

Espinas y Flores

Newsletter of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society
An affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America



A Special "Thank You!"

The 2017 Summer Show/Sale was well attended and a huge success, all due to the dedication, fortitude, resilience, and amazing talent of our volunteers and team leaders. Thank you to all those who supported this event from planning to clean up. You are appreciated more than you may know!

July General Meeting

Saturday, July 8th, 1:00 - 4:00 pm,
Room 101, Casa del Prado,
Balboa Park.

Program:

"Gasterias, Haworthias and Aloes....and oh so much more, an adventure to the Eastern Cape, Western Cape, Northern Cape of South Africa and even a glimpse into Namibia!" by Kelly Griffin

Plant of the Month:

"The Ruth Bandroft Garden"
by Kirsten Higgins

Coffee in the Garden

at the home of Jim and Chuck

Saturday, July 15th, 10 -2 pm

Don't miss the beautiful desert and shaded gardens, container plant collection, plants for sale, and refreshments! (Details inside!)

DO SOMETHING NEW! We are looking for new faces to join the Volunteer Crew at SDCSS!

We are actively seeking a **Newsletter Editor, Publicity Chairperson, CSSA Representative, and Picnic Regalement Rep.** No prior experience is required and you will be given all the training and guidance necessary to get you on your feet. Please contact us by email at newsletter@sdcss.net or see Susan Hopkins at the Information Desk at the next General Meeting.

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President: Chris Miller Secretary Mary Reiser
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 Brian Shepherd Sue Thomas Christine Vargas
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 Auction & Holiday Plants: Kelly Griffin
 Show Auction Manager: Peter Walkowiak
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 Monthly Supply Sales: George & Jerry Plaisted
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 Programs: Kelly Griffin
 Reception: Susan Hopkins & Judy Walkowiak
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 Picnic Regalement: <OPEN>

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 Palomar CS Society Liaison: Brita Miller

Membership & Publicity

Membership: Paul & Carol Maker
 Newsletter Editor: Sue Thomas
 Webmaster: Kirsten Higgins
 Publicity: Christine Vargas

Contact SDCSS

Membership: membership@sdcss.net
 Newsletter Editor: newsletter@sdcss.net

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**On the Cover: *Gethyllis namaquanum*
 by Kelly Griffin**



Agave sebastiana blooming - Safari Park Baja Garden
 Photo by Juergen Menzel, used with permission
 by the Safari Park

Jerry Garner's Educational Talk at the June Show



**A video of the Summer Show/Sale
 by Debra Lee Baldwin
 can be viewed online.
 Click [HERE](#)**

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President's Message

Wow, summer is here with a blast! It's 95+ on the roof and well over 100 in the side yard - A good day to stay inside and type this message, not that I won't sneak outside every now and then.

What a wonderful Summer Show and Sale we had, with record sales and lots of blue ribbons and trophies! The Show was enjoyed by all and the Sale ran like clockwork. Forty vendors sold pots, rocks, and driftwood. We all went home with new treasures. I would like to thank all the vendors who participated in this sale. Without your products, SDCSS could not hold the sales we do and profits support our organization for the rest of the year. Let's thank our vendors next time you see them.

The Sale ran very smoothly due to our incredible Cashiers Team led by **Jim DeForest**. The line never went past halfway around the corner. We had six working registers thanks to **Paul Maker** and **Lynn Elliot's** computer programming and setup efforts. Many of our cashiers worked all day, and some worked both days. Please thank these cashiers and scanners the next time you see them: **Winston and Heather Chan, Michelle Heckathorn, Brita Miller, Cathy Clark, Melanie Howe, Susan and Leon Lafreniere, Deya Wilson, Sue Thomas, Diana Tigner, Pat Bryan, Sara Clayton, Linda Stewart, Beth Dargan, Jessica McGee, Suzie Perkins** and **Stan Yaloff**. A special thanks to **Patty Miller** who continuously checked with Jim to see if he needed help. **Leslie Sheridan** supported the team both days and did a great job as Treasurer throughout the event. After we all went home, Leslie's job goes on, depositing money in the bank, paying vendors, and preparing her reports for the Board Meeting.

Chuck Ramey and his helpers did a great job at the Sale Holding Table. They held boxes of treasures for people while they shopped, returned unwanted items to vendors, and just helped move things along. His helpers were **Desrien Bradford** and....

