

Volume 44 Number 7

August 2009

ESPINAS Y FLORES

The Newsletter of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society
Affiliated with the Cactus & Succulent Society of America



Program: Woody Minnich
“BRAZIL, Bahia to Minas Gerias”

Plants of the Month:
Pam Badger, “The Genus Melocactus”
George Plaisted, “Pelargoniums”

Saturday, August 8, 1:00pm
Casa Del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

25 July 2009

Another hot week in Santee and the cactus are blooming in the front yard, Matucana, Astrophytum and Mammillarias galore. The Gymnocalyciums are popping in the back yard. Great cactus weather. The Gasterias and Astrolobas are still blooming so the humming birds are happy.

We had an interesting meeting on the 11th of July with recognition for our show winners and our volunteers.

Peter brought in two of the show worthy plants that we will be raffling to our volunteers at the Holiday party in December. The more you volunteer the better your chances are of winning. Joe Kraatz shared great information on Opuntia juice and its



Some of the Trophy Winners: Left to right: Candy Garner, Don Hunt, Mike Buckner, Jerry Garner, Tina Zucker, Chris Miller, Jean O'Daniel, Peter Walkowiak. Courtesy Bev Grant

many uses. We also learned a lot about how alcohol is processed and what some of the restrictions on distribution are. At the break we sampled the juice in many forms. Joe's last shot was either you'll love it or hate it. No middle ground with Opuntias, as usual. I missed the speaker due to required attendance at a wedding, but hopefully you enjoyed the trip to Chile. The challenge with the microphone has been address and we will be sure to have several people trained in setting it up at the next meeting.

We held the SDCSS Board Meeting on the 15th at the DeMerritt's house. Several items were discussed. As we work our way to the electronic version of the newsletter we are going to make both available to members for the rest of the year. The electronic version will be posted on the web

On the cover: Joe and Kay Qujada in habitat amongst *Melocactus levitestatus* near Iuiu in Bahia, Brazil. Photo by the Qujadas

site (SDCSS.com) a day or two before the meeting, but after the membership should have received their paper copy. We are also working on an e-mail list so we can send the copies to those of you who have e-mail.

Another item was the annual picnic. Normally we have the picnic in September, but due to scheduling issues we will have a regular meeting in Room 101 at Balboa Park in September. In October we will have our picnic. I have made contact with the Wild Animal Park (WAP) and I believe that will be the location of the picnic. Those of you that attended 4 years ago know what a great time we had. More details will be available at the next meeting and in the following newsletter. Cary Sharp, from the Horticulture Dept. at the WAP will be attending our August meeting and sharing information about what is going on at the WAP. He will be joined by two Volunteer Managers from the Zoological Society.

Another topic that came up at the board meeting was that we need to help all our members attend. We are looking for a transportation coordinator. Someone who could hook up people who need rides to the meeting, with people that live in the same area. This is a great way to get to know each other. Contact me if you are interested.

Cathy Clark stepped up and collected at the Benefit Drawing Table last month. She had a great time meeting new people. She is a board member and has found her enjoyment of our meeting enhanced because she volunteers wherever she is needed.

Tina Zucker is putting together a list of local nurseries, growers and landscapers for us to hand out to our members, at shows and to post on our website. If you want your information posted please contact her. Her website is <http://www.succulents.us>.

Several years ago we put together a membership list that we shared with all our members. In order to be on the list the member has to agree to it. We will not publish any of your contact information without your permission. Joe Kraatz will have a list to fill in at the next meeting. Last time we included phone numbers and/or e-mails and we will probably keep that format. If you do not attend the meeting, but want to be included on the list you can contact Joe or me.

Our next meeting on August 8th will feature Woody Minnich talking about his trip to South America. Woody always gives a great presentation so be sure to join us.

So today is my baby girl's wedding day. I am going to put on heels, a suit, and the family pearls and look like the mother of the bride. I get to be myself again tomorrow. I hope your summer is going well and that we will see you on the 8th.

