

CACTUS COURIER

Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

Volume 57, Number 3

March 2011

The Meeting is the **4th** Saturday

MARCH 26, 2011

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

12 NOON



He's having no trouble at all finding cactus!



“What I Saw Last Winter 2010 – 2011”

(Cactus Adventures in Chile and Argentina)

•• Paul Klaassen ••

Paul Klaassen was born in The Netherlands, and became interested in growing cacti at age 6 when at school he won the cactus class in an informal plant show

(the other plants died). It transpired that ‘cactoholism’ is genetic along the male side of the family, generally missing out one generation, as his paternal grandfather

turned out to have been a member of the Dutch C&S Society, Succulenta, from 1933 until his collection was destroyed during WW II.

Paul's first trip to see cacti in habitat (1997, SW USA) triggered a love affair with such trips and made him realize that he should make such trips while health and wealth permits, rather than wait until later in life.

His travels tend to take him to South America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile) from October to December. After a short break in the UK, the second half of the winter takes him to California to look at the local desert flora, visit local C&S Societies, and use as a base for travels to Baja and mainland Mexico. During the summer months he presents his *'What I Saw Last Winter'* programs to C&S societies in Europe and the US.

From October 2010 to January 2011, Paul traveled with various people in Chile and Argentina, covering some 23,000 km (*that's 14,300 miles!*) between La Quiaca in the NW Argentine province of Jujuy, on the border with Bolivia down to Patagonia where we looked for some of the most southern cacti such as *Austrocactus*, *Pterocactus* and *Maihuea*.

In October and November, they were fortunate to catch the Atacama Desert in flower. As well as the usual favourites (white waxed *Copiapoa*) they took time to see the rare *Eriosyce aspillagae* and *Eriosyce garaventae* and the recently (2009) described *Copiapoa coquimbana ssp andina*.

Together with Paul Hoxey, he has been working on a book focusing on the Genus *Eulychnia* which should be ready for publication in late 2011. They saw all the Chilean members of the genus and these are introduced briefly during the presentation. Juan Pablo Acosta from Santiago, Chile is rapidly building a reputation as an expert on the *Thelocephala* group in the genus *Eriosyce*. Juan was with Paul throughout this years' travels, so he has included a brief introduction to this group of cacti that are a real challenge to find in habitat, also including some images of his collection, raised from habitat collected seed.

The diversity of the cacti on display reflects the diversity of habitats visited, from the Atacama Desert, across the Andes to the Altiplano and from the Patagonian South Atlantic Coast, across the Pampas to the very scenic Patagonian Andean lakes on the southern border between Argentina and Chile.

BOARD MEETING • PLANT SALES • BRAG PLANTS • EXCHANGE TABLE

REFRESHMENTS

Don Nelson	Lina Paul	Jean O'Daniel	Betty Falc
Mary O'Donnell	Evelyn Voth	Libbi Salvo	Chris & John Barkley

Brag Plants February 2011

Plant-of-the-Month March 2011

Cactus:

- 1st *Thelocactus panarottoi*
Peter Walkowiak
- 2nd *Thelocactus sp*
Peter Walkowiak
- 2nd *Mammillaria swobodae*
Peter Walkowiak

Succulents:

- 1st *Euphorbia esculenta*
Peter Walkowiak
- 2nd *Pelargonium alternans*
Rudy Lime
- 2nd *Veltheimia bractiosa*
Ron Chisum
- 3rd *Pelargonium cotyledonis*
Peter Walkowiak



ACACIAS... an overview Erik Gronborg

The genus *Acacia* (now they are at it again, considering breaking the genus into 3 separate genera) includes more than 750 species of small shrubs and ground covers to large trees as tall as 200 feet. Even though they are not succulents, they should be of interest to you because they are xerophytic and are found in many of the hot and dry parts of the tropic and subtropic areas of the world, the same places where we find cacti and other succulents. They are in the pea family (*Leguminosaea*). Acacias have yellow flowers, ranging from almost white to yellow-orange, looking like small round or cylindrical puffballs, many of them fragrant. From late January to March we can see Acacias turn solid yellow throughout the San Diego county. Being in the pea family, the seeds come in numerous shapes of pea pods. Acacia trees typically have feathery or fern like bipinnate

leaves with many small leaflets, except for many of the Australian species where the leaves have been replaced with Phyllodes, that is expanded leaf stalks.



