

VOLUME 58 • NUMBER 11 • NOVEMBER 2023

# ESPINAS & FLORES

NOVEMBER CLUB GARDEN CRAWL

OCTOBER BRAG TABLE RESULTS • UPCOMING EVENTS & more!

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



**ON THE COVER**

*Ferocactus cylindraceus*

Photo from **Matt B** via iNaturalist.  
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

President’s Message pg 3

2023 Holiday Party pg 4

November Garden Crawl Event pgs 5 - 9

2024 Winter Show pg 10 • Member section pg 11

October Brag Table results pgs 12 - 29

## SDCSS SCHEDULE

Our November nursery crawl event (no meeting):

**November 11th**

2023 Holiday Party:

**December 9th**

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| <b>President</b>      | Pam Badger   |
| <b>Vice President</b> | Chris Miller |
| <b>Secretary</b>      | Olga Batalov |
| <b>Treasurer</b>      | Ken Brown    |

### DIRECTORS

Pat Bryan, Luis Gonzalez, Jen Greene, Kelly Griffin, Dean Karras, Georgia Kenney, and Jared Petker

### COMMITTEES & SUB COMMITTEES

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Conservation</b>                 | Herb Stern                              |
| <b>Brag table</b>                   | Denise Huntsman-Griffin & Susan Hopkins |
| <b>Plant of the Month</b>           | Pam Badger                              |
| <b>Summer/Winter Show</b>           | [open]                                  |
| <b>Historian</b>                    | Jerry Garner                            |
| <b>Grants</b>                       | Jerry Garner                            |
| <b>Library Committee</b>            | Luis Gonzalez                           |
| <b>Exchange Plants/Seeds</b>        | Michelle Heckathorn                     |
| <b>Annual Sales</b>                 | Chris Miller                            |
| <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    |

### LIAISONS

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <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     |

### MEMBERSHIP, BUSINESS, & PUBLICITY

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| <b>Membership</b>        | May Fong Ho      |
| <b>Business Manager</b>  | Donna Roden      |
| <b>Newsletter Editor</b> | Der-shing Helmer |
| <b>Webmaster</b>         | Jared Petker     |
| <b>Publicity</b>         | Christie Lathrop |

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**G**reetings! BRRRR! sitting here with my hoodie on for the first time in months, and not loving it. Night time temps are dropping below 60°, which marks the end of my propagation season for Euphorbias, as I have no heated greenhouse. Many plants are stopping their summer growth, which makes them less likely to root from cuttings. However, the winter growers are taking off, and my Kalanchoes are starting to bloom.



Our October meeting was one of the best ever! Besides the many fine vendors and very full Benefit Drawing and Exchange tables, we had two wonderful talks. First **Kelly Griffin** reported on the conservation project SDCSS partially funded—protecting Lithops habitats in South Africa. It is satisfying to see our fundraising efforts put to work in the field. Thanks to all who purchased plants at the Holiday Party auction! Then past president **Tom Knapik** gave us a beautiful presentation of his tour of Namibia and South Africa. Tom is a knowledgeable plant person with a fine sense of the art in the natural world, which was repeatedly made obvious with his photography of plants and landscapes. Thanks Tom for a fantastic presentation!

As you may have heard, there will be **NO REGULAR MEETING in November** due to Park facilities being closed in honor of Veteran's Day. Thanks to all of you who served our country; you are deeply appreciated! In lieu of a meeting, we are hosting a "Nursery Crawl" featuring sales at member owned nurseries as well as our "backyard" nurseries. Look for info elsewhere in this newsletter regarding participating nurseries and their details.

December 9th brings the return of our annual **Holiday Party!** Always a fun event, and you are sure to go home with at least 2 cool plants: one a gift from SCDSS and one from the Gift Exchange, if you want to participate. We started taking reservations at the October meeting. If you weren't there, you can still sign up online at [SDCSS.net](http://SDCSS.net), or contact Chris Miller at [c.miller@cox.net](mailto:c.miller@cox.net) (see article in this EyF for details.)

