

Thorny Issues

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society FEBRUARY 2015 | Volume 56, II



FEBRUARY PROGRAM

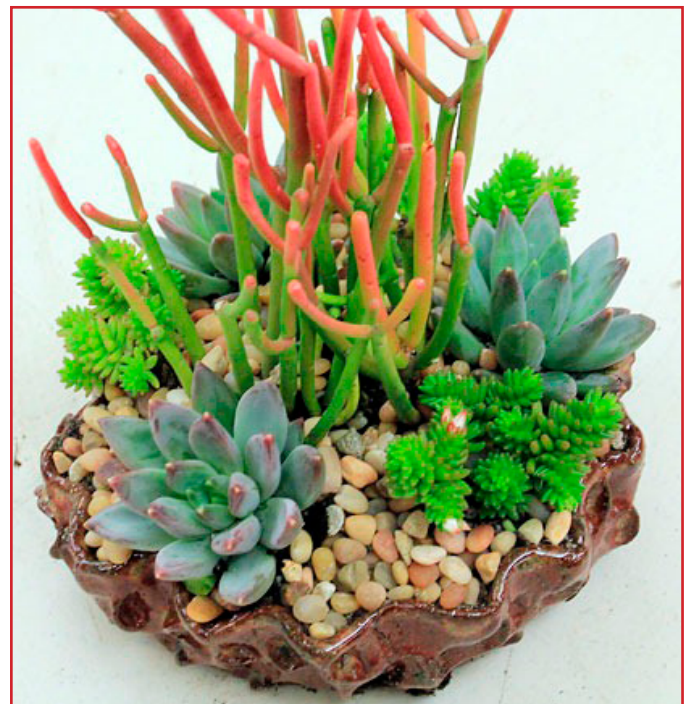
Our next meeting will be on Monday, February 23, at 7 p.m. You'll finally get to see the pots you made in October and glazed in November. Many thanks to our president Keith for taking the pots home to fire. Those that did not attend the glaze portion were stained by Keith. Your mission between now and February 23rd is to find the perfect plant to put in your new pot. You might want to bring several plants so you have a choice—sometimes the pot tells you what it wants! In addition to plants, bring soil and top dressing as well as any tools you may need. Chopsticks are great for pushing down the soil, and a small brush is ideal to brush dirt off leaves. With any luck, the finished result might be so beautiful that you'll want to enter it in our 2015 Annual Show on May 2 and 3!

-Gerhard Bock, Program Chair

ALOE FLOWERS IN BLOOM

Now is prime time for aloe flowers. UC Davis has a wonderful selection of aloes that are in bloom right now. Check out my blog post from last year for photos and suggestions on where to go: <http://bit.ly/1Aqhgmg>

-Gerhard Bock, Program Chair



FINISH YOUR ARTISTIC CREATIONS!

Last year Candy Suter of Sweetstuff's Sassy Succulents created an impressive succulent arrangement with off-the-shelf succulents from Lowe's. Photos by Gerhard Bock.

January Succulent and Cactus Mini Show Winners

Succulent: *Eurphorbia/Jatropha*

1st *Pelargonium carnosum*, Steve Goodman

Cactus: *Schlumbergia*

1st *Echinocereus pulchellus*, Michelle Egan

2nd *Echinocereus morricalii*, Steve Goodman



**SCSS Annual
Mini Show Award!**

Michelle Egan was awarded the Mini Show Plaque Award! Bring in your plants to compete at our monthly mini shows. You too can have your name on this annual prestigious award.

UPCOMING FEBRUARY SUCCULENT AND CACTUS SHOW

Mini Show Descriptions by Steve Goodman. Photos by Gerhard Bock



Cactus • *Gymnocalycium*

Gymnocalycium is a genus of about 70 South American species. Their main area of distribution is Argentina, parts of Uruguay, Paraguay, southern Bolivia and part of Brazil. Most species are globose and rather small, varying from 1.5 to 6 inches in size (4 cm to 15 cm). They are popular for their ease of care and their easy flowering habits. The flowers are usually white or pink and occasionally yellow or red. The genus name *Gymnocalycium* comes from the Greek for “naked calyx” referring to the flower buds which bear no hair or spines. They are sensitive to root mealy bugs. Only plants receiving at least a half day of bright light will bloom. Most species are propagated from seeds that need 70 degrees F minimum to germinate. Some species produce offsets that can also be used for propagation. They are commonly called chin cactus.

Succulent • *Tylecodon*

Tylecodon is a genus of succulent plants in the family Crassulaceae. Until the late 1970's all these plants were included in the genus *Cotyledon*, but in 1978 Dr. Helmut Toelken of the South Australian Herbarium split them off into a genus of their own. The new name *Tylecodon*, was apparently chosen as a syllabic anagram of the earlier name *Cotyledon*. The grounds for splitting *Cotyledon* to create the new genus included certain features of the flowers, but more conspicuously, the leaves of *Tylecodon* are deciduous in summer and they are borne in a spiral arrangement, rather than the opposite, decussate arrangement of *Cotyledon* leaves. The species are very varied, ranging from dwarf succulents such as *Tylecodon reticulatus* to *Tylecodon paniculatus*, which may exceed two meters in height.



