



Mammillaria thornberi

Espinas y Flores

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

Volume 49 Number 9

October 2014

General Meeting: October 11, 1 - 4, in 104 Casa del Prado at Balboa Park

Guest Speaker: Tissue Culture Explained by **Tim Harvey** Editor of the CSSA Journal

Plant of the Month: Large Euphorbias by **Erik Gronborg**

Workshop: Sowing Seed of Winter Growers by **Peter Walkowiak**, 10am-12pm

Coffee in the Garden: October 18, 10 - 1, at home of Dan Kinnard & Eloise Lau, Vista



Euphorbia. mauritanica flower

Photo by **Erik Gronborg**

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President's Message



We had a wonderful picnic and great weather to accompany the forty seven people that attended. I want to thank our chef's **Bill O'Daniel**, **Steve Harris** and **Jean O'Daniel** who cut up the veggies for the burgers - ya make a mean veggie burger!

Jean O'Daniel, **Cathy Clark** and **Melanie Howe** did a great job with the set up. Thanks also to help from **Anthony McFarland** and **Joe Kraatz** who also brought the sodas and water.

Cathy Clark brought the supplies with help from **Christine Vargas**. A thank you to **Steve Harris** too for getting the food for barbecuing and **Pam** and **Lee Badger** for bringing the Tri Tip.

And a great big shout out to everyone that came and brought a salad or dessert or side-dish.

Our next meeting will be October 11th and will be yet another departure for you to enjoy . Our speaker will be the CSSA Journal editor, **Tim Harvey**. He will be discussing the fine art of succulent plant tissue culture. He also grows some really strange and wonderful plants and will be bringing some to sell a few to add to your collections I am certain!

We are still seeking someone to assist us with the coordination of the monthly brag table. It involves making out the script and recording the winners. It is not a huge job but if you think it might interest you, please let us know.....We can use the help.

Additionally, We are seeking someone to take over the editing our monthly newsletter. It is a teachable job and if it is up your alley, contact **Chris Miller**.

I also want to thank **Paul Maker** for stepping up and getting the Newsletter out this month. You're always there and I want you to know how much we appreciate both the **Makers**making our days brighter!

I am sorry to say I will miss the October meeting. I hope all goes smoothly and do not be afraid to step in and help if you see something that needs attention.

All the best to you all, **Kelly Griffin** SDCSS President



Photos by **Kelly Griffin**,
taken in his back yard.

Workshop: Sowing the Seed of Winter Growing Succulents

By **Peter Walkowiak** SDCSS Director, Show Chairman

Succulent plants can be divided into two distinct groups depending on when the rains occur, summer or winter. The winter growing succulents seeds are sown in the fall at the onset of the wet season.

In this workshop I will demonstrate various techniques for sowing the seeds of winter growing succulents. Different approaches are needed because of seed size or special needs that a specific species requires for germination. Participants will be sowing seeds that I will provide for them. If anyone wants to bring some other winter growing seed to share that would be most welcome.

Growing from seed is fun and can be very rewarding. As you watch them grow you will notice seedling variations and select those plants for yourself and can give the rest to friends.

I will provide all soil, pots, top dressing and seed. The workshop will start at 10 am.

Notice: SDCSS is looking for someone willing to take on managing the Brag Table. After several years of doing an excellent job **Candy Garner** has stepped down. We thank her for all her hard work. **Candy** was kind enough to develop a Job Description for the task. Contact **Chris Miller** if you are interested.

Brag Table Job Description

- ♦ Create and print signs for three tables for Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced for cactus and succulent entries; (as required)
- ♦ Create and print signs of requirements for entries, e.g. must have owned/grown the plant for a minimum of six months or more; (as required)
- ♦ Create and print signs for "Please Do Not Touch the Plants"; (as required)
- ♦ Create, print, and cut entry forms in green (novice), yellow (intermediate) and blue (advanced); (monthly)
- ♦ Create, print, and cut coupons for winners in same colors for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place for each level's winners; (monthly)
- ♦ Deliver monthly coupons to the President prior to the beginning of each meeting; (monthly)
- ♦ Provide pens;
- ♦ Encourage participation;
- ♦ Attend monthly meetings by 10 am to position signs on each of the three tables;
- ♦ Collect winning entry forms after winners are announced;
- ♦ Create list of winners and plant names* for each level, include the name(s) of the judges, and email to EYF Editor in a timely manner for printing in the following month's EYF.