Security began on Friday and ran for three days thanks to our great Security Team leader, **Brian Shepherd**. Brian's team: **Michael Fernandes, Edward Mallari, Amber Heard, Ron Lutz, Sherman Blench, Brandon Brusky, Pat Marshall, Rich Ryan, Herb Stern, Susan Foran, Steve and Deb Schmel, John Williams, Sandy Wetzel-Smith, and Steve Harris**. If you recognize them without their orange vests, thank them for their service to your club.

Our Greeters, stationed along the entrance to the Sale, were led by the ever cheerful **Candy Garner**. They processed membership applications, passed out badges, admired shopper's purchases, answered questions, and were a wonderful first impression for SDCSS. Candy's team: **Antonina Lansangan, Kathy and Steve Harris, Penny Sommerville, and Wendy Goldman**.

The new Club t-shirts were available for purchase at the sale thanks to **Kelly & Denise Griffin**, who coordinated the design, purchase, and delivery. They will be available for purchase at our next meeting. (The shirts, not Kelly and Denise.)

Mary Reiser did a great job heading our Educational Talks this year. **Don Hunt, Jerry Garner, Jim Reiser, and Julia Tarasova**, were presenters. Mary plans to improve the process for next year.

The Show was a success due to the hard work of our new Show Chairs **Bill O'Daniel and Kelly Griffin**. This year's Show was dedicated to the late **Elibet Marshall**, a wonderful supporter of past shows. **George Plaisted and Bill and Jean O'Daniel** set up tables and prepped the showroom. **Susan Hopkins, Mary Aparicio, Steve & Deb Schmal, Ron Lutz, Jerry Garner**, and others also helped prepare for the show. Head Clerk **Susan Hopkins**, coordinated the Clerks teams who supported the judges: **Michelle Picket, Alision Baldwin, Mary Aparicio, Sara Shell, Alen Cardenae, Brita Miller, Jean and Bill O'Daniel, Wendy Goldman, and Steve Harris**. **Collette Parr, Paul and Carol Maker** tallied the votes, **Tom Knapik** arranged the Trophy Table, **Paul Maker** photographed the Trophy Winners, **Jerry Garner** managed the trophy pot process. **Joe Wujcik** provided the trophy pots this year.

Christine Vargas our Publicity Chair, did an incredible job promoting our event. Her efforts included a morning news TV spot featuring herself and Kelly, on Thursday before the event. Christine was another person who was here and there when we needed her.

The Sunday Auction was a success and proceeds will support our new scholarship program. **Peter Walkowiak and Woody Minnich** were the auctioneers, with additional support by **Wendy Goldman, Herb Stern, Alison Baldwin, Rebecca Barkeeps, and Michelle Hackathon**. **Paul Maker** provided his usual support of programing the registers and providing the paperwork.

Our Kitchen Crew led by **Pam Badger**, took great care of us. Her helpers were: **Donna Rodden, Robin Leon, Suzanne Mathews, Nancy Weskit, and Sandy Wetzel-Smith**.

Last, but not least is the clean-up. At days end on Sunday, after working two days as a cashier, **Cathy Clark** straightened out our kitchen, prepared things for the next meeting, and had to figure out what to do with the water cases that were left. **Brita Miller**, the Box Queen, stuffed her car full, stashed what she could in room 104, and helped clean-up in the show area. Other cleanup crewmembers: **Bill and Jean O'danielite, Susan Hopkins, Judy Pomphrey, Steve and Deb Schimel, Michael Fernandes, Chuck Ramey, Rick Plant, Don Isreal**, and others.

This event could not have happen without all of our wonderful volunteers. I may have missed a name or two and you have my apologies if that happened, feel free to beat me up about it. It takes volunteers to make the world go round and you guys are the best ever! I look forward to our meeting in July when we can all get together in a more relaxed environment and just enjoy being together and talking about plants. See you then. ~ Chris Miller

P.S. If you still have your volunteer, security or vendor badge please bring them to the next meeting. We will need them for the February Show and Sale.

