

# Thorny Issues

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society

April 2019

Volume 60, IV

## April Program

### IT'S ALL ABOUT THE SHOW

The May Show and Sale will be held May 4 and 5 this year! Now is the time to start your preparations if you haven't done so already. In this month's program, club president Mariel Dennis will give us the inside scoop, sharing everything you need to know about the show. We'll talk about how to enter plants and stage a winning presentation for the show. Learn about the live demonstrations that will be presented throughout the weekend. Consider volunteering to help and get an advance peek at the plants for sale. We'll also cover the dates and times of the show weekend, the Show Schedule, how to fill out registration forms for show entry plants, how to prep your plants, and the judging process.

Sign-up sheets to work the show, publicity fliers, photo show fliers, show schedules, and registration slips will be available at the April meeting.

### May Show Alerts!

**Registration tag colors have changed!** Open is now WHITE. Division III (planters, dish gardens, bonsai, etc.) is now YELLOW. Just trying to keep everyone on their toes...

**Times have changed!** Show and Sales both open on Saturday at 10 AM, close at 6 PM. Sunday remains the same, 10 AM - 4 PM.

### Boxes Needed for May Show & Sale

Please collect and bring empty boxes to the April meeting and to the Show and Sale in May. These will be used to box up customers' plants at the sale. We expect a huge sale this year, so please bring as many boxes as you can. Thanks!



### Meeting Details

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

Next meeting: April 22

Shepard Garden & Arts Center | 3330 McKinley Blvd | Sacramento, CA 95816

center phone: (916) 808-8800 | [www.sacramentocss.com](http://www.sacramentocss.com)

## News & Notes

### SGAC Succulent Garden Gets a New Sign!



The SGAC has provided a sign for our demonstration garden on the north side of the building (McKinley Blvd. side), and it will be placed before our annual show and sale. SGAC is also looking into acquiring shade sails to cover the outdoor patio, and hopefully those will also be installed before our show and sale. If you are interested in helping to maintain our demonstration garden, please contact Mariel Dennis for more information.

### Lifetime Membership

We have a new option this year: \$100.00 for a Lifetime Membership. If you've already paid for 2019 and would like to take advantage of the Lifetime Membership, please pay the difference of what you have already paid. Find the form on our web site [www.sacramentocss.com](http://www.sacramentocss.com) under the Membership heading. Make your check to SCSS for Annual or Lifetime membership.

### Pots are Ready

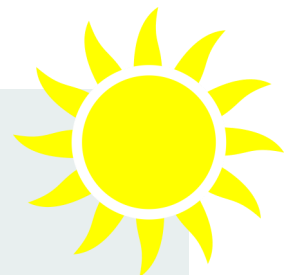
Keith will be bringing back the pots that members created and glazed over the last couple months. Please contact Keith if you cannot make it to the meeting to arrange to get your pot.



### Sunshine Corner

It gives me great pleasure to convey that our wonderful May Show schedule artist, Jackie Kang Bousquin, is now a life member, thanks to the Board. Jackie, a former club newsletter editor, moved to Chico a few years ago but still organizes our show booklet and designs the flier artwork. Jackie is a graphic artist for Mary Lake Thompson Linens and Textiles.

—Marilynn Vilas, Sunshine Chair



## May Show DOs and DON'Ts

- **DO** read the show schedule and familiarize yourself with dates and times.
- **DO** bring your plants in on Friday, May 3 as early as possible after 11 AM. All plants must be in place by 7 PM.
- **DO** sign up for at least one committee at the April meeting. Areas that always need help: Plant Sales, Plant Hotel, Hospitality, Security, Membership, and Refreshments. Chairs will be at the April meeting with their sign-up sheets. The club feeds all volunteers!
- **DO** collect and save boxes/flats for the Plant Sales. Costco, Sam's Club, grocery stores, etc., are good places to collect. Give the boxes/flats to Steve Goodman or Dennis Ragasa.
- **DO** wear your name badge. Not all of us know who everyone is, and this helps break the ice. No name badge? There will be stick-on ones available. Also wear (and return) an "Ask Me" button so our visitors know who to ask for help.
- **DO** help with kitchen clean up all three days.
- **DO** use YELLOW registration slips for Division III (planters, dish gardens, etc.) regardless of whether you are a novice, junior, open, or advanced.
- **DON'T DON'T DON'T** water or apply pesticides to your plants the week before the show.
- **DON'T** remove any of your show plants before the Sunday 4 PM closing time.
- **DON'T** take home that beautiful rosette ribbon you win for Best in Show. The Club reuses them each year.
- **DO** take home the smaller ribbons you win.
- **DON'T** leave your valuables in plain sight in the Center. Ask the Center Monitor to put them behind the desk in the Center office.
- **DO** vote for your favorite shadowbox.
- **DO** come to work, have fun, get to know your fellow Club members, and buy plants for next year's show. It's lots about *camaraderie* (and just a little about competition).

