

CACTUS COURIER

Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

Volume 58, Number 4

April 2012

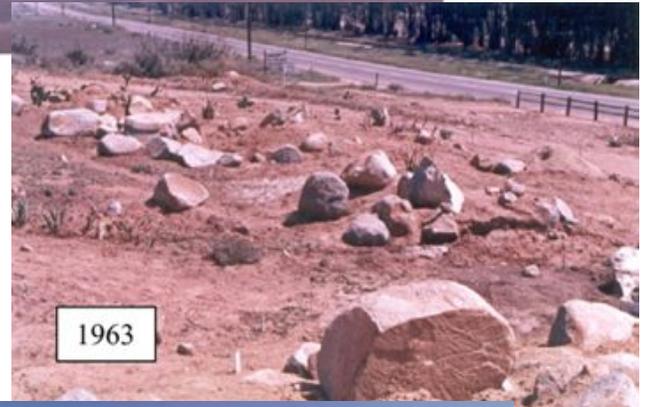
The Meeting is the **4th** Saturday

April 28, 2012

**Palomar College Arboretum
and the PCSS Succulent Garden!!!**

1140 West Mission Rd, San Marcos

10:30 am to 2:30-ish
this includes several tours...



“50th Anniversary of the Palomar Garden!!!”

In the Cactus & Succulent Garden after the Tour – 2:30pm

AUCTION (we need items!) •• EXCHANGE PLANTS •• DOOR PRIZES

The College is generously providing lunch, but you need to RSVP by Monday, the 23rd

Please RSVP Tony Rangel by April 23rd if you plan to attend the luncheon.

email: arangel@palomar.edu or call: 760-744-1150 x2133.



Meet at the Patron's Pavilion in the Arboretum

Feel free to bring guests!



Scheduled events:

