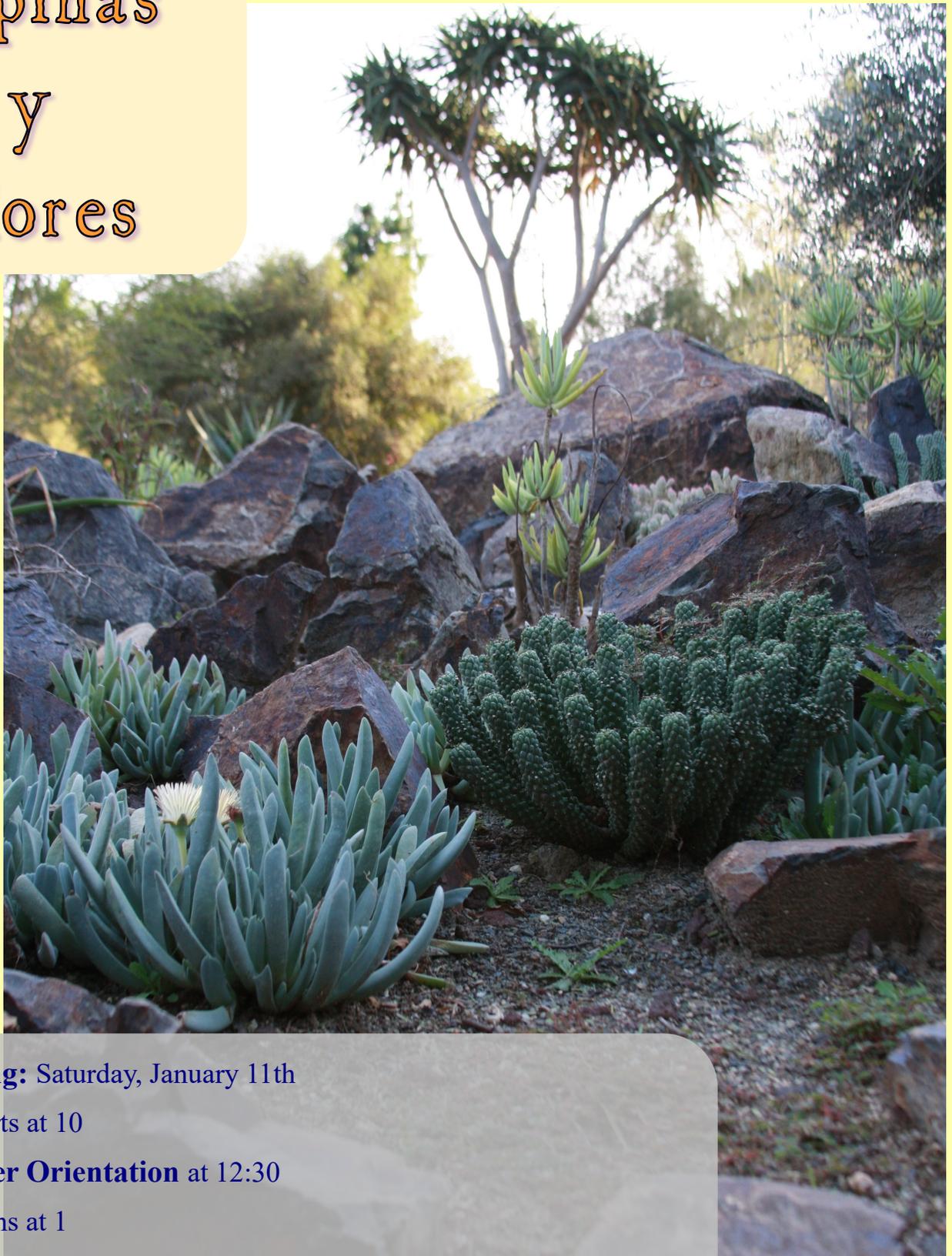


# Espinas y Flores



**Next Meeting:** Saturday, January 11th

Plant sale starts at 10

**New Member Orientation** at 12:30

Meeting begins at 1

**Speaker:** Jeff Moore

**Pre-Meeting Workshop:** Prepping for the Show with Jerry Garner at 11



*On the cover: The crevice garden at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park- photo by Whitney Meier.*

