

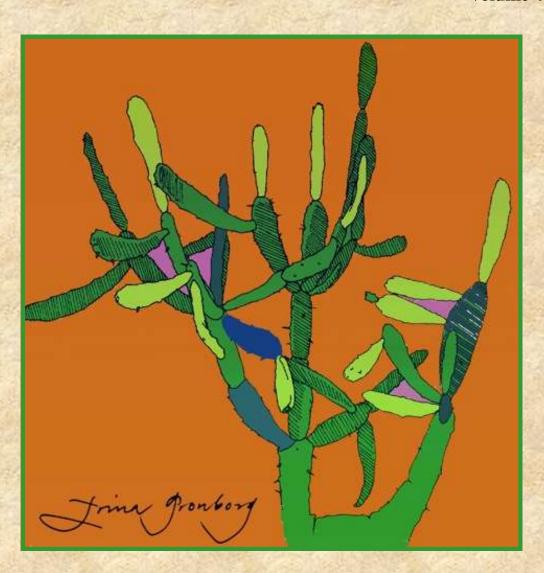
Espinas y Flores

The Newsletter of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society

Affiliated with the Cactus and Succulent Society of America

Volume 47 Number 7

August 2012



AUGUST MEETING AGENDA

Program: Erik Gronborg "Prickly Pears - Botany and History"

Book Review: Don Hunt "Teratopia"

Plant of the Month: Kienan Parr and Terry Parr

"Echeveria Hybrids -A Journey Into Color and Form"

Mini Workshop: Chris Miller "How To Transplant a Cactus"

Open Mic Slide Show: Don Hunt Slides from Members

Saturday, August 11, 2012, 1pm to 4pm Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE 31 July 2012



Happy Summer! July thunder clouds are alive and well in Santee. Weird weather for sure.

We had a great meeting in July. It is always great to see our friends after the long break between the annual show and the July meeting. The usual host of characters was there. The sales team doing a great job of moving customers through the line, our library team checking in and out books, the **Parr's** working the benefit drawing table, our greeters greeting, our exchange table exchanging and **Cathy Clark** working those treats and coffee. It takes a village to run a meeting and I am so grateful for all you do to make this a smooth functioning fun meeting. We also had a nice group of vendors offering their pots and plants. We can't fund this organization without their involvement.

Peter Walkowiak started us off with a Soil and Fertilizer Workshop that he promises to do again for those that missed it. Don Hunt attempted a member slide show. He got most of the way through it before the projector got tired. The Club is purchasing a new projector this month so that won't be a problem in the future. Bring you pictures to Don at the library table. We want to make this a regular part of our meetings. If you have a cool plant in bloom in the ground, a neat plant in general that is too big to bring in, or whatever rings your bells, bring in an electronic picture so you can share it.

Our speaker for the meeting was **Tom Knapik** and he spoke on "Geometric Geophytes." It was a very enjoyable presentation. **Bev Grant** did a great job introducing **Tom** with praise and gusto and we were not disappointed.

Our Coffee in the Garden in July was at **Tom** and **Laura DeMerritt's**. They have a mature landscape with some very mature and interesting plants. We enjoyed their hospitality and the plants. The next Coffee in the Garden will be at **Bev Grant** and **Art Cooley's** home. They have a newer garden and a nice collection of plants. Since it will be along the coast it should be a very nice visit. (See the announcement on pg. 6.)

Our Picnic Meeting will be on September 8th at Admiral Baker Field off Friar's Road in San Diego. (See the following announcement.)

The Huntington's Succulent Symposium is coming up September 1st. We will share details as soon as they are available. Anyone who gives a Plant of the Month or Workshop in 2012 is eligible to go with SDCSS

paying the entrance fee. (See the full announcement on pg. 7.)

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.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all at the August meeting. Stay cool.

Chris Miller

The SDCSS Annual Picnic

Where: Admiral Baker Field Recreation Area.

View using Google or at http://www.militarycampgrounds.

When: September 8, 2012.

Time: Volunteers will start prep work at 9. Lunch will be ready around noon.

Bring: Side dishes, deserts, finger food. The Club will provide hot dogs,

hamburgers, veggie burgers and drinks.

RSVP: Sign up at the Greeters Table, or send **Chris Miller** an E-mail at mailto:c.miller@cox.net, or call her at 619-258-9810 to let her know if you are coming and what you are bringing. We need to have a general idea of numbers so we can buy enough meat, etc.

