington Botanical Gardens", January 16, 2016. Entrance to the Gardens is free for Society Members, Round Trip bus transportation is \$35. See page 10 for more details!

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President's Message



First and foremost....what a great party we had to finish off our 2015 year! I want to thank all those involved with making this come together so very nicely. I thought the center pieces from Jennifer Harris and crew were out of this world! I ended up bidding on nearly all of them and came home with 6 of them. Our caterer Ruth and crew did a great job. I especially liked the vegetable lasagna that was added this year. I want to personally shout out my thanks to the gift plant procurers, Peter Walkowiak and Kienan Parr ~ great efforts, and you came through again. We added potters Jerry Garner and Don Hunt to the mix this year, and it was a welcome addition, no doubt. Thanks Herb Stern for once again being the "spirit" of the party!

Congratulations to Susan Hopkins, Melanie Howe, and Lynn Elliot. In addition to acknowledging your service to our club, Tina Zucker has generously offered an additional thank you in the form of purchase credit for her plants in the amount of \$25 each. What an honor to you and our club. Thank you Tina! (Please contact Tina regarding this).

This year we added Steven Hammer to our list of fellows of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society for service to the hobby. Congratulations Steven!

We had two donations of note from club members Maria Becker and Rudy Lime. Thanks for your continued support. You make our day!

Our 2016 calendar starts off with our own hometown Jeff Moore of Solana Succulents. He is an author and garden designer, and will be sharing information about his books and his take on succulent plant design and gardening. Great program to start the new year. Don't miss it!

See you on January 9th!

~ Kelly

It's Show Time Again!

**Let's make this Winter Show & Sale, the best one ever!
You can make it a success by helping with the following jobs:**



Set Up: Friday evening, arrange tables in both the show and sales areas. Erect canopies in the courtyard.

Security: Saturday, patrol the sales area to make sure all plants are carried out through the sales line. In the show area, watch to make sure the show plants are not touched, stolen, or interfered with.

Plant sales: Assist cashiers, box plants, and help keep sales line moving.

Information table: You do not need to be an expert on the plants. Hand out information about the Club and tell people what we do.

Plant Sitting: Watch plants that have already been purchased so people can go into the show area.

Judges Clerks: Accompany judges as they evaluate the show plants. You can listen to what the judges say about each plant.



Please sign up for these jobs at the January meeting!



Holiday Party 2015



Exchange Table



Friends



Gifts for All!



Auction!



Food & Drink



Thank you Western Cactus and Club members for donating plants!

Special Recognition

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society proudly presented awards to the following individuals for their outstanding service, dedication, and contributions to the Club.



Lynn Elliott
Volunteer of the Year



Melanie Howe
Volunteer of the Year



Susan Hopkins
Honorary Life Member



Steven Hammer
Fellow of the Society &
Honorary Life Member



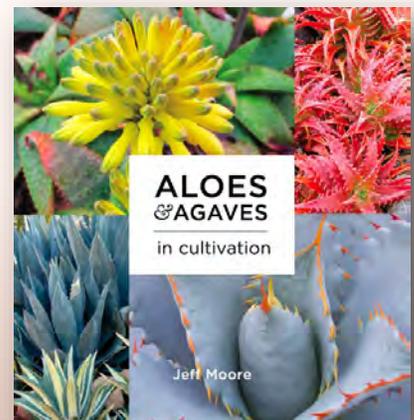
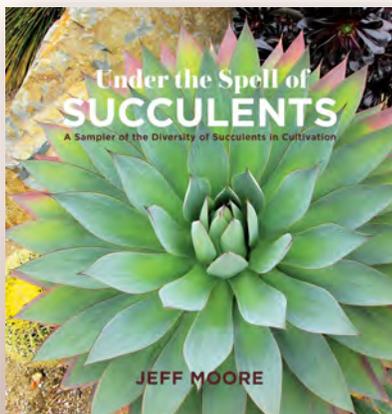
January Meeting Program

Aloes & Agaves in Cultivation and Introduction of *Under the Spell of Succulents* a book by Jeff Moore



I'll spend part of the talk showing and talking about aloes and agaves in cultivation. I'll be showing and talking about my book, *Under the Spell of Succulents*, which is an overview of the hobby of succulents in cultivation. All locally photographed by the author, the broad succulent groups will be shown, along with how we engage with succulents - growers, collectors, landscaping, container culture, bonsai, crest/variegates, etc.. It will be a bit of a different take on the subject, coming from a nursery owner's perspective. I will also talk about the book making process, and seek some member input into future books I'm planning. I'll bring books to sell/sign and some plant/pots. I'll also tease the upcoming aloe/agave book."

I've lived most of my life in Solana Beach, operated Solana Succulents for 23 years, have become known as the "Undersea Succulent Guy" for my coral reef gardens; married, two sons, struggling to still identify as a surfer.



