

VOLUME 57 • NUMBER 12 • DECEMBER 2022



ESPINAS Y FLORES



XMAS PARTY, UPCOMING EVENTS & more!

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
AN AFFILIATE OF THE CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA



ON THE COVER
Agave in the snow
Photo by Kelly Griffin

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SDCSS SCHEDULE

Our next in-person meeting:

DECEMBER 10th HOLIDAY PARTY!

Next upcoming meeting:

January 14th meeting

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Pam Badger
Vice President	Chris Miller
Secretary	Donna Roden
Treasurer	John McCann

DIRECTORS

Olga Batalov, Pat Bryan, Candy Garner, Jerry Garner, Jen Greene, Kelly Griffin, Dean Karras, and Jared Petker

COMMITTEES & SUB COMMITTEES

Conservation	Herb Stern
Brag table	Denise Huntsman-Griffin & Susan Hopkins
Plant of the Month	Pam Badger
Summer/Winter Show	[open]
Historian	Jerry Garner
Grants	Jerry Garner
Library Committee	Luis Gonzales
Exchange Plants/Seeds	Michelle Heckathorn
Annual Sales	Chris Miller
Auction & Holiday Plants	Kelly Griffin
Show Auction Manager	[open]
Monthly Plant Sales	Chris Miller
Benefit Drawing Table	Allen Clark & Chuck Ramey
Programs	Kelly Griffin

Reception

Susan Hopkins & Candy Garner

New Member Orientation

Patricia Bryan & Jay Crowley

Monthly Regalement

Sandy Wetzel-Smith

Picnic Regalement

[open]

Coffee in the Garden Coordinators

Julie Dixon & Chuck Ramey

LIAISONS

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

MEMBERSHIP & PUBLICITY

Membership	May Fong Ho
Newsletter Editor	Der-shing Helmer
Webmaster	Jared Petker
Publicity	Christie Lathrop

CONTACT SDCSS

membership@sdcss.net

CONTACT EyF EDITOR

eyf.editor@gmail.com

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Best Wishes! The time of giving thanks is here, and as I write this on Thanksgiving weekend, **one thing I am very grateful for is SDCSS!**

Though I am not sure when I first joined, I believe it was in the early 90's, and it has been such a pleasure; building long relationships with interesting people, continuing to learn about plants, and providing a valuable service to the community. I have seen this succulent community grow and prosper over the years—contributing to improving the world in small and larger ways. I have enjoyed participating in educating people of all ages, working to purchase 'inholdings' in the Anza Borrego to grow that important sanctuary, and our recent contributions to protecting endangered plants. Association with this Society has been a gift in my life.



The November meeting was quite a busy one, despite **Jen Greene** coming down ill that morning and not being there to present her Plant of the Month talk; I hope you all had a chance to read her article. **Chris Miller** gave an enlightening workshop on propagating Gasterias and **Dean Karras** presented a great tour of Baja and the awesome plants growing there. The membership present voted to approve the slate of officers and directors as presented. Most of us are continuing in our positions with the addition of **Candy Garner**, **Pat Bryan**, and **Jared Petker** as Directors—thanks to them for taking on this responsibility. And big thanks to **Denise Huntsman-Griffin** and **Al Kline** who have completed two 2-year terms as Directors.

There is a lot of work that goes into making our meeting run so well and there are two places we need some assistance. Susan Hopkins, who greets everyone at the door, is also one of the first there every month setting up tables and chairs—she could really use another couple hands there by 8:30 to help with set up. Also Allen Clark, who has been running the **Benefit Drawing Table** (which everyone enjoys!) is retiring from that position. Chuck Ramey is always there to assist, but we need someone to arrange getting plants for all of us to win. Talk to Allen at the next meeting about what is involved. We also have our **Winter Show and Sale** coming up on February 11—we are going back to the ONE DAY event as it was before the pandemic. The Sale will be in room 101 and a smaller show, featuring Winter growers, on the patio. More details and volunteer opportunities to come. Remember: volunteering is participation. **Participation is Life!**

I am looking forward to the return of our super fun **Holiday Party**. Always a good time, and you can go home with some new plants—a gift plant from the Society, an exchange plant from the gift exchange, and maybe a great deal from the live or silent auction. Look for details in this newsletter and sign up soon!

I wish you a happy and safe Holiday Season, and hope to see you at the party on December 10.

Pam Badger

November 26, 2022

SHARE YOUR PASSION!

Have you ever read the *Espinosa Y Flores* Newsletter 'Plant of the Month' article and thought - "I could do that!" Why not participate by writing a piece for our **Plant of the Month** feature?

Pick a genus or species that interests you, do a little research, find or take a few pictures and create an article to share with the club!

Contact Pam Badger: pambad1@mac.com

SDCSS ONLINE

FACEBOOK:

www.facebook.com/sdcss

TWITTER: SanDiegoCactus

INSTAGRAM: #sdcss

WEBSITE: www.sdcss.net

JOIN US FOR THE SDCSS ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY!

