

CACTUS COURIER

Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

Volume 57, Number 6

June 2011

The Meeting is the 3rd Saturday!

June 25, 2011

**Joslyn Senior Center
724 N. Broadway, Escondido**

Noon!!



Kelly (...not in Madagascar!)



Aloe capitata



“Lemurs, Lizards & Aloes – Madagascar Revisited”

•• Kelly Griffin ••

Kelly Griffin works for Rancho Soledad Nurseries as the Curator of Xeric Plants. Check out www.ranchosoledad.com. Along with his business partner, Allen Repashy, he runs Xericgrowers, www.xericgrowers.com specializing in propagation of unique cultivars and select forms of succulent plants. Kelly's hybrid aloes are well known in the industry and are collected by enthusiasts world-wide. He has led

many expeditions for the nursery including South Africa, Madagascar, Yemen, Socotra, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Mexico, and Peru.

Kelly's trip just this April through the boondocks of Madagascar will be the focus of the program. It was almost 4 weeks and included a 100-kilometer trip on foot (that's over 60 miles!). He discovered brand new Aloes and some unusual animals as well.

Madagascar holds a staggering 20% of Africa’s plant species – despite accounting for only 2% of the African land mass. Of these, 75% are found nowhere else. The island holds more endemic species of palm, bamboo and orchid than the entire African continent. Its fauna and flora is a unique evolutionary mix, with influences from both Africa and Asia. This level of endemism is high, with over 90% of plants and animals found here occurring nowhere else on earth, a fact that

has lead to Madagascar being called “the 8th continent.” Between 1999 and 2010, scientists identified more than 615 new species, including 41 mammals, on the island. Madagascar is being heavily developed, which means destruction of habitats at an unprecedented rate. Kelly has had the good fortune to visit many of them. Come take this journey with him to see these unique locales before they disappear completely.



REFRESHMENTS

Gloria Medina	Helena Gillmore	Royal Atkin
Red Bernal	Pete Smith	Lorie Johansen

BOARD MEETING • PLANT SALES • BRAG PLANTS • EXCHANGE TABLE



**Brag Plants
May 2011**



Cactus:

- 1st *(Sulco-)Rebutia arenacea*
Phyllis Flechsig
- 2nd *Mammillaria blossfeldiana*
Phyllis Flechsig
- 2nd *Epiphyllum Hybrid*
Eric Gronborg



Succulents:

- 1st *Sarcocaulon vanderetietiae*
Mitch Bahr
- 2nd *Monadenium ritchiei*
Phyllis Flechsig
- 3rd *Adromischus marianae v. herrei*
Phyllis Flechsig



**Plant of the Month
June 2011
Rebutias**



2011 MEETING SCHEDULE

25 June Joslyn Center
 23 July Joslyn Center
 27 August Quail Botanic Garden
 24 September Joslyn Center
 22 October Quail Botanic Garden
 Plant Show 22nd – Sale 22nd & 23rd
 19 November Joslyn Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!

17 December Joslyn Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!



Officers • Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

Vicki Broughton – President

 Peter Walkowiak – Vice-President

 Libbi Salvo – Secretary

 Dennis Miller – Treasurer & Membership Co-Chair

 Bruce Barry – Board Member

 Dick Henderson – Board Member & Garden Chair

 Chris Barkley – Board Member

 John Barkley – Board Member

 Brita Miller – Librarian

 Ron Chisum – Refreshments & Speakers

 Eleanore Hewitt – Newsletter & Membership Co-Chair



Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

P.O. Box 840, Escondido, CA 92033
Membership Application

I/We wish to join/renew membership in the
Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

\$20.00 Single Membership
\$25.00 Dual Membership (Same Address)
 (1/2 price after June 30th)

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email Address for eBulletin _____

Make checks payable to:
 “Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society”
 P.O. Box 840, Escondido, CA 92033



TUNDRA

5-19-11



2011 Events in Southern California

July 1-3

CSSA Annual Show and Sale Huntington Botanical Gardens
 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. For information call
 626-405-2160 or 2277
 Free To The Public.

July 29-30

Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society – Summer Show and Sale Fri. Noon to 7pm and Sat. 9am to 5pm. United Methodist Church, 1000 S. State College Blvd, Anaheim, CA. For information call 714-267-4329
www.occss.org

Aug 13 & 14

26th Annual Intercity Show and Sale 9am to 5pm. La County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, CA. For information call Tom Glavich at 626-798-2430, or Peter Walkowiak at 858-382-1797.



Lemurs
 ©1997 Lezie Williams

San Diego Horticultural Society

www.SanDiegoHorticulturalSociety.org

July 11, 2011

Maureen Gilmer

“Plant Tales of Early California”

With landscaping returning to conditions of Kate O. Sessions' time, Maureen will show us that Sessions' choices were indeed correct, by combing the world for the best in drought resistance that would come to define our contemporary sustainable gardens.