2017 Summer Show Trophy Winners

1	Best Agave	Jim & Mary Reiser	A. "Snowglow"
2	Best Aloe	Kelly Griffin	A. "Coral Flame"
3	Best Baja Plant	Juergen Menzel	<i>Echinocereus lindsayi</i>
4	Best Bursera	Arnold Chaney	<i>B. fageroides</i>
5	Best Cactus	Juergen Menzel	<i>Gymnocalycium armatum</i>
6	Best Echeveria	Tina Zucker	<i>E. agavoides</i> "Ebony"
7	Show Tallying and Photography by Paul Maker		
8	Best Epiphytic Cactus	Terry & Collette Parr	<i>Lepismium houlettianum</i>
9	Best Euphorbia	Don Hunt	<i>Euphorbia abdelkuri</i>
10	Best Exhibit	Kienan Parr	Hands On Exhibit
11	Best Graft	Juergen Menzel	<i>Puna bonnieae</i>
12	Best Mammillaria	Carol & Paul Maker	<i>M. spinosissima</i>
13	Best Mesembryanthemum	John Matthews	<i>Lithops olivacea</i>
14	Best Mexican Plant	Carol & Paul Maker	<i>Aztekim riterii</i>
15	Best Miniature	Juergen Menzel	<i>Mammillaria fulgida crestata</i>
16	Best Novice Cactus	Mary Aparicio	<i>Opuntia</i>
17	Best Novice Succulent	Mary Aparicio	<i>Bursera simplicifolia</i>
18	Best Opuntieae	Jennifer Harris	<i>Tephrocactus articulatus</i>
19	Best Pachycaul or Caudiciform	Bill Shagena	<i>Pseudobombax ellipticum</i>
20	Best Pelargonium or Sarcocaulon	Lisa Brosseau	<i>Sarcocaulon herrei</i>
21	Best San Diego Succulent	Juergen Menzel	<i>Ferocactus viridescens</i>
22	Best Sansevieria	Jean O'Daniel	<i>S. robustaroffles</i>
23	Best Seed Grown Plant	Alejandro Cardenas	<i>Dioscorea elephantipes</i>
24	Best Succulent	Terry & Collette Parr	<i>Euphorbia milii</i>
25	Best Succulent Bonsai	Candy & Jerry Garner	<i>Operculicarya decaryi</i>
26	Most Artistic Display	Jennifer Harris	Paper Plants
27	People's Choice	Alejandro Cardenas	<i>Dioscorea elephantipes</i>
28	Rarest Plant in the Show	Juergen Menzel	<i>Haageocereus lanugispinus</i>
29	High Point (< 25 entries)	Bill Shagena	
30	High Point (< 50 entries)	Terry & Collette Parr	
31	Sweepstakes Trophy	Juergen Menzel	
32	Judge's Choice	Jennifer Harris	Display - Paper Plants
33	Judge's Choice	Lisa Brosseau	<i>Crassula "Buddha Tornado"</i>
34	Judge's Choice	Don Patterson	<i>Haworthia truncata</i>
35	Judge's Choice	Don Hunt	<i>Cyphostemma currorii</i>
36	Judge's Choice	Peter Walkowiak	<i>Uncarina roeoesliana</i>
37	Judge's Choice	Bill Shagena	<i>Zygositycos tripartitus</i>
38	Judge's Choice	Peter Walkowiak	<i>Dorstenia gigas</i>
39	Judge's Choice	Brian Shepherd	<i>Echinocereus mojaviensis</i>
40	Judge's Choice	Juergen Menzel	<i>Astrophytum caput medusae</i>
41	Judge's Choice	Carol & Paul Maker	<i>Copiapoa cinerea</i>
42	Judge's Choice	Don Hunt	<i>Euphorbia monteriroi</i>
43	Judge's Choice	Juergen Menzel	<i>Astrophytum niveum</i>
44	Show Chair's Choice	Carol & Paul Maker	<i>Thelocactus rinconensis</i>
45	Show Chair's Choice	Don Hunt	<i>Euphorbia waringiae</i>
46	President's Choice	Don Hunt	<i>Aloe fimrialis</i>
47	President's Choice	Peter Walkowiak	<i>Pachypodium horombense</i>





25



18



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16



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13



21

More Summer Show Trophy Winners



22



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19



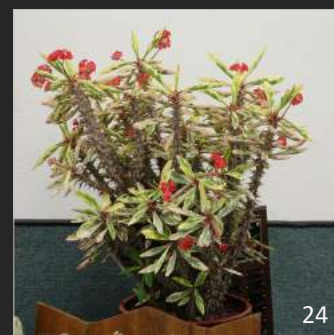
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23 & 27



24

July Program by Kelly Griffin

Gasterias, Haworthias and Aloes...and oh so much more...

An Adventure to the Eastern Cape, Western Cape, Northern Cape of South Africa, and even a glimpse into Namibia!

This will not be 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.