Plant of the Month - Dwarf Tylecodons presented by Don Hunt



Tylecodon torulosus

Photos by Don Hunt



Tylecodon nolteei

I have been in the hobby a little while now, so I've run into something a lot of cactophiles experience. The concept of the "collector". Unless you have room for industrial size agriculture, collecting needs boundaries and focus. The limiting factors are space, culture needs, and time; also money. In our crazy internet fueled economy, basically everything is available. Collecting though, for the most enjoyment needs an element of the hunt. Buying someone's 3 room beanie baby collection doesn't make you a collector. It makes you a hoarder. Fine line, I know.

Anyway, my current focus on plant collecting is the dwarf tylecodons. Only a couple of tylecodons reach knee high, but these could spend their lives in 3 inch pots. For reference, check out the libraries copy of Cotyledon and Tylecodon by van Jaarsveld and Koutnik. It's an especially beautiful book. I have my own copy. These plants are especially great because:

1. They're very hardy. Not easy to kill is always a plus.
2. They propagate easily from cuttings. Good thing because they're fragile and break easily.
3. These are winter growers. Something to watch when everyone else in the greenhouse is napping. When they're dormant in the summer and have lost their leaves, they take no maintenance. I always joke that I would have had children if they hibernated.
4. They aren't easy to come by. The few I have are from Dylan's Bulbs on Ebay. It gives me something to check and see. I have seen several I would like to have from different European countries. I haven't experimented with buying this way. Let me know if you do.

From what I've seen both in my greenhouse and in the book, these plants must be very difficult to find in habitat. The tell is their persistent flower stalks, reaching well above the main body of the plant. Several are true geophytes, with the body below the ground level. Without doubt, they would make interesting staged specimens with the body raised.

News from the Gardens at The Safari Park - Happening Now

Since it is cooler, the plants are showing their colors and we plant every week. Would you like to get involved? Becoming a volunteer for only the gardens (not the animals) has been simplified by the Safari Park: just attend a half-day orientation meeting at the Zoo. Join us!

We love to get plant donations. Plants that come from Africa, the Mediterranean area, Mid-East, Madagascar, or the Canary Islands will fit into the Old World Garden. We recently received 6 tree aloes, *Aloe ferox*, *Aloe vaombe*, a multi-headed *Aloe plicatilis*, and *Aloe africana*, plus *Aloe striata* from Brandon Bullard of Desert Theater Nursery in Escondido, a breath-taking 7+ acres of planted and potted cactus and succulents. To donate, contact Safari Park liaison May Fong Ho, mayfongho@yahoo.com, (760) 233-3948.

Coffee in the Garden at Kevin & Rick's

Saturday, January 16, 2016, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

Rain Date - Sunday, January 17, 2:00 – 4:00 pm



We are looking forward to hosting another garden party this January. While it would be great if our property (about ¼ acre) was bigger to allow more plants we have packed this one full of all types of succulents along with some cacti and tropicals. January is aloe time here and it seems the season is a bit early for some this year. Aloe 'David Verity', some Aeoniums, and a few South African bulbs began blooming in December and others seem eager to show their floral beauty for the party. A number of tree aloes in the front are beginning to develop short trunks although it will be quite some time before they change the appearance of the landscape as we anticipate. The mesembs are also beginning to show off their flowers and an Agave nizamensis cross should be in fresh bloom for the party; several others sport seedpods having bloomed earlier.

If you haven't attended before we hope you will be able to drop by. It's a great way to meet other succulent/cacti enthusiasts in a casual environment. Most of the plants in the ground and in pots are labeled and many are grouped with their closest kin nearby. The labels may aid your search if you find something that appeals to you either through extras we might have for sale, other SDCSS club vendors, or other sources. One of us enjoys the search for more great plants to become acquainted with hence the many and intriguing forms of some of our favorites: Agave titanota, Faucarias, large chunky Glottiphyllums, and unusual forms of Echeveria agavoides. Euphorbias and caudiciforms have been added to our collection. The other enjoys propagating so young plants are sometimes available. Sometimes we have to remove mature plants from the landscape to make room for others. This helps in moving plants along to new homes and keeping the other guy's proclivity to obtain more great plants in check.



We have also been out rock-hounding, another hobby we enjoy, which results in various staging material. Look for the blue dumortierite and our recent acquisition of petrified reed that will be fun to stage with. There are some additional container plantings, and of course, new pots!

Again this year we will have appetizers, desserts, and beverages for you to try while you visit. We will have a succulent/cacti-related game of some sort with plant prizes for the winners! There will be seating and conversation areas to encourage leisurely chats. Both SDCSS and the San Diego Horticultural Society members (who attended last January later in the afternoon) have been invited during the same time period and hopefully we can learn from one another about growing great plants. Please feel free to drop by, chat with your friends or make new ones, and talk plants with us! Due to being deluged with rain at our party last summer we have added a rain date--if it is raining on Saturday 1-16-16 we will hold the party the next day, Sunday, instead. Hope to see you here!

