

Espinas y Flores

BULLETIN OF THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Affiliate of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Inc.

Volume XXIV, Number 4

April 8, 1989

APRIL MEETING

Saturday, April 8, 1989

1:30 P.M.

Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park

PROGRAM

CACTI OF THE HIGH MOUNTAINS WEST
with Sean Hogan

Sean Hogan has lived in Portland, Oregon, Sacramento, Christmas Valley, or in the desert east of Bend. Education includes training in biological sciences, taxonomy, plant distribution, and horticulture. He has done some contract work for various environmental agencies.

He is now working on a monograph of the genus *Lewisia* and doing other work on the genera *Pediocactus* and *Sclerocactus*.

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** Articles for the paper MUST be in by APRIL 26- This is early, but we are going out of town for a few days and I need to get it into the printers before we go. Thanks, Mary

NEWS NEWS NEWS

MARCH BRAGGING PLANT WINNERS...

- 1st PLACE --- Wayne Zaranka for his WEINGARTIA PULQUENSIS
- 2nd PLACE --- Lee Phelps for his PELARGONIUM INCRASSATUM
- 3rd PLACE --- a tie for 3rd place between Teresita Lime for her OPERCULICARIA DECARYI and Dorothy Dunn for her HAWORTHIA PARKINSONIA



WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bart Keeran - San Diego | Robert Hammond - San Diego |
| Joel Moskowitz Family - San Diego | Stan Fink - San Diego |
| Camille Rutkowski - Alhambra | |

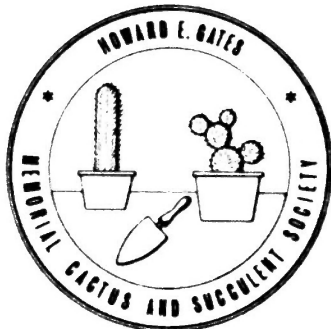
Those who have volunteered to bring refreshments for April:

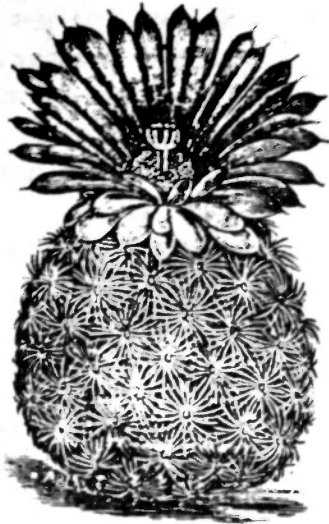
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|-----------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Tom DeMerritt | Robyn Natwick | Virginia Natwick |
| David and Grace Cheng | Susan Barker | |

It's a very short list, so we will need any help - Thanks

GATES CACTUS & SUCCULENT SHOW

Date of Show & Plant Sale: May 27-28, 1989
 City: Redlands
 Location: San Bernardijo Co8nty Museum
 Address: 2024 Orange Tree Lane
 Hours: 1:00-5:00 P.M. both days
 Admission: Free
 For More information: Leo Pickoff 714-686-8035

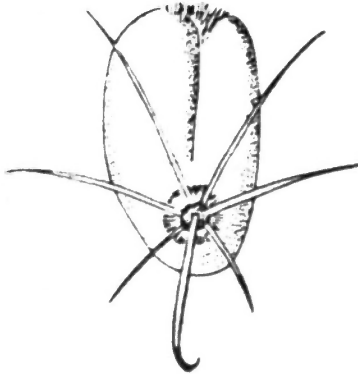




Coryphantha(Engel.) Lemaire, 1868

by Joe Clements

With the discovery of new species of cacti in the mid 1800's myriads of different forms brought about new name changes. Engelmann proposed two sections of the genus Mammillaria. He proposed section Coryphantha(top-flower) which he characterized as having grooved tubercles, green fruits and yellow brown seeds, and the section Eumammillaria with grooveless tubercles, scarlet fruits and black seeds. In 1868 Lemaire elevated the section Coryphantha to a separate genus. This stood until Britton and Rose divided the old genus Coryphantha into Coryphantha, Escobaria, Neobesseya and others. The genus Mammillaria became Dolichothele and Neomammillaria.



