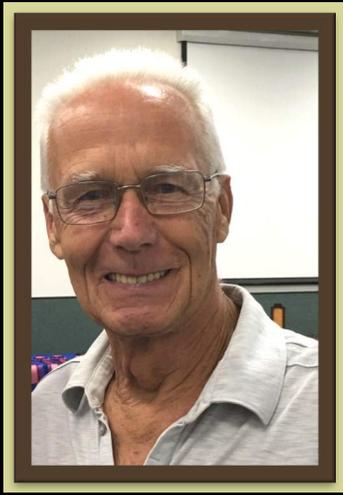


# Espinas y Flores

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

**WINTER SHOW & SALE - SATURDAY, FEB. 10TH. DETAILS INSIDE!**



**THIS ISSUE IS  
DEDICATED TO  
THE MEMORY OF  
JÜRGEN MENZEL**



<b><u>Executive Board</u></b>			
President:	Chris Miller	Secretary	Mary Reiser
Vice President:	Kelly Griffin	Treasurer	Leslie Sheridan
<b><u>Directors</u></b>			
Jerry Garner	Antonina Lansangan	Jim Reiser	
Sue Thomas	Christine Vargas	Tina Zucker	
Open			
<b><u>Committees &amp; Sub Committees</u></b>			
Conservation:	Herb Stern		
Brag table:	Tina Zucker & Denise Griffin		
Plants of the Month:	Don Hunt		
Summer/Winter Show:	Kelly Griffin, Bill O'Daniel		
Historian:	Terry Parr		
Grants:	Jerry Garner		
Library:	Don Hunt		
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 Deforest & 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:	<OPEN>		
<b><u>Liaisons</u></b>			
Balboa Park Desert Garden:	Susan Hopkins		
CSSA Affiliate Rep:	Rick Bjorkland		
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		
<b><u>Membership &amp; Publicity</u></b>			
Membership:	Paul & Carol Maker		
Newsletter Editor:	Sue Thomas		
Webmaster:	Kirsten Higgins		
Publicity:	Christine Vargas		
<b><u>Contact SDCSS:</u></b>	membership@sdcss.net *		

\* To contact newsletter editor, please type "newsletter" in subject line

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**Photo Information/Credits  
 From page 4**

**Left side from top:**

- Jürgen at a club meeting (cropped).  
Photo by Rosemarie Armstrong.
- Jürgen and Rosemarie in Jürgen's greenhouse.  
Photo by Rosemarie Armstrong.
- Jürgen in the field.  
Photo by Mark Fryer
- L-R, Jürgen, Gerhard Koehres, Kelly Griffin, Woody Minnich, in Mexico.  
Photo by Woody Minnich.

**Right side:**

- Top: Jürgen and Beate at the SDCSS Christmas party.  
Photo by Rosemarie Armstrong
- Bottom: Mark Fryer, Jürgen, and Jeff Harris at a club sale.  
Photo by Rosemarie Armstrong.



Above: Peter Walkowiak demonstrating how to prepare show plants

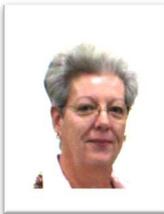
***Pre-Meeting Workshops***

We are looking for volunteers to conduct Pre-meeting workshops. Share skills and information with other club members.

Interested?  
 Please contact Pat Putis  
 hbs@sover.net

**On the Cover...**

**Jürgen Menzel in his garden**  
**Inset: Jürgen Menzel at a club meeting**  
**Photos by Rosemarie Armstrong**



## President's Message

The year started on a sad note with the loss of Jürgen Menzel. We will all miss him. He had an impact in all our lives as a friend and a plant person.

We had a nice meeting in January with Jeff Moore sharing his new book and pictures with us. The usual gang of volunteers was there working their magic and keeping the ball rolling. Be sure to thank them when you see them.

Our Winter Show and Sale is coming up and there has been a flurry of activity by the board to support the event. Bill O'Daniel has made his list and checked it way more than twice to ensure that we miss nothing in the planning and execution of the Show. We have 30 vendors that will make shopping exciting for all of us.

