



Thorny Issues

Volume 50, No. 3

March Program and Meeting

Monday, March 23, 2009

7pm

SACRAMENTO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY



Prepping for the May Show

Marilynn Vilas will be our speaker for March. Marilynn will do her ever popular and sought-after program on how to prepare your plants for the May Show but with a twist. Dish Gardens and Planters are a neglected part of the show so this year Marilynn will make a planter before your very eyes. If you have a dish garden or planter to display, please bring them. Questions and comments from the audience are most welcome!

Show Schedules and advertising fliers will be available. Marilynn will explain the intricacies of the Show Schedule and how to register your plants.

Marilynn Vilas has been a club member since 1978. She has held positions in the club including President, Show Director, Chair of numerous committees including Country Store and the Christmas Party. She is also the Affiliate Representative to the national society, CSSA. Marilynn received her degree from UC Davis in Botany and is retired from the Viticulture and Enology Department (Grape growing and Wine making-who knew?) where she held the position of Museum Curator for the Yeast and Bacteria Collection. She and her husband, Ned, enjoy traveling – their latest trip being to China and Tibet.

This will be an audience participation program, so come, relax and enjoy!



Succulent Dish Garden

EXTRA EXTRA

The web site has been updated!
Take a look at www.sacramentocss.org

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Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society

We meet the 4th Monday of each month at 7pm at the Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., in Sacramento.

The Center's phone number is (916) 264-8800.

There is no meeting held in December.

The public is warmly invited to any meeting.

MINI SHOW *March 2009*

Cactus - Parodia

Though Notocactus were moved and included in the genus Parodia in the mid 80s there is still much discussion and disagreement about this move.

There are about 50 species of Parodias that can go from small globose plants, to 3 feet tall columnar cactus. They originate from Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Brazil. The genus name honors the Argentine biologist Lorenzo Raimundo Parodi.

The cacti that were in the genus Parodia before the merge, generally do better in winter if kept above 50°F. This keeps them from going completely dormant. When going totally dormant they have a much higher probability to lose their roots, and can be pretty slow to restart in the spring. Some species on the other hand, particularly some in the old genus Notocactus, are fairly cold resistant, and can be used in outdoor cactus gardens.

Most seedlings bloom in 2 to 3 years after germination. Parodia have abundant blossoms of large flowers.



Parodia penicillata

Succulent - Echeveria, Dudleya

Echeveria is a large genus of succulents in the Crassulaceae family, native from Mexico to northwestern South America. Because they produce numerous offsets, they are commonly known as 'hen and chicks'. They prefer regular deep watering and fertilizing.

Most will tolerate shade and some frost. In winter they usually lose many lower leaves and should be cleaned up to prevent fungus infection.

Dudleya is a related genus of succulent perennials. They are similar in appearance to Echeveria with fleshy leaves in rosettes, and colors also similar, from green to gray.

In winter they can have a silvery bloom which is quite attractive. In summer the inflorescences can be up to a meter high and have long-lasting starry flowers, usually yellow. They need to be watered carefully to prevent rot because they are normally found in crevices with little water.



Echeveria shaviana

Mini Show Winners

February 2009

CACTUS - Crested

1st - *Mammillaria wildii cristata*, Michelle Egan

SUCCULENT - Aloe

1st - *Aloe lilacae*, Michelle Egan

2nd - *Aloe erinacea*, Tom Flynn

3rd - *Aloe 'Winter Sky'*, Erica Crosby

Honorable Mention - *Aloe 'White Wings'*, Mary Schuett

Welcome New Members

Lydia Firchau
416 Coronado Ave, Roseville, CA 95678
(916) 786-6927
Birthday: April 11

leufaka Peltier Garcia
PO Box 504, Aiea, HI 96701
(808)343-0736 • leufaka@aol.com

Kris Rasmussen
955 Cranbrook Ct. Apt. 290, Davis, CA 95616
(209) 814-7073 • sierrakris@comcast.net
Birthday: July 7

Peter Schilla
PO Box 162642, Sacramento, CA 95816-2642
(916) 3343-1537
Birthday: July 2

Going to the Annual CSSA Convention in Tucson?

If you are going to the CSSA Annual Convention in Tucson April 10-15, 2009, Marilyn Vilas, our society's Affiliate Representative to CSSA, would appreciate a volunteer to go to the Affiliate Representative's meeting and report back. Marilyn will give you a letter designating your status. Let her know at the March meeting or call/email her. Thank You. Marilyn's phone is (530) 753-7011 and her email is nedmar@omsoft.com.

Pots and Pups?

The Club propagators are starting to make planters to sell at the May Show. If you have any planter-type pots, large or small, that you wish to donate, please contact or give them to Marilyn Vilas. And as Kathy says in the following article we need 200 plants just to give away so... bring every little pup you've got to the March meeting or pot some up yourself at home.

Please Help Your Show Sales Area

Now is the time to take cuttings and pot them up. We will continue our FREE plant giveaway to the first 100 guests on Sat. and Sun. (200 total) at the Annual Show. Please use clean 2"-3" pots. Don't have plant material but want to help? We are asking members to bring plant cuttings to the March meeting so volunteers can pot them up.

Last year, the club earned \$1900 at the show from plants and books donated by members and the propagating team. This area has grown steadily since its inception 5 years ago. Keep up the great work everyone. Donate those items. Feel free to bring them to the March and April meeting or set-up day-Friday, May 1st.

BOXES...BOXES...BOXES!!!!!!! We need lots for the May Show shoppers. Please start collecting them now from Sam's Club, Costco or anywhere you can. Bring them to the March/April meeting and I will put them in our storage shed for the show. You can also bring them directly to the sale area Friday, May 1st, from 9am - 7pm.

Thank you in advance. Contact Kathy Hodges with questions and to volunteer to help in any capacity. agavequeen@comcast.net; or 682-1196.



Mammillaria schiedeana spp. *plumosa*

SCSS Membership and Renewal Form

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____ BIRTHDAY(S): _____

INDIVIDUAL \$10: _____ FAMILY (2 OR MORE) \$15: _____ RENEWAL (YES/NO) _____

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society

MAIL TO: George Avery, 7941 Dersingham Drive, Sacramento, CA 95829-1469

CHAIR USE ONLY: Check # _____ Amount \$ _____ Cash _____ Receipt # _____



Next Meeting Date
Monday, March 23

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society

c/o Sharon Wisecarver, Editor
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 Sacramento, CA 95824
 email: sawise7@sbcglobal.net

DEADLINE for publication is
 the 5th of every month.

Visit our website:

www.sacramentocss.org

April 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	African Violets Show Shepard GAC 4
Ron Hodges B-DAY African Violets Show Shepard GAC ⁵	6	Steve Pate B-DAY 7	8	9	10	Lydia Firchau B-DAY 11
12	13	14	15	16	Cristian Cristian B-DAY 17	Iris Show Shepard GAC 18
Iris Show Shepard GAC 19	20	21	Ilse Laudi B-DAY 22	23	24	Rose Show Shepard GAC 25
Rose Show Shepard GAC 26	SCSS General Meeting Shepard GAC 27	28	29	30		