## Espinas y Flaes TheNensetter of theSanDieepCadus \&S uralet Sciey

Affiliated with the Cactus and Succulent Society of America
Volume 46 Number 5
May-June 2011


Program: Kelly Griffin
"Lizards, Lemurs, and Aloes"
Mini-Talk of the Month: Stan Yalof "The Ancestral Journey-ho of Cacti"

CSSA Convention Report
Summer Show Announcement, Rules and Plant Categories

New! Summer Show Auction
New! Potting \& Staging Workshop at 11am
Saturday, May 14, 2011, 1pm to 4pm
Casa Del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park
Plant Sales Begin at 10am

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

23 April 2011

The day before the convention set up and tensions mount.
Can you say ARUGHHHHH! In the last week we have been churnin' and burnin'. Paul Maker has been working with the printer for signs, the programs, forms and anything else I can think of. Sharon Wirth has been working on badges. We have had two different badge packaging parties with Sharon and Ed Wirth, Janet Svoboda, and Beate Menzel helping out. Beate also came over and helped with putting T-shirts in bags and pricing them. Janet Svoboda is working feverishly on keeping the Tours group organized and tracking the people going on tours. Her tour leaders were also working this week making sure everything is ready for next Wednesday. Pam Badger is gathering materials for bag stuffing tomorrow morning. My living room is full of boxes and Kathy and Steve Harris will be over this evening to pick up part of it, so I only have to drive to the hotel once tomorrow.

We have vendors feverishly preparing plants for the sale and potters packing up their pots. Janet Stewart and Sarah Clayton are putting the final touches on the succulent centerpieces and Peter Walkowiak is cleaning up Boojums, getting his plants ready for sale and auction and preparing show plants. All this after becoming famous along with Kelly Griffin in last Saturday's newspaper. Debra Lee Baldwin did a bang up job writing an article about Kelly and another about Peter, while advertising the convention and sale. We couldn't afford to pay for that kind of advertising.
For the last few months lots of volunteers have converged on the Old World Succulent Garden and the Baja Garden, preparing them for next Wednesday's tours. We finally got plant signs made for the Baja Garden and Juergen Menzel has been out several times this week placing them so that the visitors will have that information available to them while they walk through the garden. Well done to all of you who have made an impact on these gardens.
During our April meeting Ric Newcomer did his usual excellent job in presenting a talk on Thelocactus. I


Cover: Unknown Madagascan Aloe, hopefully to be identified by Kelly during his talk. Taken by the Editors at the Hotel Le Jardin du Roy near Isalo in 2008.
brought three more Thelocactus home for my collection. Funny how that happens. Buck Hemenway took us back to South Africa and this time the single Gasteria in that region showed up early in the presentation. Buck did a great job judging the Brag Table. Our usual cast of volunteers were on hand to run the different aspects of the meeting. Be sure to thank them for what they do. Cathy Clark volunteered to take over Refreshments from Rudy Lime. Rudy has been making coffee and putting out the snacks since I joined the organization in '97. I'm sure he was doing it before then. Be sure to thank Rudy for all his hard work.

We are adding a new feature to our June Show


Rudy Lime and Sale, an auction. See the next page for details.

Speaking of the June Show and Sale we will be enlisting volunteers at the May meeting. Please stop by the table and sign up with Susan Hopkins. I have sent the vendor agreements out and they are coming back in. So we will have a nice selection of vendors again this year.
Vanessa Nelson will be working with Pam Badger this year on the Education portion of the Show. If you know someone who would like to have a space presenting information to the public about topics related to our hobby please let us know. Educational displays by members will also be welcome.

By the time you read this I should be weeding my garden and sleeping late again. I look forward to seeing you all at the May meeting. Enjoy your gardens.