Finally, I would like to welcome and introduce you to two new members of our Board of Directors: **Luis Gonzalez**, also our librarian; and **Georgia Kenney**, one of our regular cashiers. They have graciously agreed to step in to complete the terms of **Candy and Jerry Garner** who stepped down for personal reasons. We extend a huge thanks, and tons of gratitude for all Candy and Jerry have and will continue to do for this organization; their contributions over the years have been invaluable.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Holiday Party on December 9!

*Pam Badger*

October 25, 2023

## 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).

Purchase a ticket online [here](#).

## SDCSS NURSERY CRAWL 2023: JEFF McCOMAS

**Who:** Jeff McComas **When:** Saturday, November 11th 2023

**Where:** 4353 North Talmadge Drive San Diego, CA 92116 **Phone:** 619-884-7911

**About this nursery:** "I have lots of Agaves, Aloes, Aeoniums, Jades, Bromeliads, Cacti, Echeverias, Euphorbias, Haworthias and Kalanchoes."



## SDCSS NURSERY CRAWL 2023: TINA ZUCKER & CO.

**Who:** Tina Zucker, Luis Gonzalez, & Jose Luis

**When:** Saturday, November 11th 2023

**Time:** 9am–3pm

**Where:** 552 Seabright Lane in Solana Beach

**About this nursery:** “Hi everyone, I have been an SDCSS member for over 15 years, and have enjoyed learning about growing succulents. So much so, that I started a nursery in Vista where I had about 40,000 plants. Sounds overwhelming, but not when I enjoyed growing, experimenting, and talking with so many enthusiasts like yourself. I closed the nursery at the end of 2019 and continued growing thousands of plants at my home. Many of you know me from my participation/ selling at monthly meetings and summer and winter sales. I will be participating in the Nursery Crawl with Doug Hobson, a club vendor, with his beautiful ceramic pots. I will have Kelly Griffin aloes as well. There may be other growers not mentioned here.

I will be showing winter growers you are probably growing and can enter in the February SDCSS show on February 10th. Many of my personal specimens will be available for purchase.”



## SDCSS NURSERY CRAWL 2023: RICK BJORKLUND

**Who:** Rick Bjorklund**When:** Saturday, November 11th 2023**Time:** 9am–4pm**Where:** 4728 Allied Rd, San Diego, CA. 92120

**About this nursery:** “I’ve been busy renovating the landscape, so there will be landscaped size succulents for sale as well as smaller things that have been divided or propagated. Landscape sized plants include *Aloe sabaena*, *A. barberae*, *A. rupestris*, *A. vanbalenii*, ‘Kujo’, and ‘Cynthia Giddy’, *Agave leopoldii* variegated, *Hechtia tillandsioides*, *Pachypodium lamerei*, and *Sedum dendroideum*. Smaller sized plants include *Agave titanota*, *A. guiengola*, *A. flexispina*, *A. colorata* hybrid, *A. vilmoriniana* ‘Stained Glass’, *A. kichigokan mdeiopicta* dwarf, and *A. Victoria-reginae* compact variegated, *Aloe Dorothea* and *A. tenuor*, *Senecio* ‘Blazin’ Glory’, *Graptoveria opalina* variegated, *Cotyledon orbiculate oophylla*, *Sedum corynephyllum* crest, *Notocactus roseoluteus*, *Dudleya pachyptum* open pollinated, *Ceraria pygmaea*, *Adromischus*, and many others. **Cash only please.**”



## SDCSS NURSERY CRAWL 2023: GNOSIS NURSERY

**Who:** Gnosis Nursery/ Dean Karras

**When:** Saturday, November 11th 2023

**Phone:** (480) 363-4460

**Where:** 663 Highway 78, Ramona, CA 92065

**About this nursery:** "Gnosis Nursery specializes in seed-grown cacti, succulents, and caudiciforms, as well as drought-tolerant trees and shrubs. We offer many unique plants for the collector. Most of our material is hard-grown in the elements, with an especially great selection of larger, landscape-hardy aloes, agaves, yuccas, cacti, and other unique xerophytes. We will be offering some of our larger specimens for the very first time especially for the upcoming SDCSS-sponsored vendor crawl. We hope to see you at the nursery!"