*Please be advised the plant names are reported by each participant. The plant name may be incorrect, former name, misspelled or the writing may be difficult to read.

Candy has templates for all of the items that need to be printed and is willing to share them with whoever takes over the position.

Bring GOOD snacks if your last name starts with A through M (or if you just want to!)

Program: Tissue Culture Explained

By **Tim Harvey**, Editor of the CSSA Journal

Technological developments affect and have changed all of our lives, whether we like it or not. One of the more pleasing aspects of this has been a recent surge in the propagation of cacti and succulents through micro-propagation, commonly referred to as tissue culture (TC). Widely applied to food crops and more conventional garden plants in the past, the last five years or so have seen a surge in the availability of rare species, cultivars and variegated succulents.

However, the use of the technique and availability of plants has happened much faster than its understanding by the plant hobbyist. This presentation attempts to bridge that gap, and explain TC so all can understand.

The talk will provide a non-technical overview of the properties of plants that make them amenable to TC, as well as some background as to why plants do what they do in the first place. An overview of practical considerations follows, giving examples of the equipment and materials needed for success. You may even discover a new use for alcohol! Propagation of a diverse set of plants will be presented in detail, with examples coming from a variety of succulent plants. Many of those highlighted may have made their way into your collection via the International Succulent Introductions program. Finally, some perhaps surprising and novel uses of TC will be mentioned, together with speculations for future developments.

Biography:

If you have not heard Tim speak, you might not know that he is originally from England. He moved across the pond in 1992, falling a little short, working at the Ontario Cancer Institute in Toronto for a couple of years. He completed the trip to California when he went to work in the Biotechnology industry. He was also able to relocate his cactus collection, started 20 years earlier, to a more favorable climate. Escaping with his morals intact in 2006, he enrolled as a full-time propagator and pollinator of his favorite plants, as well as becoming Editor of the *Cactus and Succulent Journal* in 2011. He makes frequent trips to his adopted country Namibia, as well as many appearances at clubs in Southern California, either as a Speaker, or as a Vendor at sales. Having a passionate interest in ex-situ conservation through propagation, he was able to use his scientific training to enliven the micropropagation facility at the Huntington Library, to the benefit of ISI. Never able to walk past a plant in flower without trying to pollinate it, he is also a keen hybridizer, with the pachycauls, Aloe and bulbs in his collection being defenseless subjects for experimentation.



Plant of the Month: Large Euphorbias

By Erik Gronborg

You probably all had some poinsettias during Christmas. When you look at the gardens in your neighborhood you are likely to see a number of Sticks On Fire. And Candelabra trees are sticking up everywhere. They are all Euphorbias.

The genus Euphorbia is huge, with more than 2000 species all over the world. About 850 species are succulents. What defines a Euphorbia? One, they all produce a white latex, which often can be a skin irritant, and for some people is very toxic, just ask Andrew Wilson. Two, most flowers in the plant world have both male and female parts, but Euphorbias have unisexual flowers, that is separate male and female flowers on the same inflorescence. They are small flowers in a unique cluster called a Cyathium. Three, unlike cacti which have spines growing from areoles, spines or thorns on Euphorbias are modified stipules, usually in pairs, or dried remnants of peduncles, the flowering stalks, mostly growing in long rows along the edges of the angular branches.

I will show Euphorbias which are too large to bring to the meeting, mostly the species which can easily be found growing in San Diego. In my own garden I counted 17, and I used to have four more large species.

To establish some order I have organized them into three groups:

1. Euphorbias with thorns either candelabra or large bushes.
2. Bundles of sticks without thorns.
3. Euphorbias with permanent leaves.

