

Succulent Scoop

Conejo Cactus & Succulent Society

November 2021

Volume 6 Number 11

Mission Statement:

The Conejo Cactus And Succulent Society encourages the study, cultivation, conservation, and appreciation of cacti and other succulent plants.

Email: ConejoCSS@hotmail.com

Facebook: Conejo Cactus & Succulent Society

Web: ConejoCSS.com

Next Meeting
Monday, November 1st
7:00 pm

New Meeting Location
California Lutheran University
Lundring Events Center
130 Overton Court
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
Doors Open at 6:30

CCSS 2021 Officers

President

Linda Holub

1st VP, Programs

Ann Hopkinson

2nd VP, POM &

Education

Kyle Williams

3rd VP, Special Events

Donna Pachorek

Treasurer

Julie Myers

Secretary

Valerie Fox

Director I, Membership

Glen Smith

Assistant to Director I

Pam Smith, Membership

Director II, Education

Terry Wilson

Scoop Editor

Melinda Hines

Hospitality

Lisa Gailey and

Pam Smith

Drawing Coordinator

Gerry Caruso

Website

Tim Alvord

Librarian

Glen Smith

Plant Propagation

Terry Wilson

Event Publicity

Donna Pachorek

CCSS Mailing Address:

530 W. Los Angeles Ave. Ste #115-183,
Moorpark, CA 93021



Program:

Botanical Names Decoded

By Marquita Elias

Are you one of those people that get confounded or even embarrassed about using the botanical name of a plant? Do those botanical names have any meaning? Do you say to yourself "it's all Greek or Latin to me" and have no idea how to remember them or even pronounce them? Please join us for an evening of decoding botanical names and learning why we have them and what in the heck do they mean. You'll find that it's a fascinating journey. I think you'll cry out that it's really "elementary" my dear Watson.



The presentation will include pronunciation, how plants get their names and the history behind their names with emphasis on women's contribution to botany.

Marquita is the former vice-president of Conejo Cactus and Succulent Society. She is a member of Cactus and Succulent Society of America and a member of Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society. She was invited to speak at the Succulenticon 2018 in Perth, Australia. As a California native, born in Anaheim, she received her degree in Civil Engineering from Loyola Marymount University and also attended Scripps Institute of Oceanography. She worked as a Registered Civil Engineer for over 20 years with a portion of that time spent underwater as a hardhat diver. She spends her time helping with her family, hiking, mountain riding and tending her garden in Camarillo.



President's Message:

The CCSS certainly had an exciting month.

We had our first live meeting in a year and a half at our new location and it was a big success. We had over 50 attendees and everyone loved our new meeting room.

We tried doing Zoom for the presentation part of the meeting but it didn't quite work. The speaker was seen on the screen but not the slide presentation. There were only 2 members who signed into the Zoom portion of our meeting, so we have decided to have live meetings and eliminate the Zoom.

Our October 17th sale was a huge success. The club did fantastic with its sales, the attendance was good and steady throughout the day and the vendors were happy with the crowds and their sales.

Thank you to all our volunteers. Everyone was a great help.

Special thanks to Ann and Terry Powers who donated 18 Plumerias, of which we sold 10. It was a big boost to our sales.

Don't forget in the next two months membership dues are due. Everyone got off easy last year since we waved 2021 dues for members already on the roster from 2020 because of Covid. This year dues need to be paid by the December meeting. The dues form is on Page 11.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in November.

Linda Holub
President CCSS



Thank you Donna Pachorek for providing the fantastic venue for our successful sale!



LeAnne Schai crafted the beautiful fall décor. Mary Ellen Wong contributed some of the cute succulent pumpkins.



Ann Powers donated the gorgeous plumerias.

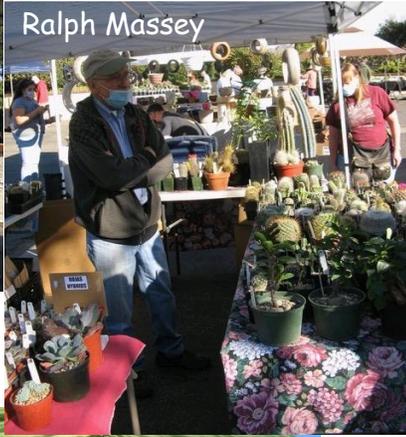


After scrambling in the wind!

