



*Mammillaria thornberi*

# Espinas y Flores

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

Volume 50 Number 1

January 2015



*Haworthia magnifica splendens*

**Regular Meeting** is January 10th at 1 pm, Room 101 Casa del Prado in Balboa Park

**Workshop** is at 11, **Staging Plants to Show** by Peter Walkowiak

**Plant of the Month** is **Large Euphorbias** by Erik Gronborg

**Program** is **Gasterias, Haworthias and Aloes.....Oh My!** An adventure to Lesotho the Eastern Cape of South Africa by Kelly Griffin

**Coffee in the Garden** will be at Rick & Kevin's home on Sunday January 18th

If your last name starts with A through M please bring treats for the meeting.

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## President's Message

Welcome New Year! I knew you were coming and you have certainly arrived along with a little bit of winter. It is pretty cold for So Cal right now so just a little sage plant advice, keep um dry if you can unless they are winter growers....i.e., *Dudleyas*, most Mesembs, South African *Aloes* or *Aeoniums* etc....they generally like winter rainfall.

We had a very lively and festive holiday gathering. I want to give thanks to all that contributed to making it happen. ALL OF YOU! YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE! All those that brought desserts, and smiles and smiles!

I want to thank Ed Delollis and Western Cactus for the contributions to the auction. Thanks also to Wanda Mallen, Chris Miller, Jerry Garner and Beverly Kirkiguard for their plant donations to the auction. Thanks also to Bev Grant for donating the t-shirt to the Silent Auction and Jennifer Harris for those great hand painted succulent centerpieces. I want to thank Peter Walkowiak for his plant contributions and for working with Ed as auctioneers. They along with you managed to make our auction quite a success. I want to thank Herb Stern for his "spirited" efforts and addition to party, Chris Miller for the table decorations and Cathy Clark, Jean & Bill O'Daniel, Kathy & Steve Harris, and Melanie Howe for the set up. The gift plants were splendid, thank you Kienan Parr and Peter Walkowiak for your efforts to acquire them, grow them and get them there. Terrific job!

I truly appreciate everyone that hung around and helped to make it so easy and fun with the clean up at the end.

Our Winter Show and Sale is just around the corner. We have much to do and much to look forward to. This is the best opportunity to show off plants that grow in this season but if it looks good, bring it on in. A one day show is a perfect chance to wet your chops especially if you have never shown plants before. It is low key and your participation is wanted and needed. We will have a tremendous selection of sale plants too and it will be a busy weekend in the park no doubt. Mark the calendar, it is Feb. 14th!

We have the new schedule of Program Speakers for 2015 completed. Some old, some new but all hopefully great! Not sure where I will fit with that assessment but I should add that I normally keep my program in reserve just in case I have something happen. Well right out of the box, something happened. We had a late schedule change and although we still will get to hear that speaker, it will just not be when I had hoped. I will fill in for January but more on that later.....

I wish you all the happiest of New Years.....See you on January 10th - Kelly Griffin



Kelly presents picture to Chris Miller, SDCSS's newest Life Member

### Cashier Training or Refresher

There will be training available at the January meeting for volunteers interested in running the registers at the February Sale. The more registers we can man the faster the line will move. That makes happy customers, happy vendors and more money to support our programs and services. Jim DeForrest will provide the training and we will have an extra register for hands on training.

Cover photo by Kelly Griffin  
Picture to right by BJ Miller

# Program: Gasterias, Haworthias and Aloes.....Oh My!

## An adventure to Lesotho the Eastern Cape of South Africa

By Kelly Griffin

This is not a typical travel log as this was not a typical South African tour. The plan was to go to places that are not the usual "go to" places. I wrote a little bit about this trip in the last issue of Espinas y Flores.