Today these names are being challenged again by botanist like Anderson, Boke, Benson, Hunt, Zimmerman and others. New combinations seem to occur almost daily. One thing that most botanist agree on is that Coryphanthas are Monomorphic, that is they have:

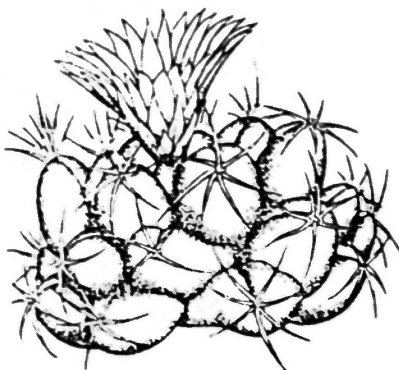
1. Grooved tubercules.
2. Single meristem at tubercule.
3. Vegetative structures at summit of tubercule.
 - a. Leaf structures.
 - b. Spines.
 - c. Flowers.

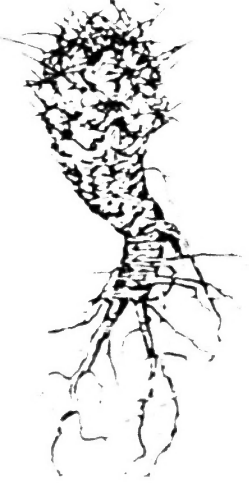


Coryphanthas included 30-40 species occurring from Southern Alberta, Canada to Central Mexico with the majority being found in Mexico.

Some Interesting Species:

Coryphantha elephantidens: Chubby plants with dark green bodies and white wool in the axils of the tubercules make this group of Coryphanthas attractive candidates for the show table. Flowers appear from a furrow at the top of the tubercules, and are carmine with dark stripes. *C.bumamma* and *C.retusa* are similar species but with yellow flowers. They are easy to grow but watch out for those mealy-bugs with all that wool.





Coryphantha minima Baird: Thick matted spines give this small cactus an overall pinkish appearance. Usually solitary in habit but in cultivation it may be clumping. Habitat is the desert grasslands near Marathon, Texas where it is found growing with another endangered species, *Echinocereus davisii*. It is encouraging to see our local growers propagating this plant by the thousands

Coryphantha macromeris (Engel.) Orcutt: This larged tuberculed cactus may be as heavily spined as variety *C. m. macromeris* or as few as *C. m. runyonii*. Plant bodies are usually gray-green and bear large pink flowers. Distrubution is New Mexico thru Texas to as far south as Zacatecas, Mexico. Grows well in cultivation if given enough heat and sunlight. Remember to pot these plants in deep pots as they have long tap roots.



Coryphantha vivapara (Nuttall) Britton & Rose: The largest group of *Coryphanthas* includes 7 varieties and has a geographical range of the Western United States, Canada and Mexico. Plants may be solitary or in clumps with two-hundred or more heads. Two separate varieties occur within California. *C. v. desertii* and the endangered *C. v. alversonii*. Both of these are very difficult in cultivation.



Coryphantha sneedii-leei: Originally included within the genus *Escobaria* today most author place them within *Coryphantha*. Cluster of small radiating spines and their small clumping habit make *C. sneedii* and *C. leeii* well worth having. These cacti are found in Eastern New Mexico and Texas. Needlessly collectors have nearly wipe out populations of these plants in the wild.



Coryphantha missouriensis: Since Sweet named this cactus in 1827 many names have been batted around for it. There might even have been more hits with the names than hits for the "Padres"! It has had species changes *C. (similans, nuttallii, notesteinii)* and genus changes (*Mammillaria, Neobesseya, Coryphantha*) ad *nauseum*. *C. missouriensis* produce small irregular clumps of spherical stems. Flowers have sharp and pointed petals or greenish-yellow with brownish tints. Range is the Plains States of the United States and growing in areas not typical of cacti.

