



Mammillaria thornberi

Espinas y Flores

The newsletter of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society
Affiliated with the Cactus and Succulent Society of America

SDCSS Summer Show and Sale!

By Peter Walkowiak

Our big show is almost here, and we need your plants for the show to make this happen! Bring plants to the Casa del Prado in Balboa Park on Friday (June 5) from noon to 9:00 p.m. and on Saturday (June 6) from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. For you novices, bring your plants on Friday if you need help. There will be more time to help you get them looking pristine! There will be beautiful pots for all trophy winners.

This is our best way to share our love of these succulent plants. So bring in your favorite plants and show them off to the world! It's easy and fun!



Peter Walkowiak's
Kedrostris africana



Paul and Carol Maker's
Ferocactus glausecens inermis

— Kelly Griffin photos

IT'S SHOW TIME!

SDCSS' annual Summer Show and Sale is Saturday and Sunday, June 6 and 7, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Members-only shopping is from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Saturday. The public is invited as of 10:00 a.m. Show rules are in the May *EyF* online. Go to: <http://www.sdcss.net/EyFMay2015.pdf>

Show: Room 101, Saturday, June 6, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Sunday June 7, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Sale: Courtyard, Saturday, June 6, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, June 7, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Bring a side dish to help feed our volunteers!

Bring your own box and a few more please!

Help us make this a great event! Volunteer!

Bring a plant to enter into the show!

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Kelly Griffin
SDCSS President

Kelly Griffin

President's message

A **big thank you** to Ernesto Sandoval for coming down from UC Davis and delivering a great program during our May meeting. We look forward to the next time!

Our biggest event of the year is not just knocking at the door, it is here! I look forward to all of you participating, showing, and having a great week-

end. We need each and every one of you to come out and contribute. It always amazes me how this all comes together, and how awesome and inspiring it is for those both new and old to this hobby. I hope this year is no exception! Let's make sure of that!

We need boxes so clear out your supply and bring them in! And don't forget to bring some of your show plants along, too!

A sincere thanks to Brian and

Sally Shepherd for hosting the coffee-in-the-garden event this month. What a lovely home and garden! I appreciate the new plants I was lucky enough to snatch up while I was visiting (yes, I bought them!).

The National CSSA convention is fast approaching (mid June), the 14th to 19th. Great speakers, great plants and much succulent plant discussion and information. It is in nearby Claremont, Calif. at Pitzer College. Here is the link! Give it a look! <http://cssainc.org/index.php/register-for-cssa-2015/>.

I am just back from Mexico. I have shared a few photos of the plant trip I made with other SDC&SS members (Tom Knapik, Woody Minnich, Denise Griffin, Christine Vargas, Rick Bjorklund, and Jeremy Spath). It was a long and diversely interesting expedition. Much more to come on this!

See you all on the first weekend in June!

— Kelly



Clockwise from upper left: Club President Kelly Griffin found some wonderful cacti and succulents on his recent trip to Mexico including, *Agave albopilosa* (Monterrey, Mexico), *Hechtia*

species (Oaxaca), *Agave pintilla* (new species in the *Victoria reginae* complex), *Astrophytum coahuilense*, *Mammillaria saboae*, and *Agave albopilosa*. — Kelly Griffin photos

Have you been hankering for a special cactus or succulent? Advertise in EyF's new Classified Ads feature. Got one to sell? Do it here! Contact Meg Ryan, Editor, at valleywomenmagazine@roadrunner.com.

Why the June show and sale is so great!



Don Hunt

By Don Hunt

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society's June show is the best possible buying opportunity especially for newer collectors. The foremost reason is to talk to the growers. These people are excited about the sale, too, and only happy to talk to you. You can even ask the same questions about the sale plant to multiple vendors. Don't be surprised if you get different opinions. After all, they're probably both right, given their experience. The person standing next to you by chance might just happen to be a world-class expert on the subject. This is a high-class event in its genre with sellers and shoppers coming from far and wide.

Part of the fun of collecting is the chase. Pick a plant to pursue. The show is a great place to get ideas about what you'd like to grow. The library bookcase is another. You can walk back and forth between the sale and the show. If you see something that knocks your socks off in the show, maybe you can find a good starter in the sale. Take a notepad. Now, if you can't find an affordable example on

the vendor's tables, you can ask them about the availability and price range. It's really a better way to build a collection than impulse buying, but nobody can resist that (especially with so much available at the sale!). If it's not super uncommon, you may find multiple examples by different growers. The show is a great opportunity to compare price, size, and growing conditions.

