

Espinas y Flores

Newsletter of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society
An affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America



Aztecium valdezii in habitat, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. Photo by Kelly Griffin

August General Meeting

Saturday, August 12th, 1:00 - 4:00pm,
Room 101, Casa del Prado,
Balboa Park

Program:

Treasures of the Sierra Madre, part 2:
San Luis Potosi, Tamaulipas,
and southern Nuevo Leon
By Brian Kemble

Plant of the Month:

Caucidiforms by Tina Zucker

Pre-Meeting Workshop

11:00 am, in the Kitchen
How to Make a Hanging Pot
out of Any Pot
By Don Hunt

New Member Orientation

12:30, by Pat and Jay

(More event details inside)

Coffee in the Garden

at the home of Tina and Joe Zucker

Friday & Saturday

August 18th and 19th, 10:00 - 2:00

Don't miss the beautiful gardens, amazing
specimen plants, and a huge variety of
succulents for sale. Details inside.

Mark your Calendar for these upcoming Club Special Events....

Faux Plants Brag Table - At the General Meeting, October 14th

Club Picnic - Saturday, November 11th, San Diego Botanical Garden

Club Holiday Party - Saturday, December 9th, Balboa Park

More details inside

Executive Board

President:	Chris Miller	Secretary	Mary Reiser
Vice President:	Kelly Griffin	Treasurer	Leslie Sheridan

Directors

Jerry Garner	Antonina Lansangan	Jim Reiser
Brian Shepherd	Sue Thomas	Christine Vargas
Tina Zucker		

Committees & Sub Committees

Conservation:	Herb Stern
Brag table:	Tina Zucker & Denise Griffin
Plants of the Month:	Don Hunt
Summer/Winter Show:	Kelly Griffin, Bill O'Daniel, Tom Knapik
Historian:	Terry Parr
Grants:	Jerry Garner
Library:	Don Hunt
Exchange Plants/Seeds:	Michelle Heckathorn & Sara Schell
Annual sales:	Chris Miller
Auction & Holiday Plants:	Kelly Griffin
Show Auction Manager:	Peter Walkowiak
Monthly Plant Sales:	Jim Deforest & Lynn Elliott
Monthly Supply Sales:	George & Jerry Plaisted
Benefit Drawing Table:	Collette, Kienan, & Terry Parr
Programs:	Kelly Griffin
Reception:	Susan Hopkins & Judy Walkowiak
Monthly Regalement:	Cathy Clark
Picnic Regalement:	<OPEN>

Liaisons

Balboa Park Desert Garden:	Susan Hopkins
CSSA Affiliate Rep:	Rick Bjorkland
SD Botanic Garden:	Phyllis Flechsig
SD Botanic Foundation:	George Plaisted
SD Floral Association:	Jeanette Dutton
SD Zoo Safari Park, Baja & Old World Gardens:	May Fong Ho & Juergen Menzel
Palomar CS Society Liaison:	Brita Miller

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Membership:	Paul & Carol Maker
Newsletter Editor:	Sue Thomas
Webmaster:	Kirsten Higgins
Publicity:	Christine Vargas

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Above: *Notocactus magnificus* grown by Maria Becker
July Brag Table, Advanced Succulent, 3rd Place



Correction: On the Trophy Winners list, line 15, in the July issue of *Espinas y Flores*, the correct name of the winning "best miniature" is *Mammillaria bertholdii* by Juergen Menzel. It was incorrectly named as *Mammillaria fulgida crestate*. The show team apologizes for this error.

Summer Show 2017, Trophy Winners

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President's Message



What a fun meeting we had in July. Great plants, good talks and great friends. Let's have another one next month. Kirsten took us to Ruth Bancroft's Garden and Kelly shared his slides of South Africa, all from the comfort of our chairs. We had great support from all our meeting volunteers, they make it possible for us to make the books, the sales plants, the Benefit Drawing, the Brag Table and the Exchange Table. Our meetings have so much to offer. Be sure to thank them, or better yet join them in supporting our organization.