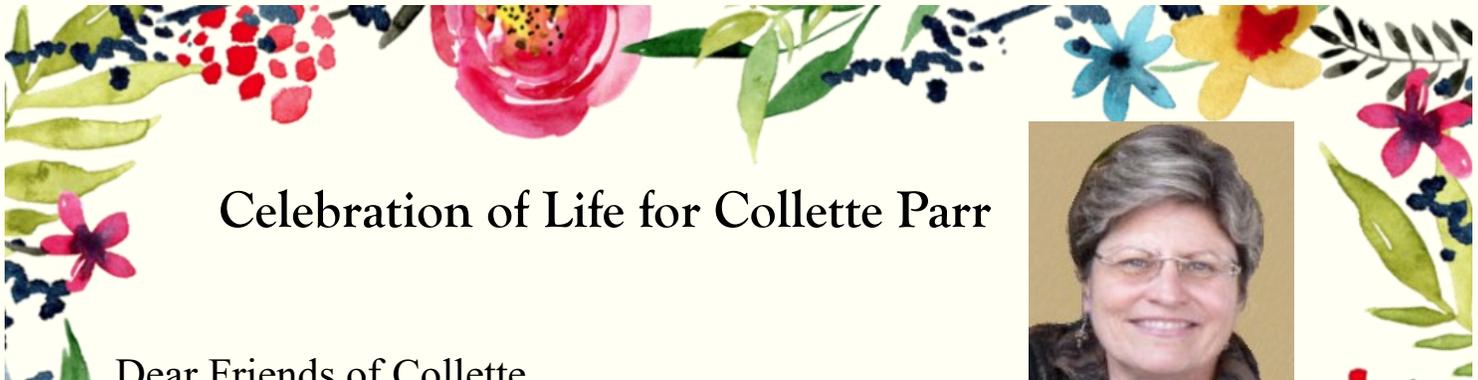
*Newsletter Created by:* Whitney Meier, with the help of many contributors!

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## President's Message

Happy New Year! It seems the year-end holiday party was just yesterday. We had marvelous attendance, a great dinner, yummy desserts, numerous activities and most importantly- a time to catch up with old friends. Due to the sound system at Del Prada being non-functional and many activities all happening at once we do wish to apologize as it was chaotic and communication was difficult. Anyway, we will put that on our list for this year. Looking ahead we have set some aggressive goals, including fresh speakers, sorting out our cash register system, field trip planning, show and sale planning, as well as general membership retention, appreciation and accrual. With a keen eye on our club mission statement, please do not be shy to suggest something worthwhile. We will discuss as a board and advise. In summary, I will end with what I announced first at our party: THANK YOU!- Mary and Jim Reiser



## Celebration of Life for Collette Parr

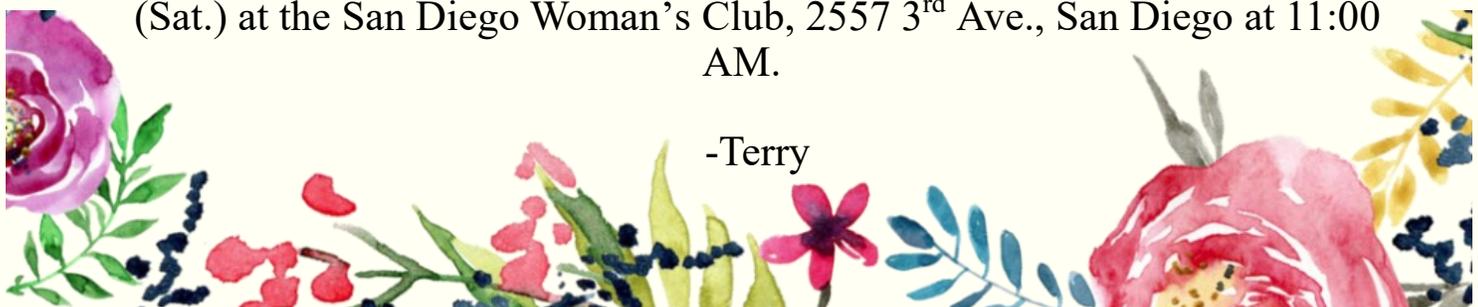


Dear Friends of Collette,

Some of you may have already heard that Collette peacefully passed away at home earlier this week. Our son, Kienan, and I were with her. She is the love of my life and I dearly miss her.

You are invited to her Celebration of Life memorial (and luncheon) on Jan. 18 (Sat.) at the San Diego Woman's Club, 2557 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., San Diego at 11:00 AM.