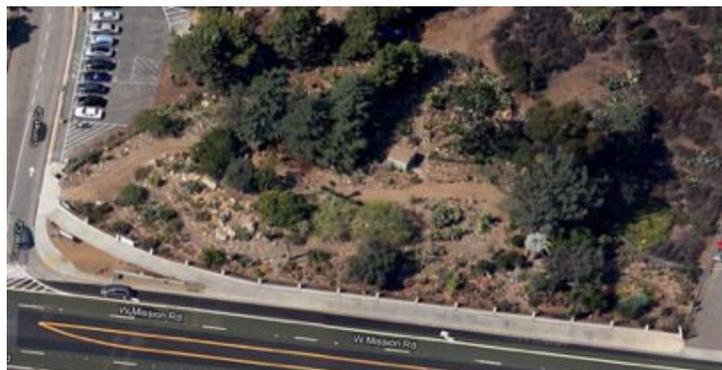
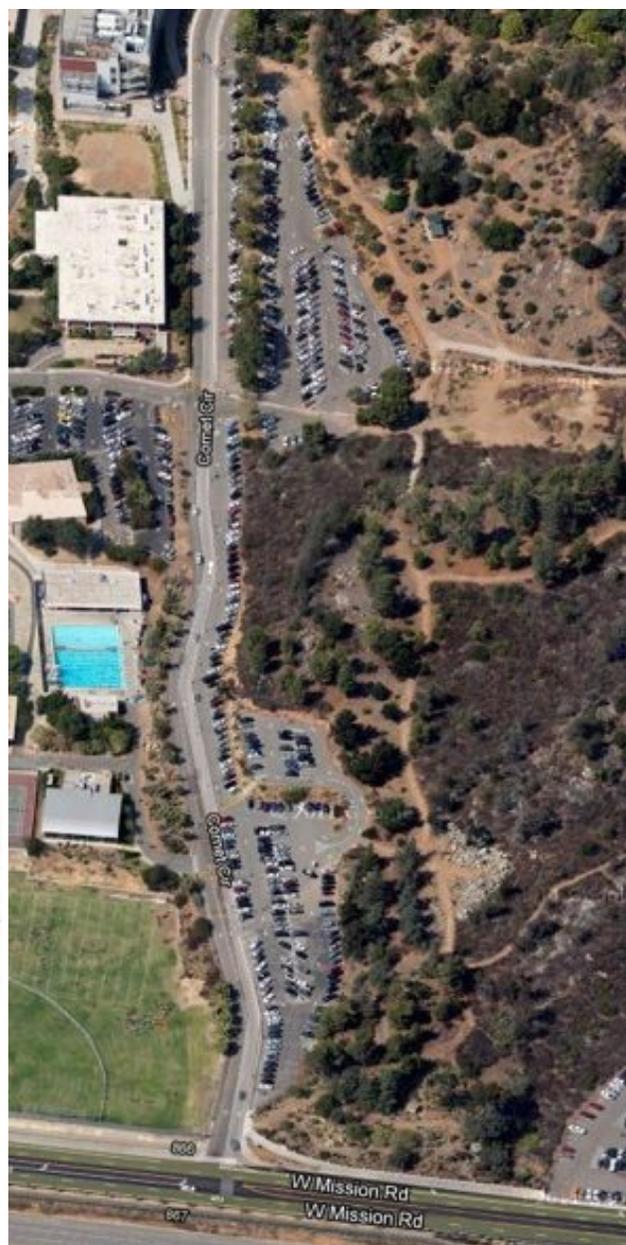
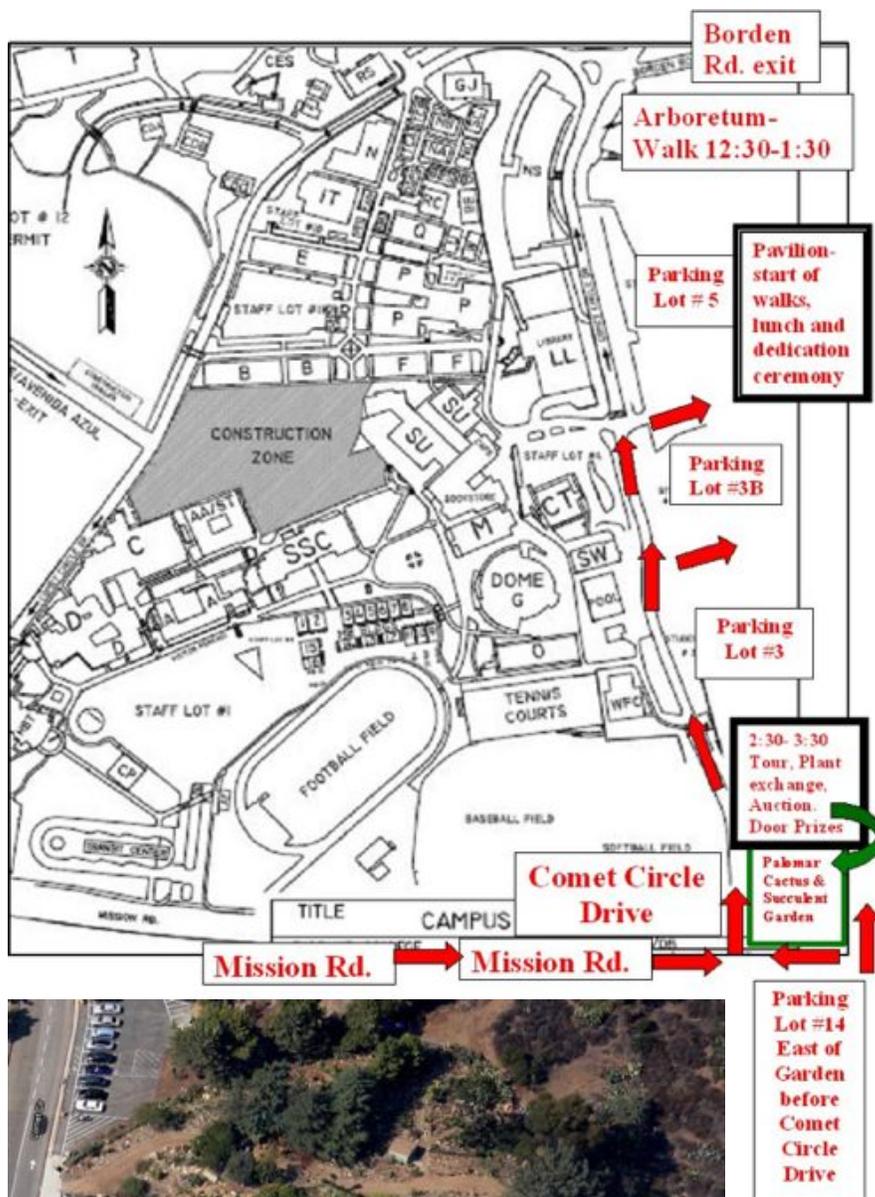
10:30 - 11:30 Campus Plant Tour with Tony Rangel

11:30 - 12:30 Lunch and Presentations

12:30 - 1:30 Arboretum Walk with Wayne Armstrong & Tony Rangel

1:30 - 2:30 Cactus & Succulent Garden Tour with Dick Henderson

Free parking in parking lots# 3, 3B, 5 & 14 for this event only.