Cheiridopsis peculiaris

I traveled to South Africa on a choreographed expedition specifically to see many special succulent plants. The big bucket list objective for me was to study Aloes, specifically *Aloe glauca* complex in habitat and to see them in flower. Success all around and so much more! I spent over three weeks seeing Gasterias, Haworthias and Aloes in the Cape and even ventured into the little Karoo as well. We managed to see a newly described gasteria, *Gasteria barbae* along with another brand new one that has yet to be described. I saw Haworthias *badia*, *bobeii* and *minima* among many others. This program has perhaps too many new plants! Forget that, you can't have too many plants! Can you?



Gasteria vlokii (top), & *Crassula hemisphaerica*

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

I am currently working as a Plant Development Manager for Altman Plants headquartered in Vista, Ca. I have been working on creating new cultivars and introducing succulent plants for some 20 years, the last 12 professionally. Some introductions include Aloes Delta lights, Delta Dawn, Christmas Sleigh, Pink Blush, Pink Thing, Christmas Carol, Viper, Sunrise with new ones coming soon. Agave cultivars ~ blue glow, black and blue, snow glow, cubic, creme brulee and mo-to sierra with more on the way. Additionally, I have helped to introduce a number of fine species that were not so much in cultivation including *Agave albopilosa*, *Aloe castilloniae* and *Echeveria cante* to list just a few

Advertisement

SUCCULENT GARDENING BY Tina
OPEN GARDEN & PLANT SALE
552 Seabright Lane, Solana Beach

Wednesday July 12th ~ 8:30am ~ 2:00pm
Friday July 14th ~ 10am ~ 4pm
Saturday July 15th ~ 10am ~ 4pm
 Your RSVP Helps us plan

For an advanced preview, Please Visit our website
www.succulents.us

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Coffee in the Garden

At the Home of Chuck Ramey & Jim Deforest
 July 15th, 10:00 - 2:00
 4466 Cherokee Ave, San Diego

Chuck bought his Normal Heights home in 1995, and the property has gone through much transformation. The front yard is full sun desert landscaping with cactus and summer dormant succulents. We do not have a greenhouse but the back yard is shaded with a large bay laurel tree which chuck planted shortly after moving in. We have several shelving fixtures full of container plants in the back yard. Chuck planted three different kinds of bamboo along the south property line for more shade and to act as a barrier from the apartment building next door. Jim moved in with Chuck in December, 2011, bringing along 250 containers of plants. We have a great assortment of cactus, succulents, tillandsias, and carnivorous plants and hope you enjoy a stroll through our yard.

Please be advised that our property is small with narrow uneven walkways and gravel paths. Our home may be difficult for those with limited mobility. We will have many plants for sale, mostly smaller rooted cuttings along with some tillandsias and larger plants. There will also be a freebie section with plants and bamboo stakes.



Please bring a box in which to carry your purchases and cash, as we won't have access to credit/debit sales.



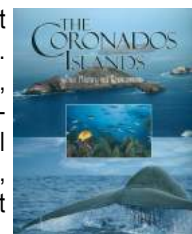
The easiest way to find us is from the I-15 and Adams Ave. Travel west on Adams Ave from I-15 to the next traffic signal which is Cherokee Avenue. Vons is on that corner. Turn south (left) and we are 2 1/2 blocks on the right side of the street. FYI...Jim will bake

for this event so there will be snacks and drinks available.

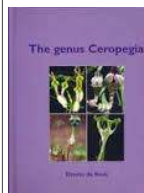
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Book Report: Additions to our Library By Don Hunt

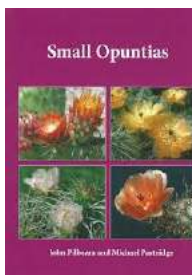
One of the things that make our June sale so great is having Chuck Everson bring his specialty books. So naturally, we added a few to our library. First, there's a book about the Coronado Islands. According to Chuck, it was published by Chevron Oil, of all people and never offered for sale. It's interesting, because the islands are so close to San Diego, but of course, they are owned and administered by Mexico, so that is the perspective of the book. While the book is comprehensive in overview, I feel it was published to curry political favor. Very little on the botanical side, it may not belong in our library. I'd like other opinions on this one.



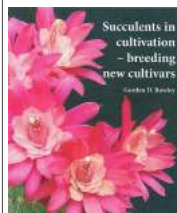
Next up, *The Genus Ceropegia*, by Dennis de Kock. I was eagerly waiting for this one, as ceropegias are interesting, but not much information is published about them. It still isn't. The not very large book is primarily pictures of the flowers. Ceropegia flowers are pretty unique and distinctive. I don't know who this book is intended for. I find it odd.