## Chris Miller



The wonderful Brag Table at the April meeting1

## 2011 Summer Show

Our Summer Show is upon us, just six weeks away, time to start planning what gems you would like to share with the rest of us, the SDCSS membership, and other plant enthusiasts. This is your time to bring in those favorite plants that I know you have, it might be just one or many, there is no limitation on the number of plants that you may enter. The only thing I request is that the plants be clean and pest free.
We will be doing the hanging plant display again this year. I need you to enter your cliff dwellers, pendulous and epiphytic succulents.
This year the categories of Mammillaria have been changed to better reflect the diversity of this very large and popular genus. I feel this will encourage more entries and diversity. A cross reference sheet will be available at the show, listing the category that each species belongs in. Also, a new category has been added this year, Cycads. Many of us succulent lovers are also fans of the cycads, and many people don't realize that many cycads are also succulent.
At our next meeting I will be having a repotting and staging work shop befpre the meeting, at 11 am . I will bring in some of my plants that I am going to stage, I will also help you with staging of your plants. Bring in your plant and pot, I will provide top dressing and soil. I will do as many that I have time and materials to do.

Lets make this show our best!
Peter Walkowiak, Show Chair


## Summer show auction

Seeking show quality plants for an auction to raise funds for a donation to the Anza Borrego Foundation for habitat acquisition. The habitat
 donation will be in celebration of SDCSS's 50th anniversary. The owner of the plant(s) to be auctioned can designate the amount of the auction price to be retained by the SDCSS for the donation, with a minimum of $30 \%$ to be retained. The auction will be held Sunday June 5 during the SDCSS annual show and sale.
We are looking for exceptional plants for the auction and all participants will be duly acknowledged. We hope that this event will become a permanent feature of the June show and raise conservation funds for years to come.

Jerry Garner and Don Hunt

Lizards, lemurs and aloes:
a recent tripto Ma dagascar Kelly Griffin
Our Club Program Chairman, responsible for bringing us a wonderful group of outstanding speakers over the last
 few years, has just returned from a trip to Madagascar. While there, he encountered not only many interesting critters, but three previously undescribed Aloes. Ours will be the first Club to hear about his adventures on this trip, which included a 100 km hike through the hinterlands.

## A Week To Remember CSSA $34^{\text {th }}$ Biennial Convention April 24-29, 2011, San Diego, CA Carol Maker

It started Easter Sunday morning around 7:00 with volunteers setting up until about 1:00 PM when registration began, and ended with a grand closing dinner on Friday night. Thanks to Chris Miller's genius, everything was expertly organized down to the smallest detail and everything throughout the week proceeded almost flawlessly. The volunteer staff worked tirelessly and patiently, always smiling, to assist convention attendees.

There were a number of excellent lectures particularly those given by Tom Knapik, Guillermo Rivera, Matthew Opel, Tom Glavich, Rudi Dorsch, Karen Zimmerman, and Todd Masilko. Tom Knapik's lecture "Geometric Geophytes" featuring small plants, mostly cacti, with fascinating geometric shapes, was a favorite of this writer. He also showed a wonderful movie "Nature by Numbers" by Cristobal Vila (www.etereaestudios.com/movies/nbyn movies/nbyn mov youtube.htm) that demonstrates how the Fibonacci Series shows up in nature.
Especially enjoyed by participants were the day-long field trips to such places as Four Private Gardens, The San Diego Botanic Garden, Native Succulents featuring Dudleyas with Kelly Griffin, Anza Borrego Desert State Park, and Sherman Library and Garden and Palomar Gardens to mention a few.

At Chris's urging, Editor Paul took hundreds of photos of attendees during the convention and created a slide show which was played repeatedly during the closing dinner. Attendees loved it.

## April BRAG TABLE WINNERS Judged by Buck Hemenway

## CACTUS

Novice
1st Place, Bev Grant? - Thelocactus macdowellii
2nd Place, Bev Grant - Stenocactus crispatus 3rd Place, Susan Lewitt - Old Man Cactus
Intermediate
1st Place, Candy \& Jerry Garner - Mammillaria perbella
2nd Place, Chris Miller - Sclerocactus uncinatus ssp. wrightii
3rd Place, Allen Clark - Sulcorebutia arenacea
Advanced
1st Place, Peter Walkowiak - Lobivia occulta
2nd Place, Juergen Menzel - Mammillaria goldii
3rd Place, Peter Walkowiak - Thelocactus lophothele

## SUCCULENTS

Novice
1st Place, Alison Baldwin - Haworthia sp.
2nd Place, Bev Grant - Dudleya virens
3rd Place, Kienan Parr - Pleiospilos nelii 'Worms of Dune'

## Intermediate

1st Place, Candy \& Jerry Garner - Pachypodium gracilis
2nd Place, Elibet Marshall - Dudleya sp.
3rd Place, Ken Kelly - No name