Sources:

Euphorbia Journal

Various websites, particularly informative: PBI (planetary biodiversity project) on Euphorbias

I took all these photographs in the San Diego area



Euphorbia poinsettia flower



Euphorbia turicalli 'Sticks on Fire'



Euphorbia poinsettia flower



Euphorbia canariensis

Coffee in the Garden

Dan Kinnard / Eloise Lau

6901 Kellyn Lane, Vista 92084

10 AM to 1 PM, October 18, 2014

760-414-9636 (Land Line) / 760-716-3328 (Dan's Cell)

Dan and Eloise will host coffee in their gardens in October. Located on 3.5 acres in North County near I-15 and Gopher Canyon, the gardens include a large variety of succulents, cactus, tropicals, tropical fruits, bromeliads, cycads, flowering plants and trees with lots of non-botanical items to be discovered.

For the walk, be sure to wear shoes that are more suitable than your favorite ruby slippers. A hat and sunblock are also recommended. The site is not handicap accessible.

Parking is not usually a problem but carpooling is recommended. If things seem congested near the property, parking is available on Kellyn Lane.

Directions to Eloise and Dan's House:

From I-15: Take Gopher Canyon exit turning west toward Vista. Go about 1.5 miles to Disney. Turn Right. Follow instructions from Disney below.

From 76 or Vista: Take East Vista Way to Gopher Canyon. Turn east toward I-15. Go 3 miles to Disney. Turn Left. Follow instructions from Disney below.

From Disney: Go 0.8 miles to Kellyn Lane. Turn left. Go to first paved drive / road on the left. Turn left. Go directly up the road, through the gate (gate will be open) toward the top of the hill. You can't miss the house.

Some Folks Enjoying the Picnic



Tom Knapik, (Doug Stein), & Art Cooley



Rick Bjorklund



Bill & Jean O'Daniel



The Grill Guys
Steve Harris & Bill O'Daniel

Calendar of Upcoming Events

October 25-26: Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale Sat 9 - 5, Sun 10 - 4, at San Diego Botanic Garden (Quale Gardens)

November 1-2: San Gabriel Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale. 9am-4pm both days. LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia CA

December 13: SDCSS Holiday Party starts at 11 in room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

February 14, 2015: SDCSS Winter Show and Sale, room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

Recipe of the Month: Susan's Santa Fe Salad

Ingredients:

2 cups cooked brown rice
1 can (about 15 ounces) black beans or pinto beans, rinsed and drained
1 can (about 15 ounces) whole kernel corn, drained
¼ cup minced onion
¼ cup white vinegar
2 tablespoons chopped cilantro
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
2 jalapeno peppers, minced
2 teaspoons chili powder
2 teaspoons cumin

Instructions:

Combine rice, beans, corn and onion in a medium bowl. Combine vinegar, cilantro, oil, jalapenos, chili powder, cumin and salt in small jar with lid: shake well. Pour over rice mixture; toss lightly. Cover and refrigerate 2 to 3 hours to allow flavors to blend. Stir before serving. Garnish with cilantro leaves.

Recipe provided by **Susan Hopkins** SDCSS Receptionist, attested by attendees at the picnic some of whom are shown herein.



This picture of a Santa Fe Salad, taken from the web, is a reasonable facsimile of Susan's version

Some Folks Enjoying the Picnic



Candy Garner, Alison Baldwin and Wendy Goldman



John Williams, Anthony McFarland and Joe Kraatz

2014 Cactus and Succulent Show & Sale

Presented by

Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

The North San Diego County Cactus and Succulent Society!

October 25th & 26th

SAT. 9 to 5 SUN. 10 to 4

At San Diego Botanic Garden (formerly Quail Gardens)
230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024

For Directions: <http://www.sdbgarden.org/directions.htm>



See succulent specimens from around the world!

Plant judging is Saturday from 11am – 12:30pm.

The public can follow along as judges comment on entries and make their decisions.

All show plants will be available for viewing Saturday and Sunday, with winners identified after 1pm Saturday.

Specimen plants for the novice or collector, as well as handmade ceramic pots will be for sale.