Rick and Kevin

Coffee in the Garden Address:
4728 Allied Road
San Diego, CA 92120
Near Kaiser Hospital on Zion
(619) 229-1125



The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society presents:

Winter Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale

Saturday, February 13th, 2016

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

“Members Only” shopping from 9:00 - 10:00 am

Room 101 and Adjacent Patio area

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

- **Strange and Exotic plants from around the world**
- **Small plants & Specimen plants**
- **Landscape plants for arid gardens**
- **Beautiful hand made pottery**



For additional information visit: www.sdcss.net

Payments now accepted online

Show Plant Entry Info: [Rules](#) [Plant List](#) [Alpha Plant List](#)

January Pre-meeting Workshop, 11:00 am

Soil and Staging Workshop, Presented by Peter Walkowiak, Horticulturist

The second most often asked question I get after 'When do I water this plant?' is, 'What soil do I use for my succulent plant?' This was the genesis for my talk on soil. Consider your soil as the foundation upon which healthy plants will be sustained and supported for a long period of time. Important things a soil needs to have are: good drainage and aeration, water retention, nutrient availability, proper PH, and longevity. In this talk, each of these topics will be covered in depth so the unseen complexities of soil can be understood. What materials work and what does not, and why they should not be used, will all be discussed.

There will be a demonstration on mixing soil, as used in my nursery. I spent many years trying different materials to find the perfect succulent soil mix. There were many failures; most took two to three years to manifest. Subsequently, I had to answer the question 'Why did this fail?'. You will be shown the ingredients and how they are blended to get this soil mix.

In the second part of the program we will discuss the process of staging your plants to maximize their beauty. There are many things to consider when putting together your composition. These are: form, texture, and color and balance, and must be thoughtfully considered when putting together your piece of art.

The final part of the program is hands on, getting you hands dirty. You're invited to bring a pot and plant you want to be staged. Please no large pots, there is limited soil to share. There will be top dressing but if you have one you want to use, bring it. There will be no staging rocks provided, bring your own. ~ Peter



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.

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



Palomar-PCSS & San Diego-SDCSS
FIELD TRIP to the **CSSA's Day**
at Huntington Gardens in San Marino, CA
Saturday, January 16, 2016

Once a year CSSA, Cactus & Succulent Society of America, provides a FREE day at the Huntington Gardens for members of CSSA affiliate clubs. This is an excellent opportunity to tour the spectacular gardens spread across 120 acres.

Here is a link to a map of The Huntington: http://www.huntington.org/uploadedFiles/Files/PDFs/groundsmap_051613.pdf

Following are the details. Contact Annie Morgan @ mamx54@gmail.com or 760-803-8948 (10am-6pm) for questions.

Bus Pickup: San Diego – 7:30am in the parking lot behind the Organ Pavilion
 Escondido – 8:00am at the Park ‘N Ride Lot #11, 871 No. Broadway, Escondido

Bus Return: Return to the drop off location at 4:15 pm. The bus will leave at 4:30 pm. Allow time to get your plant purchases stowed away. Expected return times are: Escondido ~ 6:30 pm, San Diego ~ 7:00 pm

Entrance Fee: Members of PCSS or SDCSS = **\$FREE**

Field Trip Cost: \$35 - A bargain! Payment in advance is required and must be received by January 8th in order to insure that we have enough signed to go. Use the form below to sign up and include your email and phone #.

Note: *If you cancel at least 10 days in advance you will receive a full refund. If you cancel less than 4 days before the trip, the day of the trip, or don't show up, there is no refund.*

- SDCSS members may give a check **made out to PCSS** to Brita Miller at the Holiday Party.
- PCSS members please give a check **made out to PCSS** to Annie Morgan at our Holiday Party.
- **OR**, you may mail a check made out to PCSS to: Annie Morgan, 2726 Obelisco Ct., Carlsbad, CA 92009

Water & Snack: The trip cost includes a bottle of water and a snack for the way up and back.

Lunch: There are now multiple venues in the gardens to eat.

- The Coffee Shop has grab-and-go sandwiches and salads in addition to coffee, tea, pastries, etc.
- The Café serves brick-oven pizzas, pasta, salads, soups, sandwiches, and daily featured specials.
- The Rose Garden Tea Room – Reservations are required - Call 626-683-8131 or book online, at least 2 weeks in advance, Wednesday through Monday between 9am and 4pm. Cost is \$31 plus tax
- The Rose Garden Patio - Offering the self-serve convenience of grab-and-go sandwiches and snacks, the Rose Garden Patio is a place stop to relax and enjoy light refreshments on a shady patio.
- The Chinese Garden Tea Room Shop is now open and has a selection of delicious entrees.