## Advanced

1st Place, Peter Walkowiak - Euphorbia suppressa x inermis v. buttonae
2nd Place, Phyllis Flechsig - Bulbine haworthioides
3rd Place, Peter Walkowiak - Euphorbia fasciculata x inermis v. buttonae


Submitted by Candy Garner

## Succulent Success at

## the Mission Valley Mar riott

## Art Cooley and Joe Ward*

When the green committee of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society met last year with representatives of the Marriott, host to our convention, we asked if the plants around the pool could be replaced with succulents. Marriott staff agreed and within a month the newly planted succulents were thriving. All who attended the convention saw and appreciated their beauty. There were numerous compliments. But the succulents did more than look good; they saved Marriott water and maintenance costs, delighted a high school class, and created some very nice compliments about the 'aesthetic appearance' from the hotel's regular guests. Our suggestion was accepted and has proven useful.
Marriott estimated that the plantings will save nearly \$4,000 a year from reduced water usage and lower maintenance costs. Their calculations showed that their return on investment (ROI), the point at which they see their investment pay off, is $21 / 2$ years. Any ROI less than three years is considered financially successful. Marriott will be reporting this successful program as part of their general 'greening' program on their internal website so that other Marriott hotels can consider adopting a similar program.
Recently, when a high school class visited to inspect other 'greening' activities at the hotel, they noticed the succulents and explained to the hotel staff that these plants saved water and reduced costs. Some high school students really pay attention. So, a succulent planting that started out to be a 'nice thing' for our convention turned into a good investment and a worthy educational opportunity. Happily, the Marriott is a little 'greener' in many ways because of the convention, and we all are appreciative.
*Art Cooley, Co-chair, the green committee, and Joe Ward, Director of Finance and Accounting at the Marriott Hotel.

| Show Co-Chairs for the <br> Winter and Summer Shows <br> to assist Peter Walkowiak <br> with planning, setup, etc | Ride Coordinator: Point of <br> contact for those members <br> who need a ride to meetings <br> and those willing to give <br> rides. | Trophy Sponsorship: We <br> are in the process of updat- <br> ing trophies and are looking <br> for donations to support the <br> process. |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Education Chair for Sum- <br> mer Show: Put together a <br> program for education dur- <br> ing the summer show | Membership Committee <br> members to support the <br> membership chair in provid- <br> ing membership services. | Trip Coordinator to coordi- <br> nate trips, arrange bus con- <br> tracts, destination require- <br> ments, etc. |

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY'S ANNUAL SHOW \& SALE, JUNE 4 \& 5, 2011
Read the Entry Notes below the Plant Entry Classification Schedule. The show is open to anyone who grows succulent plants. There is





 TROPHIES AND PLAQUES are perpetual, except the educational and novice awards. First, second and third place ribbons will be CSSA Award, two or more educational displays must be entered.

## cactus

Best Baja Plant..........Richard G. Latimer, Jr. Memorial Trophy Best Graft Bob \& Suzanne Taylor Trophy Best Mexican Plant in Show $\quad$ Dudley B. Gold Trophy $\begin{array}{lr}\text { Best Plant Grown From Seed ..Tegelberg Family Plaque } \\ \text { Best San Diego County Succulent } & \text {.Julianne Rice Trophy }\end{array}$ Best Miniature Monte \& Mary Woodworth Plaque Best Pachycaul or Caudiciform
H. Warren \& Virginia Buckner Trophy
 Best Succulent Bonal DISPLAYS, EXHIBITS AND HIGH POINTS CSSA Award
Reuben Vaughan Plaque ənbeld HOOS ləzeH 8 дә川еM
 Sweepstakes Trophy Ronald \& Marcia Monroe Trophy
Special SDCSS Members-Only Sale: Sat. June 4, 9-10

$$
\text { Two or more entries must be exhibited for CSSA award. Educational Value } 80 \% \text {, Staging \& Origina }
$$

Show Chair: Peter Walkowiak; Head Clerk: Susan Hopkins; Luncheon: Pam Badger;
Sales Chair: Chris Miller; Sales Managers: Tom DeMerritt, Terry Parr
THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY



## FeatureArticle

## "The Ancestral Journey-ho of Cacti"



A bout 500 million years ago (MYA), the lands of the earth came together to form Pangaea, a single giant continent. Onto Pangaea, life came from the waters onto land, ancestors of what was to become all terrestrial plants and animals. For plants we had mosses, horsetails, ferns, cycads, conifers. For animals we progressed through amphibians, reptiles, dinosaurs, and birds. Over time, Pangaea developed climatic zones.