If you still want to volunteer to help, call me or email me and I will put you on the list. Events like this don't just happen, they take lots of wonderful volunteers. Thank you all for your help. See you in February. ~ Chris

PS. Remember to bring a box for you and one for someone else, or a bunch if you can.

## Letter from the Editor:

What a great experience it's been being your newsletter editor! Thank you all for your patience and sense of humor as I figured out what I was doing. I am surrounded by talented and supportive people which made it so enjoyable. Chris Miller, thank you for teaching me the ropes and allowing me to put my own spin on things. Paul Maker, you are truly a "whiz" and I couldn't have survived the technical jungle without you. Christine Vargas and Candy Garner, your encouraging words from the very beginning, kept me motivated. Bill and Jean O'Daniel, I've learned so much from you and will miss our visits. Kelly Griffin, you kept me on my toes! That's a good thing. Thank you to everyone on the board!

This is an amazing organization because of the talented people who volunteer. To those of you who are thinking of getting more involved, do it! You will undoubtedly gain new skills and experiences, and best of all, you will make new friends.

I wish Russel, our new editor, the best of luck! He brings knowledge, lots of experience, and best of all, he has not changed his mind despite the foreboding of lots of work. I look forward to Russel's spin on the newsletter. Thanks everyone and on to new things! ~ Sue Thomas

## MEET OUR NEW VOLUNTEERS!!

Workshop Coordinator

### Pat Putis

Pat Putis is our new Workshop Coordinator. She is responsible for coordinating monthly informative workshops, held at 11:00 am, before each general meeting.



Pat is from the East Coast and has been a SDCSS member for four years. She likes interesting succulents that grow well indoors at her home close to Balboa Park. Her daughter Erica, a local artist, sometimes attends meetings with Pat.

Pat is looking for volunteers to conduct future workshops. We would love to learn new ideas and skills from you. If interested, please contact Pat at: [hbs@sover.net](mailto:hbs@sover.net)

Thank you Pat!

Newsletter Editor

### Russel Ray

Russel Ray is our new Newsletter Editor. He comes to us with editing, computer, graphic design, and photography experience. This is a big job and we are grateful that Russel has agreed to take this on. We look forward to what creative spin he chooses for future editions.



Russel will begin with the March, 2018, edition of Espinas y Flores. If you are a contributor, keep your eyes out for an email for instructions and deadlines.

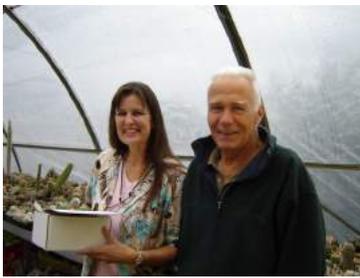
Thank you Russel!

## Jürgen Menzel, Remembered: 1940 - 2017



Jürgen Menzel, a friend, colleague, tenured member and Fellow of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society, passed away on December 31, 2017. His contributions to our club and to the world of cactus are beyond compare, and he will be sorely missed. I have the honor of presenting a memorial to Jürgen in the last newsletter of my tenure as editor. To honor someone with so much character and accomplishment is both a privilege and heartbreaking, and a seemingly impossible task within the confines of a single page. I looked to a few of his close friends, as I believe their words and photos eloquently represent the love, affection, and respect we have for Jürgen. Our most sincere condolences go to Jürgen's wife Beate, and his family. We dedicate this February 2018, issue of Espinas y Flores, and the SDCSS Winter Show/Sale, to the memory of Jürgen Menzel. ~ Sue Thomas

My friend for two decades, Jürgen was a kind and generous man. He shared his love of cactus with all freely. Everything was straightforward with him. What you see is what you get. He invited me & others to his "sauna" (as we came to call his greenhouse) & answered questions about his fabulous collection of rare cactus.



