

Thorny Issues

next meeting 2.22.2016

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society FEBRUARY 2016 | Volume 57, II



Photo by Ernesto Sandoval

SPEAKER ERNESTO SANDOVAL

An exciting February Program!

The next Club meeting is on February 22nd, at 7:00 pm. Our speaker will be Ernesto Sandoval, the Director of the Botanical Conservatory at UC Davis. With an emphasis on succulents and other drought tolerant plants, learn what your plants need and want from their environment. Learn to better understand how the quality and/or amount of temperature, light, soil, water, oxygen and nutrients affect how plants grow, especially for us here in the Sacramento region. Have you ever wondered why pH is so important for plants? Why overwatering is not good for most succulent plants? How you can amend the clay soils in our region for better drainage? Learn the answers, in easy to understand terms, to these and many other horticultural questions that you and others have and are encouraged to bring! Ernesto, the Director of the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, who has had many years of practice in relating Science and Biology to people of all ages, wants you to better understand how plants grow so you can grow them with less wasted energy!

About Ernesto

Ernesto Sandoval has been wondering and seeking questions to why plants grow and look the way that they do since a young age. Now he explains and interprets the world of plants to a variety of ages and experiences from K-12 to professionals and Master Gardeners. He regularly lectures to a variety of western Garden Clubs throughout the year and particularly to succulent clubs throughout the State and elsewhere since that group of plants is his particular passion within his general passion for plants.

When he was about 13 he asked his dad why one tree was pruned a particular way and another tree another way. His dad answered bluntly “because that’s the way you do it.” Since then he’s been learning and teaching himself the answers to those and many other questions by getting a degree at UC Davis in Botany and working from student weeder/waterer to Director over the last 24 years at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory. He’s long left the “mow blow and go” monoculture landscape gardening world and has immersed himself in the world of polyculture and biodiversity by managing and supervising the growing of several thousand types of plants at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, many of them succulents. He loves the technical language of Botany but prefers to relate information in more understandable methods of communication! By helping people to understand the workings of plants he hopes to help us better understand how to and why our plants do what they do and how we can maximize their growth with less effort.



*Bio and program description
supplied by Ernesto Sandoval*

UPCOMING FEBRUARY SUCCULENT AND CACTUS SHOW

Mini Show Descriptions by Michelle Egan. Photos by Gerhard Bock



Pelargonium crispum

Succulent • PELARGONIUM

Pelargonium originate from South Africa and are winter growers which requires a dry summer with a small amount of watering. Although being winter growers they should be protected from frost. Their name comes from the Greek “pelargo” meaning stork because of the shape of the seed pods and are also called “Storksbill”. The seed are small and feathery. They are in the family *Geraniaceae* but are not to be confused with Geraniums which are called “Cranesbill” also named for the shape of their seed pods. However, these plants differ greatly in seed and flower form. *Pelargoniums* tend to have small delicate five petaled flowers, such as *P. alternans*, with some brightly colored varieties. Some species have ornamental leaves ranging from round flat velvety to spindly and lacy. The plant form can vary from subterranean tubers that can be raised for effect to thick stemmed shrublets as with *P. laxum* and *P. klinghardtense*. Propagation can be from seed or clippings.

Cactus • ASTROPHYTUM

Astrophytum is from the Greek meaning “star plant”. They are a very popular plants to grow due to their beautiful sculptural and symmetrical shapes. Flowers are generally yellow with some varieties having a cherry-red throat. The genera of these cactus have common names very descriptive of their own particular shapes i.e. *A. myriostigma* or “bishop’s cap”, *A. asterias* – “sea urchin or sand dollar” and *A. capricorne* – “goat’s horn”. There is a lovely and often grafted hybrid form of *A. asterias* known as “super kabuto”. The genus of *A. myriostigma* generally have five spineless strong ribs giving it a star shape, but it can also have three, four and six ribs. A recently discovered branching form of *Astrophytum* is *A. caput-medusea* – “Medusa’s head”. *Astrophytums* can take temperatures from 65-90 F degrees down to 45-55 F degrees. They like bright light and well-drained soil and should be fertilized monthly spring through summer.



