

CACTUS COURIER

Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

The North San Diego County Cactus and Succulent Society

Volume 63, Number 1

January 2017

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, Jan. 28th

**Park Ave. Community Center
210 Park Ave., Escondido**

Brag plants, Exchange Table, Benefit Drawing

11:00am - 3:00pm

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REFRESHMENTS

The sign-up did not get passed around at our Holiday Party, so we need people to bring in food!

You always come through, so thank you in advance!

Click here to visit our webpage:

www.palomarcactus.org

We're on Facebook!

This Month's Presentation:

'Aloes and Agaves in Cultivation'

By Jeff Moore,

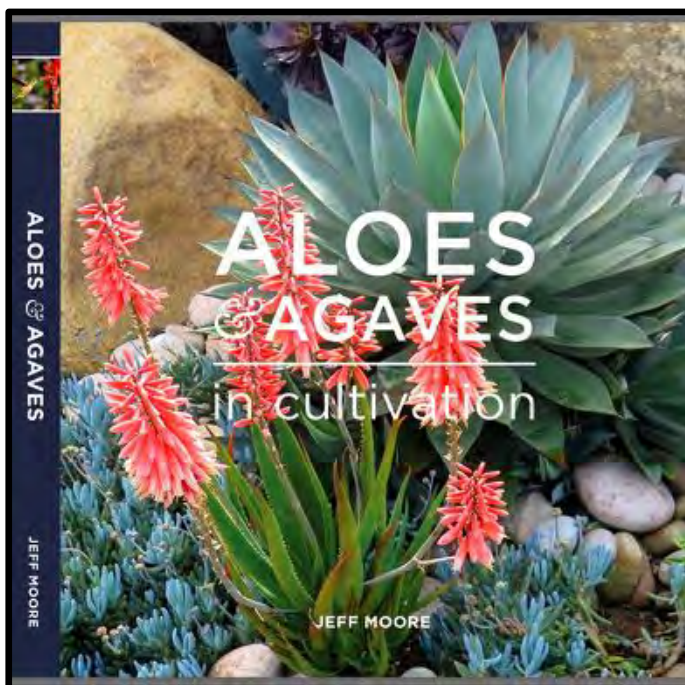
Jeff has written a new book with the same title -
"Aloes and Agaves in Cultivation."

His presentation will follow the flow of the book, and will feature images of aloes (and their inflorescences), and agaves, including the related genera of haworthia, gasteria, yucca, beaucarnea, etc.

The focus will be on these plants in cultivation here in San Diego County, and not in habitat. He will talk about cultural and growing issues when pertinent for particular plants. Jeff is always happy to answer questions throughout his presentation.

He will bring the new book and his first book, "Under the spell of Succulents" to sell and sign, as well as plants, including some aloes and agaves.

Jeff has lived most of his life in Solana Beach and operated Solana Succulents for 24 years. He has become known as the "Undersea Succulent Guy" for his coral reef gardens. He is married with two sons, and struggles to still identify as a surfer.





A Book Review by Don Hunt of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

“Aloes and Agaves in Cultivation” by Jeff Moore

This is Jeff's second book, the first being “Under the Spell of Succulents.” Where that book was a great general look at the hobby overall, this is a general look at two more specific groups - aloes and agaves. While the demand for xeriscape is increasing, it's still a niche market. If you're part of that market, you need this book. If you have garden space and are contemplating a low-water garden, you need this book. If your “garden” is like mine, and you are in the moving and removing phase, you really need this book. As the librarian for the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society, I've learned that when books like this come along you should buy them. They don't stay available forever.

There are only two things in books: words and pictures. One thing I would say about this book is that the balance of words and pictures is very pleasing. I don't like to see a lot of “white space” in a book. I would also say that the pictures take precedence, but I find myself not skipping a lot of the captions and descriptions. They are unfailingly informative and written in an easy-to-read style that is concise and decidedly not boring. Whether a plant gets a two-page spread or just a few sentences, I feel like I have enough information to start understanding it and whether it might be a good choice for my garden. Additionally, I really like the pictures in this book. The color saturation is great, the focus is sharp, and the composition rocks. As an example, I'm sitting here looking at a two-page spread on *Aloe dichotoma* that has an almost full-page picture from trunk to crown balanced by blooming aloes on either side, along with a close-up of the textured trunk and a picture of an aloe in full screaming bloom. Nice!