We visited every year for our "free sauna session", as he said, so we could drop 5 pounds. He was always patient of my taking hundreds of photos with each of my visits. He was passionate about his life of cactus & was happy to spread that passion with others. Jürgen had a simple, genuine way about

him...no frills necessary (like his use of plastic pots rather than the fancy pottery). He would say, "The plant can stand on its own merit, no?"

He cared about his friends & would check on them if he hadn't heard from them for a while. Jürgen always had a positive comment if things weren't going so well. We exchanged information, names, photos & details about plants over many years. I am happy I have many plants from him to remember him by.



I miss my friend dearly, his laugh, his grin...and his German accent! Many friends around the world are missing him. Rest well, Cactus Jordi!

~ Rosemarie Armstrong (Roma)

Jürgen Menzel lived a life worth living. Born on September 8th, 1940, in Germany, surviving the war as a child, and eventually becoming a chemist in Hamburg with an incredible cactus collection (mostly grown from seed by himself), Jürgen's life was truly worth living. He was able to retire young, and he and his wife Beate moved to Majorca Spain, along with 30,000 plants of Jürgen's. They lived there for nearly 20 years. They moved to San Diego in 1999, bringing only 2000 plants with them.



Jürgen was very active and one of the most engaging members of the SDCSS. This past December was the first Holiday party he and his wife Beate missed since they moved here. They celebrated their 50th anniversary this past September 29th, a relationship to be admired!

When the SDCSS was asked to participate in maintaining the Baja Garden in the San Diego Zoo's Wild Animal Park, Jürgen was dedicated to showing up on Saturday mornings to weed and maintain and plant and consult on the various specimens there. A lot of what remains there holds his ambition and determination in perpetuity.

He had an active seed business and produced a great variety of species in house. He was a tremendous grower and was always tinkering with ways to improve. Some of his classic show plants will be auctioned off at our Winter Show and Sale in February.



He will be greatly missed by many. Those of us lucky enough to have been able to call him our friend are heartsick, and I daresay we will all hear him saying "bah," "humph," or "welllll.." for years to come. May he rest in peace.

~ Mark Fryer

Jürgen was featured on "Meet a Member" in September, 2013, by Denise Huntsman-Griffin. Please click [HERE](#) to read the article.

Photo information and credits can be viewed on page two of this newsletter

# January Brag Table Winners

Accounting by Denise Huntsman-Griffin. Photos by Tina Zucker

## CACTUS

### Novice

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Name unknown- *Opuntia microdasys* (not pictured)

### Intermediate

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Denise Griffin- *Neoporteria* sp. Chile (2)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Chuck Ramey- *Mammillaria bocasana* cv Fred (3)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Denise Griffin- *Cereus Peruvianus* spineless monstrose form (4)

### Advanced

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Peter Walkowiak- *Mammillaria theresae* (5)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Kelly Griffin- *Cedros Barrel Ferocactus chrysacanthus* (6)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Peter Walkowiak- *Leuchtenbergia principis* (a Juergen plant) (7)

## SUCCULENTS

### Novice

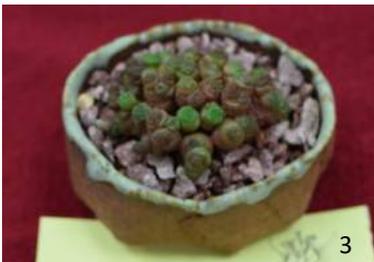
1<sup>st</sup> Place: Patrice Rainwater- *Aeonium* var. *atropurpureum* (not pictured)

### Intermediate

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Chris Dawson- *Bulbine bruynsii* (9)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Melanie Howe- *Othonna macrosperma* (10)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Bev Grant- *Sansevieria kirkii* var. *pulchra* (11)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Chuck Ramey- *Pedilanthus macrocarpus* (12)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Alison Baldwin- *Aloe* cv. 'Brass Hat' (13)

### Advanced

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Don Patterson- *Haemanthus deformis* (14)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Peter Walkowiak- *Pelargonium carnosum* (a Juergen plant) (15)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Don Patterson- *Euphorbia suzannae* (16)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Maria Becker- *Aloe* (Kelly Griffin hybrid) (17)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Kelly Griffin- *Aloe suprafoliata* (18)