So if you see it, and you like it, and you can comfortably afford it, buy it! Some of the plants at our show are pretty rare and not commonly sold anywhere. Plus, the vendors at the show are mostly selling at wholesale prices. The bulk of them are some level of backyard growers. Some are a pretty crazy-high level of expertise, but none compare with a true commercial nursery operation in scale. The range of selection is super. There are landscape plants, specimens and everything in between.

Oops, and don't forget the handmade pots by talented artists, too! Beautiful. Every size. Amazing!

Remember, this show and sale is put on by club members. It can't be done without a lot of help. If you're a member, donate some time to make the club a success. It's a lot of fun. The more you give, the more you get!



Peter Walkowiak

By Peter Walkowiak

We have two auctions this year. The first will run from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday and will be the silent auction. The second will be the live auction on Sunday at 2:00 p.m. and will consist of the 30 best plants or succulent-related items. All plants for the auctions should be on the auction plant tables by 10:00 a.m. Saturday, so they can be sorted to silent or live and all paperwork can be completed. The tables for the auction items will be in the show room.

The proceeds this year will go to purchasing new plants for the Old World Garden at the Safari Park (Wild Animal Park).

Summer show plant auction!

When filling out your entry forms you will have a choice between a full donation and 70/30 split with owner receiving 70% and the garden 30%. Whether split or donation, this will be there on the bidding form for the silent auction and will be announced with each live auction item. The plants for the live auction will be on display until the start of the live auction with all their paper work.

For the silent auction check your bids often, bids change fast as the closing time approaches. The live auction will be held on the patio outside room 101, be sure to get your bidding number. Please bring nice, clean plants or succulent related items such as art, books, etc.

If you missed it

► Succulent plant propagation

Featuring **Ernesto Sandoval**
 Director, UC Davis Botanical Conservatory
 College of Bio Science Greenhouses



By Leslie Sheridan

Leslie Sheridan

At the May meeting, we were happy to have Ernesto Sandoval return as program speaker, discussing the propagation of cacti and succulents from seed as well as stems and even leaves. Ernesto is the Director of the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory. He speaks to all levels of SDCSS members and is funny and informative at the same time.



Seeds are kept moist by sealing them in ziplock bags. — Paul Maker photos from digital slideshow by Ernesto Sandoval

they resist mildewing when germinating. It is also very important to use pasteurized soil and new pots. (He microwaves his soil to clean it!) Ernesto has a soil formulation he uses for success, starting with a special succulent soil mix. Then he spreads the seeds and tops it with horticultural sand. The sand is good because it is not organic and will also assist with combating mildew. He then waters the pot and seals everything in a zip top bag until germination. The one exception to this is when he germinates *Lithops*. He puts the pots in an aquarium and covers it with a glass top. *Lithops* need less moisture during the germination process. Once the pot is crowded with seedlings he begins slowly acclimatizing them by gradually opening the glass top to reduce humidity. He moves them into their own pots once all the condensation has disappeared. Ernesto also reminded us it is important to know where the seed comes from when deciding

when to germinate. He recommended Silverhill Seeds as a good source for South African seeds.

Next he spoke about succulent grafting, and how easy it is to be successful. A couple important things to remember when getting started are making sure your base plants are four to five inches tall, and let the cuttings dry upright so the hormones travel down and help ensure a successfully-rooted cutting. Ernesto likes to use the *Pilosocereus* as a base, making sure the base cactus has a clean and straight cut. Don't ever use a sawing motion when making the cut as it will spread bacteria and minimize your chance for success. Ernesto recommends making the connection between the two plants as tight as possible, either by using rubber bands or Teflon tape. Once the plants are grafted and secure, place in an aquarium with moistened pumice and a glass top. Crack the top a bit for air exchange, and sit back and wait for the results!

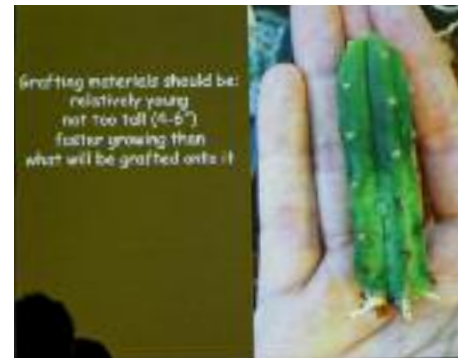
There were many questions from the floor and discussion by members after the lecture. It seemed everyone enjoyed the presentation and we look forward to the next time Ernesto joins our club for a meeting.