Our Fall Sale Vendors



Hunter Martinez



Ralph Massey



Jude La Chance
Ceramics



Marquita Ellias



Roxie & Jim Esterle



Kathryn Boorer



John & Laura Matthews



Glen & Pam Smith



Xananda Wollard



Steve & Phyllis Frieze



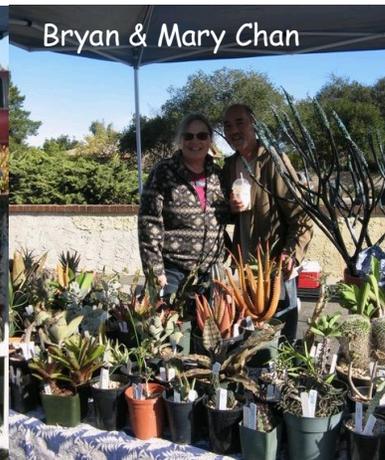
Peter Walkowiak



Terry Wilson



Carol Bealer



Bryan & Mary Chan



Kyle Williams

Not Pictured:
Plants:
Kal Kaminer

Potters:
June Wong
Rusty Morris

2021 CCSS Plants of the Month

<u>Month</u>	<u>Cactus</u>	<u>Succulent</u>
January	Copiapoa	Crassulaceae
February	Echinopsis	Aloe
March	Mammillaria	Aeonium
April	Gymnocalycium	Pelargonium & Sarcocaulon
May	Melocactus & Discocactus	Haworthia
June	Miniatures	Miniatures
July	Astrophytum	Terrestrial Bromeliads
August	Ariocarpus & Obregonia	Euphorbia
September	Variegated	Variegated
October	Opuntia	Mesembs
November	Epiphytic cacti	Agave
December	Favorites	Favorites

Plant of the Month (POM) What is this all about?

Each meeting of the CCSS will feature a friendly plant show/competition (POM). The goal of the POM is two fold.

- Introduce the membership to the various cactus and succulent genera and to open up a discussion on the culture, care, and display of these plants.
- Encourage members to share their plants with membership.

POM Submissions:

- Members may submit up to 3 three plants in each of the two categories (Cactus and Succulents). Plants entered in the Intermediate and Advanced Divisions must have been owned and maintained by the member for a minimum of one year. Plants entered in the Novice category may be newly acquired plants.

POM Divisions:

- **Novice:** 0-25 Total points • **Intermediate:** 26-100 Total points • **Advanced:** >100 Total Points
- When a member has accumulated the total number points in their Division, they will be moved up to the next higher Division in the following calendar year.

POM Judging Criteria:

- Plants are evaluated according to the following criteria:
- Condition (health, form, damage). 50%
- Maturity and size. 25%
- Staging (Artistic composition - container, stonework, etc). 20%
- Nomenclature (proper plant identification). 5%
- Additional criteria may include rarity, difficulty in growing, and whether the plant is in flower.

POM Judging:

- 1st place - 6 points • 2nd place - 3 points • 3rd place - 2 points
- All other entries will be awarded 1 point. Entry slips will be collected by the POM Coordinator for tabulation, record keeping, and publication in the CCSS Newsletter.

We are encouraging all members to participate in the POM. This is your opportunity to show off your prized treasures or to possibly learn how to better care for your plants.

See you at the next meeting
CCSS Board

Plant of the Month: Epiphytic Cacti



Epiphyllum hybrid

When you think of a cactus in the wild you probably imagine a big Saguaro, a stunning red *Ferocactus*, or a cute little *Mammillaria* growing in a vast sandy desert. Sure, most cacti are ground dwelling arid climate plants but did you realize some cacti grow on tree branches in rainforests? They do and they are the ones we'll be looking at this month. The genera we are covering include *Rhipsalis*, *Schlumbergera*, *Epiphyllum*, *Hattoria*, *Disocactus*, *Lepismium*, *Selenicereus*, *Hylocereus* and *Weberocereus* (and possibly others).

An epiphyte is any non-parasitic plant that grows on trees or other structures without soil. Orchids and Bromeliads are the most famous epiphytes, but ferns, mosses, and yes even cacti can be epiphytes too. The idea of a cactus living on trees in the jungle isn't as big of a stretch from a desert cactus as you may think. A desert cactus has adapted to survive the extreme drought of its native habitat by developing fleshy stems to store water and a root system used to drying out but rapidly up taking water on the rare occasions that rain falls. It

may rain a lot in the rainforest, but periods of days or weeks without rain are common. It may be often enough for the soil to stay moist, but a tree branch will dry out within hours. To live on a tree where there is no soil, maybe a bit of leaf debris and moss at most, a plant needs to withstand these dry periods. A plant with the ability to store water in its stems and rapidly uptake water through the roots has a definite advantage in this environment. When looked at from that perspective it starts to become clear that a plant growing in the desert and one growing on a tree have remarkably similar habitats to deal with.