## Winter Show Dedication and Special Events In remembrance of Jürgen Menzel

Jürgen Menzel was known for his collection of rare and impeccably grown cactus. A visit to his sale table was always a treasure hunt and his show plants, displayed in “Jürgen show pots” of course, were highlights of the event. For those of you who may not know, a Jürgen show pot is a plastic pot, usually green. For reasons known by all who have seen Jürgen’s show plants, they didn’t need a fancy pot to stand out. The number of ribbons Jürgen has won, speaks volumes. We will miss Jürgen at the Winter Show/Sale this year, but he will still have a presence as his plants will be on display and up for auction. Two special events have been organized by Kelly Griffin and others, to honor Jürgen. They are:

**Jürgen Plant Display Table:** We ask, as a nice remembrance of Jürgen, that you bring a plant to show that you have obtained from him. The display table will be located in the show area. Plants will not be judged, but they certainly will be loved. Your plant does not need to be in a show pot as “Jürgen show pots” are more than acceptable.

**Jürgen’s Show Plants up for Auction:** There will be a number of Jürgen’s very special show plants available at the Auction at the Winter Show/Sale. The auction will take place in the afternoon and proceeds will go to Beate Menzel and the SDCSS Scholarship Fund. Thank you to everyone involved for making this happen. Some of the mature plants up for auction are: *Geohintonia Mexicana*, *Aztecium hintoni*, *Ubelmannia pectinifera*, *Ariocarpus*, *Astrophytum ornatum* v. *nudum*, etc.. See photos below.



### Bring Boxes to the Winter Sale!

We need lots and lots of boxes for the sale area!

Bring one for yourself and a few to share!

Boxes must be sturdy (no shoe boxes), and low profile (see photo)

Costco is a good resource. Membership not necessary.

Drop off boxes on Friday evening, or before 9:00 am on Saturday

“Box Czar” position open for Summer Sale!

### Enter the Sale early during Members Only hour!

SDCSS Members enter the sale at 9:00, one hour before non-members. Join today!  
Click [HERE](#) for a membership application or go to the club website at [www.sdcss.net](http://www.sdcss.net)



# San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society 2018 Winter Show & Sale

Saturday, February 10th, 10 - 4  
Rm 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

## Important Reminders for the Show/Sale

1. Deliver your show plants on Fri, 2/9, 2:00 - 9:00 pm
2. Fill out your show tags COMPLETELY and LEGIBLY
3. Bring boxes. One for yourself, and some to share
4. Bring a "Jürgen plant" (see page 6)
5. Volunteer!! We really need extra hands to clean up on Saturday evening. Email: [c.miller@cox.net](mailto:c.miller@cox.net)
6. Plant Classes - Click [HERE](#) or visit [www.sdcss.net](http://www.sdcss.net)

## 2018 WINTER SHOW SCHEDULE, AWARDS, AND RULES

### SCHEDULE FOR FRIDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2018

12 Noon to 10pm	Set up.
2pm to 9:30pm	BRING IN YOUR SHOW PLANTS

### SCHEDULE FOR SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2018

8:00 - 10:00 am	Set up, OUT-OF-TOWNERS, BRING IN YOUR PLANTS!
9:00 - 10:00 am	Sales open to members only
10:00 am	Sales open to public
10:00 am	Show opens
10:00 - 11:00 am	Judging, open to the public, show area being judged is closed
4:00 pm	Show and sales close

### COMPETITION LEVELS

NOVICE (Fewer than 10 Blue Ribbons won in judged competition. Use GREEN entry cards)

INTERMEDIATE (10+ Blue Ribbons won in judged competition. Use YELLOW entry cards)

OPEN (Vendors and anyone else. Use BLUE entry cards)

NON-COMPETITIVE (Open to anyone who wants to show off a plant. Use WHITE entry cards)

### AWARDS

A hand-crafted pot and a certificate suitable for framing will be given to BEST CACTUS, BEST SUCCULENT and BEST WINTER-GROWER plants in the NOVICE, INTERMEDIATE and OPEN Levels, and to the BEST OF SHOW plant (NOVICE or INTERMEDIATE or OPEN)

First, Second, and Third Place Ribbons will be awarded in all categories for both Novice, Intermediate, and Open entrants.