*Gasteria acinacifolia*



*Haworthia marxii*

Two months ago, we traveled to South Africa on a choreographed expedition specifically to see special succulent plants. The big



*Euphorbia stellaspina*

bucket list objective for me was to see the iconic spiral Aloe, *Aloe polyphylla* in habitat and if I could be so lucky, see it in flower, all the better! Success and more! We spent the next three weeks seeing *Gasterias* and *Haworthias* and *Aloes* in the Eastern Cape and even ventured into the little Karoo too. We managed to see rare *Gasterias* such as *G rawlinsonii* the strange cliff hanger from Bavianskloof, *Gasterias croucheri*, *G. excelsa* and *G. acinacifolia* and *Haworthias bayeri*,



*Frithia pulchra* in situ

*H. brunsyi*, *H. splendens* and *H. springbokvlakensis* among many others. This program I hate to say has ~ too many plants! Forget that, you



*Boophane disticha* near Middleburg

can't have too many plants! I will have a few surprises too .....but I promise I will stay on schedule!

Such an interesting place, so many fantastic plants.....just an incredible experience to share.



*Crassula barbata*

## Coffee in the Garden with Rick and Kevin Sunday January 18th from 10 to 2



Kevin and I are once again hosting a Coffee in the Garden in January. Please note the change in day of the week to Sunday in order to accommodate plant events happening at the Huntington and Palomar's club on Saturdays in January.



This is a prime time for many of the *Aloes* to be in bloom. I anticipate one of our newer *Aloes*, *A. "Vulcan's Fire"* a bicolored red and orange one will finally be in bloom which I have eagerly awaited. Also putting on a show will be many other *Aloes* and not to be outdone are three different plantings of *Agave 'Joe Hoak'* which should be in full bloom. *Aeoniums* should be coming around by then. Tucked around are many other succulents including *Crassula*, *Cotyledon*, *Mesembs*, and a slowly growing collection of cacti.

Kevin has created more container plantings, most include rocks from our collecting trips out to the desert, and his prior ones have been growing in nicely. We will have the garden open for visitors, Kevin will have some of his propagated plants and perhaps seedlings for sale as well as some landscape size plants (especially *Dyckias* and *Hechtias*) that are ready to move on to new homes. We will have baked goods and other items to nibble on as well as drinks. We hope you will drop in, whether this is your first visit or if you have been here many times to see how

things are maturing, what is new, and chat with friends.

Rick and Kevin

4728 Allied Rd, San Diego, CA 92120  
(near Friars and Mission Gorge by the Kaiser Hospital)





## Plant of the Month: Large *Euphorbias*

By Erik Gronborg

You probably all had some poinsettias during Christmas. When you look at the gardens in your neighborhood you are likely to see a number of Sticks On Fire. And Candelabra trees are sticking up everywhere. They are all *Euphorbias*.

The genus *Euphorbia* is huge, with more than 2000 species all over the world. About 850 species are succulents. What defines a *Euphorbia*? One, they all produce a white latex, which often can be a skin irritant, and for some people is very toxic, just ask Andrew Wilson. Two, most flowers in the plant world have both male and female parts, but *Euphorbias* have unisexual flowers, that is separate male and female flowers on the same inflorescence. They are small flowers in a unique cluster called a Cyathium. Three, unlike cacti which have spines growing from areoles, spines or thorns on *Euphorbias* are modified stipules, usually in pairs, or dried remnants of peduncles, the flowering stalks, mostly growing in long rows along the edges of the angular branches.

I will show *Euphorbias* which are too large to bring to the meeting, mostly the species which can easily be found growing in San Diego. In my own garden I counted 17, and I used to have four more large species.

To establish some order I have organized them into three groups:

1. *Euphorbias* with thorns either candelabra or large bushes.
2. Bundles of sticks without thorns.
3. *Euphorbias* with permanent leaves.

Sources:

*Euphorbia* Journal

various websites, particularly informative: PBI (Planetary Biodiversity Project) on *Euphorbias*



poinsettia flower



flower, *E. mauritanica*



poinsettia flower



*E. ingens*



*E. tirucalli* 'sticks on fire'



*E. heptagona*



*E. canariensis*



### Reminder:

Start collecting boxes for the February Sale. Most of those small and medium Amazon boxes that you have stacked up will work great.