References Cited:

- Anderson, Edward 1986. A Revision of the Genus Neollydia.
Bradleya. P.1-28.
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P.102-109.
- Britton & Rose 1919-1923. The Cactaceae. Carnegie Inst. Wash. Pub.
P.248.
- Benson, Lyman 1982. Cacti of the United States and Canada.
Sanford Univ. Press.
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Boundary Survey. P.1-78.
- Weinigar, Del 1970. Cacti of the Southwest. Univ. of Texas Press.



Pachypodium lealii in flower in Angola

PACHYPODIUMS I HAVE KNOWN

Leroy N. Phelps, Ph.D.

I saw my first Pachypodium nearly twenty years ago, and it was love at first sight! It was a P. succulentum that had been collected, and it had a huge tuberous base. Then I saw several other species, and I liked (and wanted) all of them. By scrimping and saving, I was able to slowly purchase small plants of many of them.

My first love now (and has been since I saw my first one) is the natural bonsai, P. brevicaule. Although this plant is considered very difficult to cultivate, I have had little problem with it. As with all the other members of this genus, I have it somewhat underpotted in very fast draining soil--three-fourths pumice and one-fourth potting soil. I grow all plants in half to full sun and water at least once a week year-round. The trunk of this species is rarely over two inches tall, it can get very large in diameter (over one foot in nature). Branches are almost non-existent. This plant is nearly spineless, also. It is briefly deciduous in our winters, and the relatively large yellow flowers appear in early spring nearly every year. My plants are very slow growing, so don't expect to get a large one quickly. My seedlings were purchased when about one inch in diameter, and the 15 year old one is now about 5 inches in diameter.

The fastest growing pachypodium I have is in P. lemairei. One seedling I put in the ground is now nearly five feet tall at 3 years of age! I don't know when it will have its first flowers, but I expect about 10 years of age. P. geayi is almost as fast, and I expect it to flower at about the same age. Both of these species will get 10 to 15 feet tall and both have white flowers in large clusters.

My second most favorite species is P. namaquanum. My oldest plants were grown from seeds I was given in 1982. The ones in pots are less than a foot tall, but began flowering at five years of age. This species is a tall-growing one in nature. They have beautiful fat trunks with very heavy spines and wavy leaves. It is a charmer! The one seedling I put in the ground is growing much more slowly. Why?

As mentioned previously, P. succulentum is a tuberous species with non-succulent branches which need frequent trimming for best appearance. In nature the tuber usually grows underground, but in cultivation looks well above ground. The tuber grows much faster if left underground for a few years before raising it for display. This species flowers on new growth in spring with deep pink or red flowers about one inch in diameter. Another species, P. griguense (formerly a variety of the above species) has very small white flowers in large clusters.

Another species which looks nearly identical to the previous two species, at least when not in flower, is P. bispinosum. This species has tubular flowers very different from the previous species.

Two more species which are natural bonsai are P. densiflorum and P. horombense. These two are look-alikes in vegetative growth--short, heavily caudexed trunks and thick spines--but they have different flowers, although both are yellow. Both of these species are really beautiful whether they are in or out of flower. P. rosulatum is similar to these species, also, but it has much finer spines and a still different flower.

The most difficult plant I have grown is P. baroni var. windsori. It tends to look quite ugly during the winter with die-back of the branch tips. It has very leathery leaves which hang on to the plant after they die in the fall--I pinch the dead leaves off, which may be the cause of the die-back! This, to my knowledge, is the only true red flower in the genus. This species does form a very large caudex in nature, but my seedling has been reluctant to do its thing.

Another fine species is P. saundersii (or P. lealii var. saundersii), a short, heavily caudexed plant which is very fast growing. This is the only fall-flowering species I know, and it does flower very heavily with rather large clusters of white flowers. I do trim this species to keep the branches in proportion to the trunk. P. lealii is very tall growing, and I have heard it flowers in the spring.

The last species I have is the only one grown from a cutting! This is P. rutenbergianum, a very tall-growing plant in nature. Mine is a true dwarf, and flowered when it was about 15 inches tall. This plant was rooted by a friend--I have been completely unsuccessful in rooting any species! I do know that plants of several species have been re-rooted by other people, but not by me!

I have raised seedlings of several species, and for me they are rather easy, and it is very satisfying to watch them grow. I'm always interested to getting seeds of the rarer species, and some day I may even get a seed of the rarest of all the pachypodiums, P. decaryi, a tuberous, white-flowering species!

