



Espinas y Flores

The Newsletter of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society

Affiliated with the Cactus and Succulent Society of America

Volume 45 Number 2

February 2010



ANNUAL WINTER SHOW AND SALE

**February 13
10am to 4pm
Room 101
Casa Del Prado
Balboa Park**

Members only shopping
from 9 to 10

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



What a busy month for me. A great meeting, a trip to the **Huntington Gardens**, Saturdays at the **WAP**, and I retired yesterday. I'd like to think I'll have plenty of time to do things, but I have a suspicion I will fill the time up to overflow before I know it.

The meeting in January was interesting. We had lots of people in the room doing lots of things. The sales area went together very early with a wide array of vendors and some interesting choices. **Joe Kraatz**, **Lynn Elliot** and **Jim DeForest** did a fine job moving things along through checkout. **Susan Hopkins** greeted people as they came through the door. **Ken Blackford** and **Cathy Clark** signed up people for the bus trip to the Huntington and helped people renew their membership.

Collette and **Terry Parr** worked the Benefit Drawing Table and **Terry** provided the great plants that finished off our Holiday Party gift plants. **George Plaisted** was on the other side of the room, selling pots and supplies and the Library was busy with **Kathy** and **Steve Harris** and **Don Hunt** checking books in and out.

Several of the convention teams had meetings prior to the main Convention meeting at 12. The twelve o'clock meeting will be moved to Room 104 in March so that the noise from the rest of the activities in Room 101 are not an issue. If you are interested in being on one of the teams (even if you don't know which one) contact **Peter Walkowiak**.

Stan Yaloff thrilled the math minded with his talk of patterns in plants in math terms. **Buck Hemenway** took us back to South Africa and once again had a *Gasteria* slide included. Great pictures of a variety of plants and the environment they grow in.

The trip to the **Huntington** on the 17th was great, as usual. We partnered with the **Palomar CSS** to fill a bus, which made it to the **Huntington** at just the right time for me to meet them. Between the two clubs I think we had over 70 people there. We wandered through the **Succulent Conservatory**, strolled through the **Cactus Garden**, talked to people from other societies and had a lovely morning. We broke for lunch,



Blooming Aloes (above) and the Chinese Garden (below)
as seen at the Huntington Desert Forum



visited the sales area, and then were free to visit any other parts of the estate. **Cathy Clark** and I visited the **Blue Boy** and the **Japanese Garden**.



Fun at the Forum by Bev Grant

The next day was the **CSSA Board Meeting**. **Peter Walkowiak** attended all day. **Inacia Matheus, Janet Svoboda** and I were there for the portion of the meeting to do with the upcoming convention. We received more guidance and information. We have lots to do in the next two months to support planning efforts.

On the 24th I finally made it up to the Gardens at the **Wild Animal Park**. The *Aloes* are glorious and everything is plump from the rain. The down side of rain is that the weeds are making a strong comeback. The nettles are first up as usual and need to have their roots pulled or they'll be back. We had a good sized group with **Vanessa Nelson** and **Jerry Markle** working in the green house transplanting *Ferocactus*, **Jim DeForest, Janet Svoboda, Cathy Clark** and **May** (a new volunteer) pulling weeds in the **Old World Succulent Garden**. Over the next 4 months the weeds will be the battle and the focus.

We are starting at 8 on Saturday mornings and if you are interested we would love to have your company. A willingness to work is more important now than a significant knowledge of the plants. After the show and sale I will probably start going up one day during the week. If you are interested in working in the middle of the week let me know and we can organize that effort.

If you haven't volunteered to work at the **Show and Sale** on the 13th of February please contact **Susan Hopkins** or me. You won't be allowed into the area until 9 unless you have a special badge. We still need security people and clerks for the **Sale**. Also if you haven't e-mailed **Vanessa**



The sun on *Cleistocactus strausii* at the Huntington Desert Forum by Bev Grant

about her potluck, please do. This will be the biggest **Winter Show and Sale** we have ever held and it will take a lot of work to carry it off well. I know we are capable of doing just that so help where you can. We will have a busload of **San Gabriel Club** members coming down to our event, which speaks well for how our **Shows** and **Sales** are appreciated.

We have two **Chair** positions that need to be filled to support the **Summer Show**. One is the **Education Chair** whose duties will include setting up mini seminars and getting some displays together. I will help, but cannot manage it during the **Sale**.

The other position is a **Trophy Chair**. Our trophies need some love and definitely some management. We have some sponsors who are interested in supporting the effort and some team members who are willing to help, but they need a leader. If you are interested in either position let me know.

I look forward to seeing all of you on the 13th of February. The **Winter Show** is always a good time to get to know each other better and invest in our compulsions. You can't have too many plants or too many pots.