For more information, visit:

<http://greenhouse.ucdavis.edu/conservatory/resources.html>



Ernesto Sandoval



Top: A specimen is shown that is used for the base of the graft. Middle: Final cuts are made to both cacti for grafting. Then rubber bands are used to secure them tightly together. Bottom: A tray of newly grafted specimens are shown.

— Paul Maker photos from digital slideshow by Ernesto Sandoval

▶ May Brag Table winners!

Judged by Ric Bjorklund

CACTUS

Novice

1st Place, Edwin R. Hurd – *Mammillaria parkinsonii*

2nd Place, Deya Wilson – *Gymnocalycium* sp.

Intermediate

1st Place, Candy & Jerry Garner – *Turbinicarpus roseiflorus*

2nd Place, Bev Grant – *Mammillaria magnifica*

2nd Place, Penny Sommerville –

Gymnocalycium asterium

3rd Place, Candy & Jerry Garner –

Gymnocalycium pflanzii



Edwin R. Hurd's
Mammillaria parkinsonii



Deya Wilson's
Gymnocalycium species



Candy & Jerry Garner's
Turbinicarpus roseiflorus



Bev Grant's *Mammillaria magnifica*



Penny Sommerville's
Gymnocalycium asterium



Candy & Jerry Garner's
Gymnocalycium pflanzii

SUCCULENTS

Novice

1st Place, Jesse Giessow – *Dorstenia crispata*

1st Place, Edwin R. Hurd – *Haworthia attenuata*

2nd Place, Charlene Juarez – *Echeveria imbricata*

3rd Place, Sue Thomas – *Aloe* hybrid

3rd Place, Diane Marika – *Haworthia fasciata*

Intermediate

1st Place, Bev Grant – *Hoodia gordonii*

2nd Place, Chris Dawson – *Whitesloanea crassa*

2nd Place, Bill Shagena – *Bursera schlechten-dalii*

2nd Place, Bev Grant – *Echeveria*

3rd Place, Candy & Jerry Garner – *Euphorbia milii* hybrid

— Submitted by Chris Miller

P.S.: Apologies for confusing Bev Grants Intermediate 1st place which was for her *Dudleya brittonii* and Second was her *Echeveria agravoides* on last month's Brag Table. Also

missing last month was Novice 2nd place Maria Becker – *Haworthia emelyae*



Jesse Giessow's *Dorstenia crispata*



Edwin R. Hurd's
Haworthia attenuata



Charlene Juarez'
Echeveria imbricata



Sue Thomas' *Aloe* hybrid



Bev Grant's *Hoodia gordonii*



Chris Dawson's
Whitesloanea crassa



Bill Shagena's
Bursera schlechten-dalii



Bev Grant's *Echeveria*



Candy & Jerry Garner's
Euphorbia milii hybrid

— Photos by Paul Maker

Want to
have some **fun?**

Participate in the Show competition! Bring in a potted cactus or succulent and see what happens!

Book review

Terrific reading, beautifully presented

Under the Spell of Succulents: A Sampler of the Diversity of Succulents in Cultivation