This book isn't intended to be an exhaustive list of either species plants or hybrids. It is designed to be a practical, useful guide to the plants that are usually the centerpiece of any garden in which they are placed - agaves and aloes. It's also a source of inspiration and plant envy. Since Jeff owns and operates Solana Succulents, the focus is primarily Southern California and plant's preferences to our microclimates.

A copy of this book will be available for loan in the PCSS Library in February.

BOARD BRIEFS

HOLIDAY PARTY

We had a delightful Holiday Party with over 90 people attending and tables covered with a bountiful selection of delicious food and desserts. We had the cutest centerpieces courtesy of Evelyn Voth's reindeer collection, and all the other decorations she, Julie Slater, and other volunteers brought in to make the tables so cheerful, plus all the other volunteers who showed up to prepare the tables and room.

We also want to give a huge thank you to our kitchen crew – Eleanore, Lorie, Sandy, Bruce and the others who joined in to help them, plus our food servers, particularly Julie Slater who didn't sit down until everyone was served! Special thanks also go to everyone who stayed to help clean up – it made the job so fast and easy!

Once again Eleanore Hewitt personally cooked 38 turkey thighs and a crock pot of her special gravy, while Lorie Johansen cooked the white meat, and Peter brought in a tasty ham so there was something for everyone. Thank you so much to everyone who brought in all the other delicious dishes – appetizers, salads, sides, desserts, etc.! The feast was enjoyed by all and we couldn't have done it without everyone contributing.

We also gave away over 200 assorted Gift Plants! Sixty (a new record number) plants went to Brag Plant participants, all our wonderful volunteers from throughout the year were also honored with a choice of plants, plus all member in attendance received a gift plant. Many members walked away with three plants and this could be you next year. It is very easy, bring Brag Plants to regular meetings to earn Brag Points, volunteer at meetings and events, and then attend the Holiday Party.

Peter also presented large and beautiful plants to Brita, Annie, and Leon to thank them for all the time, and effort they put into running the club throughout the year.

BOARD ELECTIONS

Elections were held at the Holiday Party. The following people were reelected to the Board: Annie Morgan – Secretary – 1 year term, Carol McAllister – Director at Large – 1-year term, Francis Granger – Director at Large – 2-year term, and Mike Nelson – Director at Large – 2-year term. We did terms of one year for two members in order to have positions so that too many members terms do not expire at the same time.

BRAG PLANT, PLANT OF THE MONTH, and BRAG PHOTO INFORMATION

Don't miss the information on p. 5 that explains a new category, and covers all the rules you need to know.



Samples of our delightful centerpieces, reindeer courtesy of Eleanore Voth's collection.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS & DIRECTORY

It's time to renew your membership for 2017, if you haven't already. Starting this year, we are asking that you renew by the end of February. If you have not renewed by the time the March newsletter goes out you will receive a reminder notice, but NOT a newsletter.

- You may print out a copy of the Membership Form on the last page and mail it in to the address indicated with a check, or you may pay at the January or February meeting.
- This year if you renew at a meeting you may pay by cash, a check, or credit card.

As our club grows we are working on streamlining the various jobs our Board Members and volunteers do, and having all renewals in by the end of February will make our Membership Chair Leon LaFreniere's job much easier. Also, although our monthly rent has gone up \$40 a month over the last two years, (we now pay \$180/month) we are keeping our membership fee at \$20.

You will hopefully notice that we've added a section called **Membership Directory** to the Membership Form. Many people call Board Members asking for other member's phone numbers, and without permission we cannot give them out. So, we are creating a simple directory for those who want to be included, based on what you indicate on the Membership Form. This should help you get in touch with others in our growing club, but If you don't want your information included it won't be – just check NONE. The directory will be typed up in early March so make sure to renew before then to be included.

BRAG PLANT, PLANT OF THE MONTH, & BRAG PHOTO INFORMATION

All paid PCSS members are eligible and encouraged to enter their plants. This is a great forum to show plants before entering them in the Spring Festival in March and the Annual Show in October.