THE SCSS 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our last Thorny Issues listed the board of directors incorrectly. Please see below for the corrected list.

Ed Egan
Candice Suter
Steve Goodman
Michelle Egan (Ex officio)

SUNSHINE CORNER

It is with great sadness to report the passing of Ken Grubaugh, husband of member Lou Grubaugh. In the past Lou has been May Show Publicity Chair and recently has worked with the Propagation Group. Ken has been her stalwart companion and helper in all her endeavors. Our sympathies to Lou and the Grubaugh family. A card has been sent from the club.

-Marilynn Vilas



FIELD TRIP TO UC DAVIS BOTANICAL CONSERVATORY

After his presentation at the February meeting, I spoke with Ernesto Sandoval, the Director of the Botanical Conservatory at UC Davis, about a field trip to see the greenhouses where he and his team propagate so many fantastic plants. We're tentatively set for Saturday, April 4, at 10 a.m. Parking is available right next to the greenhouses, and it's free on weekends. In addition to a tour of the greenhouses, we will also get a chance to buy plants at great prices so bring you wallet! I will pass around a sign-up sheet at the February meeting but you can also email me to reserve your spot:
musatopia+scss@gmail.com

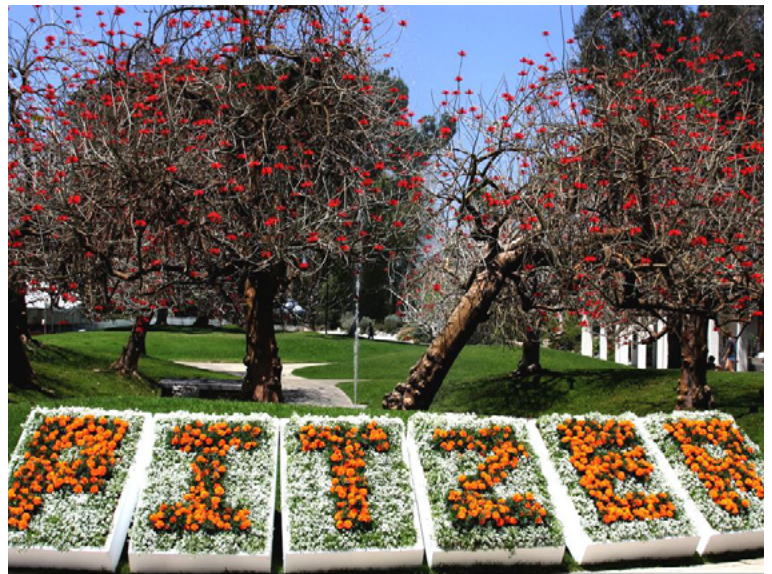
In the meantime, check out my blog post about our field trip in February 2013. It'll give you an idea of what to expect:

<http://bit.ly/1yE8pb3>

-Gerhard Bock, Program Chair

2015 CSSA BIENNIAL CONVENTION - June 14 to 19 in Claremont, California

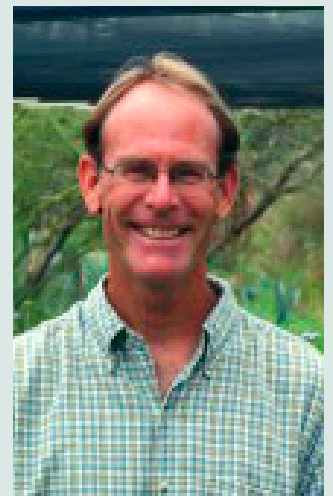
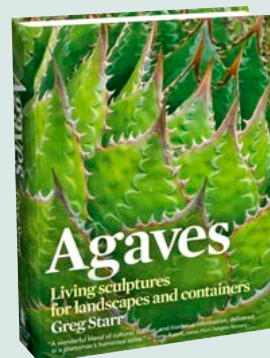
Plan a trip to Southern California to partake in the Cactus & Succulent Society of America Biennial Convention! The opening reception and get together will be Sunday, June 14 2015 at 5:00 PM at Pitzer College in Claremont, California. Convention proper begins on Monday morning June 15 and continues through the Closing Banquet on Friday June 19. The Gates and San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Societies are your hosts for this Convention. The more than 300 members of the combined societies are anxious to welcome members of the CSSA from all over the world. There will be internationally renowned speakers, plant and book sales, a fantastic plant auction, field trips, tours and an opening banquet at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens. Presenters: Michelle Cloud-Hughes, Thomas Cole, Doug Dawson, Julia Etter & Martin Kristen, Kelly Griffin, Steve Hammer, Dr. Heidi Hartmann and many more! For more information and online registration at <http://cssa2015.com>