I took all the photographs in the San Diego area



# THE HUNTINGTON

LIBRARY, ART COLLECTIONS, AND BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California 91108 (626) 405-2100

## BOTANICAL GARDENS

### DESERT FORUM *Saturday, 17 January 2015*

#### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- 9:00 – 10:00      **Registration**  
Please bring your CSSA or affiliated club badge or membership card for admission
- 9:00 – 11:00      **Desert Garden**  
Knowledgeable staff and docents will be stationed throughout the Desert Garden and Desert Conservatory  
Aloes will be flowering
- 11:00 – 1:00      **Plant Sales**  
Gate opens by the Teaching Greenhouse at 11:00 for plant sales - *please, no early bird shopping*  
Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted
- 1:00 – 4:30      **Free Time**  
Attendees are welcome to tour the gardens and galleries as of 10:30

#### Lunch:

The Rose Garden Café features a variety of sandwiches and grilled items  
The tea room at Liu Fang Yuan is a lovely option for fresh Chinese food

#### Don't miss:

"Beautiful Science: Ideas that Changed the World" in Dibner Hall (Library building)  
The newly renovated Japanese Garden  
*Liu Fang Yuan*, the Garden of Flowing Fragrance (Chinese Garden)

### Librarians are Volunteers of the Year for 2014



Don Hunt, Kathy and Steve Harris are recognized for their work on the SDCSS Library. Over the last 5 years. They have worked towards improving our Library through Saturday work parties to sort, clean and bar-code the books, maintaining the data base and ensuring that the most recent releases in books are available to our members. Their work in implementing the bar code system and making sure we have the Library available at every meeting has improved the Library's service to our members and reduced the number of lost or unreturned books

### Rudy Lime is our Newest SDCSS Fellow



SDCSS recognizes Rudy Lime as our most recent Fellow for his work in developing the concept of SMOLA (Succulents as a Medium of Living Art). His work in this medium since the mid 1980's has added significantly to our hobby, our shows and the interest of members to train plants. Through high show displays, books, workshops and plantsales Rudy has encouraged many of us in the Society to try their hand at something different and exciting.

## Cactus & Succulent Calendar of Upcoming Events for 2015

**Jan 17:** Huntington Desert Forum, 9 to 4:30, at the Huntington Botanical Gardens (see page 5)

**Feb 14:** San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society, Winter Show & Sale, Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA. Info 858-382-1797

**Mar 27-29:** Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Spring Show & Sale. Friday & Saturday. Mar. 27-28 9-5pm Sunday Mar. 29 12-4pm. 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA Info Call 562-587-3357

**Apr 11-12:** South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, at South Coast Botanic Garden, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes, CA Info: 310-378-1953, <http://www.southcoastcss.org>

**Apr 26:** Huntington Plant Sale, 10 to 5, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. Info 626-405-2160

**May 3:** South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale, 9am to 4pm. South Coast Botanic Garden, Info call 310-833-6823

**May 2-3:** Sunset Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, Veterans Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Ave, Culver City, CA. Info 310-822-1783

**May 9-10:** Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show & Sale, 10am-5pm, Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, For info call 310-922-6090 or check [www.lbcss.org](http://www.lbcss.org)

**May 15-16:** Gates Cactus & Succulent Society, 34<sup>TH</sup> Show & Sale. FRI & SAT 9-4:30 pm, at Land Scapes Southern California Style, 450 E. Alessandro Blvd., Riverside, CA. Info. 951-360-8802

**May 23-24:** Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Annual Show & Sale (10-4pm), Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo, CA. Info. 805-237-2054, [www.centralcoastcactus.org](http://www.centralcoastcactus.org)

**May 30-31:** Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society Plant Show & Sale, 30th 9-5, 31st 9-3:30 Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd. Encino, CA. Info [www.lacss-show.com](http://www.lacss-show.com)

**Jun 6-7:** San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale, Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA. Info: 858-382-1797

**Jun 14-19:** CSSA Biennial Convention, Pitzer College, Claremont, CA <http://www.cssainc.org>

**Jun 26-28:** CSSA Annual Show & Sale, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. 626-405-2160 or 2277, Plant sales start Jun 26th thru Jun 28th. The Show opens on Jun 27th thru Jun 28th