ALL THE DETAILS!

WHERE: Room 101

WHEN: 10 AM

HOW: Purchase an Annual Holiday Party ticket at sdcss.net to reserve your spot!

- The party will be held in Room 101—our normal meeting place, the Casa del Prado in Balboa Park.
- Volunteers show up about 9 AM to help set up.
- We all begin gathering at 10 AM for socializing and wine and checking out all the plants!
- When you check in, you will receive a ticket. Put it in a safe place! There will be a drawing for gift plants from SDCSS; every member will receive a gift plant.
- If you'd like to participate in the Gift Exchange, please bring a nice plant or plant related item (ie. Pot) that you are willing to part with. **PUT YOUR NAME ON THE PLANT YOU BRING!** These plants will go on tables to the right of the stage. How it works: when all are gathered a committee will select the "best" plant - in their opinion, and that plant goes into the auction. The owner of that plant gets first choice of all the other plants—whosever's plant they pick goes next, and so on and so forth until all plants have new homes. The better a plant you bring, the sooner you get to choose!
- At 12:00 everyone should please find their seat. There will be a brief ceremony of recognition and gratitude. Lunch will then be served. Food is catered and is very good! There will be vegetarian options as well.
- Dessert is POT LUCK style! We invite you to make or bring your favorite goodies to share (optional)
- Drawing for gift plants will begin as we get going on devouring lunch—gift plants will be placed on tables to the left of the stage. The gift exchange will be running simultaneously, so listen for your name!
- After all the plants have been dispersed, the food consumed and everyone is content after their third dessert, there will be a live and a silent auction. **Western Cactus**, one of our premier growers in the County, donates bare root plants for this auction—these are great for the landscape or potted up.

Proceeds from the auction will go to the Conservation Committee of the CSSA to protect endangered plants. If you would like to donate to the auction - please bring a nice plant or related item.

[Getting excited about all this fun? Register NOW on our website!](#)

CLUB NEWS AND NOTICES

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

WINTER SHOW & SALE: FEBRUARY 11, 2023

BALBOA PARK, CASA DEL PRADO, ROOM 101 & PATIO

The show is FREE and open to the public!

SHOW HOURS

Doors open: 10am-4pm

SALE HOURS

Members only: 9am-11am (please bring proof of membership)

General public: 11am-4pm

ONE DAY
ONLY!

For more information, go to our web page at www.sdcss.net

Become a member online, or fill out the form below!

ADVERTISEMENT

Experience the Flora, Fauna, & Culture of the Baja Peninsula

March 3-15 2023

with

Julian Duval,

San Diego Botanic Garden's President/CEO Emeritus
and

Robert Kopfstein,

President of the Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

Contact Julian at 760-207-7190 or
Robert at 760-726-8300
for more information

To enroll contact
Rosa Maria Guerra at
rosa@andiamo-travel.com
619-632-4571



MEMBER PHOTO SECTION



Agave under a blanket of snow

Kelly Griffin



Happy Holidays!

Kelly Griffin

MEMBER PHOTO SECTION: ORGAN PIPE NATIONAL MONUMENT



Stenocereus thurberi, the magnificent Organ Pipe cactus

Jared Petker

In early November my wife and I took a trip to **Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument** in Southern Arizona. Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument is about 2.5 hours East by South East of Tucson; minutes from the border of Mexico. As it's namesake claims, Organ Pipe Cactus NM is filled with wonderfully large Organ Pipe Cactus, also known as *Stenocereus thurberi*. We also learned that, while Saguaro National Park is a few hours down the road, Organ Pipe Cactus NM actually houses more Saguaro than they do!

We arrived later in the afternoon and camped out at Twin Peaks Campground, right near the visitor center at Organ Pipe. The campground was kept in immaculate condition, spotlessly clean barbecues, and wonderful scenery surrounding the camp site. There's even a paved trail which we took advantage of for a night walk, along with a short hike that is within walkable distance and made for a wonderful morning hike just after sunrise where we were able to see hills covered in Organ Pipes and Saguaros, along with Ocotillos, Echinocereus, Ferocactus, and Cholla endemic to the area.

Near the campsite is the mostly paved 37 mile long Puerto Blanco scenic drive which offers a variety of trailheads to stop and hike at. We ended up only driving down Puerto Blanco Drive a few miles, down to the Red Tanks Tinaja Trail Head. This hike offered an easily hikeable path to take in more of the park's scenery, and is where we waved goodbye to the Organ Pipe cacti before heading out from our short stay. We'll definitely be back for a more extensive trip in the near future!

JARED PETKER

MEMBER PHOTO SECTION: ORGAN PIPE NATIONAL MONUMENT



Echinocereus nicholii

Jared Petker



A friend!

