

# Thorny Issues

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society JANUARY 2016 | Volume 57, I



*Photo by Gerhard Bock*

## Welcome to the Wonderful World of Succulents! An exciting January Program!

Speaker Rella Gadulka

Happy new year everyone! The next club meeting is on Monday, January 25th, at 7:00 pm. Rella Gadulka, owner of Simply Succulent Nursery in Fort Bragg has been growing plants since childhood. Recently she learned that both of her great grandmothers had been herbalists in E. Europe so growing might be in Rella's DNA. Her presentation, "Welcome to the Wonderful World of Succulents" will range as far and wide as an hour will allow. Succulents are some of the ultimate water conservationists. Please join us for a quickie world tour. You won't need a passport but do bring lots of questions. Facebook page at Simply Succulent in Fort Bragg. Prior to the meeting members are welcome to dine with Rella at 5:00pm at Shanghai Garden on the corner of H and Alhambra (just off the business 80 freeway). This will be a great opportunity to talk more with Rella. (The club is treating Rella; you'll pay for your own). Don't forget to bring some cash to buy some succulents and raffle tickets!

*-Mariel Dennis, Vice President and Program Chair*

**DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP** This could be your last issue!

This could be your last issue! 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

# 2016 MINI SHOW SCHEDULE

	SUCCULENT	CACTUS
January	Haworthia	Ariocarpus
February	Pelargonium	Astrophytum
March	Pseudolithos	Espostoa/Oreocereus/Any "Old Man Cactus"
April	Sansevieria	Any Grafted
May	Any Variegated	Rebutia/Sulcorebutia
June	Euphorbia	Mammillaria
July	Any Crested	Opuntia
August	Pachypodium	Ferocactus
September	No Mini Show	No Mini Show (Country Store)
October	Tylecodon/Crassula	Echinopsis
November	Any Grafted	Schlumbergera (Zygocactus)



*Euphorbia millottii*

## RULES FOR ENTERING IN THE MINI SHOW

1. Enter only one plant per category, i.e. one succulent and one cactus.
2. Fill out the provided information card for each plant entered. Fold on line, so as not to show entrant's name. Place card by the entered plant.
3. Make sure there is a cup by entered plant for receiving votes.
4. Scoring is based on the amount of beans (votes) placed in the cup. The plant receiving the most beans (votes) receives 1st place and so on down to Honorable Mention for that particular month's Mini Show. There can be a tie in each place since winning the Mini Show trophy is based on one's accumulative point for the entire year.
5. First place plant gets 4 points, 2nd place gets 3 points, 3rd place gets 2 points and Honorable Mention gets 1 point.
6. The Mini Show winner for the year is based on a grand total of points awarded from the total votes cast for each plant at the monthly Mini Show. Each month's results are then added up at the end of the year. The person who received the most accumulative votes for their entries is the winner. A person does not have to take first place each month since winning is based on the total amount of votes one receives. If one enters one cactus and one succulent each month that is automatically 22 points awarded for the year. Any more points received from placing 1st, 2nd, 3rd each month adds to the total accumulative points.
7. The person entering their plant(s) should have had the plant for at least 3 months prior to entering the Mini Show for the month listed in the newsletter.
8. Person(s) entering plants in the Mini Show will receive one free raffle ticket per each of the two plant categories entered, i.e. one cactus entered and one succulent entered for a total of 2 raffle tickets.
9. The winner of the Mini Show is announced at the December or January meeting.

## NOVEMBER SHOW WINNERS

### Succulent: Aloe

1st *Aloe "Firebird"*, Theresa Roberts  
 2nd *Aloe "Delta Lights"*, Victor Rosario  
 3rd (T) *Aloe "Fancy"*, Rudy Aguilar  
 3rd (T) *Aloe plicatilis*, Michelle Egan  
 HM *Aloe "Pink Blush"*, Linda Roye  
 HM *Aloe "Whitefox"*, Gene Wiggins  
 HM *Aloe "Minnie Belle"*, Steve Goodman

### Cactus: MAMMILLARIA

1st *Mammillaria matudae cristata*, Rudy Aguilar  
 2nd (T) *Mammillaria elegans*, Steve Goodman  
 2nd (T) *Mammillaria sp.*, Ellen Ragasa  
 3rd (T) *Mammillaria "Fred" monstrose*, Michelle Egan  
 3rd (T) *Mammillaria sp.*, Linda Roye  
 HM *Mammillaria mystax*, Gene Wiggins



# UPCOMING JANUARY SUCCULENT AND CACTUS SHOW

Mini Show Descriptions by Michelle Egan. Photos by Gerhard Bock



*Haworthia margaretifera 'Aurea'*

## Cactus • ARIOCARPUS

*Ariocarpus* is a cactus with few varieties in its genus. They are spineless and some have a soft cotton-like growth around the leaves and in the center of some varieties. Plants grow low to the ground being greyish to brown in color and have a ruff surface that make them appear almost rocklike sometimes being referred to as living rock. They have a large tuberous root. They like bright light but too much direct hot summer sun can burn the plant. Temperature requirements are average to warm in spring and summer, 65-90 degrees F., but can take cooling down to 45-55 degrees F. in the winter. Dry out before watering and do not water from September to March. They can be sprayed slightly during these months. These plants do well in clay pots with good drainage. Make sure the pot is tall enough to accommodate the long large tuberous root. Mature plants will bloom in the fall bearing dark pink or white flowers. It's name comes from ancient Greek "aria" (an oak type) and "carpos" (= fruit) because 2 of the genus produce fruit that look like acorns from the *Sorbus aria*. *Ariocarpus* are found in southern Texas on the limestone hills around the Rio Grande and also to the north and center of Mexico.