While there are definite similarities between an epiphytic lifestyle and life in the ground in the desert, there are some big differences as well. While a rainforest epiphyte may go days to weeks without water, it rarely has to deal with drought periods as long as a desert cactus does. Reflecting this, most epiphytic cacti stems aren't as thick and fleshy as a typical desert cactus. Additionally, epiphytic cacti are more shade tolerant than desert cacti, and in fact are much more prone to sunburn than a standard cactus. This makes sense when you think about where epiphytic cacti are growing, on a branch on a tree shaded by all the leaves of the tree.



Rhipsalis cereuscula



Schlumbergera hybrid

Many epiphytic cacti like *Rhipsalis* and *Schlumbergera* grow in a jointed fashion, the latter also having flattened segments giving the appearance of being leaves. These are stems despite the leaf like appearance. Another growth form is seen in *Epiphyllum*. They also have flattened leaf like stems but grow in long continuous stems instead of numerous short joints. The flowers of epiphytic cacti have a very large variation in size, color and shape. *Rhipsalis* have some of the smallest flowers among cacti and are usually small and white. At the other end of the spectrum, *Epiphyllum* and intergeneric hybrids that include *Epiphyllum* can have flowers 6" across and come in virtually every color except blue. In between are *Schlumbergera* species and hybrids which have colorful tubular flowers that are 2-3" long. These are better known as the Christmas or Thanksgiving Cactus, quite possibly the most widely grown cactus in the world.

Kyle Williams

Photo credits: Kyle Williams, Frank Vincentz, Paul Kaluschke

Succulent of the Month: *Agave*



Agave isthmensis 'Ohi Raijin'

Agaves are one of, if not THE, most popularly grown succulents in California and the Southwest. It is hard to go down any street in our region without seeing at least one *Agave americana*, *A. attenuata*, *A. potatorum*, or a host of other species. They are easy to grow, come in a great variety of sizes and shapes, and most thrive on neglect. No wonder they are so popular!

Agaves, like the *Cacti*, are entirely new world in origin, although many members have been naturalized around the world. *Agaves* are native to Southern North America, Mexico, Central America, Northern South America and the Caribbean. A few species are native to the deserts of Southern California. There are roughly 200 species of *Agave* and countless varieties and cultivars, with new species being discovered regularly. Some species are so common in cultivation that you practically can't give them away while others (such as *A. albopilosa*) command \$100 or more for a small plant.

Many people shy away from *Agaves* because they think the plants are all spiny giants that take over half of your yard. While species like *A. americana* and *A. mapisaga* certainly fit that description, there are lots of well-behaved small to mid-sized species such as *A. victoriae-reginae*, *A. potatorum*, *A. isthmensis* which can even be grown in a pot (hopefully so or we won't have any entries for our contest!). If stiff leaves and sharp spines are the problem then *A. attenuata* is perfect for you. Its leaves are so soft and lush that it would look right at home in a tropical planting instead of a xeric one.



Agave palmeri



Agave albopilosa

Agaves are easily grown from seed. Although many of members of this genus grow very large with age, they are particularly good looking as seedlings, and can be kept small for many years in pots. They thrive with regular feeding with any general purpose fertilizer. Their appearance is best when they are cleaned regularly, with debris removed from the leaves, and dead leaves removed to prevent insects from making homes. Many offset freely, and these offsets can be removed and repotted, giving a steady supply of small plants. Many growers keep the offsets, and dispose of the mother plant, keeping size, health and condition under control. *Agave* flowers are spectacular with spikes that sometimes reach as high as 20 feet. After flowering, the *agave* mother plant dies back.