The Huntington Symposium is September 2nd. As usual we are offering to pay the way of any of our POM speakers and Workshop speakers. Please contact me if you are interested in attending.

July and August weather may not motivate us to go outside, but we do need to clean those plants that bloomed this spring. Clean off the dead blooms on cactus, the dead flowers and leaves off the succulents. Bugs love those places, so give your plants a chance and clean them up. They would probably like a drink too.

Enjoy summer!

~ Chris Miller

August Program

Treasures of the Sierra Madre, Part 2: San Luis Potosí, Tamaulipas, and southern Nuevo Leon

By Brian Kemble



Brian Kemble has returned again and again to Mexico to investigate its amazingly rich flora of succulent plants. This program covers 3 states in northeastern Mexico, an area where the Sierra Madre Oriental is a dominating geographical feature. In a presentation in April 2016,

Brian showed photos of the same mountain range farther south, in the states of Hidalgo, Queretaro and Guanajuato, so this might be considered a northward extension of the area covered in that talk. Plants encountered include Agaves, many different kinds of cacti, Echeverias, Hechtias and Dasylirions.

In addition to being VP of the San Francisco Succulent & Cactus Society and a board member of the CSSA, Brian is the Curator at the Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek.

If you have not visited this Bay Area treasure house of succulents, you might do so next time you are in the San Francisco area. The garden is open to the public every day of the week except Monday. Learn more at the website (<http://www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/>). If you go to the website and scroll down to the bottom, you will find the Plant Highlight of the month, written by Brian. At the end of the highlight is a place where you can click to open the Plant Highlight archives, featuring photos & write-ups going back to 2003. Brian also periodically posts photos of the garden's plants on Tumblr; to see these, go to: <http://ruthbancroftgarden.tumblr.com/>



Photos: Top left - *Agave nickelsiae*, by Kelly Griffin. Bottom left - *Mammillaria erythrosperma*, and right *Agave montana*, by Brian Kemble

Plant of the Month: Caudiciforms

by Tina Zucker

A caudiciform is a plant with a swollen, water-storing stem or root/stem combination called a caudex. A caudex is a type of thickened stem that is either underground or near ground level. It may be swollen for the purpose of water storage, especially in xerophytes.



Caudiciforms are an unscientific collection, crossing divisions, orders and families. There are over 100 genera of plants that have species that can at least loosely be described as caudiciforms.

The swollen root or stem is used for water or food storage, allowing the plant long periods of survival without water or other forms of nutrition. Not all caudiciforms fit easily into the category of cactus and succulents, but most do.



Tina Zucker grows and sells many beautiful species of caudiciform plants including those pictured. She will share her expertise and a few of her favorite plants at the August meeting.

Tina and her husband Joe will also be hosting a Coffee in the Garden event at their home in Solana Beach on August 18th and 19th. See details on the right.

Photos (From top): *Trichodiadema bulbosum*, *pseudobombax elipticum*, *Uncarina peltata*

Coffee in the Garden At the Zuckers'

Please Visit our
Home Garden & Nursery

Friday August 18th 10am - 1pm
Saturday August 19th 10am - 1pm



Thousands of plants to see
& choose from

Walk through our garden
Get Ideas for yours

552 Seabright Lane, Solana Beach
(858) 342 9781

For an Advanced Preview

Please visit our website

www.succulents.us

August General Meeting - Pre-Meeting Workshop How to Make a Hanging Pot out of Any Pot By Don Hunt



There's lots of reasons to use a hanging pot. Many of us have most of our shelves full. One does not quit buying plants simply because there is no place to put them, after all. Sometimes, you can find a shadier or sunnier place that someone will just love. My main attraction is that they are harder for the mealie bugs to get to. This is a very big deal with some plants, especially stapeliads, in my experience.

I make some very nice hanging pots (if I do say so, myself), so I've developed some pretty good ways to hang not just the ones I make, but some not so typical hanging pots, like bonsai pots. I'll bring my tools, tricks, supplies and a couple of pots. If you bring a pot, I'll try to hang it for you, time and materials permitting. Don will present this workshop at 11:00 am, in the kitchen, room, 101, prior to the General Meeting on August 12th

Meet a Member by Denise Huntsman-Griffin

Sue Thomas Always Wants to Try Something New!