Chris Miller

BRAZIL, BAHIA TO MINAS GERIAS

This month's program features a combined 3 trips into the south eastern portions of Brazil. The region is commonly called the Brazilian Highlands and includes the two states, Minas Geras and Bahia. In these two states



Both an immature (cephalium-less) and a mature *Melocactus levitestatus* in habitat, Bahia Brazil.
Photo by Kay Qujada

there are more cacti than in any other region of Brazil and a wealth of other plants are to be found, including Bromeliads, Orchids and Palms.

Our field adventure will feature the back country, the towns and their people, as well as a wide variety of plants and animals. The cacti we will focus on include; Melocactus, Buinigia, Coleocephalocereus, Pilosocereus, Micranthocereus, Discocactus, Tacinga, Arrojadoa and Uebelmannia. Some of the other plant genera will include; Bursera, Cissus, Dyckia, Encholirium, Orthophytum and myriad of other Bromeliads.



We will also feature some of the severe conservation issues facing many of the plants and animals from this unique part of world. This part of Brazil is one of the most fascinating environments for strange cacti and other plants. If you want to understand and see many of these rare genera, please join me for this presentation.

Woody Minnich, July 2009

PLANT OF THE MONTH

PELARGONIUMS

By George Plaisted, August, 2009

When the merchant sailing ships of the 1400's and 1500's traveled from Europe to the far east and back, their routes, going south around Africa's Cape of Good Hope, north to India and / or east to the Orient, took many months, even years. Food and water were collected along the way. Groups such as the Dutch East India Company established ports for their ships. Goats and other small animals were loaded aboard and kept alive until time for their butchering. The animals' food was the weeds of the area of the ports. When the ships returned to Europe, they were laden with silks and spices. I believe hidden in the bilge of the ships was the greatest weed-seed bank of the day. Any good merchant would sell this animal manure to the farmers of the area. With seed embedded manure, good growing media, and plenty of rain, bingo! What a surprise did the farmer have. When strange plants appeared, scholarly plant people searched past records to see if any characteristic of these at hand were similar to previous plants studied.

Yes, the seed pods of the strange plants looked similar to many European plants' seed pods. They looked like crane's bills - you know, the bird with long legs and neck and a long bill. These 'Crane's Bill' were given the botanical name 'Geraniums' using 'geranos', the Greek word for crane. 'Crane's Bill' and Geraniums are synonymous. But if you want to sound 'edumacated', say Geranium.

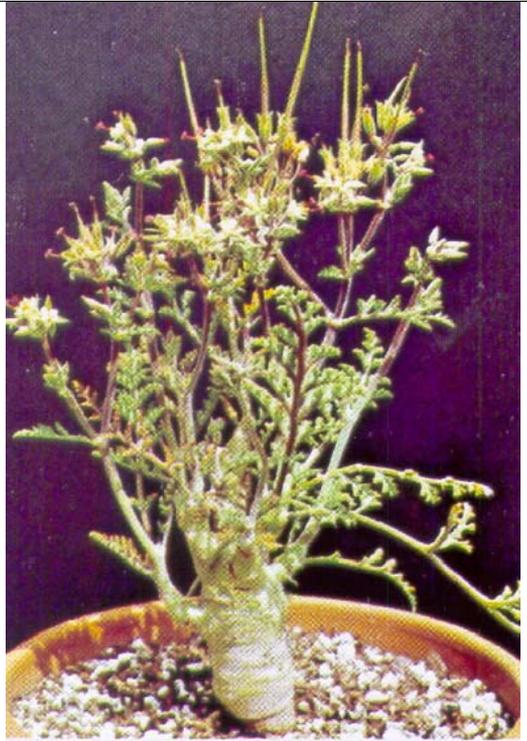
They, both the known and the strange plants, had five petals, each seed pod held five seeds. Yes, these strange plants must be Geraniums. But wait, the petals of the older known plants were all the same size and the same color. The petals of the strange plants were different. There seemed to be a vertical mirror image. The left



P. SCABRUM

side looks just like the opposite of the right side. Well, I'll be, a vertical axes in their flowers. The upper two petals had different coloring than the lower, more plain, petals, and to boot, there is a 'nectar spur'. I do not know what a 'nectar spur' looks like, but if the books says it has a 'nectar spur', it has a 'nectar spur'. Now if you can't find a 'nectar spur', maybe the plant hasn't read the book.