By Jeff Moore

By Don Hunt
SDCSS Librarian

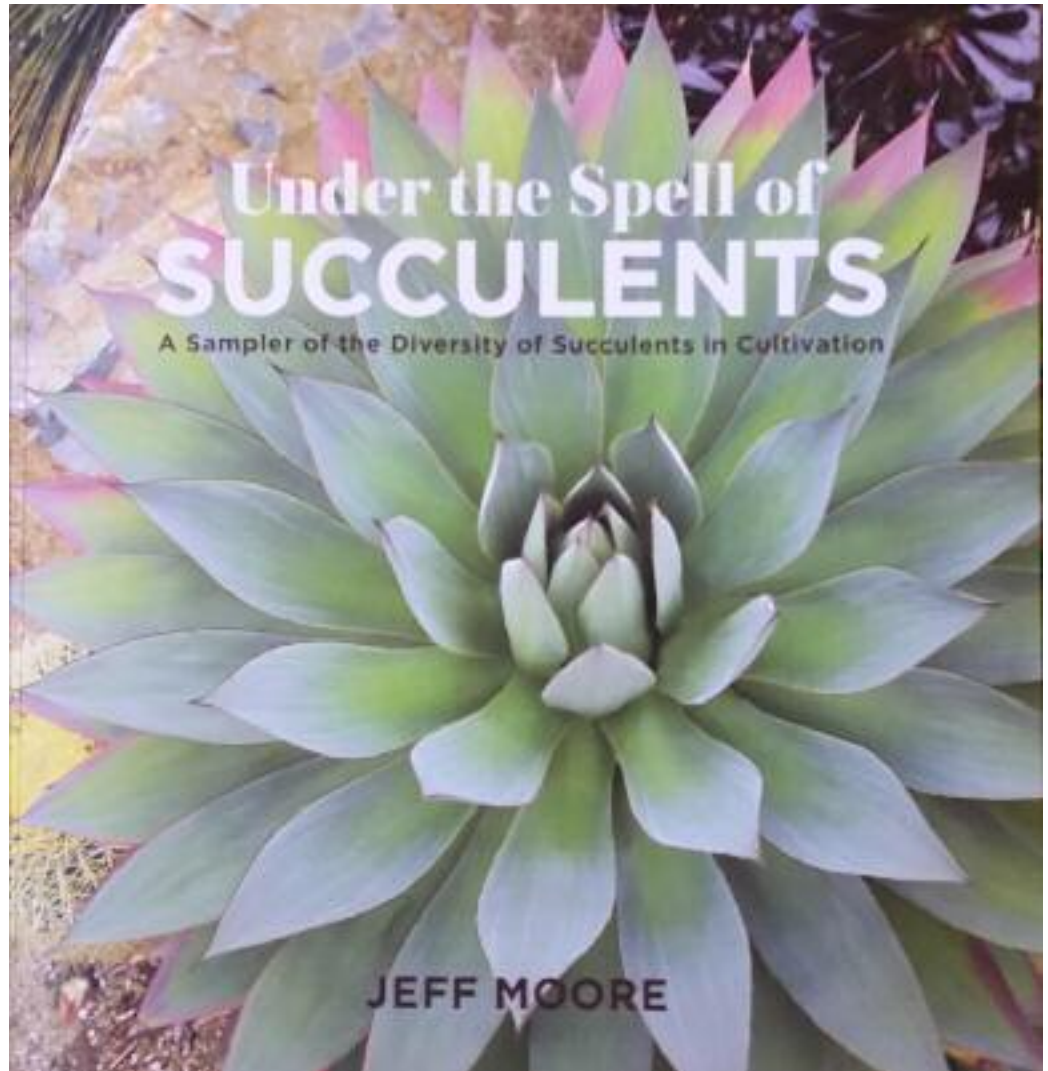
While it's doubtful anyone who lives in San Diego County and is a member of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society hasn't been to Solana Succulents and met Jeff Moore, it's even more doubtful they aren't a fan of Jeff's. Since he has probably introduced as many people to the joy of succulents as anyone I can think of, it's only right he has set down a comprehensive look at the hobby.

His new book, *Under the Spell of Succulents: A Sampler of the Diversity of Succulents in Cultivation* is my new recommendation when people ask the club librarians for an overview or recommended book for beginners.

I can recommend this book based on Jeff's easy-to-read writing style. He writes in a conversational style that is appealing and informative. No glazed over eyes here.

The book has lots of pictures. Jeff comments that his photography is point and shoot set on automatic. What isn't automatic for most of us is the artistic eye. Jeff is pretty well known as an artistic landscaper, his compositions are in the book. What I like is that every photograph in the book shows a composer's eye as well. You really can't flip through this book and not appreciate the beauty of these plants.

The layout of the book is original. Each chapter is on a subject: container gardens, collectors, growers, succulent landscapes, theme gardens, succulent bonsai, etc. There are interludes of specific groups of succulents, such as agaves, aloes, cacti, euphorbias and so on.



The book cover features an extraordinarily beautiful photo shot by Jeff Moore of an agave growing perfectly in SDCSS members' Paul and Carol Maker's front garden.

— Don Hunt photo

This really is a nice concise overview of the hobby. Of course the club has a copy, which I suspect will be on loan frequently. Better yet, if you're in the neighborhood of Solana Beach, stop in and pick up your own copy directly from a club member and supporter. Jeff tells me he's headed for a second printing. I promise you'll be pleased with the experience and the book.