A. karroo

Almost all Acacia trees outside Australia have thorns, from straight up to four inches long, to small sharp and hooked. A small group from Central America have thick hollow thorns, which are inhabited by ants.



A. baileyana

Most Acacia species are in Australia, but there are smaller groups in southern Africa and South and Central America, including some in the Sonoran desert. The two best known, which can be seen in Anza Borrego are *Acacia farnesiana* and *A. greggii* (the cat's claw Acacia)

Some Acacias provide useful products. In addition to firewood and fence posts, two African species have for centuries provided Gum Arabic. A few have attractive wood used for furniture, the most important being the Hawaiian Koa wood.

Almost all the ornamental Acacia trees grown in San Diego gardens and available in nurseries come from Australia.

Acacia longifolia, the most common, a small, fast growing bushy tree.

Acacia redolens, fast growing prostrate shrub used as a ground cover along freeways.

Acacia baileyana, graceful tree with fern like leaves. One variety, *A. baileyana var. purpurea* has new purple leaves.

Acacia cultriformis, the Knife Edge Acacia, has phyllodes like small triangular knife blades.

Acacia stenophylla, the Shoe String Acacia, an open tree with 8-10 inch long narrow leaves.

Occasionally specialty nurseries will have other interesting Acacias. Two sources are San Marcus Growers and Australian Native Plants Nursery in Ventura.

Sources:

T.H.Everett: *Living Trees of the World*

Benson & Darrow: *Trees and Shrubs of the Southwestern Deserts.*

Daniel H. Janzen: *Costa Rican Natural History*

Davidson & Jeppe: *A field Guide to the Acacias of Southern Africa*

Marion H. Simmons: *Growing Acacias (Australian)*

...and google



A. cornigera

CSSA 2011 CONVENTION



April 24 - April 29, 2011

Marriott Hotel - Mission Valley

San Diego, California

Hosted by the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society

The full information is available at the San Diego Club's website:

<http://www.sdcss.net/2011convention.html>

Field trip details are available on the SDCSS website: <http://www.sdcss.net/>

2011 PCSS Plant Sale

“Keep your calendars open to participate in the PCSS annual plant sale at Alta Vista Gardens at Brengle Terrace Park in Vista on May 6th (setup day) and **Saturday, May 7th (Sale Day)**. The most important thing you can do RIGHT NOW is to grow a plant or 2 to contribute. If you don't want to tend to them, Lorie will. Just bring them to the meeting this month. Colorful plants (4" pot minimum, maximum size: you can lift it) seem to be very popular. Ron says the **DISH GARDENS** sold particularly well last year. Thank you in advance for making this our top money maker for the club.” [Lorie]

Now is the time to start repotting!!

I bet the rain helped all your plants – at lot!



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 _____

Make checks payable to:

“Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society”
P.O. Box 840, Escondido, CA 92033

Officers • Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

Vicki Broughton – President



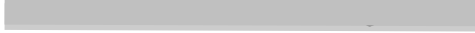
Peter Walkowiak – Vice-President



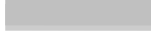
Libbi Salvo – Secretary



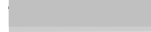
Dennis Miller – Treasurer & Membership Co-Chair



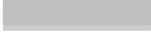
Bruce Barry – Board Member



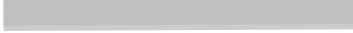
Dick Henderson – Board Member & Garden Chair



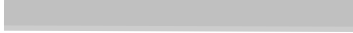
Mary Kaho – Board Member



Chris Barkley – Board Member



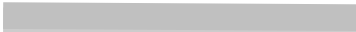
John Barkley – Board Member



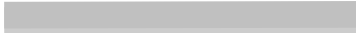
Brita Miller – Librarian



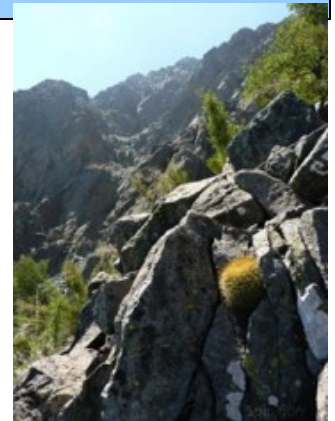
Ron Chisum – Refreshments & Speakers



Eleanore Hewitt – Newsletter & Membership Co-Chair



Eriosyce garaventae



2011 MEETING SCHEDULE

26 March Joslyn Center

16 April Joslyn Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!

21 May Joslyn Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!

25 June Joslyn Center

23 July Joslyn Center

27 August to be determined

24 September Joslyn Center

22 October to be determined

19 November Joslyn Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!

17 December Joslyn Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!



2011 Events in Southern California

March 26 & 27

Hemenway Annual Garden Tour

Apr 9 & 10

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society – Show & Sale. South Coast Botanic Gardens 26300 Crenshaw Bl., Palos Verdes, CA. For Information call 310-832-2262

Apr 25-29

CSSA 34th Biennial Convention. San Diego, CA. Mission Valley Marriott Hotel.