Was this difference all bad? No, this was great, a new genus could give the finder another feather in his cap. What was needed was another bird with long legs and neck and a long bill. The Greek word 'pelargos' for stork was chosen. 'Stork's Bill' and the botanical name 'Pelargonium' had arrived. These strange plants became a 'Stork's Bill' - synonymous Pelargonium. To sound 'edumacated', say Pelargonium.



P. CARNOSUM

South Africa is the home of most pelargonium species. Australia is home for about twelve known species, and the area of Turkey, Iraq and Iran have two species known. You note the word known. There must be more species out there that have not been discovered. There must be rocks out there that have not been looked behind.

An effort to sort the Pelargonium genus into groups having common features has created about sixteen sections. The sections and common features are as follows:

CAMPYLIA: Plants small with short, erect stems, leaves entire on long petioles with membranous stipules base, upper petals wider than lower, five fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. caespitosum*, *P. capillare*, *P. coronopifolium*, *P. elegans*, *P. oenothera*, *P. ovale*, *P. tricolor*, *P. violareum*.

CICONIUM: Half-shrubs or shrubs, thick and fleshy simple leaves, 5 petals same color, seven fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. acetosum*, *P. acraeum*, *P. caylae*, *P. inquinans*, *P. multibracteatum*, *P. tongaense*, *P. zonale*.

CORTUSINA: Half-shrubs with short thick, fleshy stems, persistent stipules, simple leaves usually silky or woolly long petioles, six or seven fertile

stamens, upper petals broader than lower. Plants in this section: *P. cortusifolium*, *P. crassicule*, *P. dichondrifolium*, *P. echinatum*, *P. odoratissimum*, *P. reniforme*, *P. rhodanthum*, *P. sibthorpiifolium*, *P. sidoides*.

DIBRACHYA: Plants weak, thin, and slender stems, sprawling, leaves fleshy, seven fertile stamens, upper two petals very short. Plant in this section: *P. peltatum*.

EUMORPHA: Shrubby herbaceous plants, leaves entire, veined and borne on long petioles, 2 upper petals broader than lower, seven fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. alchemilloides*, *P. grandiflorum*, *P. patulum*, *P. tabulare*, *P. transvaalense*.

GLAUCOPHYLLUM: Half-shrubs, petioles persistent and spiny, seven fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. fruticosum*, *P. glaucum*, *P. laevigatum*, *P. spinosum*, *P. ternatum*.

HOAREA: Tuberous roots, 5 petaled flowers, five fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. aciculatum*, *P. aestivale*, *P. appendiculatum*, *P. aridicola*, *P. asarifolium*, *P. caledonicum*, *P. carneum*, *P. caroli-henrici*, *P. curviandrum*, *P. ellaphieae*, *P. fissifolium*, *P. heterophyllum*, *P. hirsutum* var. *melananthum*, *P. hirtipetalum*, *P. incrassatum*, *P. leipoldtii*, *P. leptum*, *P. longifolium*, *P. luteolum*, *P. namaquense*, *P. nephrophyllum*, *P. nervifolium*, *P. oblongatum*, *P. parvipetalum*, *P. petroselinifolium*, *P. pilosellifolium*, *P. punctatum*, *P. rapaceum*, *P. triandrum*, *P. trifoliolatum*, *P. violiflorum*.

ISOPETALUM: Only species on the isolated island of St Helena, very different from other species, has its own section. Plant in this section: *P. cotyledonis*.

JENKINSONIA: Sub-shrubs, stems succulent or woody, flowers 4 petals, upper two very large, seven fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. antidysentericum*, *P. praemorsum*, *P. quercetorum*, *P. tetragonum*.