Easy *Kalanchoe*

By Tom Glavich

Kalanchoe is one of the main genera of leaf succulents in the Crassulaceae Family. *Kalanchoe* are winter growers, and generally look their best in late winter and early spring. *Kalanchoe* is closely related to three other genera, *Cotyledon*, *Adromischus* and *Tylecodon*; many members of all four families were originally described as *Cotyledon*.

Kalanchoe is a pan tropical genus, with a large number of species in Africa and Madagascar, with significant (but less well known) populations in Socotra, India, tropical Asia, Indonesia, and a few in Central America. *Kalanchoe* is by far the most widely propagated and grown succulent plant in the world. It is produced by the millions as a winter houseplant all over the world. The most popular of all is *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana*, from a cloud forest on Mount Tsaratanana in northeastern Madagascar. Cultivars with red, yellow, orange and even purple flowers developed from this species are produced each year by vegetative propagation (usually by micropropagation or cloning) in large commercial nurseries and sold in florists, supermarkets and garden shops. It is virtually indestructible, and grows and blooms through the winter in heated apartments, offices, etc. with little care. It eventually gets leggy and stops blooming, and is generally thrown out during a spring cleaning.

Kalanchoe care in Southern California is extraordinarily easy. They tolerate lights frosts and do well outside in our rains. A few of the more tropical species are sensitive to cold, but most tolerate anything we get without more than a few dropped leaves. Most of the species sold in florists will do well as bedding plants in local gardens. Producing a show quality plant requires a bit more work. Pruning and pinching of growth tips to encourage side growth is required to get a full bodied plant. Since most of the cultivated species come from the cloud forests of Madagascar, they never go through long periods of dryness, and require some watering and moisture even during their summer dormant period.

Propagation is easy. Take a cutting. Stick it in some potting soil. Success is virtually guaranteed. There is no need to wait for the end to dry, no need for growth hormones, etc. Leaves can also be rooted, and many leaves, falling from a plant will often root on the potting bench or in neighboring pots.

Seed is rarely available, but is also easily grown, and sows well in the fall. Growth is fairly rapid, and flowers during the next winter can generally be expected.

Although pot grown *Kalanchoe* lose their bottom leaves when they are stressed for water, *Kalanchoe* grown in the ground do not have this problem. Much larger and better looking plants can be grown in the ground than can ever be grown in pots. Plants grown in the ground look much more like those from habitat.

Kalanchoes to keep:

Kalanchoe beharensis is a variable large leafed plant from Madagascar. There are several unusual shaped and colored cultivars available, including 'Fang' and 'Oak Leaf'. The leaves are often felt-like, with a mixture of green and brown.

Kalanchoe fedtschenkoi is another variable species, common in the florist trade as well as succulent shows. There are many varieties and cultivars, and several interesting variegated forms as well. It has blue-purple to gray to white leaves, depending on the cultivar. It is weak stemmed, and is often grown as a sprawling or even hanging plant.

Kalanchoe rhombopilosa is a small plant, reluctant to branch, with dense beautiful gray leaves covered with red spots and lines.

Kalanchoe schizophylla is a climber, looking more like a vine than a shrub. The stems grow up to 20 feet, and the leaves are extremely variable with age, so much so that leaves only a few feet away on the same stem look like they come from different plants.

Kalanchoe synsepala has great blue-green leaves with red to purple serrated edges. It produces offsets on long trailing stems. It is great as a hanging plant, or in a show pot.

Kalanchoe tomentosa is a wonderful densely leafed shrub. The leaves are green and white and feel as if felt covered. When given enough light and water, the edges turn red or brown. It is easy to grow poorly, but very hard to grow well.

Kalanchoe uniflora is another climbing species. In spite of its name, the flowers occur in groups of three, with many groups per plant. It is naturally epiphytic, and is happiest as a hanging plant.

References

W. Rauh, *Succulent and Xerophytic Plants of Madagascar*
M. Sajeve and M. Costanzo, *Succulents, The Illustrated Dictionary*

Editor's note: Thanks to the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society for allowing a reprint of their *Cactus of the Month*, March, 2004.



Kalanchoe fedtschenkoi



Kalanchoe marmorata

Cactus and succulent calendar of upcoming events for 2015

Jun 6-7: San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society Summer Show and Sale, Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA. Info: 858-382-1797.

