

VOLUME 58 • NUMBER 12 • DECEMBER 2023



# ESPINAS Y FLORES

**WINTER GROWERS • EVENT RECAPS • 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 shawii*

Photo by Olga Batalov

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## SDCSS SCHEDULE

See you at our annual Holiday Party!  
**December 9th**  
 Our first meeting of 2024:  
**January 13th**

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<b>Summer/Winter Show</b>	[open]
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<b>Auction &amp; Holiday Plants</b>	Kelly Griffin
<b>Show Auction Manager</b>	[open]
<b>Monthly Plant Sales</b>	Chris Miller
<b>Benefit Drawing Table</b>	Allen Clark & Chuck Ramey
<b>Programs</b>	Kelly Griffin
<b>Reception</b>	Susan Hopkins & Candy Garner

<b>New Member Orientation</b>	Patricia Bryan & Jay Crowley
<b>Monthly Regalement</b>	Sandy Wetzel-Smith
<b>Picnic Regalement</b>	[open]
<b>Coffee in the Garden Coordinators</b>	Julie Dixon & Chuck Ramey

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

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<b>Business Manager</b>	Donna Roden
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**G**reetings! I hope everyone had a pleasant Thanksgiving! As I had just recently returned from a trip to Bali, I almost missed it! Feeling very grateful for a great trip and being back home with all my plants. SDCSS has been a part of my life for a long time, and I regularly reflect on all the wonderful people I have associated with much gratitude for the friendship, knowledge, camaraderie, and good times. Thanks to all of you!



I have heard some great feedback regarding the November Nursery Crawl, hopefully many of you got out and about to visit both the backyard growers and the participating commercial nurseries associated with SDCSS. **Tina Zucker** of succulents.us reported that **Doug Hobson** and **Jose Ramos** joined her with plants and pottery for a well attended event at her home nursery; **Mike and Donna Fernandes** hosted an event with **Brian Shepard**, **Christine Vargas**, and **Melanie Howe** vending a variety of pottery and plants in their lovely garden; **Rick Bjorklund** reported that many visitors went away happy with new plants from his recent garden remake; **Jeff McComas** had a nice selection of plants in his first time participating in one of our events at his beautifully landscaped home in Talmadge; also participating were **Dean Karras** at his nursery, Gnosis, as well as **Peter Walkowiak**, both located in Poway. Thanks to all who took part - both vendors and participants!

On my return I was excited to see how the winter-growing plants have really come alive in the garden and some going into bloom; just the little rain we have had has spurred lots of growth in the Dudleyas (some already doubling in size), Cotyledons, Tylecodon, and Kalanchoes (see member section for photos). Time to start looking at those winter growers and selecting a few to be groomed for the **February Show and Sale** coming up **February 10, 2024!** Hope you have all made plans to attend our super fun Holiday party on December 9 as well...I will see you there!

Warm greeting of the season,

*Pam Badger*

November 24, 2023

## IN MEMORIAM: MARTIN MOONEY

Julie Muzzy and Jill Perchaz have written to let the club know that their dear father and active club member, **Martin Mooney**, passed on November 12, 2023 at the age of 90 years old.

“The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society was an important part of his life for many years. He was an essential part of making the club what it is today. In fact, he was the president at the time that the annual Holiday Party was first celebrated. He received the latest issue of *Espinas y Flores* and commented on that just last week (at the time of writing). It was very meaningful to him to be an honorary lifetime member. There are still people in the club that might remember our sweet father.” If you have memories of Martin to share, condolences can be sent to: [juliemuzzy@gmail.com](mailto:juliemuzzy@gmail.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS: HOLIDAY PARTY 2023

# the december holiday party!

**SAVE THE DATE: December 9th 2023!**

**Times: 8:30am set-up, 10am check-in, noon lunch**

Our traditional Holiday Party will be back in full swing this year!

Make your reservations today! This is not a party you want to miss.

- 1) All members will get a ticket when they sign in - this is for your gift plant - numbers will be drawn during dessert - you will choose from a wide variety of plants.
- 2) If you want to participate in a "Gift Exchange" bring a nice plant- WITH YOUR NAME ON IT- to the tables to the right front of the room. Judges will select the best plant - which will go to the auction - the owner of that plant then chooses from remaining plants - the owner of the plant that person chose, then chooses - until all plants are gone. Fun! bring a great plant for a chance to choose sooner.
- 3) Bring a bring a dessert to share (optional) and put on back table- no testing!
- 4) Enjoy a glass of wine or other beverage and socialize with other members.
- 5) Get a number for the auction which follows our meal.
- 6) Enjoy a fantastic catered holiday feast and listen for your name to be called for the gift exchange.

