

# Espinas y Flores

The Newsletter of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society

Affiliated with the Cactus and Succulent Society of America

Volume 47 Number 9

October 2012



## Also In The EyF Out of the Past

Phillip Corliss Sketches Old Doc Vaughan

Cactus and Succulent Journal for October
Previewed by Tim Harvey, Editor

### OCTOBER MEETING AGENDA

**Program: Buck Hemenway** 

"Places You've Never Heard Of - Plants You've Never Seen"

Plant of the Month: Juergen Menzel "Thelocactus"

Workshop: Peter Walkowiak

"Bondage and Torture - The Art of Succulent Bonsai"

**Open Mic Slide Show: Don Hunt** 

Slides from Members, Bring Some In!

Saturday, October 13, 2012, 1pm to 4pm Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park

Plant Sales Begin at 10am Workshop Begins at 11:30am

October Coffee in the Garden Judy and Gene Walkowiak

10223 Rue Chamonix, San Diego, CA 92131 1pm October 20, 2012

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 1 October 2012



Ugh. Hot in Santee. Thanks to all of you who braved the heat in Santee for my sale to benefit the new greenhouse at the Zoo Safari Park. We did well, but it was over 100 degrees when we closed up shop. Special thanks to **Kathy** and **Steve Harris**, **Jim DeForest**, **Wendy Goldman** and **Cathy Clark** for helping out. If you missed the sale and are looking for plants I still have some available. Call or e-mail for an appointment.

We had a great Picnic is September. **Steve Harris** and **Bill O'Daniel** were fabulous cooks, **Kathy Harris** and **Jean O'Daniel** set up the tables. **Joe Kraatz** and **Anthony McFarland** brought and set up the drinks. We had about 70 people attend and they really enjoyed themselves. We had a wide variety of side dishes and desserts and most of us ate way too much. With several people helping with clean up it was a easy day for everyone. Thanks to all of you for making our picnic a great success!

Our Coffee in the Garden in September was held at the home of **Peter Walkowiak**. I hope you all enjoyed his plants. The next Coffee in the Garden will be at **Judy** and **Gene Walkowiak's** home (see the an-

nouncement later in this issue). Since it will be a Halloween theme feel free to dress up for the event.

I found out that Marylyn Henderson passed away this summer. When I became a member in the mid 90s Marylyn was still active and her *Echeverias* were to die for. She was a significant part of this organization. My favorite memory is that after the show she would dump out all the top dressing from her



Marylyn Henderson and Dick Wright, a renown hybridizer of *Echeveria*.

Cover photo: The locactus conothe los from Juergen Menzel.



**Marylyn Henderson's** greenhouse full of the prize winning *Echeveria* she showed up and down the coast.

Photos provided by **Dave Szalay.** 

show plants and wash it for use the following year. She did not grow with top dressing. I am way to lazy to do that much work.

Please remember that our **Brag Table at the November meeting will be for Faux plants only**. Now is the time to start the creative juices flowing.

Our annual Holiday Party will be on the first Saturday of December (December 1<sup>st</sup>) due to Christmas on the Prado, or whatever they call it now, being held the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. **PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE OF DATE**. It is given incorrectly on club business cards, membership cards, and in earlier issues of the Newsletter.

December this year will be the last month for many of our existing officers and directors. We have a two term limit on positions and most are termed out. The Nominating Committee has been established and I am the Chair. If you have an interest in being involved with this organization at the board level or know someone you think would be an asset to the board please let me know.

Enjoy our sizzling march to fall! It is 108 degrees outside my door at 1 pm. Stay cool.

**Chris Miller** 

## Workshop

#### **Peter Walkowiak**

'Bondage and Torture - The Art of Succulent Bonsai'



When you view a succulent plant show you see many styles utilized to display plants in a way to highlight and enhance the plants character. In this workshop I will discuss the various techniques used to train plants through pruning, wiring and potting to alter shape, character and perception of the plant being viewed. The goal is to give the plant a feeling of great age and size in a miniature format. We use many of the same techniques used for centuries in the Orient to give the plants a weathered, aged look that they may get through many years of adverse conditions in nature. I will demonstrate directional repotting, bending and wiring, pruning and scaring to develop a sense of age and beauty. I will work with several plants in this workshop and try to demonstrate as many of these techniques as I can. Please bring in a plant you would like help with. Time permitting, I will get you started on your own succulent bonsai. See you at 11am at the torture workshop.