There are plenty of tables in the picnic area and lots of lawn around it for us to gather. The picnic is a great way to get to know each other better and catch up with old friends.

The board decided to keep things easy for this picnic so we will not be having a silent auction.

Directions: Admiral Baker is located one-half mile east of Interstate 15 at the intersection of Friars Road and Santo Road. You can get there from Interstate 8 or 15.

>From Interstate 8 - Exit to the north on Mission Gorge Road. Take Mission Gorge Road to Friars Road and turn Left. Continue on to Santo Road and turn right. Make an immediate right onto Admiral Baker Road and follow it down the hill. At the bottom of the hill turn right into the Recreation Area parking lot.

>From Interstate 15 - Exit to the east on Friars Road. Follow Friars Road to Santo Road. At Santo Road turn left. Make an immediate right onto Admiral Baker Road and follow it down the hill. At the bottom of the hill turn right into the Recreation Area parking lot.

Program

Erik Gronborg

"Prickly Pears - Botany and History"



For most people who are not part of our cactus loving group, the prickly pear most likely is the only cactus they know.

The Cactaceae family of plants has been divided into three subfamilies, the *Pereskias* with about 20 species in a single genus, the *Opuntias* with 15 genera and 200 species, and all the rest in 100 genera and 1000 species. Various sources had listed the genus *Opuntia* as having anywhere from 250 to 900 species, everything included in one big happy family. A recent article in a San Diego Natural History Museum publication by **Jon Rebman** clarifies the latest status. The former genus *Opuntia* has been divided into 5 genera for the North American plants: *Opuntia*, with flat pads, *Cylindropuntia* (the Chollas), *Grusonia* (the low growing club-chollas), and *Nopalea* and *Consolea*, found only in Florida. In addition there are a number of South American genera among them *Maihuenia*, *Austrocylindropuntia* and *Tephrocactus*.

In this presentation I will show some of the commonly grown and attractive species in the new genus *Opuntia*, with its 200 species ranging from Canada to the southern parts of South America, the widest distribution of any cactus genus.

The prickly pear, the popular name for *Opuntias*, was an important part of life for the indigenous people in America, and if you go to a Mexican market today you will find a number of edible products coming from the prickly pear (see a recipe for Opuntia Soup on pg. 7). The *Opuntia* is even in the national seal of Mexico. The European settlers also loved it - so much that they spread it all over the world. The program will present some of the interesting history of the human contact with the prickly pear.





Photos of and by the author.

Book review Don Hunt

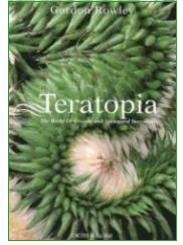
"Teratopia" by Gordon Rowley



I shouldn't doubt that some day an enterprising psychology student, casting about for a doctoral thesis, will stumble upon horticultural societies. It's entertaining to speculate on the parallels that might be drawn between the exhibit and the exhibitionist. Perhaps the most average (normal by contemporary standards) personality would be drawn to the most universally accepted floral standards, of say roses. The plants which are the products of the most genetic manipulation by direct human intervention might draw out the more competitive in the human range. Goodness knows what to say about the masochists that grow things like orchids and such. Which brings me to us. It's pretty well recognized, at least by me, that there is a direct correlation between the kind of people that appreciate reptiles and those that like cactus and succulents. Reptiles are kind of the outlaws of the chordate kingdom. Coldblooded, able to go months between feedings, occasionally venomous, they are not usually thought highly of, even by those that keep them as "pets". Our plants are similar - if it doesn't bite or isn't poison, it's not in my collection. Our plants, even when they have spectacular flowers, frequently evoke, "Oh, you only missed it by one day." Not the average person's drawing card for botanical pleasures.

If I've managed to paint a slightly warped portrait of the people and plants, what can you say about weird plants that are deformed and appreciated as mutants. As **Bill Murray** would say, "There's something

wrong, something terribly wrong." So, all of this is to introduce a book about Mutant Plants from the Outskirts of Weirdness. Actually the title is "Teratopia, The World of Cristate and Variegated Succulents" by Gordon Rowley. The title, Rowley explains, is derived from the word teratology, which is the study of monsters. Well, as they say, when the going gets weird, the weird turn pro. Crested plants, while offering no easily explainable advantage to the plant, seem to turn up with a consistent regularity in the wild. I believe that no universal explanation for this phenomena has been generally accepted, but they absolutely increase the monetary value of the



specimen. While they are interesting from a visual standpoint, many collectors find the natural form more appealing. If you are reading this wondering what the @#\$ I am talking about, you really should stop by the library table at the next club meeting and check out the freak show, I mean the wonders of genetic mutation, that is the abstract sculptures of Cristata.