BRAG PLANT & PLANT OF THE MONTH – INFORMATION & RULES

- **Categories: Succulents, Cactus, Dish Gardens, and Plant of the Month.**
- **Levels: plants will be judged at each level in each category. Levels are:**
 - Novice - for the more casual or beginning collector who has won 10 blue ribbons or less. Use **GREEN** entry slips
 - Intermediate is for those beyond Novice, but not yet Advanced. Use **YELLOW** entry slips.
 - Advanced is typically a long-term grower/collector whose plants are exceptional. Use **WHITE** entry slips.
- **Rules:**
 - ***All plants MUST be in place and labeled by 11:45am to be eligible for judging.*** There will be members there to help you with the category and names of your plants if you are not sure.
 - Entries must be in the possession of exhibitors for at least three months.
 - One plant per pot unless entered as a dish garden.
 - Plants must be clean – no weeds/debris, and healthy – no insects or disease.
 - A plant is **not** eligible if it has won 1st place (in the Brag Plants, Spring Festival or Annual Show) in the past six months. Conversely, a plant IS eligible to be entered in the Spring Festival and Annual Fall Show if it has won 1st place in the Brag Plants within the last six months.
- The Judges often consider how staging and containers affect the overall presentation in their decisions. You may show a nice plant in a clean, attractive plastic pot as a dress rehearsal for the Annual Show.
- **NEW!!!:** Twice a year, January and June, we will have the judges ignore the plant's pots and staging and judge strictly on a plant's merits. However, ALL pots, plastic or ceramic MUST be in good, *clean* condition.
- **Point Structure for: BRAG PLANTS & PLANT OF THE MONTH Entries and Winners**
 - 3 points for 1st place ~ 2 points for 2nd place ~ 1 point for 3rd place ~ *plus* 1 point for just entering

Note: Occasionally, the PCSS Board may request a member to move to the next level up (i.e. from Novice to Intermediate), because of the excellent quality of their plants. This is to try to keep the playing level fair and not dissuade other members from entering their plants.

NEW Category for Plant of the Month - NON-JUDGED PLANT OF THE MONTH

- Plants may be entered in this new category if they are a good example of the genus, but you have owned it for less than three months, or it may not be staged appropriately for competition. Otherwise, the plant must follow the above guidelines.
- They will receive 1 'Brag Plant' point each.
Use the new **PURPLE** slip for these entries.

BRAG PHOTO RULES – for the NEWSLETTER

This non-judged category is to share your plants at home that are in the ground, in pots too large to bring in, or those that bloom in-between meetings. This is also the place to share special sections of your garden or greenhouse, as members love to see what you have done to give them ideas for their own gardens.

Point Structure: 1 point for each group of photos emailed/entered, and 3 points for each photo that is published.

Submit photos to Annie Morgan. Please include your name, the plants name(s) (please check the spelling online so that I don't have to do so), and any other information to be included. Photos will be used at the discretion of the newsletter editor.

Please do not text me a photo with no information or it may be rejected entirely!



3rd Annual Spring Member Festival

Saturday, March 25, 2017

Our Spring Member Festival is a fun event with a variety of interactive events - a mini show, workshops, and members selling plants or other garden items. This event was designed for all members, but particular emphasis is on what the many new members who are just starting our hobby would enjoy.

We hope you will join in whether you are new to succulents or have been enjoying this relaxing pastime for many years. This is just a brief introduction and next month's newsletter will have all the details.

PLANT SHOW - This is primarily for the novice and intermediate and is a great dress rehearsal for our more formal October Show. However, we love members who show at the advanced level and NEED them to bring in their beauties too, as they are always such a treat to view. All plants will be judged similar to the Brag Plant monthly table but with additional categories. Plus, you also earn points like when you bring in Brag Plants - except they are doubled. Now is the time to start looking at which plants you would like to show.

MEMBER PLANT SALE - Do you have some extra plants you would like to sell? This is a great venue to do just that. Start getting them ready now - repot, trim, etc. so they look their best for potential buyers. You may also sell other garden related items during this sale. PCSS handles all the money and sends you a check, so you don't have to stay by your items for sale.

WORKSHOPS - We will have interactive workshops on topics related to the care and growing of succulents. Are there topics that you would like to learn more about? Please let Brita Miller know if you have any suggestions.

TIME TO SOCIALIZE - This is also a great time to socialize with friends and meet other members. The last two years there have been so many comments about what a fun time people had at this less structured 'meeting'. You won't want to miss out!