## SDCSS NURSERY CRAWL 2023: THE FERNANDES' & CO.

**Who:** Michael & Donna Fernandes, Brian Sheperd, Christine Vargas, and Melanie Howe

**When:** Saturday, November 11th 2023    **Time:** 9am–2pm

**Where:** 6840 Veronica Ave, San Diego 92115

**About this nursery:** “Though located in a suburban neighborhood, the Fernandes’ have packed their place with a wide variety of plants in a lovely garden setting. Mike first became interested in succulents in the early 1980’s—he and his father had a shop in Hillcrest when Mike became acquainted with a neighbor, Lee Phelps. Lee had been a long-time member of SDCSS, and Mike offered the older gentleman help in his garden. They became good friends, and the plants Mike was gifted by this epic collector became the basis of his collection.

Cacti, succulents, caudiciforms, and other plants will be for sale as well as pottery. Mike and Donna will have tea and coffee and we will bring treats for the visitors. We accept cash only.”



## UPCOMING EVENTS

# 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](#)

**MEMBER SECTION**

Photos from Big Bear: The cacti are *Echinocereus triglochidiatus* and the beavertail opuntia, *Opuntia basilaris*, that we have in Anza Borrego. I was surprised at how cold tolerant they are; Big Bear definitely gets snow. The bigger *Echinocereus triglochidiatus* are from just east of Big Bear in a much drier area - we made a special trip on the last day, only a 15 minutes detour, to where the PCT crosses SR-18 near Baldwin Lake. The smaller one is from the Cougar Crest trail near Bertha Peak on the north side of Big Bear Lake; there is actually a second plant in the upper right corner of that photo. The *Draba corrugata* and the opuntia were also on a stretch of the PCT but southeast of Big Bear off of SR-38 near Coon Creek. I saw a lot more opuntia, at least two species, after that first one.

**OLGA BATALOV**



*Opuntia basilaris*

**Olga Batalov**



*Draba corrugata*

**Olga Batalov**



*Echinocereus triglochidiatus*

**Olga Batalov**



*Echinocereus triglochidiatus*

**Olga Batalov**

# OCTOBER 2023 BRAG TABLE WINNERS GALLERY

The SDCSS brag table will see you again in January 2024!

SDCSS members came through and shared their best plants at the October Meeting's Brag Table, judged by Kelly Griffin, Tom DeMerritt, and Tom Knapik.