## Coffee in the garden

## Gene & Judy Walkowiak

10223 Rue Chamonix, San Diego 92131



1:00pm October 20, 2012

The October "Coffee in the Garden" for the SDC&SS will be held at the home of **Gene** & **Judy Walkowiak** on October 20. We are **Peter's** parents. The address is 10223 Rue Chamonix, San Diego 92131. This is in the Scripps's Ranch area and since the tme is close to Halloween, Judy's collection of WITCHES will be on display. Some members have asked to wear costumes although this is not mandatory. The gathering will start at 1:00 PM ....Chili, beer, wine, and cider will be served. Directions are best found by using "Map Quest" on you computer. Parking will be best found on Rue Chantemar or Rougemont Place since we live on a small cul-desac. There will be a 30ft. flag pole and a giant witch to mark our house. The backyard may be reached by way of the side yard. This will avoid stairs for those who have problems walking. Our coven of witches are eagerly awaiting your arrival ---- HEH HEH HEH HEH CACKLE CACKLE CACKLE!

## Program

## **Buck Hemenway**

"Places You've Never Heard Of - Plants You've Never Seen" An adventure in southern Africa



Our speaker this month is **Buck Hemenway**. He will hit the highlights of his and **Yvonne's** trip to Africa last fall, covering a number of fascinating places and wonderful plants. From the wonders of Southern Namibia to some unbelievable places in South Africa, join him on his magical trip.



**Buck Hemenway** and his wife **Yvonne** are enthusiastic growers of succulent plants. Their one time hobby has turned in to the **Prickly Palace** nursery, which supplies cacti and succulents to the retail nursery trade. He is President of the San Gabriel Valley C&SS, serves on the Boards of Directors of the Gates Cactus & Succulent Society, Cactus & Succulent Society of America and Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center.

They have traveled to Southern Africa on three separate occasions, most recently visiting southwest Namibia as well as the Karoos in South Africa. Join them for a look at "Places You've Never Heard of, Plants You've Never Seen, an Adventure in Southern Africa."

### The cssa corner

## **Buck Hemenway**

2013 will be a big year for CSSA.



We are well into the preparation of our 35<sup>th</sup> biennial Convention to be held in Austin Texas from June 15 to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013. There will be much more in the months to come, but your members will appreciate a chance to plan their holiday time with a reminder now of the dates. The web address for the convention is http://CSSA2013.com

Our Journal Editor, Tim Harvey is now well indoctrinated into the details of producing the fine Journal that represents our hobby so well. He has promised a regular contribution to your newsletter that will provide a preview re-cap of each new Journal as it goes to press. This issue of the Journal will be mailed to members and member clubs in early October, 2012. [Editors note: this material will appear in *EyF* as space permits.]

## Pl ant of the month

## **Juergen Menzel**

"Thelocactus"



Thelocacti are native to arid areas of central and northern Mexico and to southwestern Texas.

I have chosen the genus *Thelocactus* as Plant of the Month to promote its species because:

- they are very showy plants with their stout spines,
- they have big and colorful flowers which can appear several times a year.
- they can be acquired without spending a fortune or
- can be easily grown from freely available seeds and
- thanks to their limited number of species it doesn't take much to accumulate a complete collection of this genus

This Key (reprinted with permission of Alessandro Mosco) helps a lot in identifying the various species:

<b>T. bicolor</b> ssp. heterochromus
ssp. <i>schwarzii</i>
ssp. bolaensis
ssp. <i>bicolor</i>
ssp. flavidispinus
T. conothelos
(see cover photo)
,
ssp. argenteus

CC Spines 11-24, central ones grayish, not frayedssp. conothelos
BB Stem olive-green or reddish, tubercles rounded, flowers white or light magenta,
seeds with conspicuous remnants of
the funiculusssp. garciae
AA Flowers yellow, rarely orange or red
B Stem single, tubercles angled, spines 12-27, flowers yellow, orange or redssp. aurantiacus
BB Stem clustering, tubercles rounded,
spines 7-9, flowers yellowssp. flavus
2b Primary filaments inserted near the base
of the nectary, seeds with granular cuticle and flat or convex testa cells
3a Central and radial spines white
3b Central spines coloured, radial spines white
or coloured
4a Flowers small, 25-45 mm in diameter,
white with a magenta central stripe
white, magenta or yellow
5a Areolar glands present
6a Stem erect or decumbent, cylindrical,
up to 40 cm high, ribs 13-18, spines 24-30 <i>T. hastifer</i>
<b>6b</b> Stem erect, globose, up to 15 cm high,
6b Stem erect, globose, up to 15 cm high, ribs 8, spines 9-12
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6b Stem erect, globose, up to 15 cm high, ribs 8, spines 9-12