March Meeting Date Moved to April 6th

Agave expert Greg Starr, whose program last summer drew the largest crowd in recent memory, will be back on Monday, April 6th. He is the author of the Timber Press book *Agaves: Living Sculptures for Landscapes and Containers* and one of the country's leading experts on agaves. To accommodate Greg's schedule, we're moving the March meeting from Monday, March 23rd to **Monday, April 6th**. The April meeting will be on its regular night, Monday, April 27th. Please make a note of this in your calendar so you won't show up on March 23rd just to find the Garden and Arts Center empty.

-Gerhard Bock



Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society
Sacramento, CA 95816
www.sacramentocss.org

For publication submissions email:
succulentcrazy@gmail.com by the 8th of the month

MEETING DETAILS

Next Meeting Monday, February 23rd

The Sacramento Cactus
and Succulent Society meets the
4th Monday of each month at 7:00PM
Shepard Garden & Arts Center
3330 McKinley Blvd
Sacramento, CA 95816
center phone: (916) 808-8800

parking available around the back of the building

GET YOUR GREEN THUMBS READY! NORTHERN CALIFORNIA SUCCULENT SHOWS

March 14-15, 2015

Cactus and Succulent Society of San Jose Spring Show and Sale
Peterson Middle School, 1380 Rosalia Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA
Saturday 9 AM – 5 PM & Sunday 10 AM – 4 PM

April 11, 2015

Ruth Bancroft Garden Spring Opening & Plant Sale
Ruth Bancroft Garden, 1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598
Saturday 9 AM – 11 AM (Members' pre-sale and auction) 11AM-3PM (Public sale)

April 18 -19, 2015

Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society Spring Show & Sale
San Juan Batista Community Hall, 10 San Jose Street, San Juan Batista
Saturday 9 AM – 5 PM & Sunday 9 AM – 4 PM

May 2 -3, 2015

Sacramento Cactus and Succulent Society 2015 Show & Sale
Shepard Garden & Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95816
Saturday 9 AM – 5 PM & Sunday 9 AM – 4 PM

June TBA, 2015

San Francisco Succulent & Cactus Society 2015 Sale & Show
San Francisco County Fair Building, 1199 9th Ave., San Francisco CA 94122
Saturday & Sunday 9 AM – 5 PM

SCSS MEMBERSHIP

Thank you succulent enthusiasts for renewing your membership! New guests are invited to join! Dues in the Society are \$15 per person and \$20 per family membership for one calendar year.

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
SCSS (Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society)

MAIL TO: Ginger Martin,
9199 Locust St.,
Elk Grove CA 95624
Questions: 916-685-1032 or
gingermartin@mac.com

2015 BUDGET PROPOSAL

We will be discussing the 2015 budget. Please see the attached proposal for you to review before the meeting.

-Greg Lang, Treasurer

Sacramento Cactus and Succulent Society
Profit & Loss Budget Overview
January through December 2015

	Jan - Dec 15
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Country Store	450.00
Annual Show Income	
Plant/Pottery Vendors	-21,000.00
Annual Show Income - Other	30,000.00
Total Annual Show Income	9,000.00
Membership Dues	1,400.00
Raffle Tickets	1,200.00
Interest Income	2.00
Total Income	12,052.00
Expense	
Annual Show Expenses	
Refreshments	600.00
Thank You Awards/Pots/Show Bux	1,000.00
Advertisement	350.00
Judges Gratuity	400.00
Merchant Discount	600.00
Show Flyers	110.00
Annual Show Expenses - Other	600.00
Total Annual Show Expenses	3,660.00
Awards	35.00
Bank Service Charges	36.00
Contributions/Memorials/Friends	200.00
Dues and Subscriptions	
CSSA Dues	55.00
Center Dues	125.00
Total Dues and Subscriptions	180.00
Library Expenses	300.00
Miscellaneous	25.00
Office Supplies	100.00
Newsletter Expenses	450.00
Plant Propagation-Special Ed Pr	250.00
Plant Table Fees - Monthly Meet	1,400.00
Fall Sale Table Fees	150.00
Spring Sale Table Fees	150.00
Postage and Delivery	50.00
Refreshments-Monthly Meetings	200.00
Rent	855.00
Show Fees	150.00
Program Exp - Speaker Fees	1,500.00
Storage Unit	1,440.00
Supplies	
Roster	250.00
Total Supplies	250.00
Door Prizes	225.00
Travel & Ent	
Christmas Dinner	40.00
Total Travel & Ent	40.00
Website	80.00
Total Expense	11,726.00
Net Ordinary Income	326.00
Net Income	326.00