-Terry



# AWARD WINNERS

## **Mark Fryer Appointed AS A FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY**

On rare occasions the SDCSS honors certain outstanding club members as Fellows. The designation is awarded to members with exceptional contributions to our hobby and to the club. We can think of no person more qualified to join the ranks - who has contributed more to our hobby - than Mark Fryer. From revitalizing C&J Nursery, to adopting Jürgen Menzel's vast cactus collection, to his leadership within SDCSS, Mark has had a positive lasting impact in the world of succulents. He is an invaluable resource to our hobby, and we are incredibly fortunate to have his deep botanical knowledge and numerous propagated plants rooted here in our club. Congratulations to Mark Fryer on becoming our newest San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society Fellow!



## **Brian Shepherd Volunteer of the Year 2019**

Brian has been our Security Chair since 2011, managing our volunteers for great security coverage. He was a Director on the Board for several years. He sells at meetings, competes in our Shows and bakes a mean shortbread. At meetings he helps with whatever is needed. His Coffee in the Gardens are an annual event we always look forward to and his art graces most of our walls.

## **Jim DeForest- Life Member**

Jim has been an integral part of SDCSS for over ten years. He volunteered at the Safari Park for several years, working in the Old World Garden. He gets to meetings and events early and sets up. He stays late and cleans up. He has lead the cashier team for regular meetings and our big sales , keeping things running smoothly. He sells at meetings, participates in shows and is a vital part of our organization.



## **Scholarship Winner- Marisela Vazquez**

Marisela has been awarded a scholarship from our Scholarship Program, which is for senior high or college/university students currently enrolled in a horticultural program at a local San Diego County institution. She will be graduating in the spring with a degree in Ornamental Horticulture.

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.

# January Speaker— Jeff Moore

## Spiny Succulents

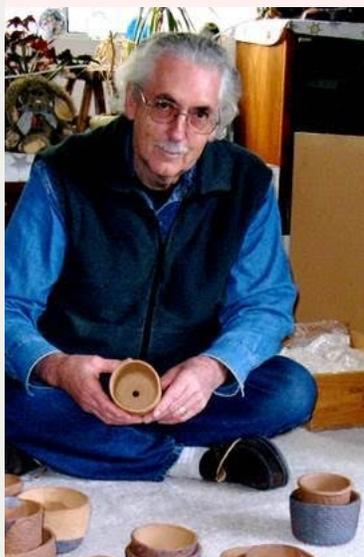
*Euphorbias, cacti, and other sculptural succulents and (mostly) spiny xerophytic plants*



Jeff Moore has operated Solana Succulents (a retail succulent nursery near San Diego) since 1992. He has gained notoriety for landscapes at the Del Mar Fair and Home Shows, particularly for his “undersea” succulent gardens. Jeff has written a series of 6 engaging books about the world of succulents in cultivation in the past 4 years.

The newest book Jeff has published is similar in format to

his others, with an overview aimed at those new to the succulent obsession, but surely good enough for those already in it. It covers (as much as 350 pages/1500 images allows) cacti, euphorbias, pachypodiums, alluaudias, xerophytic bromeliads, cycads, and other mostly spiny plants. Join us in welcoming Jeff back for another colorful presentation.



## Prepping For the Show- 11 AM with Jerry Garner

Join Jerry Garner at 11:00 a.m. for the Pre-meeting workshop held in the lunch room in Room 101. The June Show and Sale is the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society’s most important botanical and social event. It is our opportunity to join with kindred spirits in a weekend of work, camaraderie and presentation to share our fascination of succulent plants with others.

In this month’s workshop, we will focus on preparing your plants for the show tables in the June show. I will cover the basics of entering a plant in the show and have a short discussion about filling out the plant entry tickets and where and how to find the plant category information. I will then

address pot cleanliness, plant cleanliness (insect control) and plant grooming. We will finish with some basic staging tips for using top-dressing, rocks and plant-to-pot placement to enhance the presentation of the plant.

If you have a plant that you are unsure about showing, bring it to the workshop and we will work on the plant’s best presentation. I will bring an assortment of simple tools that can easily be assembled into a plant grooming kit.