- **8b** Ribs present or indistinct, tubercles rounded, central and radial spines distinct
- 9a Stem sunken or globose, glaucous, tubercles rounded, central spines generally

- 9b Stem sunken to shortly cylindrical, not glaucous, tubercles conical, central spines always present, flowers white or magenta.
- **10a** Stem from globose to shortly cylindrical, olive-green, ribs present, flowers white
- **10b** Stem sunken or globose, olive-green or reddish, ribs generally indistinct, flowers

#### For more info check:

#### Thelocactus by **John Pilbeam**

The Cactus File Handbook #1, 1996

http://www.thelocactus.cactus-mall.com

http://www.cactiguide.com/cactus/?genus=Thelocactus

http://davesgarden.com/guides/pf/search.php?g=thelocactus&offset=0

http://www.thelocactus.eu/Karte.php (=distribution maps)



Thelocactus lausseri

## Out of the past

## Philip Corliss Sketches Old Doc Vaughan

he following biography describes the life of Ruben Vaughan, one of our Club's founding members, its fifth president (from 1966 to 1968), a frequent contributor to Espinas y Flores, and perhaps one of our most colorful members. The article is another in a series of stories from the archives of the EyF. It appeared in Vol. 5 No. 4, April 1970.

'YOU'VE TAKEN ON A TOUGH ASSIGNMENT!' I reflected as I dialed the last digit to the number. The phone rang, rang again, and then a crisp and clear, "Good Morning, Good Morning!"

Before I reached the first of the painted red steps I could hear the harmonious intermingling of numerous wind chimes with the "happy" chirpings of even more numerous birds. A few short hops brought me to where I was treated with a magnificent vista of all that one could possibly see of San Diego and its harbor at one time. The birds took flight at the presence of a stranger in their home.

The panorama was wonderful - the porch deck with its wind chimes, potted plants, bird feeders and nests, wind vane and mission bell. Turning to the front door I was greeted first of all by a winking owl dressed in tuxedo and top hat. The decal read "BEN HUNTER, NIGHT OWLS". There were various other signs, "SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY", and some messages: "IF I'M NOT HERE - ENJOY VIEW - FEED BIRDS -RING MISSION BELL".

The bell rang and a voice just as clear greeted me. As I was escorted in I was overwhelmed with an atmosphere of friendliness. Before my eyes was an abode of memorabilia which enthralled me. On the walls in white, red and blue were the numerous victory flags that fishing boats fly when they return from the sea with their rewards. There were flags of the Marlin, the Black Sea Bass, the Broadbill and others in full color and in full glory. Almost two whole corners of the room were filled with the same spectacular view that I had enjoyed earlier as I now peered out the 180 windows. Another corner held a high-powered telescope. Everywhere there were books and magazines, pictures and posters. Yet the room with its high ceiling and mementos was well ordered. It was here that I sat spellbound listening on many different occasions for many successive hours with an excellent gentleman--Dr. Ruben Vance Vaughan, Old Doc Vaughan of Avalon.

"Doc" as he is affectionately called, was born in a houseboat on the Mississippi River in Memphis, Tennessee. When very young he moved with his family to Montana where his father was a mining engineer. From the very beginning the youngster was treated as a man with a man's responsibilities. With his father who discussed and explained everything to his

young but retentive mind, **Doc** learned much of the geology, petrology, oceanography, mining, hydro-electrical engineering, assaying and many other fields in which he is so well versed today.

At the age of twenty, **Mr. Ruben V. Vaughan** was graduated from the University of California at Berkley with degrees in chemistry and pharmacology. With a natural aptitude for pharmacy, chemistry and salesmanship. It was only natural for Doc to enter the drugstore business. He bought his first store in 1911 and later established the first help yourself chain drugstore business in California -- **Vance's Pharmacy**.

When the Harrison Narcotics Bill was enacted in 1914 and amended in 1917, **Doc** applied and was commissioned as a narcotics inspector for the Treasury Department of the United States. Due to the fact that Doc had a versatile education and training, he was sent by the government to many parts of the country to work with various district attorneys and high personnel. He was rated among the highest employees of the anti-narcotic bureau and cracked many historical cases while working "undercover." For instance, it was 'our' Doc who cracked the great Railway Express Mystery of Denver and facilitated the arrest of the infamous Chicago killer and drugracketeer, The Rabbit.