We will begin gathering @10am for socializing, drinks, and checking out the gift, exchange, and auction plants. Start thinking about the plant or other related item you will bring for the gift exchange. Remember, the better the item you bring, the sooner you will be able to choose!

Cost is **\$35.00 members, \$38.00 guests** (only members receive gift plants).

**DECEMBER 1st is the LAST DAY to purchase a ticket online: [here](#).**

## UPCOMING 2024 WINTER SHOW

# SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

## WINTER SHOW & SALE: FEBRUARY 10, 2024

BALBOA PARK, CASA DEL PRADO, ROOM 101 & PATIO

The show is FREE and open to the public!

### SHOW HOURS

Bring in Plants: Friday noon - 6pm, Saturday 8am - 10am

Show open for viewing: Saturday 10am-3pm

### SALE HOURS

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

General public: Saturday 11am - 3pm

## GET INVOLVED IN THE WINTER SHOW!

Did you enjoy our June Show and Sale? Are you ready to step up and take a more active role? **Chris Miller**, our VP and Chairperson of the Sale, is looking for an assistant / trainee. Chris has been running the sale for 20 years and has it down to a science, which is why our sales go so smoothly. She is looking for someone to train and begin learning this position. Chris is a great mentor and is looking for someone with good organizational and people skills to eventually take over and carry on for a few years.

If interested, please contact

Chris: [c.miller@cox.net](mailto:c.miller@cox.net)

## KEEP YOUR CONTACT INFO UP-TO-DATE

**Don't miss out on important news from us!**

Over the years, many of our members have changed their emails and mailing addresses. We'd like to update our catalog of membership info to have all of your correct emails and addresses for reaching out to you in the future. This easy survey takes just moments to fill out.

Thanks for helping us keep your records up-to-date!

[PLEASE VISIT THIS LINK TO GET STARTED](#)

## REVISED PLANT CATEGORIES FOR THE 2024 WINTER SHOW

DIVISION I: CACTI (CACTACEAE)	
Name	Class
Ariocarpus	1
Astrophytum	2
Aztekium, Epithelantha, Obregonia, Ortegocactus, Pelecyphora, Strombocactus	3
Coryphantha, Escobaria, Neolloydia	4
Turbincarpus (Gymnocactus), Stenocactus (Echinofossulocactus)	5
Echinocereus	6
Echinocactus, Ferocactus, Hamatocactus, Leuchtenbergia, xFerobergia	7
Mammillaria with hooked spines	8
Mammillaria with straight spines	9
Pediocactus, Sclerocactus, Thelocactus	10
Melocactus	11
Blossfeldia, Coleocephalocereus (Buiningia), Discocactus, Frailea, Uebelmannia	12
Copiapoa	13
Gymnocalycium	14
Acanthocalycium, Echinopsis, Lobivia	15
Eriosyce (Horridocactus, Neochillenia, Neoporteria, Pyrrhocactus)	16
Parodia (Notocactus)	17
Rebutia (Sulcorebutia, Weingartia)	18
Matucana (Submatucana), Oroya	19
Opuntiods: Austrocylindropuntia, Consolea, Cylindropuntia, Grusonia, Miquelopuntia, Opuntia, Pereskia, Pterocactus, Tephrocactus, Tunilla, etc.	20
Columnar Cacti: Arrojadoa, Bergerocactus, Browningia, Carnegiea, Cephalocereus, Cereus, Cipocereus, Cleistocactus, Espostoa, Micranthocereus, Myrtillocactus, Neobuxbaumia, Oreocereus, Pilosocereus, Pachycereus, Peniocereus, Stenocereus, Stetsoinia, Trichocereus, etc.	21
Epiphytic Cacti: Disocactus, Epiphyllum, Hatiora, Hylocereus, Lepismium, Rhipsalis, Schlumbergia (Zygocactus), Selenicereus, etc.	22
Other Genera - Any Other Cactus	23
Cactus, Seed-Grown by Exhibitor	24
Crested & Monstrose Cacti	25
Variegated Cacti (with 50% or More Variegation)	26

DIVISION II: SUCCULENTS	
Name	Class
<b>AIZOACEAE (MESEMBRYANTHEMACEAE)</b>	
Lithops	27
Conophytum, Lapidaria, Dinteranthus	28
Other Mesembs without prominent roots or trunks: Faucaria, Pleiospilos, Titanopsis, etc.	29
Other Mesembs with prominent roots or trunks: Aloinopsis, Mestoklema, Trichodiadema, etc.	30
<b>AGAVACEAE</b>	
Agave, Yucca	31
Calibanus, Beaucarnea, Nolina	32
<b>APOCYNACEAE</b>	
Adenia, Pachypodium	33
Adenium	34
Stapeliads with succulent stems: Hoodia, Orbea, Pseudolithos, Stapelia, etc.	35
Caudiciform Stapeliads: Fockea, Gonolobus, Petopentia, Raphionacme, etc.	36
Ceropegia, Hoya, Dischidia	37