Variegate means that the plant is lacking a normal pattern of chlorophyll. The patterns this produces seem to me to be generally quite harmonious. It will usually be in some regular pattern or in the best cases a nice balance of color contrast. Without chlorophyll, the plant can be a surprising shade of white, yellow or even red. **Rowley**'s book explains the mutation well, and gives some excellent examples and photos of plants that would be welcome in any collection. This is really a must see book.



Plant of the month Kienan Parr and Terry Parr "Echeveria Hybrids: A Journey into Color and Form"



Approximately 200 species of the genus *Echeveria* have been described from natural habitats in Mexico and South America with a single species occurring in the United States. Characteristics and distribution were summarized by **Walther** (1972), who listed 143 species, and in the monograph by **Pilbeam** (2008) who included color photographs of around 200 species, including several recently discovered, primarily from southern Mexico.

The range of natural diversity in this crassulacean genus is far exceeded by the number of hybrid cultivars which have been developed to produce a remarkable display of colors, and geometry of leaf surfaces, including bumps, ruffles and ridges. Hybrids range from those with small rosettes to massive forms approaching two feet in diameter (e.g., 'Etna'). Colors are equally impressive, including an extensive range of greens, purples, reds, browns and black, some with multicolored patterns. The extensive review of *Echeveria* cultivars by **Schultz & Kapitany** (2005) lists more than 300 named hybrid varieties.

Two of the world's best known *Echeveria* hybridizers are residents of San Diego County. **Dick Wright**, now in his 80s and residing in Fallbrook, is internationally recognized, having produced several popular varieties such as 'Arlie Wright', 'Barbillon', 'Baron Bold', 'Cameo', 'Domingo', 'Lola', 'Mahogany Rose', 'Mauna Loa', 'Paul Bunyon' and 'Ramillete'. Another North County resident, **Renee O'Connell**, has spent much of her career working for **Altman's Nursery**, having developed a number of inter-generic hybrids (Graptoveria = Graptopetalum x Echeve-

ria; Sedeveria = Sedum x Echeveria), in addition to a number of registered Echeveria hybrids such as 'Fantasia', 'Incandesa', 'Labyrinth', and 'Lilac Frost'.

Echeveria cultivars are regularly being produced around the world, as this genus of plants has in the past five years expanded its popularity in the nursery trade, as well as with hobbyists, collectors and online sales. An examination of EBay auctions provides testament to the enthusiasm of collectors and their willingness to pay for rare varieties.

Cultivars that are readily available in the trade, and which are 'user friendly' in terms of care, include many crosses with parent species *E. agavoides*, *E. gibbiflora* and *E. setosa*. Well known varieties include 'Afterglow' (*E. shaviana x E. subrigida*), 'Barbillon' (a **Dick Wright** hybrid), 'Black Knight' (*E. affinis* hybrid), 'Blue Curls' (a **Frank Reinelt** hybrid), 'Doris Taylor' (*E. setosa x E. pulvinata*), 'Etna' (a **Denise Manley** hybrid), 'Decora' (*E. gibbiflora* mutation), 'Glitters' (*E. setosa* parent), 'Imbricata' (*E. glauca x E. gibbiflora*), 'Lola' (*E. derenbergii x E. lilacina*), 'Perle Von Nurnberg' (*E. gibbiflora x E. elegans*), 'Raindrops' (a **Dick Wright** hybrid) and 'Topsy Turvy' (a mutation of *E. runyoni*).

References Cited

Pilbeam, J. 2008. *The Genus Echeveria*. British Cactus & Succulent Society; printed by Castle Color, Norwich, United Kingdom. 333 pp.

Schulz, L, and **A. Kapitany**. 2008. *Echeveria Cultivars*. Schulz Publishing, Teasdale, Australia; printed by Everbest Printing Co., Ltd, China. 208 pp.