Plant Purchases: You will have the rare opportunity to shop the succulent nursery area where there are often some less common plants for excellent prices, so come prepared. There will be a holding area inside for your purchases, and carts we can use to haul them out to the bus. From there they will be put in the luggage storage area for the trip home.



SIGN-UP

Name(s) _____

Phone Number(s) _____

Email _____

Club – circle one: PCSS SDCSS

CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2016

UPDATED 11/23/2015

- FEB. 13** San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society Winter Show and Sale, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, RM 101, San Diego, CA . Info: (858) 382-1797
- MAR. 17-19** Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Spring Show and Sale, Thurs.3/17t 6-8PM, Fri, 3/18th, 9-7PM, Sat. 3/19, 9-5PM, 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA, Info: (562) 587-3357
- APR. 9-10** South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes, CA Info: (310) 378-1953 , www.southcoastcss.org
- APR. 24** Huntington Plant Sale, 10 - 4:30, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino CA. Info: (626) 405-3504
- MAY 1** South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale South Bay Epiphyllum, Show - 9am to 4pm South Coast Botanical Gardens. Info: (310) 833-6823
- APR 30 - May 1** Sunset Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale, Veteran's Memorial Center Garden Room, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA. Info: (310) 822-1783
- MAY 13-14** Gates Cactus & Succulent Society, Show & Sales, Fri & Sat 9-4:30 pm, at Landscapes Southern California Style, 450 E. Alessandro Blvd., Riverside, CA. Info: (951) 360-8802
- MAY 21-22** Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show & Sale, 10-4 pm, Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Rd., Long Beach, CA Info. (562) 631-5876
- MAY 28-29** Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale 10-4PM), Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, CA. Info: (805) 237-2054, www.centralcoastcactus.org
- JUNE 11-12** Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, 6/11 9-5, 6/12 9-3:30. Sepulveda Garden Ctr., 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA Info: www.lacss-show.com
- JUNE 4-5** San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale. Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Rm. 101, San Diego, CA. Info: (858) 382-1797
- JULY 1-3** CSSA Annual Show & Sale. Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA Plant sales run July 1st - 3rd. The Show is open July 2nd - 3rd. Info: (626) 405-3504
- JULY 22-23** Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale. Thurs, 7/21, 6-8 pm, Fri. 7/22, 9-7pm, Sat. 7/23, 9-5pm. 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA. Info: (949)212-8417
- AUG. 13-14** 31st Annual Intercity Show & Sale at the LA County Arboretum. 9-5pm daily. 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA. Info: Call Tom Glavich @ (626) 798-2430, or Artie Chavez @ (818) 482-8795
- SEPT. 3** Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium, all Day at The Huntington. Info: (626) 405-3504
- SEPT. 10** Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction, 12-5PM, Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Rd., Long Beach, CA 90615. Info: (562) 631-5876
- 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. 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

San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society

Executive Board

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

Directors

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

Standing Committees & Sub Committees

Education, Conservation & Exhibits

Conservation: Herb Stern
 Brag table: Tina Zucker & Denise Griffin
 Plants of the Month: Don Hunt
 Winter Show: Peter Walkowiak
 Summer Show: Peter Walkowiak
 Historian: Terry Parr
 Grants: Jerry Garner
 Library: Don Hunt, Steve & Kathy Harris
 Exchange Plants/Seeds: Michelle Heckathorn/Sara Schell

Sales, Meetings, Supplies, Programs

Annual sales: Chris Miller
 Auction & Holiday Plants: Kelly Griffin
 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 Garden Foundation: George Plaisted
 SD Floral Association: Jeanette Dutton
 SD Zoo Safari Park,
 Baja & Old World Gardens: May Fong

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

Contact SDCSS

Website: <http://www.sdcss.net>
 Membership: membership@sdcss.net
 Newsletter: newsletter@sdcss.net



Kelly



Chris



Jennifer



Leslie



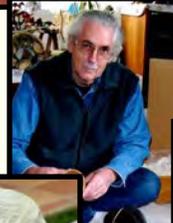
Wendy



Kienan



Rick



Jerry



Brian



Christine



Peter

CLASSIFIED ADS

Wanted: *Euphorbia turbiniformis*. In order to make seeds, I am looking for a second clone (certainly grafted) of this species either as a temporary loan or to be paid for. Jürgen (619) 401-1557

Find it, sell it, promote it!

Are you looking for a special plant? Or, do you have a few too many of something else? Do you want to promote your business? Find it, sell it, or publicize it with a Classified Ad in the SDCSS Newsletter.

Ad prices are very reasonable and will reach hundreds of prospects.

For details including pricing, deadlines, and contact Information, please click [here](#) or email Sue Thomas @ newsletter@sdcss.net