LIGULARIA: Subsucculent branched or multibranched stems, leaves usually pinnately divided, seven fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. abrotanifolium*, *P. alpinum*, *P. aridum*, *P. articulatum*, *P. barklyi*, *P. crassipes*, *P. desertorum*, *P. divisifolium*, *P. dolomiticum*, *P. exhibens*, *P. exstipulatum*, *P. fragile*, *P. grandicalcaratum*, *P. griseum*, *P. hirtum*, *P. hystrix*, *P. ionidiflorum*, *P. karoocicum*, *P. oreophilum*, *P. otaviense*, *P. plurisectum*, *P. pulchellum*, *P. sericifolium*, *P. setulosum*, *P. stipulaceum*, *P. tenuicaule*, *P. tragacanthoides*, *P. xerophyton*.

MYRRHIDIUM: Perennial half shrubs, herbaceous annuals, leaves pinnately divided, flowers 4 or 5 petals, upper two larger than lower, five to seven fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. candicans*, *P. caucalifolium* subsp. *convolvulifolium*, *P. caucalifolium* subsp. *caucalifolium*, *P. longicaule* var. *angustipetalum*, *P. multicaule*, subsp. *subherbaceum*, *P. multicaule*, *P. myrrhifolium* var. *oriandrifolium*, *P. myrrhifolium* var. *betonicum*, *P. myrrhifolium*, var. *fruticosum*, *P. suburbanum* subsp. *suburbanum*, *P.*

urbanum var. *bipinnatifidum*.

OTIDIA: Thick succulent stems, succulent leaves, flowers eared at base, five fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. alternans*, *P. carnosum*, *P. ceratophyllum*, *P. crithmifolium*, *P. dasyphyllum*, *P. klinghardtense*, *P. laxum*, *P. paniculatum*.

PELARGONIUM: Shrubs and half-shrubs, woody branched stems, leaves rarely entire, lobed or divided, upper petals longer, broader than lower three, seven fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. englerianum*, *P. glutinosum*, *P. graveolens*, *P. greytonense*, *P. hermanniifolium*, *P. hispidum*, *P. panduriforme*, *P. papilionaceum*, *P. pseudoglutinosum*, *P. quercifolium*, *P. radens*, *P. ribifolium*, *P. scabroide*, *P. scabrum*, *P. sublignosum*, *P. tomentosum*, *P. vitifolium*.

PERISTERA: Mostly annuals, perennials rare, flowers relatively small, five fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. australe*, *P. chamaedryfolium*, *P. columbinum*, *P. grossularioides*, *P. hypoleucum*, *P. inodorum*, *P. iocastum*, *P. minimum*, *P. nanum*, *P. senecioides*.

POLYACTIUM: Tuberous root, leaves lobed or pinnately divided, flower's long spur usually night scented. Plants in this section: *P. anethifolium*, *P. bowkeri*, *P. caffrum*, *P. fulgidum*, *P. gibbosum*, *P. lobatum*, *P. luridum*, *P. multiradiatum*, *P. pulverulentum*, *P. radulifolium*, *P. schizopetalum*, *P. triste*.

SEYMOURIA: Tuberous roots, 2 petaled flowers, five fertile stamens. Plants in this section: *P. asarifolium*, *P. ellaphieae*, *P. ternifolium*.

Some pelargonium species naturally have a dormancy period during the dry season of their native region. Dormancy can be delayed or eliminate by extending the environment of their natural growing season—cool temperatures and the moisture content of the medium they are planted in (container or earth). However, some plants may lose their beauty, desired features and health.

With my experience with dormant plants, the lack of water causes the stems of my potted plants to wilt and hang down and if the stems are long enough, rest on the bench or ground.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, Hoppy (William Boyd) and the boys...

References:

Geraniums Around the World, Vol. 35 Number 2, article by Michael Vassar, International Geranium Society, Los Angeles, California

Pelargoniums of Southern Africa, Vol. 1, Second Edition, (1979) by J.J.A. von der Walt, Hilt & Carter, Cape Town.

Pelargoniums of Southern Africa, Vol. 2, by J.J.A. von der Walt, and P.J. Vorster, Juta & Co Ltd. Cape Town (1981).