-Kyle Williams

Photo Credits: Kyle Williams & Stan Shebs

PLANT OF THE MONTH (POM) WINNERS

October 2021

Cactus - Opuntia

Novice (Beginners):

1st *Tephrocactus sp.* Gerry Caruso

Intermediate:

1st *Tephrocactus articulatus*
v. *papyracanthus* Donna Pachorek
2nd *Tunilla erectoclada* Glen & Pam Smith
3rd *Tephrocactus geometricus* Yuen Wong
3rd *Tephrocactus articulatus* Ann Hopkinson

Advanced:

1st *Puna clavarioides* John Matthews
2nd *Puna clavarioides* John Matthews
3rd *Opuntia lindheimeri* Linda Holub

Succulents - Mesembs

Novice (Beginners):

No entries

Intermediate:

1st *Mestoklema tuberosum* Ann Hopkinson
2nd *Aloinopsis schooneesii* Glen & Pam Smith
3rd *Argyroderma congregatum* Ann Hopkinson
3rd *Aloinopsis schooneesii* Glen & Pam Smith

Advanced:

1st *Lithops hookeri* John Matthews
2nd *Monilaria moniliformis* John Matthews
3rd *Faucaria tuberculosa* Linda Holub

The plant of the month (POM) displays are back!

October 2021 was our first post COVID in person meeting and the Intermediate class POM had a strong showing. There were 29 entries in all, 1 Novice, 19 Intermediate, and 9 Advanced. For all you novice growers, this is an excellent opportunity to get your favorite plants on the board. Congratulations to the winners and thank you for all that brought in plants.



Chery Morton is wishing us a



Winners of October Cactus POM - Opuntia

Novice Cactus



1st Place
Tephrocactus sp.
Gerry Caruso

Intermediate Cactus



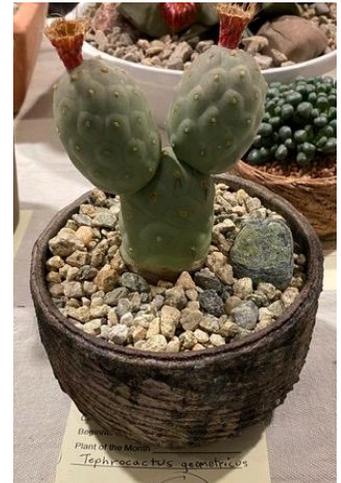
1st Place
Tephrocactus articulatus
v. *papyracanthus*
Donna Pachorek



2nd Place
Tunilla erectoclada
Glen & Pam Smith



3rd Place
Tephrocactus articulatus
Ann Hopkinson



3rd Place
Tephrocactus geometricus
Yuen Wong

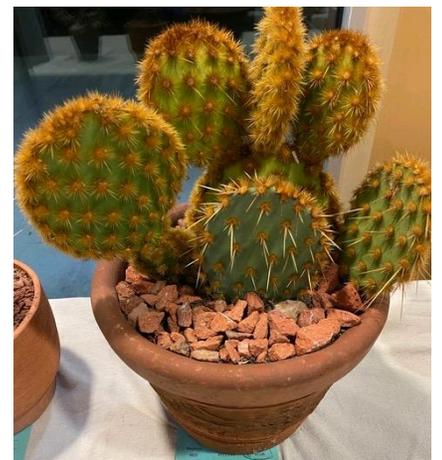
Advanced Cactus



1st Place
Puna clavarioides
John Matthews



2nd Place
Puna clavarioides
John Matthews



3rd Place
Opuntia lindheimeri
Linda Holub

Winners of October Succulent POM - Mesembs

Intermediate Succulent

No Entries in
Novice Succulent

Thanks to
Gerry Caruso for
taking the POM photos!



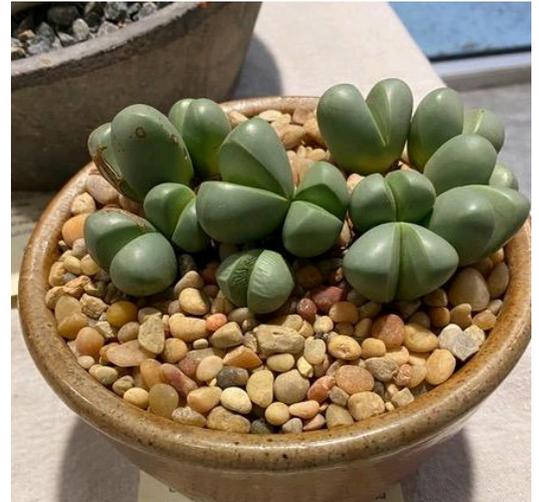
1st Place
Mestoklema tuberosum
Ann Hopkinson