**BRAG TABLE: NOVICE SUCCULENT**



1st: *Stapelia scitula*

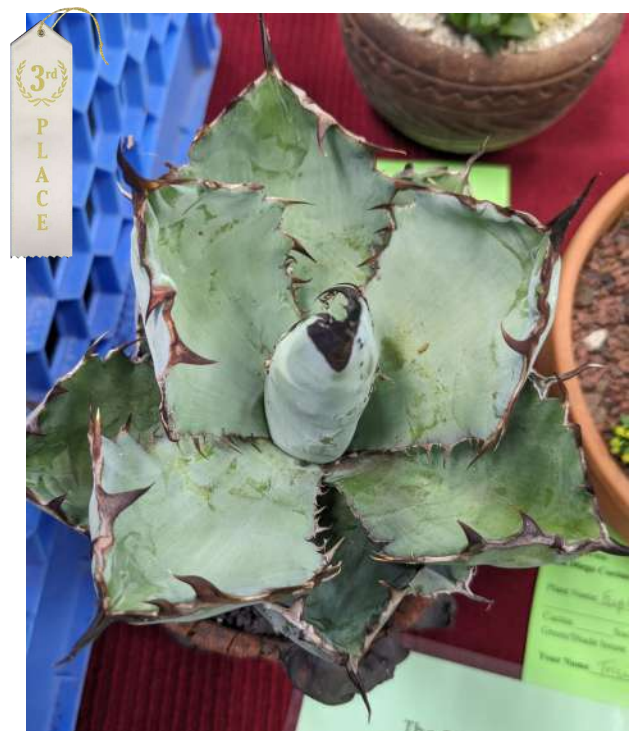


Jodi Visosky



2nd: *Haworthia magnifica* 'variegata'

Jodi Visosky



3rd: *Agave titanota*

Sergio Lopez

**BRAG TABLE: NOVICE SUCCULENT**



*Aeonium* sp.

Lien



*Sulcorebutia rauschii*

Sergio Lopez



*Euphorbia suzannae*

Tricia Bostard

**BRAG TABLE: INTERMEDIATE SUCCULENT**



1st: *Aloe plicatilis variegata*

Josh Allen



2nd: *Euphorbia poissonii variegata*  
Melanie Howe



3rd: *Euphorbia genoudiana*

Jared Petker

**BRAG TABLE: INTERMEDIATE SUCCULENT**



*Echeveria* sp.



*Aloe* 'Secret Agent'

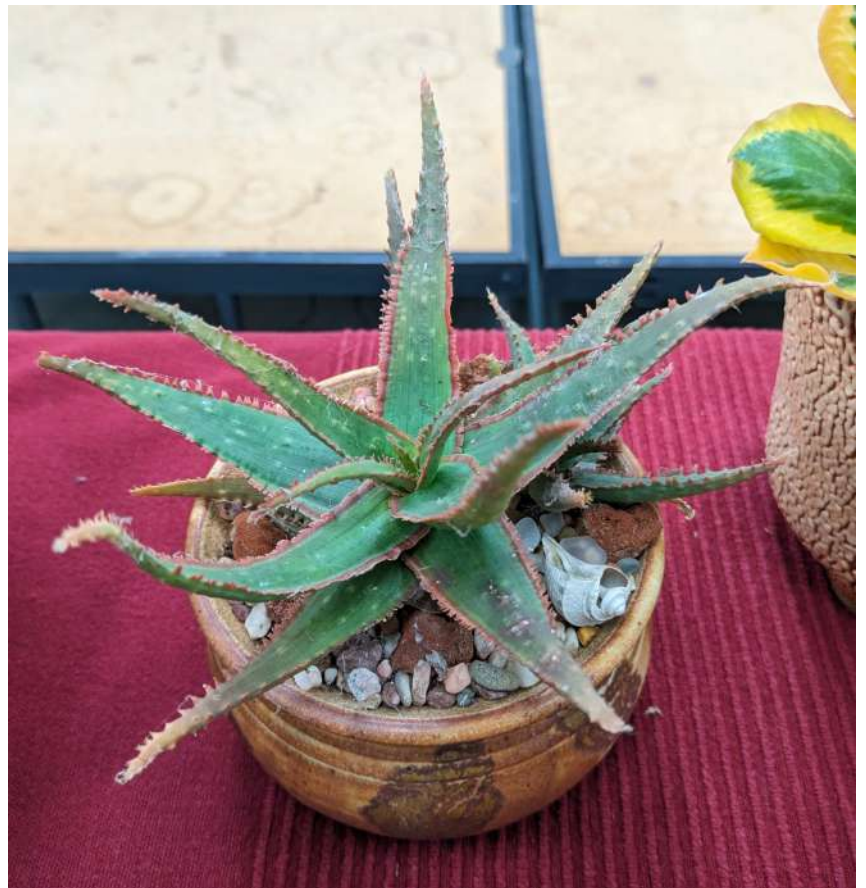
Sherman Blench

Chuck Ramey



*Lithops* sp.