Chris Miller

JANUARY 2010 BRAG TABLE WINNERS

Judged by **Buck Hemenway**

Cactus

- 1st Place, **Peter Walkowiak** - *Neoporteria** sp.
- 2nd Place, **Peter Walkowiak** - *Mammillaria** *spinosissima**
- 3rd Place, **Kelly Griffin** - *Neoporteria occulta*
- 3rd Place, **Peter Walkowiak** - *Stenocactus* sp.

Succulents

- 1st Place, **Kelly Griffin** - *Aloe conifera**
- 2nd Place, **Kelly Griffin** - *Haemanthus difformis*
- 2nd Place, **Candy & Jerry Garner** - *Aloe parvula*
- 3rd Place, **Rudy Lime** - *Pelargonium ferulaceum*
- 3rd Place, **Peter Walkowiak** - *Aloinopsis rubrolineata*

Submitted by **Candy Garner**

*Spelling as written by owner on Brag Table form corrected by the editors

WINTER SHOW NEWS

The growth and evolution of our Winter Show over the past five years has been phenomenal. From maybe 50 to 60 plants, it's grown to what we had last year - full tables and over 200 plants. This year is no differ-



Cactaceae entries at the 2007 Winter Show. Courtesy Collette Parr

ent, for the first time this show will be formally judged from 10:00am to 11:00 am by Woody Munich and Cliff Meng. There will be ribbons and prize awards for show winners. Show winners will be announced so that awards (plant bucks) can be passed out. The plant category list has also been revamped, giving more balance and clarity. All ribbon winners will be listed in the March issue of **EyF**.

To encourage novice participation in the show we give major awards to the novice entrants. Any participant can win best of show, whether advanced or novice. Best novice can only be won by a novice. This year, thanks to a generous donation of pots by our revered potter **Don Hunt**, we are doing something new to reward novice participation. All blue ribbon winners will receive a small pot. At the May meeting we will have a mini show with your pot staged with a plant of your choice. In the summer show we will have a separate category for your plant and pot. For those members who have never shown a plant we encourage you to bring in one of your favorites. Who knows, you just might win!

Peter Walkowiak, Winter Show Chair

(See January EyF for full details, show rules, and plant classes.)



REMINDER FROM MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Hello Everyone:

Hope 2010 started off well for you! Just a couple of reminders. First, for people who renew their memberships, your new membership cards were printed, and are held by **Ken Blackford**, our Treasurer, for you to pick up at an SDC&SS meeting. So, don't forget to stop by and pick up your new 2010 membership card. Also, you must renew your membership by the end of February, or the By-Laws require me to drop your name from our membership list. This means that you would no longer receive your newsletter and I'm sure you wouldn't want to miss out on one of those! Just look at your newsletter label, or your e-mail from our newsletter editor to check on the expiration of your SDC&SS membership.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have with regards to our membership. My e-mail is collette.parr@cox.net and my cell phone is 619-384-8849.

Thanks,

Collette Parr
SDC&SS Membership Chair

Snacks for the Break: Those with last names beginning with N through Z, please bring a snack to share at the break.

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN



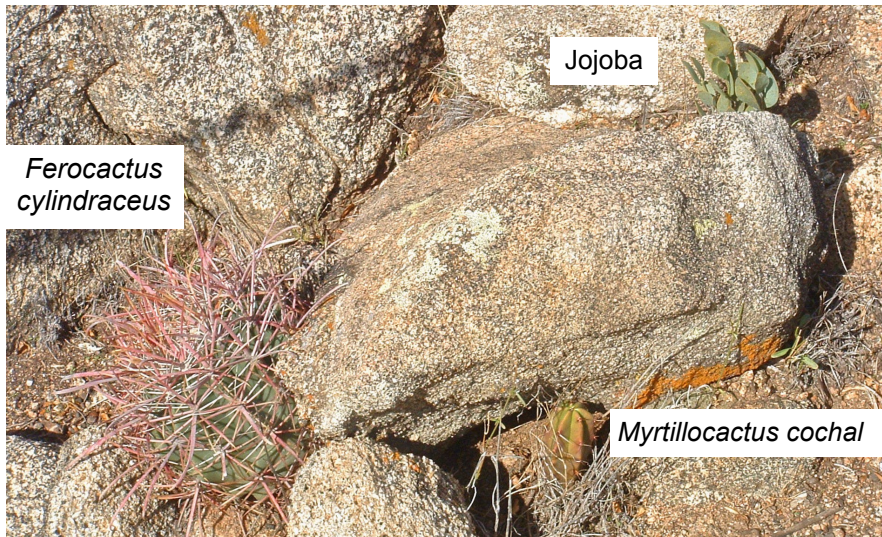
The Water Conservation Garden invites the public to enjoy its 2010 winter and spring events. Classes offered help residents save water and money by focusing on water smart landscaping techniques and plants. Classes are taught by experts and topics include lawn removal, water-smart landscape design, backyard composting, irrigation design and gardening for children. For details and schedule, go to www.thegarden.org

VOLUNTEERS AT THE WILD ANIMAL PARK

We are all cordially invited to participate in the Work Party held weekly on Saturday morning at **San Diego Zoo's Wild Animal Park**. An important volunteer is **Juergen Menzel**, who presides over the event on most days. Contact **Chris Miller** for full details.