DIVISION II: SUCCULENTS	
Name	Class
<b>ASPHODELACEAE</b>	
Aloe - species	38
Aloe - hybrids	39
Gasteria	40
Haworthia (Haworthiopsis, Tulista), Astroloba	41
ASTERACEAE (COMPOSITACEAE): Leptosyne (Coreopsis), Othonna, Senecio (Kleinia), etc.	42
BROMELIACEAE: Cryptanthus, Dyckia, Hechtia, Tillandsia, etc.	43
<b>CRASSULACEAE</b>	
Adromischus	44
Aeonium, Greenovia	45
Cotyledon, Tylecodon	46
Crassula	47
Dudleya	48
Echeveria	49
Graptopetalum (Tacitus), Pachyphytum, hybrids (xPachyveria, xGraptoveria)	50
Kalanchoe	51
Sedum, Sedum hybrids (xSedeveria)	52
Sempervivum (Jovibarba)	53
CUCURBITACEAE: Cephalopentandra, Corallocarpus, Dendrosicyos, Gerrardanthus, Ibervillea, Kedrostis, Momordica, Xerosicyos, Zygosicyos, etc.	54
DIOSCOREACEAE: Dioscorea	55
Sansevieria (DRACAENACEAE)	56
<b>EUPHORBACEAE</b>	
Euphorbia medusa types	57
Euphorbias with leaves and spines	58
Euphorbias with leaves and no spines	59
Euphorbias with spines and no leaves	60
Euphorbias with neither leaves nor spines	61
Enadenium, Monadenium, Jatropha, Pedilanthus, Synadenium	62
GERIANACEAE: Monsonia, Sarcocaulon, Pelargonium, etc.	63
PORTULACACEAE (MONTIACEAE, DIDIERACEAE, ANACAMPSEROTACEAE, TALINACEAE): Anacampseros, Alluadia, Avonia, Ceraria, Didieria, etc.	64
Succulent Bulbs: Albuca, Boophane, Boweia, Bulbine, Haemanthus, Ledebouria, Massonia, Veltheimia, etc.	65
Other Caudiciforms: Boswellia, Bursera, Commiphora, Cyphostemma, Dorstenia, Ficus, Fouquieria, Ipomoea, Moringa, Operculicarya, Pachycormus, Pseudobombax, Pyrenacantha, Sesamothamnus, Sinningia, Uncarina, etc.	66
Other Genera - Any Other Succulent	67
Succulent, Seed-Grown by Exhibitor	68
Crested & Monstrose Succulents	69
Variegated Succulents (with 50% or More Variegation)	70

DIVISION III: OTHER	
Name	Class
Dish Gardens (Two or more plants in the same pot)	71

Thanks to Dean Karras and Tina Zucker for updating our winter show categories

## DISTINGUISHING WINTER GROWERS

Dormancy in Northern Hemisphere plants is caused by chemical changes within plant cells. It is stimulated by cooling temperatures and shorter days in late summer and fall. This "binds" water so it cannot freeze and injure plant cells. To break dormancy, plants must first go through a period of cold (about 40 degrees F or colder) for an average of 63 days. This cold period triggers changes which, when warm weather appears, allows plants to "deharden" and resume growth.

### WINTER GROWERS ~ SUMMER DORMANT

Usually referred to as the "winter growers", these genera are dormant during the warmer months of May through August. Their primary growth actually occurs during autumn and spring while slowing considerably during true winter. Many will exhibit marginal growth during the summer months as well especially in the Lily and Crassulaceae families.

This group includes: *Adromischus*, *Aeonium*, *Aloe*, *Anacampseros*, *Astroloba*, *Avonia*, *Bowiea*, *Bulbine*, *Ceraria*, *Conophytum*, *Cotyledon*, *Crassula*, *Dioscorea*, *Dudleya*, *Fouqueria*, *Gasteria*, *Gibbaeum*, *Graptopetalum*, *Graptoveria*, *Haemanthus*, *Haworthia*, *Kalanchoe*, *Neohenricia*, *Othonna*, *Pachycormus*, *Pachyphytum*, *Pachyveria*, *Pelargonium*, *Peperomia*, *Portulacaria*, *Sansevieria*, *Sarcocaulon*, *Sedeveria*, *Sedum*, *Senecio*, *Stomatium*, *Sulcorebutia rauschii*, *Talinum*, and *Tylecodon*.