Geophytic Pelargoniums by Charles Craib, CTP Book Printers, Cape Town

PLANT OF THE MONTH

The Genus MELOCACTUS

By Pam Badger, August, 2009

There are several reasons why this genus is dear to my heart. First of all, they are just so cute and fascinating. The more I learn about them the more I love them. Another reason is that they became an object of mystery and exploration for Lee and I when we



More *Melocactus levitestatus* in habitat, Bahia Brazil.
Photo courtesy of Kay Qujada

we were living in Central America in the late 70's. On one of our expeditions to the highlands of Nicaragua we discovered *Melocactus* growing alongside the road. We scoured the surrounding countryside and found no further specimens. On our return to our rancho, doing some research, we found reference to this genus growing in every Central American country - EXCEPT Nicaragua! We concluded that a local rancher must have planted them along the fence row to further discourage cattle from crossing the fences. At a later date we did find them in a more 'natural' setting, growing on cliff sides in Guatemala.

Melocactus was first described by Link and Otto in 1827 and included four species. Currently, according to

The New Cactus Lexicon there are 34 accepted species, 3 of 'unknown status,' and 2 hybrid species. As with most cacti, *Melocactus* have had lots of changes in formal nomenclature as well as a colorful history of common names including: Melon Cactus, Urchin Thistle, Hedge Hog Thistle, and more recently: Turks Cap and Turk's Head. In the Caribbean where many species exist: Melon of the Hills, and in Brazil it is commonly called English Friars Cap. In Brazil, *Melocactus* can be seen growing on tiled rooftops due to a superstition that throwing the plants on the roof (where they often root and continue growing) will keep away storms and/or witches. I don't think we should try that here as we are already in a drought!

Melocactus are distinguished by their terminal cephalium - the body of the

plant grows to a certain size, then begins to grow its 'cap' - a dense pad of specialized spines which grows to a certain width, then grows taller. The body of the plant ceases to grow - OR mature - the main body of the mature Melocactus contains only juvenile tissue. Adult tissue is restricted to the core of cephalium. The juvenile tissue in the main body is why they are difficult to establish after losing roots. Other species also produce cephalium, such as *Coleocephalocereus* (formerly *Buiningia*) but the bodies of those plants continue to grow and mature, making the morphology of the Melocactus unique.

Melocactus have one of the largest variance of size in the cactus world - ranging from the diminutive *M. matanzanus* which grows its cephalium when about 4 inches in diameter to the giants of the species, *M. giganteus* and *M. bahiensis* which can grow up to 20 inches before growing the cephalium which then continues to grow taller, its height sometimes exceeding the diameter of the body.

Flowers emerge from the growing ring of cephalium - small, red, pink, or magenta. Almost all species are self fertile (*M. azureus* and *M. glaucescens* mostly self sterile.)

Ripe fruit, which are expelled from cephalium, sometimes with enough force to land a bit away from parent, are red to pink to white. The edible fruit are consumed by lizards, birds, and rodents thereby spreading the seed.

Melocactus enjoy a very wide distribution - one of most extensive of cactus. From Rio de Janeiro in Brazil and Arequipa in Southern Peru, North to the Caribbean and Jalisco in Western Mexico. The countries in which they grow include Brazil, Venezuela, Surinam, Guyana, Colombia, Equador, Peru, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and throughout the Caribbean. Greatest concentration is in Bahia, Brazil with 13 species. Growing from sea level - right down to the sea - to as high as



A 4 inch diameter *Melocactus matanzanus* ready for a show. Courtesy of the editors.

3000 m., about the only thing they can't handle is a freeze.

Melocactus love fast draining soil with a deep layer of drain gravel. In their native habitat, some genus like acid soil, some alkaline - some vary their preference within a single species, like those growing on exposed rock faces, where individual specimens adapt to the conditions where their seed happens to germinate.

Melocactus prefer warm temps and high humidity which prevents their roots from drying out. Plastic pots and well draining soil are recommended to prevent root loss. Light regular feeding during times of growth are also recommended to maintain plant health. Avoid feeding plants during dormant periods.

Some forms have psychoactive drugs in the body tissue, though there is no record of them being used medicinally or recreationally. After seeing how much the Prickly Pear vodka was being enjoyed at the last meeting, I thought it best not to reveal which ones!