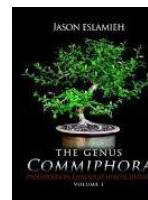
Moving into something more useful, we have *Small Opuntias* by John Pilbeam and Michael Partridge. At this point, I'd buy about anything Pilbeam puts out, and he didn't disappoint me with this. What is really covered well in this book are the tephrocactus and other South American opuntias, some of which we don't see a lot of. Lots of opportunity for best opuntia in show here. The usual excellent Pilbeam effort here, great pictures, interesting detail, cultivation notes and maps. I like maps.



If Pilbeam is a must buy, then so is the author of our next book by Gordon Rowley. *Succulents in cultivation—breeding new cultivars*. Information into what Kelly does. He does get a credit on the aloe page, if not the agaves. Lots of different plants are covered, odd cactus as well as commonly hybridized plants like epicactus and haworthias. I predict this will be a very popular book. Lots of data on the why and how of breeding plants. If you are able to check it out, be sure to return it promptly.



Last book, *The Genus Commiphora* by Jason Eslamieh. We already have this authors Bursera and Boswellia titles. If you are considering adding any of these to your plant collections, you would be well advised to check out these books for his considerable knowledge. Fore warned is fore armed. They are very well done and cover most if not all commiphora.



(Left) Carol Maker, Chris Miller, And Julia Chimento at the Winter Show



(Right) Juergen Menzel, Woody Minnich, and Kelly Griffin at a Club meeting

Plant of the Month: **The Ruth Bancroft Garden** by Kirsten Higgins, SDCSS Webmaster

Almost a year ago, while perusing the gardening section at Barnes and Noble, I came across *"The Bold Dry Garden – Lessons from the Ruth Bancroft Garden"* by Johanna Silver. I read the first couple of pages, and flipped through the rest of the book. It took me all of 45 seconds to realize I needed this book – as it would clearly provide a plethora of inspiration for my own amateur gardening endeavors.



Then a few months back, I received a wedding invitation for my cousin's wedding in San Martin, California. This wedding was to take place on June 2nd. After much lamentation that this once in a lifetime event (I presume) just happened to coincide with the most anticipated succulent event of the year, the SDCSS Annual Summer Show & Sale, I realized it provided an opportunity to visit the Ruth Bancroft Garden. Behold! – a silver lining.



So on June 2nd, my cousin Melissa and I made the trip to Walnut Creek. As we wandered around the 3 acres that comprise the garden, passages from "The Bold Dry Garden" would come floating back to me. While it is entirely possible to enjoy the garden without knowing the history, it's impossible to fully appreciate it. At the age of 63, when most are considering retirement, Ruth began to cultivate and construct her garden, completely unaware that it would become her living legacy. She was truly a pioneer for the waterwise / dry garden movement.

In my talk this month, I'll be sharing a photo essay, along with some history and anecdotes about Ruth and her marvelous garden. Here's a little preview:

In the 1970's, Ruth planted this trio of desert fan palms (Washington filifera) from one-gallon containers.

Brian Kemble: "You were planting the garden when you were in your sixties, and people said, 'It takes so long for these things to get big, you'll never live to see it.'"

Ruth: "Well, who cares if I'm around or not? Someone will be around. And if I don't plant it then nobody will get to see it."

Brian: "But you did, and there they are. And they became magnificent."



SDCSS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

The newsletter, *Espinaz y Flores*, is e-mailed to each member household each month. Annual dues (e-mailed newsletter) are \$15.00 per year per individual, and \$5.00 per year for each additional household member. **First class delivery of a paper copy of the newsletter is available for an additional \$10.00 within USA or \$25 for international delivery, to cover the cost of printing and postage.** Each member has all the rights and benefits of the organization.

Annual Dues (E-mailed newsletter): \$15.00 _____
 USA Delivery of Printed Copy (optional) \$10.00 _____
 International Delivery (optional) \$25.00 _____
 Additional Household Member(s) each: \$ 5.00 _____
 Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Member Information: (Please PRINT to fill in ALL blanks below!)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City and State: _____ Zip + 4: _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ Cell/FAX: (_____) _____

Email Address: _____

Additional Household Members: _____

Do you wish to receive E-mail notifications of Club events and issues? Yes _____ No _____

Mail this form or a copy, along with a check or money order in US Funds, payable to SDCSS to:

SDCSS Membership Dept, c/o Paul Maker
 1245 San Pablo Drive, San Marcos, CA 92078