2nd Place
Aloinopsis schooneesii
Glen & Pam Smih



3rd Place
Aloinopsis schooneesii
Glen & Pam Smih



3rd Place
Argyroderma congregatum
Ann Hopkinson

Advanced Succulent



1st Place
Lithops hookeri
John Matthews



2nd Place
Monilaria moniliformis
John Matthews



3rd Place
Faucaria tuberculosa
Linda Holub

THE DON HUNT PLANT AND POT AUCTION AT P.W. Succulents Nursery 404 Lor Lar Lane, Ramona, CA 92065 Sunday November 7th, 2021 from 9 to 4

This is an event you don't want to miss. We will be auctioning 100+ show plants and pots from the late Don Hunt cactus and succulent collection. Many of these plants are well known show winners, from the annual San Diego CSS shows, all of which are beautifully staged, and almost all are in his famous pots. Sadly enough, once these pots are gone we will no longer be able to get his creative and very popular original designs. They are now truly collectors' items.

Most of the genera represented in the specimen show plants auction will include:
Adenium, Agave, Aloe, Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Bursera, Copiapoa, Cyphostemma, Echinocereus, Encephalocarpus, Euphorbia, Fockea, Fouquieria, Gasteria, Gymnocalycium, Haworthia, Mammillaria, Melocactus, Monodenium, Pachypodium, Stapiliads, Tephlocactus, Turbinicarpus, and many special variegates, crests and monstrous.

AUCTION

The auction will be similar to all those I have previously conducted. The schedule of events will be as follows:

- *The P. W. Succulents Nursery will be open for attendees at 9:00am, (Masks Required.)
- *Viewing of the auction plants will be from 9:00am to 11:00am
- *Written bidding will take place from 10:00am to 11:00am.
- *At the conclusion of the written bids, the top three written bidders for each item will then participate in the verbal bidding. We hope to conclude the verbal bidding by 1:00pm.
- *At the conclusion of the auction, Moses Nuno will take payment for all of your auction plants & pots.
- * All payments can be made by cash, check or credit card. All sales are final, no returns.

DON HUNT NON-AUCTION plants, pots & books

Sales will follow the completion of the auction payments.

- *There are about 300+ smaller plants, pots & books for sale as priced. All sales are final, no returns.
- *These plants, pots & books will not be available until the auction payments are completed.
- *There will be No Shopping at the P. W. Succulents Nursery.
- *For viewing of the P. W. plants, please contact Peter or Inacia after the auction and sales.

***PARKING** for this event will be at or near the P. W. Succulent Nursery.

- *Parking at the auction location (P. W. Succulents) is reserved for persons of limited mobility. We request all other individuals to park at the empty lot at the corner of Poplar St. & Lor Lar Ln. (about 100 yds from the property), Signs will be posted "Auction parking here" & "Handicapped parking" at 404 Lor Lar Ln. Please bring carrying boxes for your purchases!

If you need help or have questions at the auction, please contact any of us:
Kelly Griffin will be the recorder, Moses Nuno will be the cash register person for the auction & additional plants & books, Woody Minnich auctioneer, Peter and Inacia Walkowiak for P. W. Succulents Nursery.

For info prior to the auction, please contact:
Woody Minnich cactusdata@msn.com 661-406-9816

Samples of
Don Hunt's Work
Photos from
SDCSS Facebook



Best Euphorbia
SDCSS 2017 Show
Euphorbia abdelkuri



Best in Show
SDCSS 2014 Winter Sale
Tylecodon calciloides



Don Hunt's Sale Pots
SDCSS 2012 Winter Sale



2022 Dues are due by the December meeting.

Please fill out the form below and either:

Bring it to the meeting with your payment

or

Mail it to: **CCSS**
530 W. Los Angeles Ave. Ste #115-183,
Moorpark, CA 93021



Membership Form

Please Print Legibly

New Membership

Renewal

Badge Order

Name: _____ Date: _____

Additional Family Member(s) _____

Additional Family Member(s) _____

Use back of page if necessary:

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Individual Membership: \$ 25.00 _____

Family Membership: \$ 30.00 _____

Student Membership: \$ 20.00 _____

Name Badge:* \$ 12.00 _____

TOTAL: _____

* Name Badge Orders: Please clearly print below how you would like your name badge/s to read.

Contact Conejo Cactus and Succulent Society at:
CCSS
530 W. Los Angeles Ave. Suite 115-183
Moorpark CA. 93021
or conejocss@hotmail.com

Revised 9-29-21