Peter Hagopian



*Aloe* sp.

Sherman Blench



**BRAG TABLE: INTERMEDIATE SUCCULENT**



*Aloe sp.*

**Sherman Blench**



*Euphorbia decepta*

**Josh Allen**



*Haworthia truncate*

**Miriam A Parent**



*Adromiscus cristatus*

**Miriam A Parent**

**BRAG TABLE: INTERMEDIATE SUCCULENT**



*Monadenium* sp.

**Wendy Goldman**



*Euphorbia millotii*

**Chuck Ramey**



*Euphorbia spirosticha*

**Jared Petker**



*Euphorbia cylindrifolia*

**Melanie Howe**

**BRAG TABLE: INTERMEDIATE SUCCULENT**



*Welwitschia mirabilis* seedlings

Welwitschia mirabilis

We have 2 *Welwitschia mirabilis* for years. One forms cones yearly and its a boy!  
 The other one finally formed cones 2 years ago, and its a girl.

1) We hand-pollinated the pair and we collected ~250 seeds.  
 We germinated some seeds and the seedlings are now ~20 months old.

2) last year, the female formed cones again. We hand-pollinated and produced ~250 seeds.  
 The seedlings are now about 8 months old.

3) this year the female fails to produce cones!

grown by Safari Park Old World Succulent Garden volunteers



*Boophane disticha* infructescence

Ken Blackford

H Tr



*Brunsvigia littoralis* infructescence

Ken Blackford

**BRAG TABLE: ADVANCED SUCCULENT**



1st: *Operculicarya decaryi*

Kelly Griffin



2nd: *Aloe plicatilis variegated*

Kelly Griffin



3rd: *Agave applanata 'Cream Spike'*

Kelly Griffin

**BRAG TABLE: ADVANCED SUCCULENT**



*Trichodiadema bulbosum*

Dean Karras



*Othonna trinerva*

unlabelled



*Albuca* sp.

???