*Ariocarpus scapharostrus*

## Succulent • HAWORTHIA

*Haworthia* is a large genus of small dwarf succulents from South Africa and south-west Africa. It is suggested that the nomenclature on them changes a lot due to constant hybridization within the genus. Historically, however, most species were propagated asexually and propagated from clones. They can be grown from seeds, offsets and leaves. The flowers appear on a long stalk and are small and generally white. In the wild they grow in rock crevices and among bushes shaded from direct sun. *Haworthias* are easy plants to grow. They are small plants that do not take up much room and do not require very much sun light. Grow in a mixture of equal parts of sand and cactus soil. Avoid long periods of direct sun light when growing these plants. Allow the soil to dry out before watering. Temperature range is 65-90 degrees F. all year. One of the most commonly grown is *H. subfasciata* also known as "Little Zebra Plant". *H. limifolia* is also a lovely one to grow.

## NEW OFFICERS!

We now have a full slate of officers that were elected at the Nov. meeting. They are as follows:

President – Steve Goodman  
Vice President – Mariel Dennis  
Secretary – Gerhard Bock  
Treasurer – Greg Lang  
Board of Directors: Ed Egan, Joe Samora  
and Harold Coburn  
Ex officio Keith Taylor

We had 24 in attendance at the Christmas Party. Thanks to all who brought delicious dishes.

# SACRAMENTO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Shepard Garden & Arts Center  
3330 McKinley Blvd  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
center phone: (916) 808-8800

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

Next Meeting Monday  
January 25th, 7:00pm

[www.sacramentocss.org](http://www.sacramentocss.org)

## LIBRARY ACQUIRES NEW BOOKS

Thanks to the generosity of our club's Board of Directors, the library has acquired 7 new books to become part of our permanent collection:

Lithops - Treasures of the Veld by Steven A. Hammer. Lithops--"Living Stones"--are one of the most recognizable plants in the succulent world; they are not however one of the easiest to keep in cultivation. The author gives us his observations on the genus, includes many photographs and helps us understand their cultivation requirements.

The Plant Lover's Guide to Sedums by Brent Horvath. Plant profiles highlight 150 of the best varieties to grow with information on zones, plant size, soil and light needs, origin and how they can be used in the landscape.

Echinocereus by John Pilbeam. A basic reference book for students of this wonderful genus of cacti. The photographs are not to be missed.

Stapeliads by John Pilbeam. This volume contains many high quality images of this amazing group of plants coupled with resource materials.

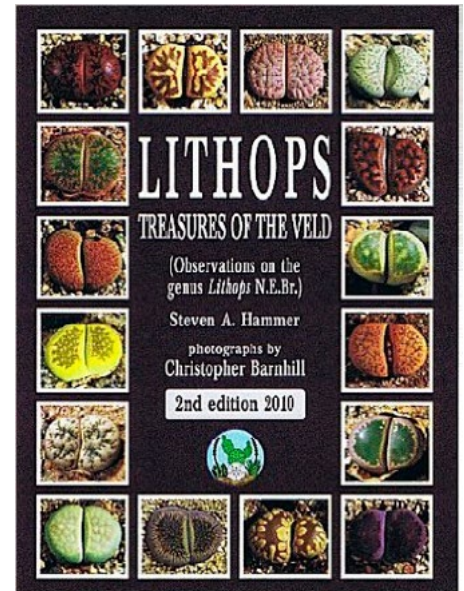
A Beginner's Guide to Gasteria, Haworthia and Others by Tom Glavich. This book is a publication of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America and consists of a compendium of articles from the Society's quarterly magazine.

A Gallery of Agaves by John Pilbeam. A lavishly illustrated collection of photographs of these plants in nature and/or cultivation. Also included are details about the classification of the genus and its whereabouts in the wild.

A Gardener's Guide to Cacti, Succulents and Foliage by Richard Rosenfeld. This book offers practical advice on incorporating cacti and succulents in outdoor gardening/landscaping projects.

Please come to the library table at our next meeting to review these new books and possibly check-out one for a month.

—George Krigas, Librarian



## WE ARE IN NEED OF A NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR!

Jackie Kang Bousquin, our current SCSS newsletter editor is moving in the spring and will no longer be editing the newsletter. If you are interested in becoming the new editor, please email Jackie at [succulentcrazy@gmail.com](mailto:succulentcrazy@gmail.com) or talk to one of the officers at the meeting.

## SCSS NAME 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 at (916) 424-5233.