Walther, E. 1972. Echeveria California Academy of Sciences. 426 pp.





Blue Curls





Black Knight

Raindrops Photos from Terry Parr

July 2012 Brag Table Winners Judged by Ric Newcomer

CACTUS

Novice

1st - Jennifer Harris – Notocactus cv. 'Silver

2nd - Pat Bryan - Oreocereus trollii

Intermediate

1st - Candy & Jerry Garner – Copiapoa paposoensis

2nd - **Don Hunt** – *Tephrocactus mandragora*

3rd - Susan Lewitt – Gymnocalycium freidrichii

Advanced

1st - Peter Walkowiak – Weingartia neumanniana

2nd - Peter Walkowiak - Escobaria hesteri

3rd - Peter Walkowiak - Echinocereus subinermis v. luteus

SUCCULENTS

Novice

1st - Jennifer Harris - Echeveria gibbiflora hybrid

2nd - Bea Ericksen - Hoodia gordonii-

3rd - Jennifer Harris - Aloe vera hybrid

Intermediate

1st - Candy & Jerry Garner - Euphorbia clavigera

2nd - Candy & Jerry Garner - Aloe pseudoparvula

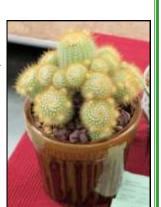
3rd - Kevin Hosmer to Ken Blackford to Bev Grant - Aloe ellenbeckii

Advanced

1st - Peter Walkowiak - Euphorbia decaryi 'Hawaii'

2nd - Peter Walkowiak - Ipomea holubii

3rd - Rudy Lime – Adenium obesum Submitted by Candy Garner









Workshop **Chris Miller** "How To Transplant A Cactus"



Since Peter Walkowiak will be out of town for this meet-

ing I will be doing the workshop. After careful thought I decided we needed to talk about transplanting cactus. While it is an activity that is not for the faint of heart, it is very doable.

I will bring some of my favorite tools and talk about technique. We will also have a couple of demonstrations to amuse you all. You may even learn a new swear word or two (a necessary part of the transplanting process).

See you at 11:30 on the 11th of August in the courtyard.

Editor's note: An informative article on techniques for repotting appears in EyF Vol. 10 No. 11, November 1975, available at www.eyflibrary.com.

2012 Summer Show Trophy winners



Winners receive framed certificates that list the Trophy Name and Category and the names of everyone who has won that trophy. Also on the certificates are a picture of the actual trophy and a picture of the winner's plant. Copies of these certificates can be seen in a display at the Greeters Table. Above, left to right: Peter Walkowiak, Susan Lewitt, Susan Hopkins, Terry Parr, Jean O'Daniel, Paul Maker, Carol Maker, Jerry Garner, Candy Garner, Jennifer Harris, Don Hunt and Rudy Lime. Winners not pictured: Penny Sommerfield, Kienan Parr (certificate accepted by Terry Parr), Kelly Griffin, John Mathews, Michael & Joyce Buckner (certificates accepted by Susan Hopkins), and Matt Maggio.

Photo by **Dustin Faddis**



Coffee in the garden Bev Grant and Art Cooley 10:00 am to 1:00pm August 18, 2012



Welcome to members of the SDCSS. We moved into our home in December of 2008. The front yard was then row upon row of established rose bushes...which you'll now see in various neighbor's yards. Lovely, but for someone else.... So, our cactus and succulent 'garden' is new and in the 'neophyte' stage. The resulting gardens are due to our membership in the SDCSS, which was initially prompted by Jeff Harris, and to our environmental stewardship.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug. 11: SDCSS regular monthly meeting.

Aug. 11 & 12: 27th Annual Intercity Show & Sale, 9 to 5, LA County Arboretum, 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA, Info: Tom Glavich 626-798 -2430 or John Matthews 661-297-5364

Sept. 1: Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium, all day, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA.

Sept 18: SDCSS picnic at Admiral Baker Park.