*Aloe erinacea*

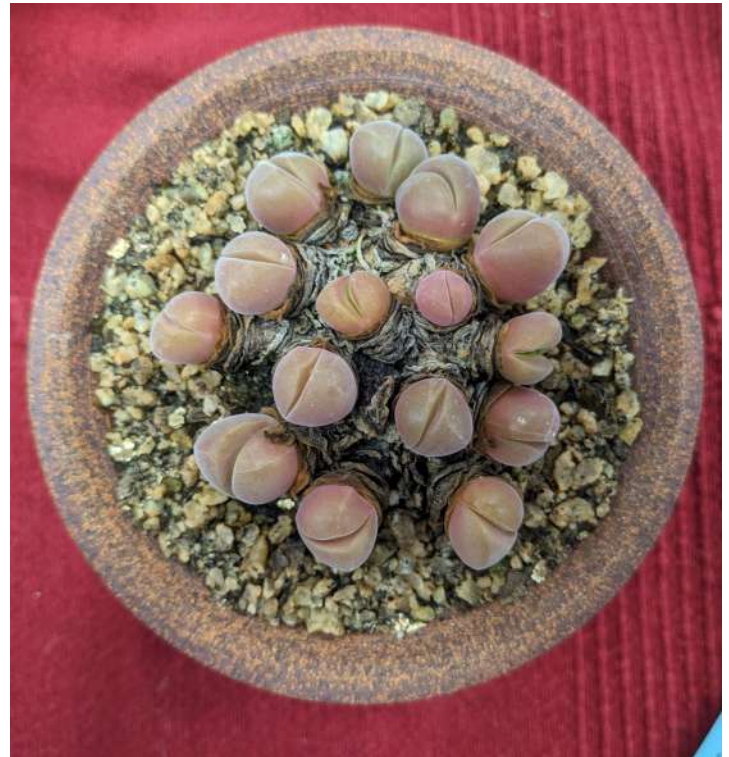
Tom Knapik

**BRAG TABLE: ADVANCED SUCCULENT**



*Argyroderma delaetii*

Kelly Griffin



*Gibbeaum sp.*

Kelly Griffin



*Aloe hybrid KG*

unlabelled

**BRAG TABLE: ADVANCED SUCCULENT**



*Pachyphytum cuicatecanum*

**Grow Margo**



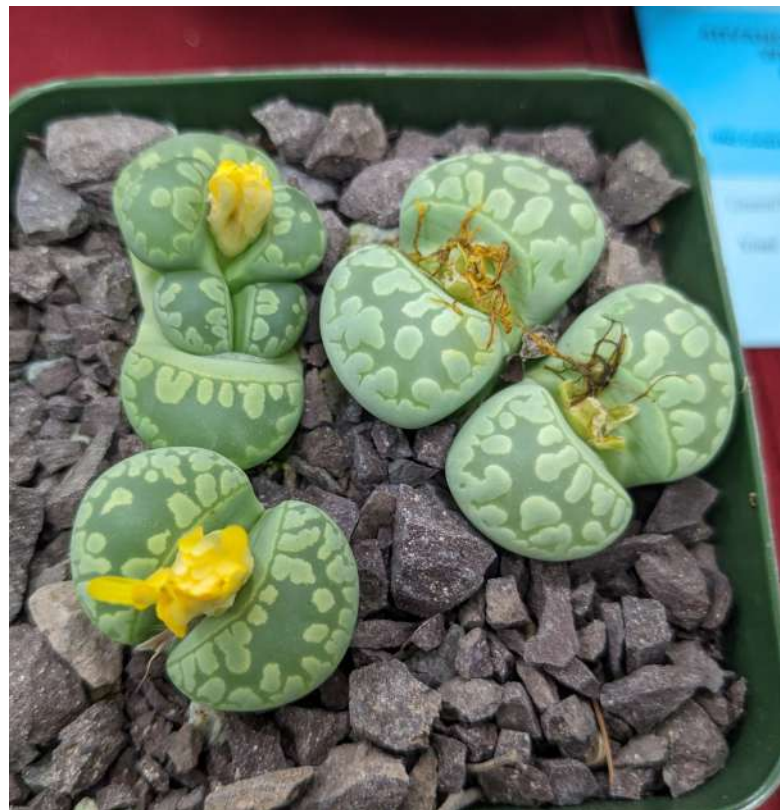
*Pachyphytum oviferum* 'Moon Stone'

**Grow Margo**



*Dudleya cymose*, Tuolumne cty

**Dean Karras**



*Lithops otzeniana*

**unlabelled**

**BRAG TABLE: NOVICE CACTUS**



1st: *Astrophytum asterias* cv. 'Superkabuto'