Sue Thomas pleasantly surprised us when she volunteered to take on the job of Newsletter Editor for the SDCSS. It's not that we were surprised that she specifically volunteered, but that anyone would. It's a difficult job and she has done it well with grace and ease for almost 2 years. She does a fine job collecting information and putting it all together in an organized and eye pleasing way. Her communication style is clear and easy, and we appreciate when she reminds us of deadlines. Lucky for us, she wanted to try something new!

Almost a native San Diegan, Sue came here from Wisconsin when she was an infant. She says, "Being the impatient person that I am, I was never a good student. I did receive good grades but the thought of sitting in a classroom for 4-5 more years after high school was not appealing to me." She planned to get a 4-year college degree and become a graphic artist but changed her mind and decided to get an AA degree in Travel Services to become a flight attendant. Sue had enough credits to graduate from college but left school early because she wanted to go to Hawaii with her friends! She said she couldn't sit still! When she returned from her trip, she went back to her banking job. Though she didn't return to finish her degree, she found success in the banking and finance fields. When her sons were born, she "retired" so she could stay home with them full time. Her sons are now in their mid-teens.

Since Sue was very young, she's been involved in volunteer work. Some examples are: Training unemployed and uneducated adults prepare for interviews at an urban adult center; designing and managing a whole campus garden program at an elementary school; helping to find homes for pets that were difficult to adopt due to their handicaps or appearance; and working with the San Diego National Sports Training Foundation in planning, fundraising and coordinating community outreach for the new Olympic Training Center- She even carried the United Nations flag at their opening ceremony! She has done other types of volunteering such as beach cleanup, tutoring, and doing chores for the elderly. Sue has also serves on community boards including the Engineering and Computer Science Academy at Patrick Henry High School where she is also Fundraising Chair and Communications Coordinator. She also initiated a protest in her community against a large corporation, raising close to \$100,000 from residents in support of the cause. Sue joined the SDCSS over 10 years ago only to attend our winter and summer show and sales. As her boys got older and more independent, she became more active in the club and is not only our Newsletter Editor but is also one of our Directors on our board.



She has a variety of plants in her collection that she grows well. She has many Aloes, Aeoniums, Agaves, Cactus, Mesembs and Crassulas. Her current obsession she says are cactus with strange or long spines. At the holiday party auction last year, she won an *Opuntia sulphurea* with spines over 8 inches long that she adores. Before the spine obsession it was columnar Crassulas like *C. columella* and *C. columnaris*. Before that she fell in love with mesembs, these being the first plants she grew from seed. The editor of a magazine in Spain saw her garden photos online and contacted her to feature her garden in one of their issues. The catch she says was that she had to write the article! ([Link to article](#))

Other activities she has been involved in include managing investments and rental properties for her and her husband and for other people. She has also helped people with settling their estates. She plans to finish her college credits, get her degree and return to the workforce. She wants to become a certified Professional Public Fiduciary to assist people in settling their wills and trusts. Besides her career interests and volunteer work, she loves art and has been drawing and painting her whole life. She says she draws what she sees, and often draws people. She recently drew a Vietnamese Hmong girl. Her current painting is of an *Echeveria agavoides* that is 4 feet by 3 feet in size. Sue says she doesn't display her work. She also doesn't publish her writing either. Yes, she writes too and is working on a novel!



Both of Sue's sons have some interest in plants and you may have seen them at some of our meetings. They have many other interests and hobbies (sound like their mother)? Her husband is not interested in plants but is very patient with her growing plant collection. They also own a house on the Colorado River and she says it's challenging for her to learn how to grow Cactus/Succulents in extreme heat with no irrigation. In staying with her theme of always wanting to try something new, she's thinking of hybridizing! We certainly, as a club, have benefited from Sue's creativity and willingness to try anything once! Thank you, Sue!