Resources:

Melocactus, Care and Cultivation, George Thompson, Cactus & Co. (2008)

Melocacti of Cuba, Zoltan Rigerszki et al, Cactus & Co. (2007)

The New Cactus Lexicon, David Hunt, dh books (2006)

JULY 2009 BRAG TABLE WINNERS

Judged by Gary James

Cactus

1st Place, Kelly Griffin - *Melocactus azureus*

2nd Place, Lee Badger - *Copiapoa gigantea*

2nd Place, Peter Walkowiak - *Rebutia donaldiana*

3rd Place, Peter Walkowiak - *Gymnocalycium schickendantzii*

3rd Place, Peter Walkowiak - *Gymnocalycium* sp.

Succulents

1st Place, Phyllis Flechsig - *Begonia suffruticosa*

2nd Place, Kelly Griffin - *Aloe* cv. 'Skylight'

2nd Place, Candy Garner - *Aeonium spathulifolium*

3rd Place, Peter Walkowiak - *Euphorbia viguieri* v. *capuroniana*

Submitted by Candy Garner

TREVOR'S 'BRAG PLANTS'

By Bev Grant, July 2009

Who would have thought a 7 year old boy would have a great time at a 4 hour meeting, raffle, slide show, and exchange table at the adult oriented SDCSS July meeting. The 15 minute snack table "break" and Joe Kraatz' special prickly pear pineapple juice weren't even the highlights...tho' Trevor did have thirds at the cookie table and seconds of Joe's Juice! The highlights were the people and the plants.

We're a friendly group to everyone who might share an interest in cactus and succulents... however, to think a 7 year old would become enthralled with our passion might seem remote. But you were all kind anyway...you're good folks. Trevor picked up on that fact right away! Shaking his hand, asking his age, wondering what he'd been doing on vacation with Art and "Ama" for the week, helping us choose plants... all made him feel comfortable - a part of the group.



Trevor was on a mission. Art had burned and blistered his knee while making S'mores... solution, a bit of *Aloe Vera*. So, Trevor needed an *Aloe Vera* plant for his home in Fullerton...in case he needed to doctor a similar wound. Two laps around the sales tables and no *Aloe Vera*. We asked Lee Badger if he'd seen one...Lee knows everything! Lee's answer, "No, they're too common to be a sale plant, but there might be one on the exchange table." On we went...to the exchange table. For the first time in months, I hadn't bought any plants to exchange so no ticket...and it was early in the day. Sara Schell, seeing Trevor's eyes light up when he spotted the coveted *Aloe Vera*...graciously, smiling says, "It's yours, enjoy!" Nice lady. Huge impact on my grandson!

Once Trevor's main mission was accomplished, *Aloe Vera* in hand, we went back to the sale...now he could concentrate on the *delightfully weird* plants available...the ones we call *hybrids*. He chose a "Calico Hearts (in bloom)," a baby *Haworthia*...wanted a \$28 *Trichodiadema bulbosum* (suggested we save that purchase for the next sale after he had some experience with his 3 new plants). Agreed. He was thrilled with his 3 plants, for the time being. After a relatively intense, detailed slide show by Gary James on 'Chile's High Altitude Cacti,' I thought he'd be ready to go home. Well, home after a short shopping trip for needed new beach sandals, as promised earlier in the day by Ama. Wrong! Sandals... who ca-

Snacks for the Break: Those with last names beginning with N through Z, please bring a snack to share at the break.

res when you could find more PLANTS! Trevor wanted to go to the exchange table and wait for any succulents that were 'left overs.' (Like his Ama...he's not as fond of the "picky ones.") Probably wanted to see the nice lady Sara again, too. There, he amassed another *8 bits and pieces...* TREASURES in his eyes. He 'scored' with a *Sansevieria*, *Sedum*, jade plant, *Fenestraria*, *Echeveria*...and more.

Ama was wondering if they'd be forgotten after the high-speed acquisition phase and left to wilt in the box. Not to worry! Trevor knew where the potting table was, all the terra cotta pots, soil and gravel. What a gift to me...to be able to talk about the care, choosing of pots, and help repot plants with Trevor. Quality time. But these gift plants kept giving...more surprises. Next, Trevor moved a patio table, wanted some paper and pen for a sign..."Trevor's Brag Plants." No kidding. He'd absorbed more than



imagined!! His daddy was coming to spend the evening and next day, and he wanted daddy to be surprised with what he'd bought, found, was given... *created*.