I hope this workshop will take some of the worries and mystery out of showing your plants, and encourage you to show them. *We always urge our members to be part of OUR show.*



*President’s Choice winner from last year’s Summer Show and Sale—*

*Larryleachia cactiformis—  
Kal Kaminer*

# Holiday Party



**Left:** Jim Reiser and Mark Fryer discussing the winner of the exchange table, an *Uncarina*, which went into the auction. **Right:** Hoiday spirits were high in SDCSS members at our annual holiday party: left to right– Art Cooley, Bev Grant, Lyn Mardesich, Gwen Krushensky, Christine Vargas, our scholarship winner Marisela Vazquez and Doug Stein.



It's time once again for the **Desert Forum** at The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens in San Marino, CA. Since the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society is an affiliate member of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. So, as a SDCSS member you can receive free admission to the event with your CSSA or SDCSS club badge or membership card! This is a great opportunity to see the wonderful landscape and plants at the Huntington! Transportation not provided.—Rick Bjorklund, SDCSS representative regarding the CSSA

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

9:00 – 9:45 **Registration:** Please bring your CSSA or affiliated club badge or membership card for admission. In order to receive free admission, you must arrive by 9:45. Late arrivers will need to pay for Huntington admission.

9:00 – 10:00 Coffee and doughnuts will be available in the lower section of the Desert Garden

9:00 – 11:00 **Desert Garden:** Knowledgeable staff and docents will be stationed throughout the Desert Garden and Desert Conservatory

11:00 – 1:00 **Plant Sales – (exclusively for CSSA and club members)**

Gate opens by the Teaching Greenhouse at 11:00 for plant sales - **please, no early bird shopping, and no shopping after 1:00. Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted**

1:00 – 5:00 **Free Time** Participants are welcome to tour the gardens and galleries from 10:00 to 5:00.

**Lunch:** *Café 1919* in the visitor center features a variety of sandwiches, salads, and grilled items. **The tea room at Liu Fang Yuan** is a nice option for Asian food *Red Car (coffee shop), located near the Store, offers a small selection of pre-made options*

## Plant of the Month- Dioscorea with Christine Vargas

We all love those “Turtle Back” caudiciforms! Did you know that Dioscorea is in the yam family? And did you know there is a connection between *Dioscorea mexicana* and the birth control pill?

Christine Vargas will describe some characteristics of this interesting caudiciform plant group and its history in food use, medicinal values, and pitfalls of unregulated collection in the wild.



**Coffee in the Garden Succulent and Cacti Party at Rick and Kevin’s place, January 19, 2020, Sunday, 10am-2pm; 4728 Allied Rd, San Diego 619-229-1125**



I always look forward to hosting this annual garden party event as a time to talk with others about succulents and cacti, learn some new growing tips from others, make new friends and share fun times. Kevin will say, though, that I drive him crazy as I begin preparing months ahead for the party. Some of the succulents in the raised beds are reaching mature size and showing adult characteristics.

It has been fun watching Kevin’s *Haworthia* hybrids grow up and begin showing their adult characteristics and color, while others are from newer seed batches and will take some time to develop. We have a large collection of Echeverias, particularly agavoides types, and they have grown together nicely forming a patchwork quilt on their own. We have a growing collection of imported echeverias and relatives—it is amazing to see what is being accomplished via hybridization of these, especially in other countries, of which there are numerous representatives in our gardens. As I enjoy trying a large variety of succulents and cacti, the gardens include many types of Agaves, Aloes, Crassulas, Kalanchoes, mesembs, Haworthias, Gasterias, small Opuntias, Pilosocereus, Echinopsis and Trichocereus hybrids, caudiciforms, and bulbs. Our gardens include areas of plants in the landscape and many large raised beds. Most plants are labeled in



case you want to know the names, and for educational purposes. Sometimes there are a number of similar plants in the same area for comparison. While our place isn’t large, we have packed in lots of succulents and cacti (to Kevin’s chagrin at times), and I’m always game to try a new, unusual succulent or cacti, true to my fondness for shopping and appreciation of abundance!