May 1

South Bay Epiphyllum Society – Show and Sale. 9am To 4pm South Coast Botanical Gardens
For information call 310-833-6823

May 7 & 8

Sunset Cactus and Succulent Society – Show and Sale. Veterans Memorial Center, Garden Room 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA. For information call 310-822-1783

May 14 & 15

Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society – Annual Show & Sale. Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa San Luis Obispo, CA
For information call 805-237-2054

May 15

Huntington Plant Sale. 10 pm to 5 pm Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA. For information call 626-405-2160

May 15

Epiphyllum Society – Show and Sale. Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia, CA 310-670-8148

May 20 & 21

Gates Cactus and Succulent Society – Show and Sale. Sale 9-4:30 Fri & Sat Show 21st 9-4:30 Pm Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive Glen Avon, CA.
For information call 951-360-8802

June 4 & 5

San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society – Summer Show and Sale. Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA For information call 858-382-1797

June 11 & 12

Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society – Plant Show and Sale. 11th 9-5, 12th 9-3:30 Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd. Encino, CA. For information email: lacss.contact@gmail.com

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 29-31

Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society – Summer Show and Sale. Sale July 29, 30 & 31, 10am To 4pm each day. Show: Sat. and Sun.10 Am To 4 Pm. Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Rd. Fullerton, CA. Contact Vince Basta 714-267-4329

Aug 13 & 14

26th Annual Intercity Show and Sale. The La County Arboretum, 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA. . For information call Tom Glavich at 626-798-2430 Or John Matthews at 661-297-5364

Sept. 25

Long Beach Cactus Club – Annual Plant Auction. 18127 South Alameda St., Rancho Dominguez, CA 12:00 p.m.

Nov 5 & 6

San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society – Winter Show and Sale. LA County Arboretum

Dec. 2-4

Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society – Winter Show and Sale. Sale: Dec.2, 3 & 4. 10 Am To 4 Pm Each Day. Show: Sat. & Sun.10 Am To 4 Pm. Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Rd, Fullerton, CA. Contact Vince Basta 714-267-4329



San Diego Horticultural Society

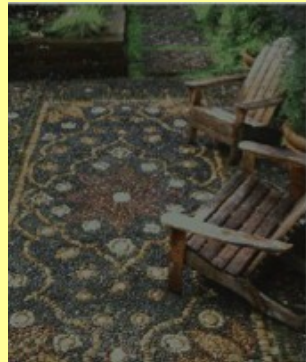


A Special Evening with Jeffrey Bale...

“The Pleasure Garden”

The San Diego Horticultural Society's Special Evening Speaker this year is **Jeffrey Bale**, who will introduce us to his amazing visions of **“The Pleasure Garden”** and how we can create gardens that bring us greater pleasure.

This Portland, Oregon based landscape architect is one of the most exciting garden creators working today. His inspired work can be found in the gardens of movie stars, expansive estates, and many private residences.



Jeffrey will show gorgeous pictures of his own creations and from his Winter 2011 trip to Northern Africa and Southern Spain. He'll showcase amazing pebble and tile mosaics [*they are Persian Carpets made with stone! -eh*] and designs from public gardens, resorts, churches and mosques that inspire his work. His projects are designed to maintain a healthy relationship with nature while creating a magical stage for our interaction with the natural world.

When:

Monday April 11, 2011
6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Where:

Surfside Race Place
Del Mar Fairgrounds

Tickets are \$15 Members, \$25 Non-Members

Susan Morse

Email: sdhs411@cox.net

Come early for best seating and to take advantage of the great offers from our monthly plant and garden vendors.

Doors open at 6:00 pm in our first floor location, **Surfside Race Place**, at the **Del Mar Fairgrounds**. Parking is free to all.



Poor Ron! The rain really did a number on his *Myrtillocactus geometrizans*...



But he says he's taking lots of cuttings...