Jared Petker



New red growth on top

Der-shing Helmer

MEMBER PHOTO SECTION: ORGAN PIPE NATIONAL MONUMENT



Mammillaria tetrancistra surrounded by giants **Jared Petker**



Ferocactus wislizenii

Der-shing Helmer



Greeted by a hill full of Saguaro and Organ Pipes ever-so-slightly waving at us in the wind

Jared Petker

NOVEMBER 2022 BRAG TABLE WINNERS GALLERY

SDCSS members shared their best plants at the November Meeting's Brag Table, photographed by Kelly Griffin!

Editor's note: usually I take the pictures every month and include all participants in the gallery, but this month I wasn't at the meeting. Kelly Griffin was kind enough to photograph the table winners, but apologies if some photos or information is missing!

Our next Brag Table will be in January 2023... see you then!

NOVEMBER BRAG TABLE RESULTS: NOVICE SUCCULENT



1st: *Dorstenia gigas*

?



2nd: *Euphorbia suzannae*

?



3rd: ?

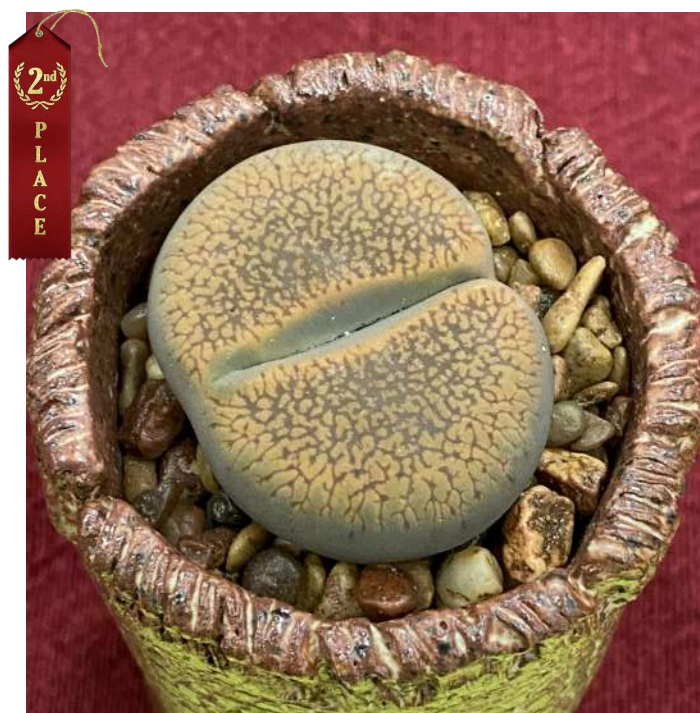
?

NOVEMBER BRAG TABLE RESULTS: INTERMEDIATE SUCCULENT



1st: *Aloe* sp.

Chuck Ramey



2nd: *Lithops* sp.

Peter Hagopian



2nd: *Aloe humilis*

Peter Hagopian

NOVEMBER BRAG TABLE RESULTS: NOVICE CACTUS



1st: ?



2nd : *Mammillaria plumosa*

Miriam Parent



3rd : *Austrocylindropuntia subulate* crest

?

NOVEMBER BRAG TABLE RESULTS: INTERMEDIATE CACTUS



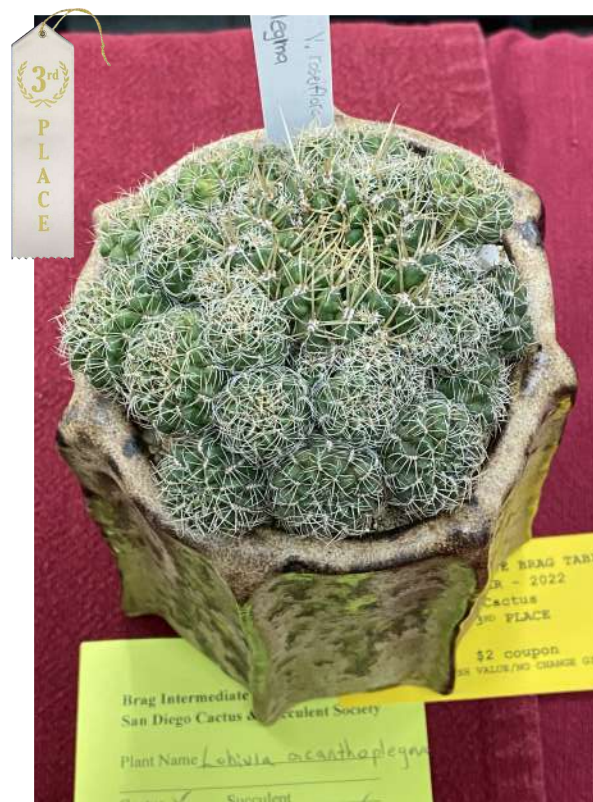
1st: *Mammillaria hahniana*

Chuck Ramey



2nd: *Mammillaria muehlenpfordtii*

Peter Hagopian



2nd: *Lobivia arachnacantha*

Peter Hagopian