Jun 14-19: CSSA Biennial Convention, Pitzer College, Claremont, CA <http://www.cssainc.org>

Jun 26-28: CSSA Annual Show and Sale, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. 626-405-2160 or 2277, Plant sales start Jun 26 thru Jun 28. The show opens on Jun 27 thru Jun 28.

Jul 24-26: Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society Summer Show and Sale. Fri. Jul 24, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sat. Jul 25, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sun 26, noon to 4 p.m., 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA. Info: 949-212-8417.

Aug. 8-9: 30th Annual Intercity Show and Sale at the L.A. County Arboretum, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA. Info: Call Tom Glavich 626-798-2430 or John Matthews 661-714-1052.

Sep 5: Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium. All day at the Huntington.

Sep 6: Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction, Noon to 5 p.m., Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA 90615. Info: 310-922-6090.

Oct 24-25: Palomar Show and Sale, Sat. 9 a.m. to 5p.m., Sun. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., San Diego Botanic Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens RD, Encinitas CA, Info: 858-382-1797 hciser-services@gmail.com.

Nov 7-8: San Gabriel Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. both days, LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA.

Speaker and event schedule for SDCSS in 2015

June 6 & 7: Summer Show and Sale

July 11: Nan Sterman, Succulent Plant Garden Design/TBD

August 8: Matthew Maggio, Cultivation/TBD

Sept. 12: Annual Picnic Location TBD

October 10: Tom Glavich, Succulent Plant Cultivation/TBD

Nov. 7*:** Irwin Lightstone, Succulent Plant Photography Exposition/TBD

Dec. 12: Holiday Gathering!

***** Please note, this date is on the FIRST Saturday of the month due to an unavoidable room scheduling change.**



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Drop me a note if you would like to hear about our Open Garden Monthly Sales.

Or just give me a call to set up a time to visit!

Please visit our website to see our full line of wonderful succulents.

Garden from your heart!

50th ANNUAL CSSA SHOW & SALE AT THE HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

Dates: Friday, June 26 to Sunday, June 28, 2015

Location: HBG 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA, in the Botanical Center

Show Setup: Thurs. June 25, 9am-1pm

Enter Plants: Thurs. 1pm-6pm and Friday 10:30am-4:00pm. Judging starts at 5:00pm on Friday

Sale Hours: Friday thru Sunday 10:30am to 4:30pm

Show Hours: Sat. 10:30am-4:30pm, Sun. 10:30am-4:00pm

Auction: items need to be registered by 12pm Sat. June 27; There will be a Live Auction (30 items max.) after dinner and a Silent Auction during dinner. Auctioneers will decide placement of items. 2 items max per person/business marked as donation or split.

Dinner: Dearmore BBQ: \$25 per person. Contact: Kathleen Misko. Reservations must be made by 12Noon, Sat. June 27

Tear down: Sunday, June 28, at 4pm

There are many opportunities to participate in this year's Show & Sale. Be sure to pick up a Show Schedule & Index at the your next meeting. All Cactus & Succulent Club members, a CSSA members, vendors, and volunteers or show participants need to wear their club badges AND a special CSSA/HBG pass that reads "Annual CSSA Show Participant" to enter for free. Please contact Barbara Hall, Show Chair, or your CSSA Affiliate, to obtain a pass before the event. We cannot give out these passes at the HBG entry gate.

Even though this is a one-class Show I would encourage everyone to enter a plant or two. Last year a few novices had plants on the trophy table. Please consider volunteering for a few hours in the showroom or sales area, cashiering, information table, hospitality area, welcome table at the HBG entrance, holding table, T-shirt distribution, showroom setup & teardown. We also need 12 clerks to help the Judges on Friday night. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer. All participants will receive a T-shirt as a thank you.

Barbara Hall
CSSA Show Chair
lbcjhall@aol.com
818-368-6914
email: lbcjhall@aol.com

Please see Candy Garner at the Show Information Table to get your pass for the CSSA Show and Sale.

San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

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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 \$10 a year. Each member has all the rights and benefits of the organization.

Annual Dues

(E-mail Newsletter) \$15.00 _____

(Paper Newsletter) Add First class delivery _____

USPS \$10.00 _____

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 U.S. 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)

Don't forget!

Bring to the SDCSS Show and Sale on June 6 and 7: Boxes!

Side dish to help feed our volunteers!

Plants to enter in the Show!