**Jul 24-26:** Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale. Fri. Jul 24<sup>TH</sup> 9am-5pm, Sat Jul 25<sup>TH</sup> 9am-5pm, Sun 26<sup>TH</sup> 12-4pm, 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA. Info call 949-212-8417

**Aug. 8-9:** 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Intercity Show & Sale at the LA County Arboretum, 9am-5pm daily. 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA. Info Call Tom Glavich 626-798-2430 or John Matthews 661-714-1052

**Sep 5:** Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium. All day at the Huntington

**Sep 6:** Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction, 12-5pm, Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach, CA 90615 Info 310-922-6090

**Oct 24-25:** Palomar Show & Sale, Sat 9-5, Sun 10-4, San Diego Botanic Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens RD, Encinitas CA, Info [hciservices@gmail.com](mailto:hciservices@gmail.com). 858-382-1797

**Nov 1-2:** San Gabriel Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, 9am-4pm Both Days, LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA

**Notice:** SDCSS is looking for someone willing to take on managing the Brag Table. After several years of doing an excellent job Candy Garner has stepped down. We thank her for all her hard work. Candy was kind enough to develop a Job Description for the task. Contact Chris Miller if you are interested.

## Brag Table Job Description

- ◆ Create and print signs for three tables for Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced for cactus and succulent entries; (as required)
- ◆ Create and print signs of requirements for entries, e.g. must have owned/grown the plant for a minimum of six months or more; (as required)
- ◆ Create and print signs for “Please Do Not Touch the Plants”; (as required)
- ◆ Create, print, and cut entry forms in green (novice), yellow (intermediate) and blue (advanced); (monthly)
- ◆ Create, print, and cut coupons for winners in same colors for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place for each level’s winners; (monthly)
- ◆ Deliver monthly coupons to the President prior to the beginning of each meeting; (monthly)
- ◆ Provide pens;
- ◆ Encourage participation;
- ◆ Attend monthly meetings by 10 am to position signs on each of the three tables;
- ◆ Collect winning entry forms after winners are announced;
- ◆ Create list of winners and plant names\* for each level, include the name(s) of the judges, and email to EYF Editor in a timely manner for printing in the following month’s EYF.

\*Please be advised the plant names are reported by each participant. The plant name may be incorrect, former name, misspelled or the writing may be difficult to read.

Candy has templates for all of the items that need to be printed and is willing to share them with whoever takes over the position.

## Speaker and Event Schedule for SDCSS in 2015

January 10th	Kelly Griffin	Gasterias, Haworthias and Aloes..... Oh My!
February 14th	Winter Show	Valentines Day!
<b>March 7th ***</b>	Woody Minnich	Namibia
April 11th	Buck Hemenway	Succulent Karoo/ Farewell tour
May 9th	Ernesto Sandoval	African Plant Safari/TBD
June 6th & 7th	Summer Show and Sale	
July 11th	Nan Sterman	Succulent Plant Garden Design/ TBD
August 8th	Matthew Maggio	Cultivation/ TBD
September 12th	Annual Picnic	Location TBD
October 10th	Tom Glavich	Succulent Plant Cultivation/ TBD
<b>November 7th***</b>	Irwin Lightstone	Succulent Plant Photography Exposition/ TBD
December 12th	Holiday Gathering!	

\*\*\* Please note, these dates are on the first Saturday of the month due to an unavoidable room scheduling change.





Holiday Party 2014. A good time was had by all!

Photos by BJ Miller, except Lazoyas which was done by Wendy Goldman



## Winter Show and Sale Volunteers Needed

It's almost show time again. In order to have a great and successful show and sale your time and abilities are needed.

From set up on Friday evening to clean-up Saturday afternoon. All of the jobs are important and can be fun and interesting. Security for both the show and sale areas is essential. Sales assistants are needed to keep the sales lines flowing.

To learn how the show plants are judged, being a judges clerk is a great experience. Bring a dish for the luncheon and win praise for your culinary abilities. Volunteering is a good way to get to know your fellow club members and make new friends. Support the club by signing up at the January meeting.

Susan Hopkins  
Volunteer Coordinator