Many times have we heard **Doc** referred to as "**Old Doc Vaughan of Avalon**", perhaps without really understanding the significance of this phrase. Doc lived on Catalina Island for close to half a century and undoubtedly is the authority on the island and its history. High up on a steep hill overlooking the beautiful Pacific and the placid bay of Avalon, Doc and his wife, Anna, lived. On adjoining hills their close friends Zane Grey and William Wrigley also shared in the splendor that nature so beneficently offered. Here in Avalon Bay Doc operated his famed sports-fishing boat, the **Popeye**. Many were his prominent friends and companions - **Ralph Bellamy**,

Kate Smith, Frank Morgan, The Marx Brothers, Ann Southern, Gary Cooper, to name just a few - who sought out the man known as the "greatest fisherman alive." Doc is still known on Catalina Island as "the only fisherman among fishermen" and is the only one who ever flew four marlin flags at one time.

Another chapter of **Doc's** life began when, dubbing himself as "just an ignorant old fisherman cleaning some sand dabs", he was interviewed one night by **Ben Hunter** of radio station KFI, Los Angeles. This one interview on the NIGHTOWL SHOW led into twelve years that Doc describes as "twelve of the greatest years of my life." Doc achieved a worldwide acclaim and au-



**Ruben Vaughan**, 1955. From his autobiography.

dience and fans would set their alarm clocks for 4:00 A.M. to tune in Doc's inter-view. These interviews were later put to type and I can only admonish you to read "DOC'S CATALINA DIALY", and his autobiography "THE PRINT OF MY EXPERIENCE." Once you pick up these books which we are proud to have in our library, due to **Mrs. Nelson**, our librarian, you will not be able to put them down.

Doc's love for nature would make it extremely difficult to pinpoint his interests in the plant kingdom. Indeed, we talked of everything from the old oaks that once covered Point Loma to fossil Cycads of Catalina Island, and Baja trips into forests of Cardon. **Doc** was a charter member of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society and has always taken an active role in the club. He was president of the club in 1966, 67, and '68, is retired as the President Emeritus of the club and is an honorable life member. To **Doc Vaughan**, Thank you Sir.

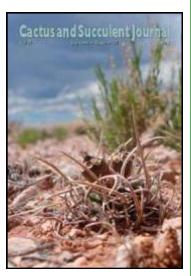
Philip Corliss

['Doc' passed away at age 96 on July 12, 1982. Philip Corliss passed on April 11, 1976.]

## cactus and succul ent journal OF THE CSSA, October 2012

## **Tim Harvey, Editor**

Pediocactus peeblesianus ssp. fickeiseniae is featured on the cover of the Sept-Oct 2012 issue of the Journal. It is one of four uncommon, miniature cacti from Northern Arizona which are the focus of an article by Peter Breslin. The sometimes competing areas of ethics, scientific research and conservation are highlighted in a thought-provoking paper from Maurizio Dioli. Irwin Lightstone will open vour eyes to the photographic possibilities without color - 'The New Black & White" with valuable tips on getting the most from this technique. Do you know the connection between Euphorbia antiquorum and James Bond? Root Gorelick will pass on the secret. Eric Ribbens and Henry Fieldspeth provide a comprehensive and



well-illustrated survey of *Opuntia fragilis* in Minnesota. Finally, a centuryold conundrum surrounding an *Echinocereus* from Baja has been solved by **Michael Lange** and **Wolfgang Blum**, thanks primarily to the internet.

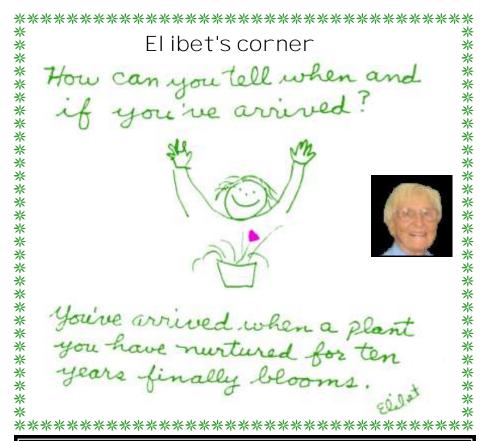
## photos from September picnic



Above: The Grill Guys.

Below: The Gabbers





## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sep 23:** Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction, noon, 18127 South Alameda St., Rancho Dominguez, CA

Oct 13: SDCSS regular monthly meeting.