Here are several other volunteers , both plant and human:



Above: Volunteer plants in the Baja Garden—*Ferocactus cylindraceus*., *Myrtillocactus cochal* and *Simmondsia chinensis* aka Jojoba.

Right: Volunteers **Jim DeForest** and **Janet Svoboda** in the **Old World Garden**. Look at what fun they're having!

Photos by **Juergen Menzel**.



ANCIENT CLIMATE FATALITY

The Famed and timeless quiver trees that grow in South Africa and Namibia have begun dying over the past few years, with officials cautioning that they are the latest victims of climate change. The tree, also known as *Aloe dichotoma*, can live to be more than 300 years



Aloe dichotoma in Namaqualand by **Martin Heigan** via : www.flickr.com

old. But large clusters of them have withered and toppled during the past decade, causing alarm among the Bushman and San people who use their branches for bows. "The quiver tree is noted for its drought tolerance and longevity, but it may be operating at the edge of its physiological tolerance," said **Wendy Foden** in a report by the Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. A 2008 Namibian report said that temperatures have risen about 2 degrees Fahrenheit over the past century as the country became the driest south of the Sahara.

LOW WATER LANDSCAPING LEGAL

From Joe Kraatz

Governor Schwarzenegger has signed into law AB 1061 which makes it illegal for home owners associations to deny the use of low water landscaping. The law is effective this year.

<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a53/Pressroom/Press/20090420AD53PR01.aspx>

(This link is to Assemblyman Ted Lieu's description of the bill.)

“PLANTS LIVE!”

An Article synopsis by **Art Cooley**

Natalie Angier is one of my favorite science writers. In a recent article in the New York Times entitled, "Sorry, Vegans: Brussels Sprouts Like to Live, Too " she quotes **Monika Hilker** of the Institute of Biology at the Free University of Berlin: "Plants are not static or silly...they respond to tactile cues, they recognize different wavelengths of light, they listen to chemical signals, they can even talk" through chemical signals. Touch, sight, hearing, speech. "These are sensory modalities and abilities we normally think of as only being in animals," **Dr. Hilker** concluded. While the article starts with a headline to grab the vegan interest, it concludes with the amazing abilities that plants can perform.

http://www.nytimes.com/2009/12/22/science/22angi.html?_r=1&ref=science

ESPINAS Y FLORES GOING ELECTRONIC!

The newsletter is available for viewing and downloading at the Club website, www.sdcss.net. Take a look! As a cost-savings measure, all members are being urged to accept an e-mailed version of the newsletter – the cost of color printing and mailing far outweigh the annual membership fee. To cancel your yard copy of the EyF, contact the membership chairperson or the newsletter editor. You will be notified by e-mail of the availability of your next issue, the speakers at the next meeting, and other significant announcements. The electronic version will often contain additional color images, but its length will be kept below about 1.5 MB. It's probably too long for convenient dial-up connections to download, but not for cable or DSL internet connections.

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.

Otherwise unaccredited photos are the handiwork of the Editors.

SDCSS HELP WANTED ADS

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

Winter Show: Need volunteers for security, meals, greeting, set up and clean up.	Trophy Chairperson: Someone to manage the Club's many trophies, overseeing their refurbishment.	Trophy Sponsorship: We are in the process of updating trophies and are looking for donations to support the process.
Education Chair: For Summer Show: Put together a program for education during the summer show	Membership Committee Members: To support the membership chair in providing membership services.	Ride Coordinator: Point of contact for those members who need a ride to meetings and those willing to give rides.
Volunteers for WAP Gardens: For garden maintenance, new area development, plant identification and to work in the greenhouse	Trip Coordinator to coordinate trips, arrange bus contracts, destination requirements, etc.	Audio Visual Person Duties to include organizing existing equipment, setting up at meetings and advising on requirements.

Contact **Chris Miller** if you would like to volunteer

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.

HOGAR DE LOS NIÑOS



Hogar de Los Niños is a home for children and women who have been orphaned, abused, or abandoned. They are currently doing some landscaping on a hillside and would like some donations of cactus and succulent cuttings or plants. They would also like some *Opuntia* cuttings that they can grow for nopales.