Speaking of abundance, I am very excited to announce that Carlos Zavaleta of Rojas Succulents and Cacti in Fallbrook, CA will be a guest vendor this year. His enthusiasm for succulents is quite contagious! I recently met Carlos and his mother,



who have a wonderful succulent and cacti nursery in Fallbrook including almost every conceivable Echeveria and genus relative imaginable, a nice selection of variegated succulents including some rare and hard to find ones, cauduciforms, and cacti. His mother has thirty years of experience in the succulent business, with Carlos having at least 25 years since he began growing as a child—he especially likes texture and color. Their nursery was opened in 2004 and has a wide variety of succulents offered in various sizes. Additionally, Carlos has a growing collection of variegated and rare succulents he also offers for sale. He will have an assortment of plants available for sale at the party (he accepts credit cards) and will be doing an informal talk on propagating succulents from seed, leaf, or cuttings. I will also offer a succulent related workshop.



As in prior years, we will have plants for sale that we have propagated from our plants and garden related items (cash only please for us). I will be providing home-baked desserts, appetizers, and beverages. We encourage chatting about plants, sharing your plant experiences, meeting new friends, and having fun at the party. We hope you will drop by, enjoy some food and drink, and chat plants!

**Think hosting a Coffee in the Garden is your “cup of tea?” Contact Julie Dixon at [whooleay@yahoo.com](mailto:whooleay@yahoo.com) for more information and to sign up!**



**BENEFIT DRAWING TABLE**

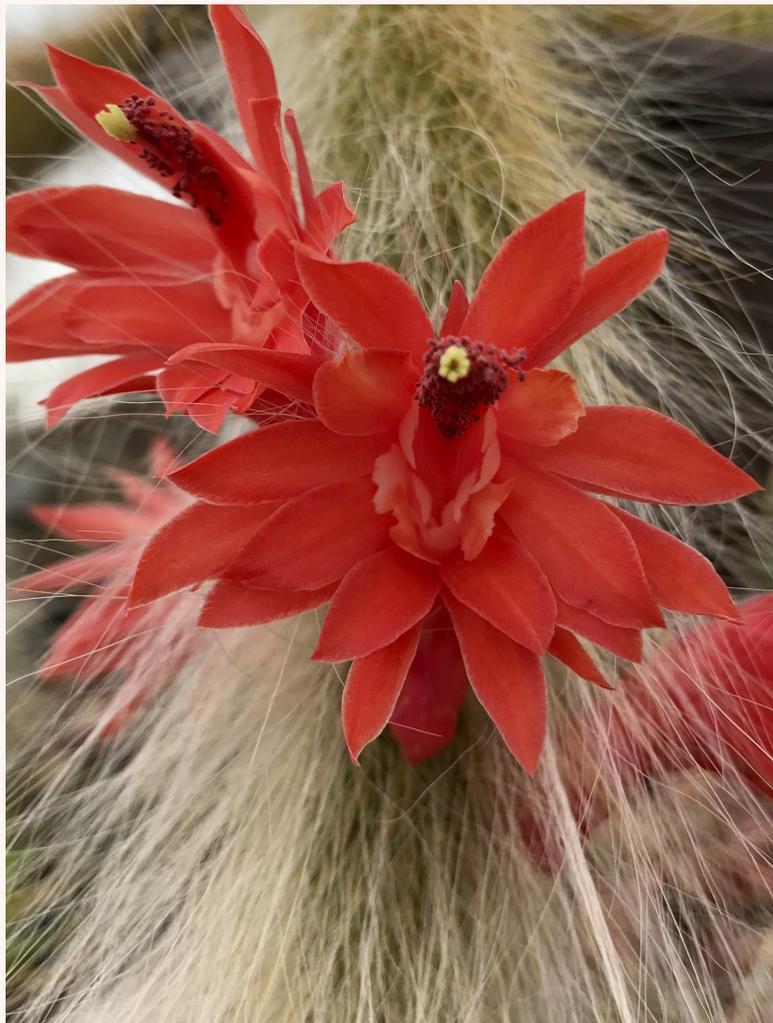
Without doubt, the most frequent question we hear as we are selling tickets is, “Who does the drawing benefit?”

The answer is simple: You, the membership. Proceeds from ticket sales purchase plants and occasionally other items from our growers, both commercial and private. If you win, you get to choose from whatever is available on the table at that point. Any proceeds beyond that purchase go into the general fund, to be spent at the board’s discretion.



Beginning in January, we will be making a couple of changes. For a number of years, plants have been purchased from first the Parrs, then from Tina Zucker. We will now be rotating purchases among our membership, so that we can provide a greater variety among the prizes. In January, Kelly Griffin will be supplying the plants for the table.