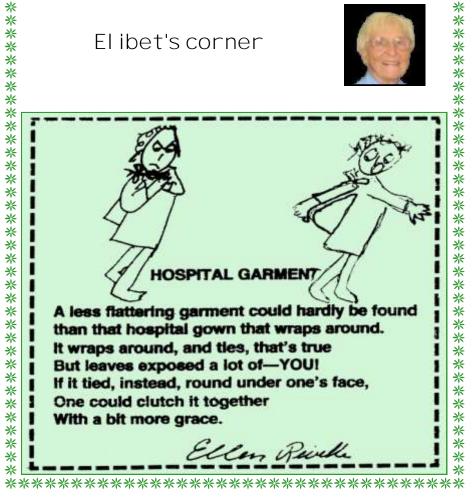
Sept. 23: Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction, noon, 18127 South Alameda St., Rancho Dominguez, CA

Oct. 13: SDCSS regular monthly meeting.

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

Flibet's corner





Snacks for the Break:

If your last name begins with A-M, please bring a snack to share at the break.

Symposium

\$75.00

Opuntia Soup From Joe Kraatz



ACTUS LOOKS FORBIDDING. Stripped of its prickly points, however, it is a mild-mannered vegetable with a

slightly tart flavor. Look for easy-touse canned cactus (sold as *nopales* or *nopalitos*) in supermarkets and Mexican groceries.

Sopa de Nopales

- 1 tablespoon olive or salad oil
- 1 large (about 8 oz.) onion, chopped
- I pound (about 16 medium-size) tomatillos, husks removed, rinsed and coarsely chopped
- 6 cups regular-strength chicken broth
- large jar (33 oz.) sliced cactus (nopales or nopalitos) packed in water, drained and rinsed
- 2 tablespoons lime juice
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh cilantro (coriander) leaves About 2 ounces panela cheese or feta cheese, crumbled

Lime wedges (optional)

In a 4- to 5-quart pan over medium heat, stir oil and onion often until onion is golden, about 15 minutes. Add tomatillos; stir often just until soft, about 6 minutes. Add broth; bring to a boil over high heat. Stir in cactus, lime juice, and cilantro. Cook until hot. Ladle soup into a tureen. Offer cheese to add to taste. Accompany with lime wedges. Serves 6 to 8.

Per serving: 86 cal., 4.6 g protein; 4 g fat (0.5 g sat.); 9 g carbo.; 234 mg sodium;

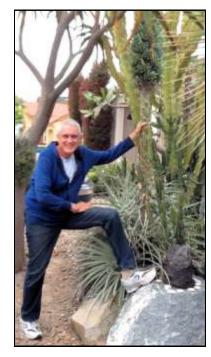
2.5 mg chol. ■

By Betsy Reynolds Bateson

SUNSET

Puya pics From Don Patterson

His 15 year old *Puya* finally bloomed!





29th Succul ent Pl ants Symposium Huntington Botanical Gardens

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino CA 91108 (626) 405-3504, FAX (626) 405-3501

1 September 2012

Speakers: Myron Kimnach, Around the World of Succulents in Fifty Minutes; Exequiel Ezcurra, Conservation in Mexico and South America; Maria Cristina Martinez-Habibe, Molecules, Leaves and Islands: Bursera in the Greater Antilles and the Bahamas; Randy Baldwin, A Wholesale Nursery's Response to the Growing Addiction to Succulent Plants; Mark E. Mort, Platteklips on the Table - The amazing Diversity of Crassulaceae in Southern Africa; Gary Lyons, My Life and Hard Times in a Cactus Garden (after dinner).

Registration and continental breakfast, 8:30am . Program in Friends' Hall, 9am to 5pm , also includes silent auction, Desert Garden and Desert Conservatory special hours and Lunch. Dinner (Optional) , 6:00pm. Registrants who do not sign up for dinner are welcome to return for the final presentation.

Dinner

\$25.00

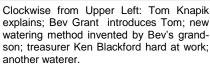
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Deadline for registration is August 28th. The Huntington cannot guaran-
tee meals for late registrants. Send registration form and a check
(payable to The Huntington) or credit card information to above address.

Name(s)				
Affiliation: San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society				
Address				
				
Phone	E-mail			
Program	_ x \$75.00 =			
Dinner	_ x \$25.00 =			
Donation				
Total Enclosed				
Credit Card #				
Ехр	Signature			

For those of you who gave a plant of the month or Workshop presentation this year we offer a scholarship and will pay your way. Please contact Chris Miller if you are interested in going. We will try to arrange car pools to go up.

photos from the July meeting













Electronic Espinas Y Flores

The newsletter is available for viewing and downloading at the Club website, www.sdcss.net. 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 pdf pdf p

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
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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