Astrophytum ornatum 'Mirbelii'

JANUARY SHOW WINNERS

Cactus: ARIOCARPUS

- 1st *A. fissuratus*, Keith Taylor
- 2nd (T) *A. fissuratus*, Michelle Egan
- 2nd (T) *A. fissuratus*, Penny Newell
- 3rd *A. fissuratus*, Steve Goodman
- HM *A. agavoides*, Ellen Ragasa



Succulent: HAWORTHIA

- 1st (T) *H. limifolia variagata*, Michelle Egan
- 1st (T) *H. mutica*, Steve Goodman
- 2nd *H. x 'Royal Albert'*, Bobbie Handen
- 3rd (T) *H. maughanii*, JoEllen Arnold
- 3rd (T) *H. truncata 'Lime Green'*, Mariel Dennis
- 3rd (T) *H. venosa sp. granulata*, Penny Newell
- 3rd (T) *H. emelyae v. comptoniana*, Linda Royce
- HM *H. sp. miniature*, Victor H. Rosario
- HM *H. magnifica v. major*, Keith Taylor
- HM *H. koelmaniorum*, Dave Vitolo

MINI SHOW TROPHY

CONGRATULATIONS to Steve Goodman for winning the Mini Show trophy for 2015. Good job Steve!!

SUNSHINE CORNER

We send our best wishes for many speedy recoveries to the Dickey family! We will miss Jane and JJ and hope they will be back at a meeting soon. We also extend our best to the rest of the family to get well soon! If you know of a club member(s) that needs a cheery note or some one has had a happy event, inform Marilyn Vilas, Sunshine Chair, via either email or telephone. Thank you!

THANK YOU

The Sacramento Cactus and Succulent would like to extend a big "thank you" to Barbara (Toy) Lockhart for her generous donation of all the plants, books and gardening items from her father's estate. Bill Toy was a longtime valued member who passed away last July. These items are highly appreciated and our members have greatly benefitted from this contribution.

BADGES

Any member who never has had a badge is welcome to purchase a badge for \$10.00. Sign up with Michelle Egan at the next meeting or call (916) 424-5233.



BUDGET PROPOSAL

Sacramento Cactus and Succulent Society
Profit and Loss Budget Overview
January through December 2016
-Greg Lang, Treasurer

	Jan - Dec 16
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Country Store	450.00
Annual Show Income	
Plant/Pottery Vendors	-24,500.00
Annual Show Income - Other	35,000.00
Total Annual Show Income	10,500.00
Membership Dues	1,400.00
Raffle Tickets	1,200.00
Interest Income	2.00
Total Income	13,552.00
Expense	
Annual Show Expenses	
Refreshments	1,000.00
Advertisement	250.00
Judges Gratuity	600.00
Merchant Discount	1,200.00
Thank You Awards/Pots	1,000.00
Annual Show Expenses - Other	1,800.00
Total Annual Show Expenses	5,850.00
Awards	75.00
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
Member Name Badges (President)	100.00
Miscellaneous	25.00
Office Supplies	100.00
Newsletter Expenses	150.00
Plant Propagation-Special Ed Pr	135.00
Plant Table Fees - Monthly Meet	1,650.00
Fall Sale Table Fees	150.00
Spring Sale Table Fees	150.00
Field Trips/Bus Trips Expense	600.00
Refreshments-Monthly Meetings	200.00
Rent	845.00
Show Fees	150.00
Program Exp - Speaker Fees	2,000.00
Storage Unit	1,500.00
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	14,991.00
Net Ordinary Income	-1,439.00
Net Income	-1,439.00

SACRAMENTO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY PRESENTS THE 56TH ANNUAL

Cactus & Succulent Show



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We need a Refreshment Chair(s) for the May Show. Duties will include organizing lunches for volunteers, drinks, etc. For more information contact Keith Taylor. Email caudex.one@gmail.com

MAY 7, SATURDAY

9AM - 5PM (PLANT SALE)

10AM - 5PM (EXHIBITION)

MAY 8, SUNDAY

9AM - 4PM (EXHIBITION & PLANT SALE)

Free Admission • Free Parking • Plant Seminars
FREE plant each day to the 1st 50 guests!

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Fees go towards the newsletter, great cactus and succulent programs and meetings.
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: Oanh Vu • 8837 Monterey Oaks, Elk Grove CA 95758

Any questions? email: oanhthai@yahoo.com

MEETING DETAILS

The Sacramento Cactus and Succulent Society meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7:00PM

For publication submissions email: succulentcrazy@gmail.com by the 5th of the month

Next Meeting Monday February 22nd, 7:00pm

Shepard Garden & Arts Center
3330 McKinley Blvd
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center phone: (916) 808-8800

www.sacramentocss.org