**Sergio Lopez**



2nd: *Astrophytum ornatum* v. *mirbelii*

**Sergio Lopez**

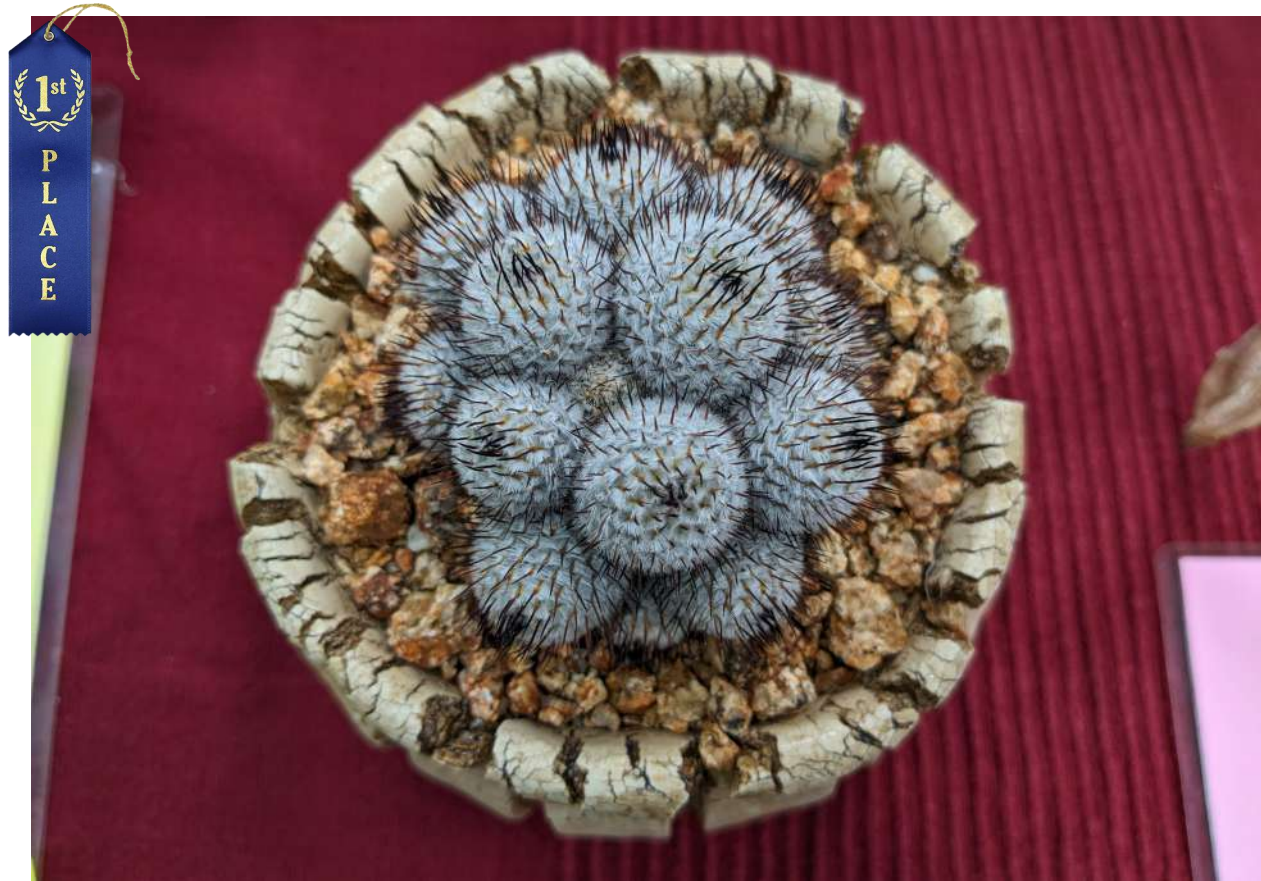


3rd: *Mammillaria compressa* cv. 'Yokan'

**Chris Gleason**



**BRAG TABLE: INTERMEDIATE CACTUS**



1st: *Mammillaria perezdellarosa* v. *andersonii*. Josh Allen



2nd: *Mammillaria hahniana* Miriam A. Parent



3rd: *Opuntia pachypus* Chuck Ramey

**BRAG TABLE: INTERMEDIATE CACTUS**



*Mammillaria spinosissima cristata*

Miriam A Parent



*Gymnocalycium* sp.