August 8, 2011

Lynlee Austell-Slayter

“Creating and Keeping a Sustainable Landscape”

Lynlee will show us three pathways to sustainability in our landscapes. Sustainable maintenance practices can save us time, money and habitat by practicing conscientious stewardship of our environment. She will also share current University of California and County Extension programs and research in sustainable landscapes.



collector or grower

Rudolf Schulz

- ...collectors like rare plants...
- ...growers like plants which grow...
- ...collectors like large mature *Ariocarpus* and the like
- ...growers like seedling *Ariocarpus* and like to watch them develop
- ...collectors seldom overwater
- ...growers love to water
- ...collectors grow plants 'hard'
- ...growers grow some plants hard and others lush, often to see how things will develop
- ...collectors have a preferred potting mix, often of secret composition
- ...growers tinker around with mixes and will often have several of the same plants in different mixes.
- ...collectors like square pots, usually kept close together
- ...growers like all kinds of pots
- ...collectors seldom enter shows
- ...growers love shows, or would like to enter but are too worried that their plants are not good enough
- ...collectors talk about field numbers, varieties, subspecies
- ...growers often talk about potting mixes, diseases and bugs
- ...collectors often claim they do not have mealie bugs...they are blind, liars or both...
- ...growers fuss with plants
- ...collectors amass plants
 - ...which are you?

WHY JOIN A GARDEN CLUB?

by Dorothy C. Carroll

borrowed from

California Garden Magazine, March-April 1993

Why join a garden club? Because there is no better, surer, quicker way to become involved with people who share similar gardening interests.

Gone are the days when garden club members were just a “bunch of little old ladies sitting around sipping tea and talking about their gardens.” Today's garden club members are men and women, young and old, professional and amateur, arrangers and horticulturists.

They're involved in civic beautification, conservation of our natural resources, environmental awareness, education concerning air quality, land conservation, endangered species of plants and wildlife, the quality and conservation of water, as well as education of the youth through school and community gardening programs.

Garden club members are involved in preserving historic gardens and established trails. They work on garden therapy projects which assist people who have handicaps. They work with local landscape designers to establish public fragrance gardens with signs in braille so people who are blind can enjoy these facilities.

“Regular” garden clubs, especially those which are members of the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc., offer their members a wide variety of subjects and interests especially on a local level. It is my belief that every person who moves into a new area would be wise to join the local garden club. There's no better way, no quicker way, to find out what plants grow well in that area, what blooms and when, what becomes invasive, where to get the best dollar value plant-wise, what local water restrictions are, and who to contact for help with a specific gardening problem. In addition, if you want to get more involved, you can take the National Landscape Design and/or National Flower Show Judging courses and use those skills as needed.

In “specialty” garden clubs, members can zero in and learn all about a specific plant such as: the African violet, the camellia, daffodil, dahlia, fern, gloxinia, gesneriad, gourd, lilac, lily, begonia, orchid, rose, cactus and succulents. All of these have their own plant societies which are open for membership. The camaraderie, companionship, the sharing of ideas and knowledge with people who have similar interests ... these are the main reasons for joining a garden club.

No matter what club you join, the main purposes are the same: to promote and develop, improve and preserve by cultivation, hybridization, preservation and perpetuation, collect and disseminate information, assist and encourage all gardeners, award them for excellence in landscape design or culture of vegetables. The arranging of flowers and fruits is another major activity.

Furthermore, when we join a garden club, we open ourselves to a world-wide interest which knows no international boundaries. Travel the world and you'll find

people in every nation who share gardening interests ... from Canada to South America, Europe, Asia, New Zealand; from the Grand Bahamas to the Grand Cayman Islands, and across the seas to the Philippines. No matter where you go, you never need to be completely alone. You can always find other garden club and plant society members who are willing to talk with you and share their information. It's nice to have a common interest with so many other people in the world.



Magic plant stakes make even stubborn plants bloom. Super easy to use: fertilize your plant according to its needs, provide ample sunlight, and pop one of these threatening stakes in the pot. Before you know it, flowers galore.

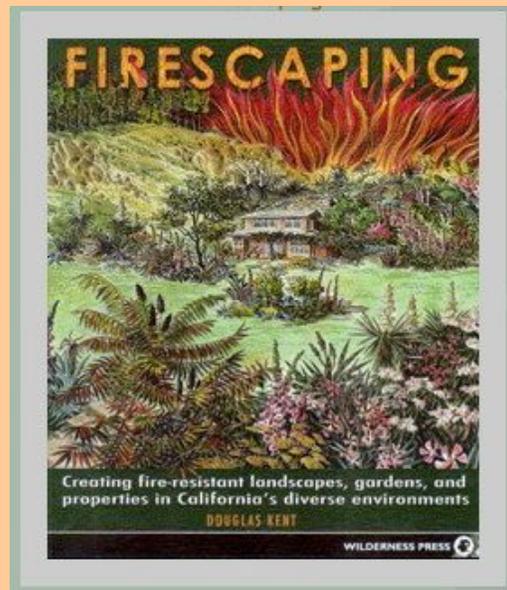
<http://www.dirtcuture.com/>



Aloe faveolata



Aloe cryptoflora



Firescaping: Creating Fire-resistant landscapes, gardens, and properties in California's diverse environments

(Wilderness Press, 2005)

Douglas Kent, landscape designer and author of *Firescaping* says California is the most flammable state in the union. Now is the time to knock back your brush, clear the understory and create defensible space.