The Friends of the Palomar College Arboretum
and the Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society
invite you to the

Palomar Cactus & Succulent Garden 50th Anniversary

Saturday, April 28, 2012

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Meet at the Patron's Pavilion in the Palomar College Arboretum

<http://www.palomar.edu/maps>

Free parking in parking lots # 3, 3B, 5 & 14 for this event only.



Please RSVP Tony Rangel by April 23rd
if you plan to attend the luncheon.

email: arangel@palomar.edu

or call: 760-744-1150 x2133

For more information visit our website:

<http://www.palomar.edu/arboretum>



Schedule of Events:

10:30 - 11:30 Campus Plant Tour - Tony Rangel

11:30 - 12:30 Lunch and Presentations

12:30 - 1:30 Arboretum Walk - Wayne Armstrong & Tony Rangel

1:30 - 2:30 Cactus & Succulent Garden Tour - Dick Henderson

There will be door prizes and a plant sale.

The 50th Celebration is free and open to the public.



Palomar College
1140 West Mission Road
San Marcos, CA 92069







**Brag Plants
March 2012**



Cactus

Advanced

- 1st *Ferocactus glaucescens* Crest
Stan Yalof
- 1st *Mammillaria herrerae*
Peter Walkowiak
- 2nd *Echinocereus knippelianus*
Peter Walkowiak
- 3rd *Ferocactus macrodiscus*
Peter Walkowiak



Intermediate

- 1st *Rebutia mentosa*
John Barkley
- 2nd *Mammillaria sp.*
Lorie Johansen



Succulents

Advanced

- 1st *Euphorbia flanaganii*
Peter Walkowiak
- 2nd *Pelargonium cotyledonis*
Peter Walkowiak
- 3rd *Euphorbia francoisii*
Mitch Bahr



Intermediate

- 1st *Adenium obesum*
Lorie Johansen
- 2nd *Deuterocohnia brevifolia*
Mike Regan
- 3rd *Echeveria sp.*
Maddy Beasley



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE – April 2012

The big dedication ceremony is about to take place. This event has been in the works for nearly two years. The Palomar Cactus and Succulent Garden is being donated to the Palomar College and The Friends of the Palomar Arboretum. It would be great if all of you who can attend invite friends, neighbors and family to this event to celebrate 50 years of the garden's existence, which was planted by some of the founding members of our society. There will be tours of the campus, which has a very diverse collection of plants, the arboretum and the cactus and succulent garden. At lunch the dedication ceremony will be held and tickets for the door prizes will be passed out. The drawing for the door prizes will be held after the Cactus and Succulent Garden tour at 2:30. Remember to bring a brown bag lunch or snacks – there will be food and drinks available but you should come prepared. If there is a large turnout for this dedication ceremony there may not be enough for everybody.

Last week I received a call from Tony at Palomar at 8pm to inform me that the board of directors and trustees were having a formal dedication of the garden and were presenting a framed plaque to the PCSS the following day at 4pm. I wanted to have others members to be present but with the short notice it was not possible. Dick Henderson was also present and after the ceremony I presented the framed plaque to Dick for all his hard work and dedication to the garden. He will bring it to our next regular meeting for viewing.

The San Diego C&SS is organizing a bus trip to the Huntington Garden for the CSSA Show and Sale on June 30th. If you are interested in going and would like to reserve a seat, please send me an email at hciservices@gmail.com (preferred); if you don't have a computer call me at [redacted]. There are no set prices at this time, \$40 is about what it will be. For members who volunteer for the May 19th Sale, your price will be reduced.

Peter Walkowiak, President

Last September Wayne Armstrong wrote a very nice article about the Garden in the Palomar College Arboretum Newsletter. Feel free to download the newsletters.