### SUMMER GROWERS ~ WINTER DORMANT

This group is generally regarded as the "summer growers". They have adapted to our northern hemisphere cycle & are dormant from November through February. Many of these will also enter a pseudo rest period for a few weeks during the hottest part of the summer before putting on a final burst of growth in September and October.

This group includes: *Adenia*, *Adenium*, *Agave*, *Alluadia*, *Aloinopsis rubrolineata*, *brachystelma*, *Bursera*, *Calibanus*, *Ceropegia*, *Cissus*, *Cyphotstemma*, *Didieria*, *Dorstenia*, *Echeveria*, *Encephalartos*, *Euphorbia*, *Ficus*, *Fockea*, *Huernia*, *Ibervillea*, *Ipomoea*, *Jatropha*, *Lithops*, *Monadenium*, *Moringa*, *Operculicarya*, *Pachypodium*, *Pedilanthus*, *Plumeria*, *Pseudolithos*, *Pterodiscus*, *Raphionacme*, *Sinningia*, *Stapelianthus*, *Synadenium*, *Tillandsia*, *Titanopsis*, *Trichocaulon*, *Trichodiadema*, and *Xerosicyos*.

TINA ZUCKER

## WINTER GROWER PHOTO GALLERY



*Adromischus triflorus*

Tina Zucker



*Crassula marnieriana*

Tina Zucker



*Haworthia cooperi*

Tina Zucker



*Gasteria 'Little Warty'*

Tina Zucker



## MEMBER SECTION: PLUG CONNECTION LAB TOUR RECAP

We hope you were able to join us for one of our fantastic lab tours held at the Plug Connection Tissue Culture Lab on November 4th! If not, please enjoy this photo gallery of some of the amazing sights we were treated to. A huge thank-you to lab general manager Lee Chaille for graciously hosting our club member visit and answering all of our questions, and to Kelly Griffin for coordinating our club's visit.



Lee showing off the many facets of the tissue culture lab



Jared Petker

**MEMBER SECTION: PLUG CONNECTION LAB TOUR RECAP**



A skilled propagator

Jared Petker



Plants in sterile medium

Jared Petker



Racks of plants

Jared Petker

MEMBER SECTION: WINTER GROWER GARDEN BY PAM BADGER



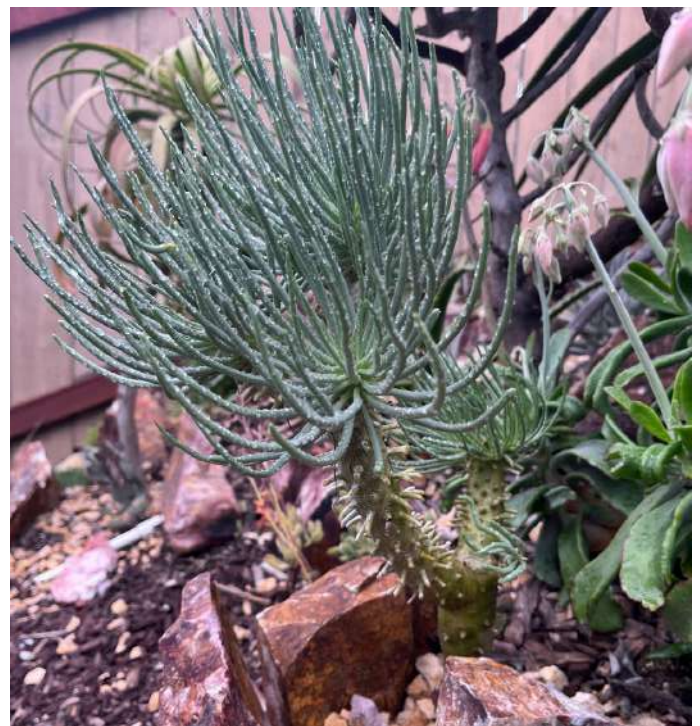
*Tylecodon paniculatus* and *Tylecodon dinterii*

Pam Badger



*Dudleya virens*

Pam Badger



*Tylecodon wallachii*

Pam Badger

MEMBER SECTION: TORREY PINES BY OLGA BATALOV

“Nothing spectacular, but my work planned a group hike to Torrey Pines SNR and the last time I was there (likely over ten years ago), I was not as into cacti and succulents as I am now. I knew the coastal barrel cactus was supposed to grow there, so I was on the lookout for that.

I was able to find *Ferocactus viridescens*, sometimes hard to spot because it is so low to the ground, this time in fruit. I also saw some nicely backlit *Agave shawii*\* with glowing red teeth on the new growth.”  
(\*editor note: see our cover for this lovely photo)



*Ferocactus viridescens*

Olga Batalov