For more information on this marvelous genus, check the Caudiciform book by Gordon Rowley, or the article by Werner Rauh in the Cactus and Succulent Journal, volume 44, page 7. Other issues of the Journal have articles on the genus or individual species. Also, most of the succulent books will have some species illustrated.

3/19/89

DENVER CONVENTION AIR FARE DISCOUNT

After several requests for information for the special discount in airfare for the CSSA Convention, the Convention Com. is providing this information directly to E y F.

United Airlines is offering our Society a 40% discount off unrestricted coach fares or a 5% discount off the lowest applicable fares including first class. This special offer, available only to attendees of this meeting, applies to travel on domestic segments of all United Airlines and United Express flights. These fares are available through United's Meeting Plus Desk, with all fare rules applying in the U.S. and Canada. These discount fares are good from June 8th to June 20th.

United Meeting Plus Specialists are on duty 7 days a week, 8 AM to 11 PM Eastern Standard and Eastern Daylight time, ie, 5 AM to 8 PM Pacific Time to make your reservations. Call today, as seats may be limited. Please refer to Account No. 420 NH.

The number to call in the U.S. and Canada is 1-800-521-4041. You will also qualify for discount rates on Hertz rental cars.

Mileage Plus members receive full credit for all miles flown. Tickets will be mailed by United or you can pick them up at your local travel agency or a United Airlines ticket office.

We're sorry but these discounts DO NOT APPLY to international flights, except Canada.

The CSSA Convention Committee

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REGISTRATION FORM
1989 C.S.S.A. CONVENTION - DENVER - June 12 - 16

Print your name and society or city as you wish them to appear on your badge, maximum of 3 lines, 15 characters per line.

NAME: _____

Society or City: _____

Spouse's Name:
(if both registering) _____

Home Address: _____

Phone: () _____

Registration

	Number	Cost
*Registration for C.S.S.A. Members	_____ @ \$75.00	_____
Registration for non-members	_____ @ \$100.00	_____
Late Registration: (for all after 4/30/89)	_____ @ \$100.00	_____
(for all after 5/31/89)	_____ @ \$125.00	_____
Daily Registration (\$25.00/day/person)	_____ for _____ days	_____
Field Trips - (Must pre-register by 5/31)		
Wednesday, June 14 (Select one)		
I. Full day / box lunch provided		
A. Denver Botanic Gardens / Roxborough State Park	_____ @ \$ 15.00	_____
B. South Table Mountain / Denver Botanic Gardens	_____ @ \$ 15.00	_____
II. Half day (A.M.) / no lunch		
C. Roxborough State Park	_____ @ \$ 8.00	_____
Social Events		
1. Sunday, June 11, "Ice Breaker", 5-8 pm, Hors d'oeuvres (Cash Bar)	_____ be our guest	_____ 0.00
2. Monday, June 12, Opening Ceremonies		
Registrants	_____ incl. in fee	_____ 0.00
Non-registered guests	_____ @ \$18.00	_____
3. Friday, June 16, Farewell Fun Night	_____ @ \$22.00	_____
	TOTAL \$	_____