News from the Safari Park's Gardens

If you're considering a visit to the Safari Park, please know that the World Gardens, including the Old World Garden (OWG) and the Baja Garden, are closed to the public and will remain closed until the end of the summer. The Walkabout Australia project has broken ground and is causing quick changes around the Park. The volunteers that work in the OWG and the Baja Garden will continue to maintain the gardens during the summer so that they will be attractive to visitors when the area reopens this fall.

As always, if you have plants to donate or if you are interested in becoming a volunteer at the garden, please contact May Fong Ho at 760-233-3948 or mayfongho@yahoo.com. (The following photos were taken around the Old World Garden by Susan LaFreniere. Used by permission of the San Diego Zoo Safari Park)



Alluadia procera in bloom



34th Annual Succulent Plant Symposium The Huntington Botanical Gardens September 2, 2017

Each year the **Cactus and Succulent Society of America** holds a **Succulent Symposium** at The Huntington Botanical Garden. This year it is on Saturday, September 2nd, from 8:30am – 5:00pm.

Speakers this year will be:

- ◆ Mark Dimmitt, eremophytoeugenecist, Tucson, AZ – *Five-Star Botanizing in South Africa: You don't have to camp in the hinterlands to see the great plants!*
- ◆ James D. Mauseth, University of Texas, Austin – *Some unexpected consequences of becoming adapted to desert conditions*
- ◆ Cody Coyote Howard, Florida Museum of Natural History, Gainesville – *Bulbous monocots: their evolution into horticultural gems*
- ◆ Greg Krehel, echinopsisfreak.com, Ponte Vedra Beach Florida – *Freaky flowers: the stunning beauty of Echinopsis flowers captured via time lapse photography*
- ◆ Sula Vanderplank, CICESE and San Diego Natural History Museum – *Rooted in the Islands: Documenting changes in the perennial flora of the archipelago of Bahia de Los Angeles, Mexico*
- ◆ Gary D. Roberson, Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino, California – *Relocation of the Loran Whitelock Cycad Collection*

In addition to the speaking agenda, there will be a continental breakfast, silent auction, lunch, and succulent sales in their nursery. You don't want to miss this fun and worthwhile event!

Registration is \$85.00. Pre-registration is required. Payment must be received by August 29th. If you are a current SDCSS member and have done a Plant of the Month or Pre-Meeting Workshop presentation during the past 12 months, the Club will reimburse you for your registration fee.

Click the link below for a printable registration form
For those who receive the newsletter in print form, please go to www.sdcss.net for a form.

[Reg Form Link](#)

July Brag Table Winners

Tallied by Denise Huntsman-Griffin

Photos by Tina Zucker

CACTUS

Novice: No entries

Intermediate:

1st Place: Bev Grant- *Oputia* "Snow" (1)

2nd Place: Julia Chimento- *Chamaelobivia* "Rose Quartz" (2)

3rd Place: Chuck Ramey- *Ferocactus hamatacanthus* (3)

Advanced:

1st Place: Mark Fryer- *Ariocarpus retusus* v. *confusus* (4)

2nd Place: Jurgen Menzel- *Puna bonnieae* (5)

3rd Place: Maria Becker- *Notocactus magnificus* (6) (See pg 2)

SUCCULENTS

Novice:

1st Place: Antonina Lansangan- *Hawarthia pumila* 'Donut' (7)

2nd Place: Antonina Lansangan- *Gasteria armstrongii* (8)

Intermediate:

1st Place: Bev Grant- *Echeveria* 'Blue Jay' (9)

2nd Place: Pam Badger- *Monsonia multifida* (10)

3rd Place: Bev Grant- *Operculicarya decaryi* (11)