About 140 MYA, perhaps in an arid interior, a new scrappy type of plant arose, the angiosperms. They differed from those with naked seeds, with a covered seed containing nutrients for its seedling. Unlike the conifers, which depended on inefficient pollen wind dispersal, the angiosperms developed win-win partnerships with pollinators. It was a successful model. Over the next 40 MY their orders and species outnumbered
 all others. One order was Caryophyllales, which today includes many plants which we find on our sales tables: mesembs (ice-plants), diddieras, portulacas, and cacti. But back then, cacti hadn't yet appeared.

About 100 MYA, pushed apart by tectonic forces, Pangaea separated gradually into platelets that are today recognizable as modern land masses such as Africa, India, Madagascar, South America, Antarctica, and Australia. Flora and fauna travelling to the various lands include wrinkle-faced dinosaurs (Abelisaurids), ratite birds (ostriches, etc), and Caryophyllales plants. But cacti still hadn't developed.

This mini-talk, the fifth in a series, will identify which Caryo plant was the cacti ancestor, its closest relatives, and from what part of Pangaea it was launched.


## Snacks for the Break:

If your last name begins with $\mathrm{N}-\mathrm{Z}$, please bring a snack to share at the break.

## Electronic Espinas Y Flores

The newsletter is available for viewing and downloading at the Club website, www.sdcss.net. Take a look! All members are urged to accept the e-mailed version of the newsletter in lieu of a bulk-mailed hardcopy. Each month, you will be notified by e-mail of the availability of your next issue, the speakers and events at the next meeting, and other significant announcements. The electronic version contains extra color images not found in the hardcopy, and a high resolution version, from which fully detailed images can be downloaded, is also available. Further, errors found in the hardcopy are corrected in the electronic version. To cancel your hard copy of the EyF, contact the membership chairperson Collette Parr at collette.parr@cox.net.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 15: Huntington Plant Sale, 10am to 5pm, at The Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. Info: 626-405-2160.
May 15: Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale at Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA. Info: 310-670-8148.
May 20-21: Gates Cactus and Succulent Society $31^{\text {st }}$ Sale: May 2021,9am to 4, Show: May 21, 9am to 4:30pm. at Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive, Glen Avon, CA. Info: 951-360-8802.
June 4-5: San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society Summer Show and Sale at Casa del Prado Room 101, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA. Info: 858-382-1797.
June 11-12: Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale, June 11 9am to 5pm, June 12 9am to 3:30pm at Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd. Encino, CA. Info: 818-367-0864.
July 1-3: CSSA Annual Show and Sale at The Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. Info: 626-405-2160 Or 2277. Plant Sales July 1-3, Show July 2-3. Free to the public.


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

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 Editors. Please e-mail your articles to Paul \& Carol Maker at pdmaker@roadrunner.com.

## extra photos



Raffle Table at the April Meeting


April Meeting Cactus of the Month, Thelocactus, by Ric Newcomer

'California Slope' by Club member and vendor Si Osgrove. Entered in the April 2011 NCSFA art show at the Poway Center For Performing Arts. Price $\$ 495$.

## 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)
$\$ 15.00$
First class delivery USPS (Paper Newsletter)
Annual Dues - International (Paper)
Additional Household Member(s)
$\$ 30.00$
\$5.00
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$
Amount Enclosed \$
Check ONE for type of membership: NEW $\qquad$ RENEWAL $\qquad$
Member Information:
(Please PRINT to fill in ALL blanks below!!!)
Name: $\qquad$
Address: $\qquad$
City and State: $\qquad$
Zip + 4: $\qquad$
Phone Number: $\qquad$
Cell/FAX: $\qquad$
E-mail Address: $\qquad$
Additional Household Members:

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

SDCSS Membership Department
c/o Collette Parr
7924 Grape Street
La Mesa Ca 91941-6323
(Rev. D-1, 2011-04-12)

## SanDiegpCactus\&Suralet Sciey

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