Ticket sales begin at 11:00am. The drawing takes place toward the end of the break at the end of the business part of the meeting, prior to the main program. Ticket sales are brisk during the break. Come buy



**Saturday, February 8th**

**11 am - 4 pm**

*San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society*

**2020 Winter Show & Sale**

**Exotic cacti, succulents and handmade pottery for Sale**

**Spectacular specimen plants on display at the Show**

**Club members are admitted to the sale from 9:00 am-11 am for “Members Only Shopping”**

See the December 2019 Espinas y Flores newsletter for updated categories and rules

**Open to the Public**

## 2020 CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CALENDAR

## OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- JAN. 11-12** SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE SAT---9AM TO 4PM AND SUN. 9AM TO 3 PM, LA COUNTY ARBORETUM, 310 N. BALDWIN, ARCADIA, CA  
MANNY RIVERA 626-780-6957 or JOHN MATTHEWS 6617141052
- FEB. 8** [SDCSS-- SHOW & SALE BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA INFO. 858-382-1797](#)
- MAR. 19-21** ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY-- SPRING SHOW AND SALE  
THURS 19<sup>th</sup> 6pm-9pm, FRI. 20<sup>th</sup> 9-7pm, SAT. 21<sup>st</sup>---9am-5pm, 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA INFORMATION CALL 657-549-0702
- APR. 4-5** SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY-- SHOW & SALE--- 9-4PM, SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN, 26300 CRENSHAW BLVD., PALOS VERDES, CA INFO: <http://www.southcoastcss.org>
- APR 19** CONEJO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY PLANT SALE---9am TO 4pm 558 N. VENTU PARK ROAD, THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91320 INFO: [www.conejocss.com](http://www.conejocss.com) OR [conejocss@hotmail.com](mailto:conejocss@hotmail.com)
- APR. 26** HUNTINGTON PLANT SALE----10 to 5pm, HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS, 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. 626-405-3504
- MAY 2-3** SUNSET CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE, VETERANS MEMORIAL CENTER, MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM 2<sup>ND</sup> 10-5, 3<sup>RD</sup>---10-4, 4117 OVERLAND AVE., CULVER CITY, CA. INFO. 310-822-1783
- MAY 3** SOUTH BAY EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE---9am to 4pm, SOUTH COAST BONTANICAL GARDENS, INFO. 310-833-6823
- MAY 8-9** GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY- SHOW AND SALE  
FRI & SAT 9-4:00 pm, REDLANDS CHURCH OF NAZARENE--1307 E. CITRUS AVE., REDLANDS, CA INFO: 909-910-9195 or [www.gatesscss.com](http://www.gatesscss.com)
- TBA MAY** LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB PLANT SHOW AND SALE , INFO- 310-647-7300
- MAY 24-25** CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SALE & SHOW  
MAY 24<sup>TH</sup> ----10am-5pm, 25<sup>TH</sup>----10am-4pm, LUDWICK CENTER, 864 SANTA ROSA SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – INFO. [terrieleivers@gmail.com](mailto:terrieleivers@gmail.com)
- JUNE 6-7** [SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY—SUMMER SHOW & SALE](#)  
BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA INFO. 858-382-1797
- JUNE 13-14** LOS ANGELES CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY- DROUGHT TOLERANT PLANT FESTIVAL  
SHOW AND SALE, JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>----9-4pm, JUNE 14<sup>th</sup> 9-3pm, SEPULVEDA GARDEN CENTER, 16633 MAGNOLIA BLVD., ENCINO, CA. INFO. [www.lacactus.com](http://www.lacactus.com)
- JUNE 27-28** CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE –HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS 1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA. PLANTS SALES START JUNE 26<sup>TH</sup> THRU JUN. 28<sup>TH</sup>---10am to 5pm  
SHOW OPENS JUNE 27<sup>th</sup> THUR JUNE, 28<sup>th</sup> 10am-5pm INFO. 626-405-3504
- JULY 17-18** ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND SALE. FRI. JULY 17<sup>th</sup> Noon to 7pm, SAT. 18<sup>TH</sup>--- 9-5pm 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA INFORMATION CALL 949-212-8417
- AUG. 15-16** 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW AND SALE, 9am-5pm daily. LA COUNTY ARBORETUM. 301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA. INFO. CALL TOM GLAVICH 626-798-2430 or JOHN MARTINEZ 805-390-2139