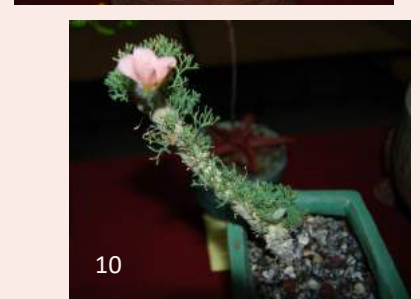
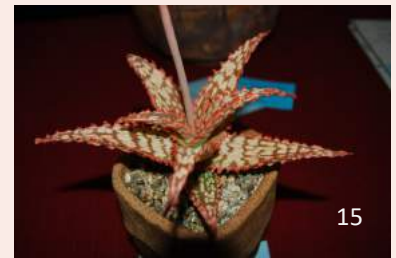
3rd Place: Alison Baldwin- *Aloe* 'Oik' (12)

Advanced:

1st Place: Mark Fryer- *Adenia venenata* (13)

2nd Place: Peter Walkowiak- *Pachypodium horombense* (14)

3rd Place: Kelly Griffin- *Aloe* hybrid (15)



October Faux Brag Table

It's not too early to start imagining your Faux Cactus or Succulent Plant design for the Faux Plant Brag Table at the October general meeting

This is your chance to get creative and make a fake plant out of anything but real plant material. Some examples are pipe cleaners, Legos, balloons, paper, etc..

Use your imagination and have fun with it.

More details to come in the September issue of Espinas y Flores

CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 26-31	CSSA CONVENTION, TEMPE, AZ.
AUG. 12-13	32ND ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW AND SALE AT THE LA COUNTY ARBORETUM, 9am-5pm daily. 301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA. INFO. CALL TOM GLAVICH 626-798-2430 or ARTIE CHAVEZ 818-482-8795
SEPT. 2	HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM, ALL DAY AT THE HUNTINGTON 626-405-3504
SEPT. 24	LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL PLANT AUCTION -12-5PM, RANCHO LOS ALAMITOS, 6400 BIXBY HILL ROAD, LONG BEACH, CA 90615, INFO. 562-631-5876.
Oct. 7-8	BAKERSFIELD CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE SAT. 10-5---SUN. 11-3 ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, 2216 17th STREET, BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304 FREE ADDMISSION & PARKING, INFO 661-8318488
OCT. 28-29*	PALOMAR SHOW AND SALE SAT 9-5, SUN 10-4, SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDENS, 230 QUAIL GARDENS ROAD, EN CINITAS, CA, INFO: BritaMiller1@gmail.com 858-776-7216.
NOV. 4-5	SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 9am-4pm BOTH DAYS, SHOW AND SALE -LA COUNTY ARBORETUM 310 NO. BALDWIN, ARCADIA, CA MANNY RIVERA 626-780-6957 or JOHN MATTHEWS 661-714-10
NOV 11	SDCSS Members: Due to the unavailability of our normal meeting venue, the club Summer Picnic will be held in November instead of September, at the San Diego Botanic Garden in Encinitas
DEC 9	SDCSS HOLIDAY PARTY



Refreshing the Refreshments

First, to those who have brought refreshments to share at our monthly club meetings, thank you! Based on how quickly a line forms at break, it's a popular part of our day and your efforts are very much appreciated

To those who have enjoyed the bounty but haven't contributed recently, please bring an appetizer or snack to the August meeting. Let's see if we can fill the Snack Table with a good variety of delectables!

SDCSS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

The newsletter, *Espinaz y Flores*, is e-mailed to each member household each month. Annual dues (e-mailed newsletter) are \$15.00 per year per individual, and \$5.00 per year for each additional household member. **First class delivery of a paper copy of the newsletter is available for an additional \$10.00 within USA or \$25 for international delivery**, to cover the cost of printing and postage. Each member has all the rights and benefits of the organization.

Annual Dues (E-mailed newsletter): \$15.00 _____
 USA Delivery of Printed Copy (optional) \$10.00 _____
 International Delivery (optional) \$25.00 _____
 Additional Household Member(s) each: \$ 5.00 _____
 Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Member Information: (Please PRINT to fill in ALL blanks below!)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City and State: _____ Zip + 4: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ Cell/FAX: (_____) _____

Email 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 in US Funds, payable to SDCSS to:

SDCSS Membership Dept, c/o Paul Maker