Chuck Ramey

**BRAG TABLE: INTERMEDIATE CACTUS**



*Mammillaria spinosissima*

**Miriam A Parent**



*Fossilocactus sp.*

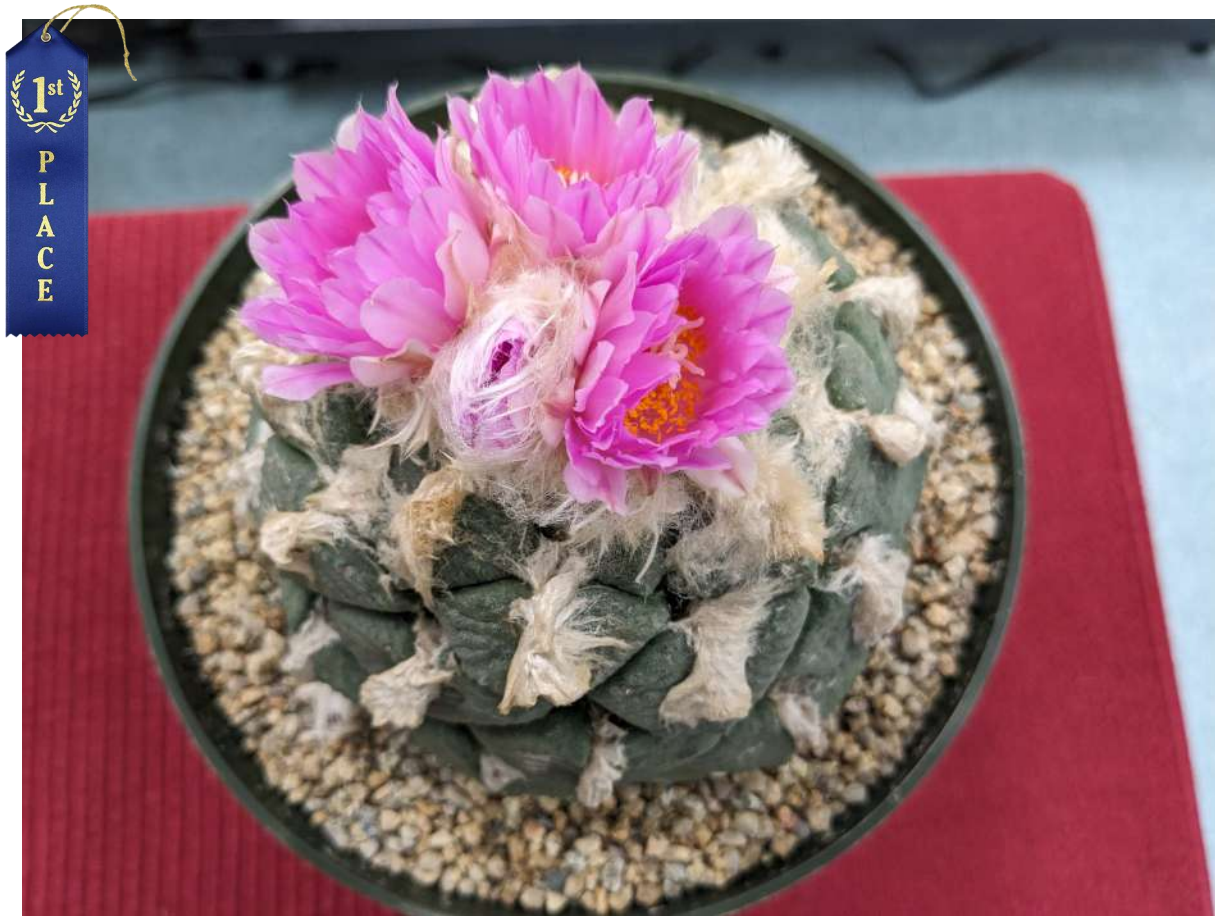
**Heather Chan**



*Melocactus sp.*

**Heather Chan**

**BRAG TABLE: ADVANCED CACTUS**



1st: *Ariocarpus fissuratus* var. *lloydii* major

Brian Shepherd



2nd: *Ariocarpus bravoensis*

Brian Shepherd

**BRAG TABLE: ADVANCED CACTUS**

3<sup>rd</sup>  
P  
L  
A  
C  
E



3rd: *Ariocarpus scaphirostris*



Brian Shepherd



*Eulychnia castanea spiralis*

Grow Margo