### RULES

- Show is open to anyone who grows succulent plants.
- Entries must be in the possession of exhibitors for at least six months. Plants must be clean, (no weeds or debris), healthy (no insects, disease or pesticide odor) and dry. Plant labels should be removed or hidden. Exhibitors are responsible for placing entry cards with plants prior to judging. The show committee may remove any entry that detracts from or jeopardizes the health of other entries.
- Plants must be individually potted specimens except for the category 'Dish Gardens.'
- Depending on number of entries, prior to judging, the show committee may combine or divide categories and rearrange entries. The show area will be PARTIALLY closed during judging, on a section-by-section basis. Judging will be open to the public. Plants must remain until the end of the show.
- Entries are judged on:
  - a) Condition, size, maturity and difficulty of culture: 70%
  - b) Staging - pot, top dressing, arrangement, cleanliness: 25%
  - c) Nomenclature: 5%
- Awards are given only if the judges believe they are merited, and all decisions are final.
- The SDCSS and show committee will take due care to safeguard entries but cannot be held responsible for damage to, or loss of, plants and property.

## News from the Safari Park's Gardens



The volunteers have spent the beginning of 2018, examining and treating plants in the Safari Park Old World Garden (OWG) for aphids and aloe mites, planting new aloes, and weeding. Several large projects have been initiated this month as well. We're working with Jeff Moore to develop an Under See Garden (as opposed to an undersea garden, as the Park does not want the garden to be associated with any sea life). A designated space has been cleared of plants, and special top rock and soil have been ordered. Soon the area will be planted with African succulents typical of an undersea succulent garden as well as some crested cactus and dudleya. A second project involves moving plants from the old greenhouse to the new greenhouse.

We'd like to thank Rick Bjorklund for his generous donation of several unusual aloes and an *Uncarina roeoesliana* from his collection. As always, if you have plants or materials to donate, or if you would like to volunteer at the gardens, please contact May Fong Ho at 760-233-3948 or [mayfongho@yahoo.com](mailto:mayfongho@yahoo.com).

A reminder that the OWG and the Baja Garden are closed to the public until the development of the new Australian area, located directly below the gardens, has been completed.

The attached photo is of a blooming *Aloe chabaudii*. The photo was taken at the Old World Garden and is used by permission of the San Diego Zoo Safari Park.

### 2018 CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- FEB. 10** SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY, WINTER SHOW AND SALE BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA—INFO 619-990-2051
- MAR. 22-24** ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SHOW AND SALE THURS. 22<sup>nd</sup> 6-9PM---FRI. MAR. 23<sup>rd</sup> 9-7PM---SAT. MAR. 24<sup>th</sup> 9-5, 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA INFORMATION CALL 562-587-3357
- APR. 7-8** SOUTH COAST CACTUS AN SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE, 9-4 pm SOUTH COAST BOTANICAL GARDENS, 26300 CRENSHAW BLVD., PALOS VERDES, CA INFO: 310-378-1953 <http://www.southcoastcss.org>
- APR. 29** HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE 10 to 5pm HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-3504
- MAY 5-6** SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, GARDEN ROOM, 4117 OVERLAND AVE., CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. 310-822-1783
- MAY 6** SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE---9am to 4pm SOUTH COAST BONTANICAL GARDENS, INFO. 310-833-6823
- MAY 11-12** GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 35<sup>TH</sup> SHOW AND SALE, FRI & SAT 9-4:30 pm, INFORMATION ON LOCATION CALL 909-910-9195
- MAY 18-19** LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB PLANT SHOW AND SALE 10-4 pm RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS, 6400 BIXBY HILL ROAD, LONG BEACH, CA., INFO. 562-631-5876
- MAY 26-27** 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](http://www.centralcoastcactus.org)