Cost: Free with garden admission or garden membership

For more info contact:

Brita Miller @ vicepresident@palomarcactus.org 858-484-7118 OR

Merrilee 'Annie' Morgan @ treasurer@palomarcactus.org

[We're on Facebook!](#)

[Email – info@PalomarCactus.org](mailto:info@PalomarCactus.org)

Website - PalomarCactus.org



Some Folks Enjoying the Picnic



Melanie Howe, Jim DeForrest and Cathy Clarke



Don Hunt, Kelly Griffin and Jerry Garner

Notice: SDCSS is looking for a new Newsletter Editor. I have enjoyed doing the news letter the last few years and hope that you all have gained from it. I am looking to simplify my life due to a new grandchild and other constraints. Below is a job description for the position. The nuts and bolts of how to put the newsletter together can be available for those that are interested. We are looking for someone to take over in January or earlier. The job offers a small monthly stipend and paper and ink for the printer are covered by the club. If you are interested please send a resume plus a sample of how you would like the newsletter to look to myself or Kelly Griffin. If you have questions contact either of us. **Chris Miller**

Job Description for Newsletter Editor

Produce the monthly newsletter

Gather articles from various contributors

Take photos at meeting of Brag Table plants, award ceremonies and other interesting things (can arrange for someone else to take photos)

Put together the newsletter. Includes formatting and editing, including some photos. (currently developed in MS Publisher)

Print paper copies for mailed newsletters and deliver them to the O'Daniels for distribution

Print coversheet for paper newsletters using MS Excel and MS Word

Create pdf files for electronic distribution, send them to the web master to post

Create e-mail to send out to the members with e-mail addresses

Put out notices by e-mail

Create document to e-mail to the membership list (currently done in MS Word, Excel and Outlook)

Publicity Printing

Print club fliers, business cards, and sale fliers

Time requirements include

Attending the monthly Board Meeting the Wednesday after the regular meeting. This requirement is necessary since the Newsletter Editor needs to have a finger on the pulse of the organization.

Meeting the timeline for distribution of both paper and electronic copies of newsletter

Newsletter takes 8 to 15 hours to put together depending on input from contributors

Current printer takes about 3 hours to print paper version and cover sheets

The current drop off location for distribution is the **O'Daniels** in Poway. They finish putting it together, fold and secure it, put on postage and take to post office

Other Requirements

Must have email account, know how to use it.

Good working knowledge/familiarity with of all MS Office products.

Good to have and know how to use, Adobe Acrobat (not just Reader).

Some Folks Enjoying the Picnic



Sally and Brian Shepherd



Desrien Bradford and Chuck Ramey

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

Annual Dues _____
 E-mail Newsletter \$15.00 _____
 Paper Newsletter* \$25.00 _____
 International Paper* \$30.00 _____
 * (paper newsletters are mailed by USPS)
 Additional Household Member(s) ea \$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 US 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)

Please address correspondence to:
 The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society
 P.O. Box 33181 San Diego, Ca 92136-3181

San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society

Executive Board

President: **Kelly Griffin**
 Vice President: **Chris Miller**
 Secretary: **Jennifer Harris**
 Treasurer: **Christine Vargas**

Directors

Peter Walkowiak
Pat Marshall
Rick Bjorklund
Chris Dawson
Kienan Parr
Geoff Twitchell

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**

Grants: **Jerry Garner**

Sales, Meetings, Plant Sales & Supplies

Membership: **Paul & Carol Maker** pdmaker@roadrunner.com

Mailing: **Jean & Bill O'Daniel**

Annual Sales: **Chris Miller & Joe Kraatz**

Auction & Holiday Plants: **Kelly Griffin**

Monthly Plant Sales: **Joe Kraatz & Lynn Elliott**

Monthly Supply Sales: **George & Jerry Plaisted**

Benefit Drawing Table: **Collette, Kienan & Terry Parr**

Publicity: **Christine Vargas**

Programs: **Kelly Griffin**

Reception: **Susan Hopkins & Judy Walkowiak**

Monthly Regalement: **Cathy Clark**

Picnic Regalement: **Bill O'Daniel & Steve Harris**

Hospitality: **Sara Schell**

Liaison

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**

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What a great looking grill! Coming next year???