Special assistance required? _____

It is necessary to indicate ALL events you plan to attend

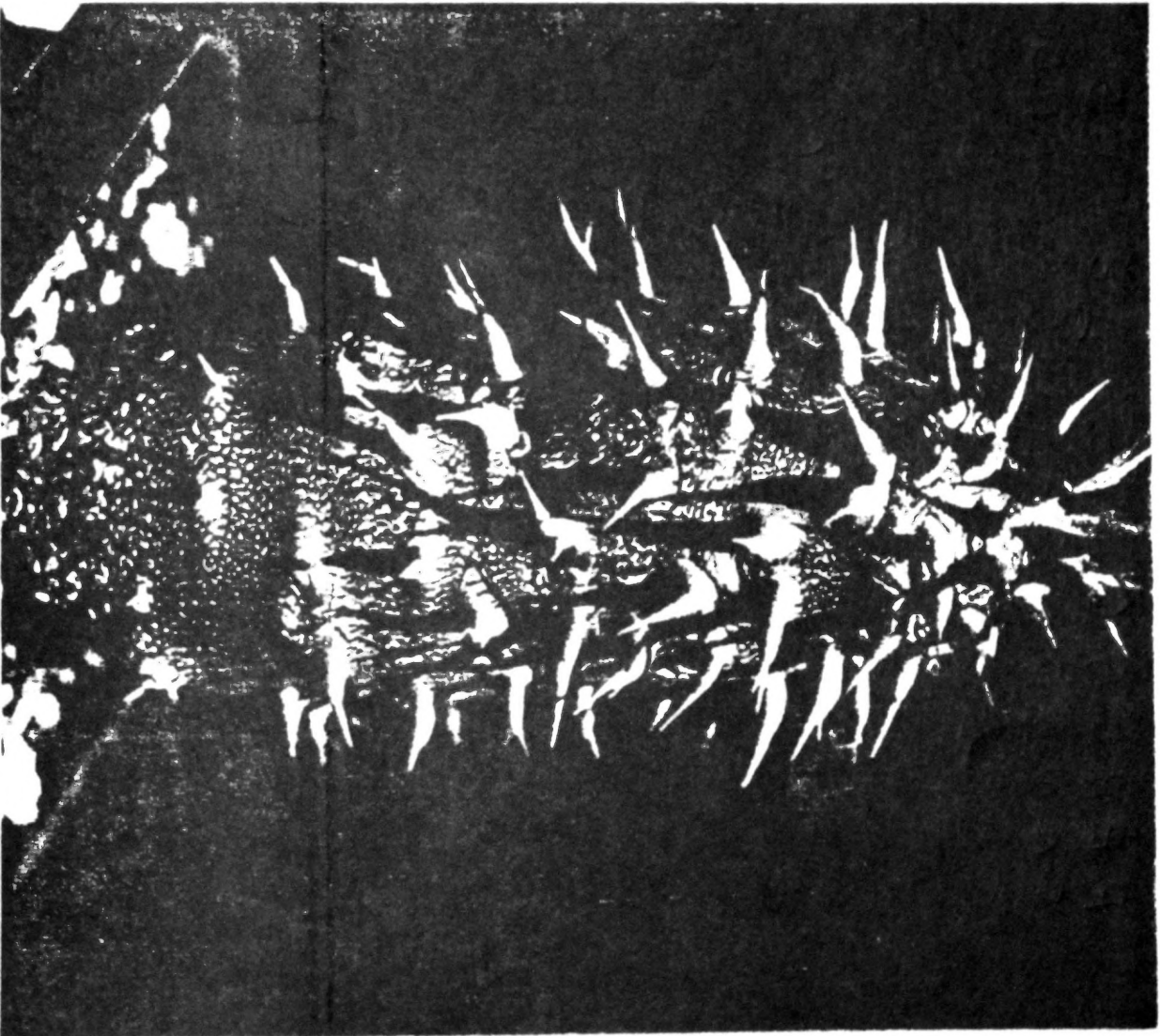
Send form and check to C.S.S.A. Convention, Helen Lindqvist - Registrar
 2384 S. Hoyt St., Lakewood, CO 80227, (303) 989-2378

*To be eligible for the \$75.00 registration fee, you must be a C.S.S.A. active, associate or life member or C.S.S.A. fellow. All others must pay the \$100.00 registration fee. You may become an active member by subscribing to the Cactus & Succulent Journal, \$22.00 annually, and paying the \$6.00 C.S.S.A. membership dues (plus an additional \$1.00 for associate members). Send membership dues to Dorothy Williams, 6240 Wildemar Way, Carmichael, California 95600.

Cancellation Policy:

Registration cancellation fees are necessary to pay for commitments previously made. They are:
 After 4/13/89, \$25.00
 After 5/13/89, \$40.00

Accommodations: Please make room reservations directly with the Executive Tower Inn, 1405 Curtis St., Denver, CO 80202 Tel. 1-800-525-6651.
 Special Convention Rates: single or double occupancy \$50.00
 triple or quad. occupancy \$55.00, (rollaway +\$10).
 These rates also apply 5 days before and 5 days after the convention.