Doug's secret tip: Lure firefighters. These hunks in yellow love glow-in-the-dark addresses, wide side entrances, and clutter-free driveways!!

Considered the most flammable state in the US, California has a fire season that lasts eight months, with

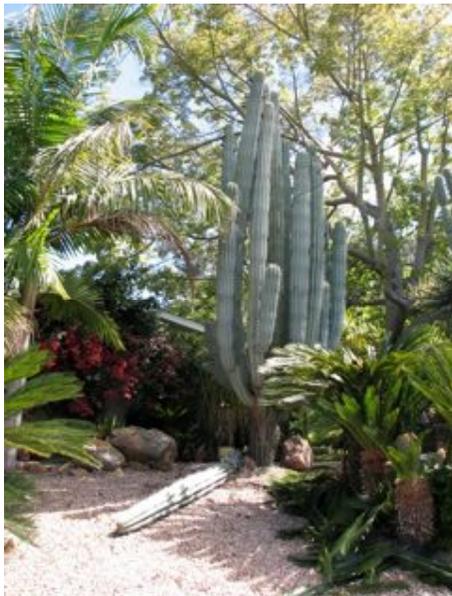
one in four residents as risk of encountering a wildfire. Since 1990, 53 lives and more than 12,000 structures have been lost in the State to wildfires, costing individuals, and local and state economies millions of dollars.

Firescaping describes what type of properties and landscapes are higher-risk, how to make a home more accessible to firefighters, and what to do to minimize the chances of damage from a wildfire. It cover fire-resistant fencing and roofing materials, has tips on using water efficiency, gives best methods for effective vegetation removal, and provides a comprehensive plant lists and maintenance calendars.

Professionals from fire protection as well as landscape and architecture experts have contributed to Firescaping, to make it a complete and essential resource. Firescaping is a tool for landscape architects, landscapers, developers, community leaders, and groups concerned about fire protection.



Ron Chisum had a problem in his garden. One of the arms of his *Pachycereus weberi* decided to drop! I sure hope he's rooting it...



As seen on the CSSA website:

http://www.cssainc.org/index.php?Itemid=212&id=252&option=com_content&task=view

The Seven Quickest Ways to Kill your Cacti and Succulents

By Lyle Moomaw
Colorado C&SS (*maybe*)
1991 (*maybe!*)

Any number of books, pamphlets, flyers and newsletters are dedicated to showing you how to keep your valued plants alive and healthy. What they fail to point out is that even if you do all the right things, you can still manage to turn your botanical baby into composting material. The opposite of what keeps a plant alive is not necessarily what keeps it from becoming a memory. With this in mind, here is a list of some things NOT to do:

1. REFUSE TO ASK QUESTIONS OF OTHER PEOPLE WHO GROW THAT PLANT. Just because they've got Gargantua in the greenhouse doesn't mean they actually KNOW anything about growing that plant.
2. PUT YOUR PLANT ON A FIXED WATERING SCHEDULE. Why water when it needs it? After all, it's going to use the same amount of water despite the monsoon last week, or the five days of 110-degree weather since you watered it last.
3. ASSUME THE PLANT IS HAPPY WHERE YOU FIRST PUT IT. That cold, gloomy corner on the north side of the basement NEEDS that Agave to brighten things up, and by golly, you can make it grow there despite what centuries of evolution have adapted that plant to do.
4. DON'T INSPECT YOUR PLANTS. Three months of unnoticed mealy bugs aren't really going to bother anything, are they? And my, my – that sun scar really sets off the green of the non-shriveled leaves, don't you agree?
5. NEVER BUY LITERATURE ON THE PLANTS YOU GROW. These things are written by eggheads for eggheads. Besides, you should enjoy the challenge of keeping your plants alive.
6. USE WHATEVER SOIL IS AVAILABLE FOR TRANSPLANTING. If I dump enough fertilizer into that peat muck, Mr. O'Puntia will be just fine.
7. TREAT ALL YOUR PLANTS ALIKE. They're all green, right? And they've all got leaves, sort of. Hey, the plant has grown hard all its life and now it's time to relax and get the African violet treatment.

Obviously, this isn't everything bad you can do to your plants but it's a good start. If you can avoid killing your plants quickly, you can usually correct whatever may be killing them slowly. But when all else fails, call another C&SS member and commiserate together. I'll bet they know someone who killed a plant just like yours.