<http://www.palomar.edu/arboretum/newsletters.htm>

**Palomar College Cactus & Succulent Garden
by W.P. Armstrong**

If you have driven along Mission Road past Palomar College during the past 50 years, you have probably noticed a large cactus and succulent garden at the east end of campus. This landmark garden actually had its beginnings in 1957 when a newly formed cactus club held its first meeting at Palomar College and elected Esther Nesbin as president and Mildred Gregory as secretary. The membership increased rapidly, including many members from San Diego, and soon a section split off to form the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society. The Palomar group continued to expand, and in 1962 the Club Garden was established at its present 2½ acre site on campus. Donations and a lot of work by various members provided a water line to the garden, pathways and numerous cacti, agaves, aloes and other succulents. The Governing Board of the College provided a chain link fence with locked gates to secure the valuable plant collection. In those early years, the garden was the site of picnics, workshops and auctions by many enthusiastic gardeners. During the past five decades, many of those original plantings have grown into splendid specimens and the collection has increased to many thousands of species from desert regions throughout the world.

Cacti and succulents include many plants in diverse plant families that have become adapted to arid regions of the world with low rainfall. They have similar morphological

characteristics, an example of convergent evolution (homoplasy). Some have thickened stems and leaves that store water; some are drought deciduous and lose their leaves during the dry season; and some have leaves and stems modified into spines and thorns. For example, many North American cacti are remarkably similar in appearance to African euphorbias, until you see their very distinctive flowers. Some of the most bizarre plants on earth are in this group, including caudiciform trees, shrubs and vines that grow out of a huge basal caudex buried in the ground. When the entire trunk is unusually thickened like the baobab and bottle trees, the term pachycaul is used.

The Garden contains more than 3,500 species of drought resistant flowering plants, representing over 15 plant families. With all the recent research in molecular taxonomy, especially chloroplast DNA, there have been some drastic changes in the classification of plants, particularly their placement in different plant families. When all of these plants are in full bloom, the air is filled with the sweet scent of flowers and sounds of foraging bees and a myriad of butterflies and hummingbirds. One exception to the sweet aroma is the remarkable carrion flowers (*Stapelia*) of the Apocynaceae that are pollinated by blowflies and flesh flies.

Two of the largest genera in the Garden are *Agave* (Agavaceae) with approximately 150 species and *Aloe* (Asphodelaceae) with 125 species. Other large genera are *Opuntia* and *Mammillaria* (Cactaceae) and *Senecio* (Asteraceae). In fact, the latter genus is one of the largest in the plant kingdom. There are also numerous species of *Euphorbia* (Euphorbiaceae), including large tree euphorbias that have been on the site for nearly 50 years. Pathways lead to 40 individual gardens, including Baja California, Arizona, Africa, Madagascar and the Canary Islands. Several gardens feature specific genera, including *Pachypodium* (Apocynaceae), *Sansevieria* (Ruscaceae) and *Dudleya* (Crassulaceae). Additional families include the spectacular *proteas* and *leucospermums* (Proteaceae) and the colorful drought resistant ice plants (Aizoaceae).

One of the most interesting cactus species in the Garden is called Dragon Fruit (*Hylocereus undatus*). Native to Central and South America, this climbing cactus is cultivated throughout tropical regions of the world. In fact, it is commonly sold in marketplaces of Thailand. Our dragon fruit is especially unusual because it has climbed the top of a tall deodar cedar (*Cedrus deodora*).

This extensive collection was owned by the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society, and Dick Henderson, manager of the Garden. For the past 20 years, Mr. Henderson has donated countless thousands of hours to maintain this remarkable collection of plants from around the world. In an official letter dated February 2011, the Board of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society donated this splendid collection to Palomar College. Valued at approximately \$400,000, the Cactus and Succulent Garden will be the most extensive garden on campus and a great asset to the college and to the community. This landmark along Mission Road in San Marcos will finally be part of the Palomar College Arboretum, truly one of the largest collections of plants in San Diego County.

For anyone interested in a tour of the Garden, please contact Dick Henderson who leads occasional group field trips throughout the year. You may contact Mr. Henderson at



The May 19th Plant Sale and Picnic will be at Alta Vista Gardens

1270 Vale Terrace Drive, Vista, CA 92084

<http://www.altavistagardens.org/>

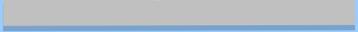


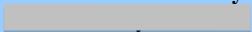
Lorie Johansen is handling a large number of plants for the Sale and she needs some **HELP!!!** She can be reached at Lorie@casavista.us or 760-613-1934.