All of you who were so nice to Trevor, many thanks.... Makes me want to meet and return the favor with *your grandchildren*. Future

member of the SDCSS? A more environmentally aware citizen of the world? Do I remember someone once saying we need to attract some younger folks? Maybe this is the way! Bring your grandkids to a meeting/sale/program. Trevor is ready to come to every meeting he can! You're better than new sandals (which we did finally purchase). You're inspiring!

And to pass on the wisdom of Joan Lozoya, "Grandchildren are like library books, you can return them to the source when you're tired. Sometimes, doesn't it make you wish you'd skipped children and gone straight to grandchildren?!" I'll give that some thought....

But I know I wasn't ready to *return* Trevor at the end of the week; his 'book' is still in process....

The due date for submission of all material to be published in EyF will be the last Saturday of the month preceding the next monthly meeting. All submissions are to be made to the Editors. Please email your articles to Paul & Carol Maker at PDMaker@roadrunner.com.

26TH SUCCULENT PLANTS SYMPOSIUM

5 September 2009, Huntington Botanical Gardens

Program includes:

Bruce Hargreaves, Bakersfield CA - *The Karoo in Botswana*

Stephen Ward McCabe, Arboretum at UC Santa Cruz - *Dudleya: Taxonomic Adventures and Rare Morphologies*

Jose Delgadillo Rodriguez, Herbarium BCMEX, Universidad Autonoma de Baja California, Ensenada Mexico - *Analytical Approach to the Baja California and South African Mediterranean Floras: An Emphasis on succulent life forms*

Sean C. Lahmeyer, Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino CA - *Tissue Culture at the Huntington: An Optimist's Perspective*

John N. Trager, Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino CA - *Oh Oaxaca!*

The dinner speaker will be **Gerald S. Barad**, Flemington NJ - *The Gardens of Valley View*

Schedule:

8:30am - Registration and continental breakfast

9am to 5pm - Program in Friends' Hall (includes silent auction)

During lunch and special hours the Desert Garden and Desert Conservatory will be open

6 pm - Dinner (Registrants who do not sign up for dinner are welcome to return for the final presentation)

Cost: Symposium \$75.00, Dinner \$20.00

Deadline for registration is August 31st. The Huntington cannot guarantee meals for late registrants. Send registration forms and a check (payable to The Huntington) or credit card information to:

Succulent Plants Symposium
Huntington Botanical Gardens

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

Name(s) _____

Affiliation _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Program _____ x \$75.00 = _____

Dinner _____ x \$20.00 = _____

Donation _____

Total Enclosed _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp _____

Signature _____

For those of you who gave a plant of the month 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.

ESPINAS Y FLORES GOING ELECTRONIC!

This month's issue of our newsletter will be available for viewing and downloading at the Club website, www.sdcss.com. Take a look! As a cost-savings measure, all members are being urged to accept an e-mailed version of the newsletter – the cost of color printing and mailing far outweigh the annual membership fee. Those of you who have listed an e-mail address with the club will shortly receive a message asking if you would like to get the EyF electronically, as well as by mail, for the rest of the year. By answering in the affirmative, you are also validating your e-mail address. Beginning in 2010, you will have a choice as to how you wish to receive your copy of the newsletter.

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.

2009 UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 15-16: 24th Annual Intercity Show and Sale at the LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, CA. For information call Tom Glavich 626-798-2430, John Matthews 661-297-5364, or Peter Walkowiak 858-382-1797. Go to www.sgvcss.com/intercity2009_newletter.pdf for a look at the show schedule.

Aug 29: Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium. All day at the Huntington. Fee: \$75.00 with an additional charge of \$25.00 for the dinner.

Sep 27: 12 pm . Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction, 18127 South Alameda Street, Rancho Dominguez, CA.

Nov 7-8: San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale at the LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, CA. For information call Manny Rivera at 626-793-6917.

Dec 12: SDCSS Holiday Party!