—Show Committee

## March Mini-Show Winners

### CACTUS - ECHINOCEREUS, ECHINOCACTUS & ECHINOPSIS

1st - Jerry Friis, *Echinocereus sp.*

2nd - Annie Wolf, *Echinocactus platyacanthus f. grandis*

3rd - Cassidy Roberts-Yee, *Echinocactus polycephalus*

### SUCCULENT - CRASSULA

1st - Kris McAninch, *Crassula estagnol spiralis*

2nd - Troy Fajerson, *C. perforata variegata*

3rd - Rudy Aguilar, *C. socialis*

## May Show and Sale Vendors

Peter Beiersdorfer	Cacti and succulents
Naomi Bloss	Primarily succulents
David Calibo	Primarily succulents
Kal Kaminer	Cacti & Succulents
Bill Munkacsy	Primarily cacti
Mark Muradian	Pottery
Alex Rigg	Primarily succulents
Elton Roberts	Cacti and succulents
Gary & Ellen Stubblefield	Cacti and succulents
Keith Taylor	Pottery
Stan Verkler	Cacti and succulents
Oanh Vu	Epiphyllum cacti
Peter Walkowiak	Primarily succulents
Richard Withers	Cacti, succulents, and pottery
Annie Wolf	Cacti and succulents

## Upcoming Events

Apr 20. 10am. Mariel is planning to go to Poot's House of Cactus in Ripon to pick up new member and drawing prize plants. Poot's offers a club discount, and their display garden should be in full bloom. Mariel will also try to set up a tour of the propagation greenhouses, which are normally closed to the public. Interested members are welcome to meet Mariel at 10am at Poot's.

Apr 20. 10am. Open Greenhouse Day at Skillin ranch. The Skillins will have an extensive assortment of succulents and cacti for purchase, ranging from show-ready specimens to inexpensive starters. There will be complimentary food and drinks, greenhouse tours, and a free raffle including an *Aloe ramosissima* and a *Pachypodium fihense*, both in 2-gallon pots. For more information, visit <http://southcoastcss.org/event/rob-skillins-open-greenhouse-day-2019/>.

Apr 27. SCSS Field Trip: Spring Wildflower Walk. Join SCSS member Kris McAninch for a field trip to see the super bloom of wildflowers at Table Mountain Reserve, followed by lunch in Chico. After lunch, the group will have a guided tour and shopping at the Chico cactus garden. The group will plan to leave Sacramento around 8:30am. A public parks day pass is needed (available online or at sporting goods stores or Walmart). Please contact Kris for more information at 916-478-1199 or [sparkk3eb@yahoo.com](mailto:sparkk3eb@yahoo.com).

Apr. 27-28. San Jose Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale. Emma Prusch Farm Park, 647 S. King Rd., San Jose, CA 95116 Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday 10am-3pm. For more information: [sjcactussucculent@gmail.com](mailto:sjcactussucculent@gmail.com).



### East Sac Garden Tour

Join Sacramento in celebrating the 21st Anniversary of the East Sac Garden Tour on Mother's Day weekend, May 11th and 12th. Gardens dotted throughout the Fabulous 40s will be open to public viewing. During your walking tour, you can buy locally-made crafts at the Artisan Boutique, and enjoy a lemonade, iced tea, or snack at our Sweet Stops along the way.

Don't miss this popular Sacramento Mother's Day tradition. Tickets are available online beginning the first week of April and will also be available at participating East Sacramento businesses.

Visit the web site for locations and tickets: [www.eastsacgardentour.com](http://www.eastsacgardentour.com). Tickets purchased through May 9 are \$20. Tickets purchased Mother's Day weekend are \$25 and can be purchased the Will Call Booth at David Lubin Elementary (3535 M Street). Children 12 years and younger are free.

May 18-19. Carmichael Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale. Carmichael Park Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Ave., Carmichael, CA. Saturday 9am-4pm, Sunday 9am-3pm.

Jun 8-9. Fresno Home & Garden Show and Fresno Cactus and Succulent Society Spring Sale. Clovis Veterans Memorial, 808 4th St., Clovis, CA 93612. [www.fresnocss.com](http://www.fresnocss.com).

Jun 8-9. San Francisco Succulent & Cactus Society Show and Sale. San Francisco County Fair Building, 1199 9th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122. Saturday and Sunday 9am - 5pm.