Web site is
www.hogardelosninos.com
 For more information call:
Francette Roeder 619-435-3695
Tony & Pilar Ralphs 619-437-9200

ANZA-BORREGO INSTITUTE FIELD BOTANY SERIES

This series focuses on field techniques for recognizing and identifying the plants of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, their flowers, and the communities in which they live. Two excursions (9am to 4pm) are planned, led by **Michael Wangler**:

February 20 FLOWERING PLANTS OF THE LOW DESERT
 March 27 FLOWERING PLANTS OF HIGHER ELEVATIONS

The cost for each is \$45, \$35 for ABF members.

Now's the time, place, and opportunity to enjoy the wonderful flower season in ABDSP!

Photo by **Deborah Knapp**, as copied from *Desert Update* No. 65, Winter 2010. published by the Anza-Borrego Foundation. Visit www.theabf.org.



BEAUTY MOUNTAIN WILDERNESS

Rep. Darrell Issa (R-Vista) has now introduced HR 4304, legislation to add to the existing Agua Tibia Wilderness and Beauty Mountain Wilderness on public lands in northern San Diego County. Beauty Mountain is "an ecological transition zone between Anza-Borrego Desert State Park on the east and the endangered coastal sage scrub habitat, the Coast Range, on the west." It is home to scrub oaks right next to cactuses. The following genera are examples of what can be found in the area.



Spiny Barrel Cactus
Ferocactus cylindraceus



Prickly-pear and Beavertail Cactus
Opuntia engelmannii and *basilaris*



Corkseed Fish-hook Cactus
Mammillaria tetrancistra

In addition, this wilderness provides a critical bridge for migrating wildlife. The official title is "Beauty Mountain and Agua Tibia Wilderness Act of 2009." To get the whole story, point your browser to <http://wilderness.org/content/pr-wilderness-20091215>. Again, this area serves as a critical plant and wildlife migration corridor between Anza-Borrego Desert State Park on the east and the coastal mountains of Riverside and San Diego counties to the west. All too often such biological pathways are severed by development, especially in southern California.

His bill, HR 4304, was introduced on December 15, 2009. I encourage all constituents of Rep. Issa to write an email thanking him for introducing this bill to protect these outstanding wild places. You can contact him on the internet by logging on to his website: <http://issa.house.gov/> You may also use snail-mail addressed to: The Honorable Darrell Issa, 1800 Thibodo Road, #310, Vista, CA 92081, or phone Washington DC: 202-225-3906; Vista: 760-599-5000. If you are not in Rep. Issa's district, please ask your Representative to cosponsor and vote for passage of this bill.

Your humble conservation co-chair,
 Herb Stern



UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb 13: SDCSS Winter Show and Sale

Mar 20: "The Incredible Staging Workshop, Plant and Potters Sale" featuring staging exhibitions by Larry Grammer and John Luhnaw. The Caro Desert Nursery, 9607 East Avenue S12, Littlerock, CA 93543. 661-456-0787. Visit www.CaroDesert.com.

Mar 27&28: Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Display and Sale, Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA. For info. call 818-367-0864

Apr 10&11: South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale at the South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes, CA. For info. call 310-832-2262

Apr 17&18: Green Scene Plant Sale at the Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton, CA 92831

May 1&2: Sunset Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale at Veterans Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA. For info. call 310-822-1783

May 2: South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale, 9am to 4pm, at South Coast Botanical Gardens. For info. call 310-833-6823

May 15: Gates Cactus and Succulent Society 30th Show and Sale, 9 to 4, Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive, Glen Avon, CA. For info. call 909-360-8802

May 16: Huntington Plant Sale, 10 to 5, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. For info. call 626-405-2160

May 16: Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia, CA. For info. call 310-670-8148

May 22&23: Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Annual Show and Sale, 10-4, Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, CA. For info. call 805-237-2054, www.centralcoastcactus.org

June 5&6: SDCSS Summer Show and Sale

June 25-27: CSSA Annual Show and Sale, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. For info call 626-405-2160 or 2277. Plants sales June 25-27, show is 26-27. Free to the public.

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

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Mark Fryer (ex-President)	(619) 795-1020	kaktussy@cox.net

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 (619) 460-9111 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: Rudy Lime & Susie White

Picnic Regalement: Laura & Tom DeMerritt

Hospitality: Sara Schell

Liaison

Balboa Park Desert Garden: Susan Hopkins

CSSA Affiliate Rep: Peter Walkowiak

Quail Botanical Gardens: Phyllis Flechsig

SD Botanical Garden Foundation: George Plaisted

SD Floral Association: Jeanette Dutton

SD Wild Animal Park Baja & Old World Gardens: Chris Miller

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