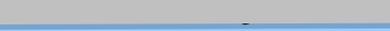
We will be having a **potluck picnic** for members and our guests. **Eleanore** will pass around a signup sheet at the April meeting. She has promised a **flan!** She can be reached at eilidh@roadrunner.com (760-753-3651).

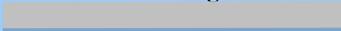
Officers • Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

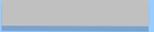
Peter Walkowiak – President

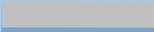

Chris Barkley – Vice-President


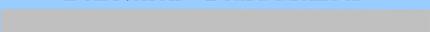
Libbi Salvo – Secretary


Vicki Broughton – Treasurer


Ron Chisum – Program Chair


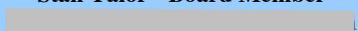
Dick Henderson – Board Member & Garden Chair


Bruce Barry – Board Member & Exchange Table


Don Nelson – Board Member


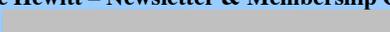
John Barkley – Board Member & Refreshments


Francis Granger – Board Member & Exchange Table


Stan Yalof – Board Member


Brita Miller – Librarian


Dennis Miller – Raffle & Plant Sales & Membership Co-Chair


Eleanore Hewitt – Newsletter & Membership Co-Chair




Lorene Edwards Forkner

Small is the New BIG: 3 Big Rules (& 4 Small Ones) for Designing Small Gardens with Impact

May 14, 2012, 6 pm at Del Mar Fairgrounds, Surfside Race Place

The SDHS welcomes author, speaker and avid gardener/cook, **Lorene Edwards Forkner**. With her keen designer's eye and effervescent wit, Lorene will discuss *Small is the New BIG: 3 Big Rules (& 4 Small Ones) for Designing Small Gardens with Impact*. City-sized gardens, high density urban housing, fewer hours for leisure (and even fewer for slaving in the garden) – you have to be a master of invention or mistress of ingenuity when it comes to fitting a garden into a busy 21st century life. Lorene offers us a lively evening illustrated with slides and stories of gardens infused with personality and passion, structure and changing seasonal interest. You can have a landscape that lives large regardless of the size of its footprint and still have time left over to enjoy it.

<http://www.sandiegohorticulturalsociety.org/>



2012 MEETING SCHEDULE

28 April Palomar College

19 May Alta Vista Gardens, Vista

NOTE!!! 3rd Saturday!!

- 23 June Joslyn Center
- 28 July Joslyn Center
- 25 August to be determined
- 22 September Joslyn Center
- 27 October San Diego Botanic Garden (Quail)
- 17 November Joslyn Center

NOTE!!! 3rd Saturday!!

15 December Joslyn Center

NOTE!!! 3rd Saturday!!



It is with real sadness that I have to report the passing of Florence Robbins. We had the great good fortune to have her as a member of the Club for over 35 years. I remember her running the kitchen with a firm hand and a lovely smile.

We were able to celebrate Florence's 100th birthday this January. Her son, Steve Robbins, told me her family was able to gather for a fine party for the occasion.

I am grateful for the years I knew her. Thank you, Steve, for bringing your mom to the meetings for so many years.

Please join me in extending condolences to her family.



PLANT SALE

Sponsored by
**Palomar Cactus &
Succulent Society**

**Saturday May 19
10am – 4pm**



10 AM

**Basics of Growing
Succulents Lecture
by Peter Walkowiak,
President, PCSS**

12:30 PM

**Tour of Garden and
Art by Bryan Morse,
President/CEO of
Alta Vista Gardens**

**Alta Vista Gardens
1270 Vale Terrace Drive
Vista, CA 92084**

On-line directions to Alta Vista Gardens at
<http://www.altavistagardens.org/html/directions.html>

May 19 — PCSS Sale at Alta Vista Gardens — 1270 Vale Terrace Drive Vista CA 92084

Saturday, May 19, 10:00 am – 4:00

- From Route 78 take the **Vista Village Drive** exit and travel **North**.
- Vista village Drive changes name to **East Vista Way**.
- Turn right on **Vale Terrace Drive**.
- Continue past the Main Entrance and **turn left at the Second Entrance to Brengle Terrace Park**, continue past the Senior Center and follow to the **TOP of the hill**.
- Turn left at the '**Welcome, Alta Vista Gardens**' sign and left again.
- Follow the road around towards the Garden House Headquarters. Sales areas will be visible.