## April Mini-Show

### SUCCULENT: ALOE



Aloe is a genus containing over 500 species of flowering succulent plants. The most widely known species is Aloe vera, or “true aloe,” so called because it is cultivated as the standard source of so-called “aloe vera” for assorted pharmaceutical purposes. The APG IV system (2016) places the genus in the family Asphodelaceae, subfamily Asphodeloideae. Within the subfamily it may be placed in the tribe Aloeeae. In the past, it has been assigned to the family Aloaceae or to a broadly circumscribed family Liliaceae (the lily family). The genus is native to tropical and southern Africa, Madagascar, Jordan, the Arabian Peninsula, and various islands in the Indian Ocean (Mauritius, Réunion, Comoros, etc.). A few species have also become naturalized in other regions (Mediterranean, India, Australia, North and South America, Hawaiian Islands, etc.).

Most Aloe species have a rosette of large, thick, fleshy leaves. Aloe flowers are tubular, frequently yellow, orange, pink, or red, and are borne, densely clustered and pendant, at the apex of simple or branched, leafless stems. Many species of Aloe appear to be stemless, with the rosette growing directly at ground level; other varieties may have a branched or unbranched stem from which the fleshy leaves spring. They vary in color from grey to bright-green and are sometimes striped or mottled. Some aloes native to South Africa are tree-like (arborescent). Recently the genus was separated into six subgenera: Aloidendron, Kumara, Aloiapelos, Aloe, Aristaloe and Gonialoe.



### CACTUS: REBUTIA / SULCOREBUTIA

Rebutia is a genus in the family Cactaceae, native to Bolivia and Argentina. They are generally small, colorful cacti, globular in form, which freely produce flowers that are relatively large in relation to the body. They have no distinctive ribs, but do have regularly arranged small tubercles. They are considered fairly easy to grow and may produce large quantities of seeds that germinate freely around the parent plant. The limits of the genus are currently uncertain, in particular whether or not it includes species formerly or currently placed in the genera Aylosteria, Cintia, Sulcorebutia and Weingartia. The number of species included varies widely from source to source. A very large number of plants that have been treated in cultivation as species of Rebutia are now regarded as

varieties, forms or synonyms of a much smaller number of species.

The Sulcorebutia were aggregated into the genus Rebutia, which is therefore more appropriately represented by a subgenus. They are small, globose cacti, with a tendency to form very interesting aesthetic compositions. The stem does not have obvious ribs and is, instead, organized in small tubercles. The thorns are tiny and numerous and often cover the entire surface of the plant. The colors are various, according to the species: bright green, dark green, violet or reddish for the stem; white or yellow light or brown for thorns. The flowers are relatively large compared to the stem. Flowering occurs at the base of the plant, in the daytime, in pink, red, yellow, orange, pink, from the young age.



## More May Show Information (There's a lot to know!)

**Photography Exhibition.** This year's May Show and Sale will feature a new Photo Show. This will be a non-judged portion of the show, open to members of the SCSS. We know there is more to our members' collections and gardens than can be brought to a show, so we are asking members to bring photos of plants and gardens featuring the enjoyment we get from our plants. Interested members can bring framed pictures (no less than 8" x 10"), ready to hang, to the meetings prior to the show. Jerry Friis will store them until the show and will hang them prior to the show. Please provide a label with each picture, including your name, your contact information (email and phone number), and information about the subject of the picture (location, plant name, etc.) This is a great opportunity to share with the public and with each other more than can be brought in a pot! Please direct questions to Jerry Friis via email at [friisfam@mac.com](mailto:friisfam@mac.com) or text at 530-304-5431.

**Help support the annual show and sale.** Help post our flyers in your neighborhoods and share the details with your friends on social media. Please note that the times have changed on Saturday; both the show area inside the Center and the patio sales area will open at 10 AM and stay open until 6 PM.

**Setup on Friday (May 3).** For those entering plants in the show or setting up one of the shadow boxes: the Center closes promptly at 7 PM Friday night, so no one will be allowed to enter in the last few minutes or if they have many entries. If you volunteer for setup on Friday, you get a sneak peek at the sale plants too! If you need help with identification, we have experts standing by on Friday to assist.

**Volunteers Needed.** We need volunteers throughout the show weekend and we have many different jobs, so we can use everyone at any skill level for as much time as you can spare. Please see Carole Hada, our volunteer coordinator, to sign up.

**Pictures Needed from the Show and Sale.** Our May newsletter highlights the wonderful people and plants that make our annual show and sale so successful. If you have great pictures from the show or sale and would like them included in the May newsletter, please send them to [newsletter@sacramentocss.com](mailto:newsletter@sacramentocss.com) by May 12, and we will include as many as we can. Pictures of the show tables, individual plants, and the sale area are most welcome!