**Oct 20-21: Gary Duke** Open House and Sale, 10am - 2pm, 4660 Rio Ave, Long Beach, CA 90805. A wonderful garden with over 800 plants!

**Nov 2-4:** Sonoran Desert Conservation, Ecology, and Natural History Research Symposium, Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center, Borrego Springs, CA. <a href="http://theabf.org/symposium\_speakers\_and\_topics">http://theabf.org/symposium\_speakers\_and\_topics</a> Info: 760-767-4063

**Nov 3-4:** San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, LA County Arboretum, 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA

Nov 10: SDCSS regular monthly meeting

**Dec 1:** SDCSS Annual Holiday Party!

## photos for the electronic eyf



Aeonium covered DC-6 propeller hub on displace at the Pima Air and Space Museum, Arizona. Provided by **Joe Kraatz** 



Above: T. hastifer Below: T. conothelos





Thelocactus Matidae

Thelocactus Photos from Juergen Menzel

## Electronic Espinas Y Flores

The newsletter is available for viewing and downloading at the Club website, <a href="www.sdcss.net">www.sdcss.net</a>. Take a look! All members are urged to accept the e-mailed version of the newsletter in lieu of a bulk-mailed hard-copy. 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, updates and errors found in the hardcopy are corrected in the electronic version. To cancel your hard copy, contact the membership chairperson Collette Parr at collette.parr@cox.net.

### SDCSS WANT ADS

If you are looking for a way to help, here are some ideas:

Club Treasurer. This important Club Office will be vacated at the end of the year. No financial experience needed, only a stickto-it attitude!	Ride coordinator: Point of contact for those members who need a ride to meetings and those willing to give rides.	Strategic Team Members to support the Strategy Owners in initiating changes in SDCSS
Trophy Chair to maintain trophies and oversee their refurbishment	Workshop Chair to run workshop program, set up speakers and topics	Tour Chair to arrange Coffee in the Garden tours on a monthly basis
Volunteers for WAP Gardens: For garden maintenance, new area development, plant identification and to work in the greenhouse, Our next project will be to build a greenhouse and we hope to start later this fall		Holiday Party Decorating Committee Members: to help decorate for the Holiday Party.

Contact Chris Miller if you are interested.

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.

#### 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) \$5.00  Annual Dues – International (Paper) \$30.00  Additional Household Member(s) \$5.00  Amount Enclosed \$  Check ONE for type of membership: NEWRENEWAL
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 Department** c/o Collette Parr **7924 Grape Street** La Mesa Ca 91941-6323

## San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society

**Executive Board** President: Chris Miller Vice President: Peter Walkowiak Secretary: Candy Garner Treasurer: Ken Blackford

Directors **Steve Harris Don Hunt Jerry Garner** Cathy Clark **Kelly Griffin** Vanessa Nelson

Mark Fryer (ex-President)

#### **Standing Committees & Sub Committees**

Education, Conservation & Exhibits Conservation: Joe Kraatz & Herb Stern

Brag Table: Candy Garner Plants of the Month: Don Hunt Summer Show: Peter Walkowiak Winter Show: Peter Walkowiak

Historian: Terry Parr

Library: Don Hunt, Chris Miller, Jeanette Dutton, Steve & Kathy Harris

Exchange Plants & Seeds: Michelle Heckathorn & Sara Schell

Sales, Meetings, Plant Sales & Supplies

Membership: Collette Parr, collette.parr@cox.net

Mailing: Jean & Bill O'Daniel

Annual Sales: Chris Miller & Joe Kraatz

Auction & Holiday Plants: Lee Badger & Tom DeMerritt

Monthly Plant Sales: Joe Kraatz & Lynn Elliott Monthly Supply Sales: George & Jerry Plaisted Benefit Drawing Table: Collette & Terry Parr

Publicity: Tom DeMerritt & Joe Kraatz

Programs: Kelly Griffin

Reception: Susan Hopkins & Judy Walkowiak

Monthly Regalement: Cathy Clark

Picnic Regalement: Laura & Tom DeMerritt

Hospitality: Sara Schell

Balboa Park Desert Garden: Susan Hopkins

CSSA Affiliate Rep: Peter Walkowiak SD Botanic Garden: Phyllis Flechsig

SD Botanical Garden Foundation: George Plaisted

SD Floral Association: Jeanette Dutton

SD Zoo Safari Park Baja & Old World Gardens: Chris Miller

Editors: Paul & Carol Maker, pdmaker@roadrunner.com

Webmaster: Gunnar Eisel Web Site: www.sdcss.net

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