Pachypodium densiflorum from Madagascar

More News -----

BEFORE THE MEETING -----Succulent Bonsai Class and Workshop

Time: 12:00 to 1:00

Last month class....members who brought plants were:

Sara Shepherd, for her *Trichodiadema bulbosum*, made into exposed tuberous roots style and was temporarily wire-trained into a permanent bonsai pot.

Bob Herbst, for his *Ficus palmeri*. This plant had it's roots rearranged to enhance the chosen front and then pruned out excess branches and made it into a three trunk style.

Lee Badger had a multi-trunk *Crassula Gollum* which was divided and made into two bonsai. Both were of the three trunk style.

Succulent bonsai for this month is... *Ficus*. Recommended species suitable for bonsai are, *brandegeei*, *cotinifolia*, *eugenoides*, *goldmannii*, *macrophylla*, *microcarpa*, *nerifolia*, *regularis*, *palmeri* and *petiolares*. My favorite is the *Ficus palmeri* and *petiolares* because they are trainable to many bonsai styles which other plants cannot. Also they are plentiful at local nurseries and from our society member growers, this allows the convenience of easy selection of a good specimen. I will bring several of this plant to show as an example of it's versatility as a bonsai material. One drawback of the *Ficus palmeri* and *petiolares* is it's very large leaves. But this is overcome by constant pruning. This is done by pinching a new emerging branch just above the second or third leaf. The more this is done the tinier the leaves become. Tiny leaves is an important requirement of a bonsai.

Bring a plant....That you think could be made into a bonsai and let me show you several possible bonsai styles for your plant. We will sculpture-prune and wire-train the branches and roots which ever is needed. To finish it, we will repot in an appropriately selected size and shape of bonsai pot.

If you don't bring a plant...come anyway and watch and observe how the different plants are done in the demonstrations. I am sure you will gain some ideas how to aesthetically improve some of your plants and turn some of them into a pleasure to own and show others.

This class continues every month before our regular monthly meetings as long as there are interested attendees.

RUDY LIME

SHOW SCHEDULE FOR APRIL AND MAY

April 1 & 2	Balboa Park African Violet Club 14th Show	Sat:12pm-5:00pm	Sun:10am-4:00pm
April 8 & 9	San Diego Rose Society 62nd Show (Balboa Park Club - Balboa Park)	Sat: 2pm-6:00pm Admission:\$1.50	Sun:10am-5:30pm
April 9	Convair Garden Club 39th Annual Rose Show		Sun: 1pm-4:30pm
April 15 & 16	Ichiyo School of Ikebana, San Diego Chap.	Sat:11am-4:30pm	Sun:10am-4:30pm
April 22 & 23	San Diego Bonsai Club 24th Show	Sat:11am-5:00pm	Sun:11am-5:00pm
April 29 & 30	San Diego-Imperial Co. Iris Soc. 24th Show	Sat:12pm-5:00pm	Sun:11am-4:30pm
May 6 & 7	Balboa Park Bromeliad Study Group Show	Sat:11am-4:30pm	Sun:11am-4:30pm
May 14	San Diego Epiphyllum Society 19th Mother's Day Show		Sun:11am-5:00pm
May 20 & 21	San Diego Geranium Society 17th Show	Sat:12pm-5:00pm	Sun:10am-5:00pm
May 27 & 28	Heartland African Violet Society 8th Show	Sat: 1pm-5:00pm	Sun:11am-5:00pm

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

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Plant Exchange Table - Mmes. Lemrow & Larburg
Plants & Supplies Table - John Pasek
Show - Rick Latimer

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Quail Botanical Garden - Phyllis Flechsig
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S.D. Floral Association - Elizabeth Glover
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Bill Low
Elizabeth Gomes

The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society is open to all persons interested in growing cacti or other succulent and exotic plants. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Board of Directors meetings are held after the general meetings. Annual dues are \$8.00 per single member per year, and \$2.00 for each additional member of a household within the family. Single copies of Espinas y Flores are 60¢.

Editor
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Chula Vista, CA 92011



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