~ Plant of the Month ~

This month there will not be a Plant of the Month. Instead we will be entertained and challenged with a Kactus Kwizz developed and presented by John Tashjian.

First prize will get first choice at the exchange table.

PCSS T-Shirts



We are no longer taking group orders and are selling our club's stock.

We have 13 shirts available, see sizes/colors below, that you may purchase at meetings.

Prices for men's are \$15 + tax = \$16.20.

Women's are \$10, including tax, discounted due to sizing issues.

MEN'S:

- Royal Blue w/Red Flower	- L
- Red w/White Flower	- L
- Lt. Gray w/Red Flower	- L
- White w/Red Flower	- L, M, S

WOMEN'S – The ladies still left all fit smaller than their size indicated so I am selling these at a discount as noted above.

- Red w/White Flower	- M - fit more like a small
- Lt. Gray w/Red Flower	- 2 mediums - fit more like a small
- Lt. Gray w/Red Flower	- 4 smalls - fit more like an XS

For those who still want shirts, the printer is setting up a PCSS store on his website and you may order directly from there as of February 1st. – STORE IS NOW CLOSED AS OF 2019

- Colors available will be: royal with a red or a white flower, red with a white flower, dark gray with a red or a white flower, and white with a red flower. Plus either men's or ladies style shirts.
- You may either pick it up or he can mail it for an additional \$4. He is in Valley Center, only 10 minutes north/east of Escondido, and easy to find.
- Ladies, if you order from his website he will be using the shirt style he used in my 2nd and 3rd orders and there are no size issues. I will have samples at meetings if you'd like to check them.
- He is also happy to make tote bags with the club name and t-shirt artwork, hats, long sleeve shirts, or sweatshirts. You will need to call him for orders than the basic t-shirt.
- The cost per shirt is \$16 plus tax = \$17.28, plus \$4 if you choose to have him mail it to you. You will need to prepay by credit card or mail him a check.

His information is:

Be Seen Wear ~ BeSeenWear.com ~ Bryan Bahlmann



REMINDER - Tour the Old World and Baja Gardens FREE on Saturday, February 18th

The volunteers of the San Diego Zoo Safari Park Old World and Baja Gardens would like to invite you to a free day to visit all the beautiful gardens, and the Safari Park. We will be available to show you around and answer questions between 9 - 11am. You will also have access to all the other gardens including the California Native and Bonsai Gardens, and the entire park until closing at 5 pm.

- Zoo members and volunteers will as always get in free.
- For non-Zoo members, we are asking current Zoo members and volunteers to donate extra guest passes, and the Safari Park will also provide a limited number.
- Parking is \$12 so carpooling is recommended.

Please contact Susan LaFreniere by Tues., January 31 if: 1) you can donate guest passes, or 2) if you need a guest pass.

Please get donated passes to Susan by Tuesday, January 31st. Passes will be collected at the January PCSS meeting, or you can mail them to Susan.

- * This year guest passes will be handed out at a table near the Safari Park entrance on the day of the event. Your name must already be on the list provided to the park. *



This is Leslie, born October 19th, 2016.
Note that the baby is sitting in the palm of
the mother's hand.



"Photos used with permission of the San Diego Zoo Safari Park"

MEMBERS' BRAG GARDEN OR PLANT PHOTOS

Share a section of your garden, a plant that bloomed in-between meetings, or one that's too large or heavy to bring to the Brag Table. Published photo receives 3 Brag Points each; those who email in photos receive 1 point. PHOTOS MUST BE IN FOCUS WITH GOOD LIGHTING. Email photos with plant names to Annie.



Lorie Johansen's Christmas Cactus - above,
Kalanchoe 'Mother of Millions' - below,
and gorgeous aloe - bottom right



David Buffington's Aloinopsis schooneesii
in 3.25" pot



Susan/Leon LaFreniere's Haemanthus albifloss





Lorie Johansen's Aloe blue elf - top,
David Buffington's Pseudolithos cubiformis
in 3.25" pot, and close up
of bloom - right



CLASSIFIED:

FOR SALE:

Pachycereus Weber

- \$60 each. Four plants.
- Size: 4 to 6 ft.
- You must pick them up.
- PCSS will get a \$10 donation for each plant sold.

Ron Chisum
North Escondido



FOR SALE:

Night Blooming Cereus

The common name of a large number of flowering ceroid cactus that bloom at night.

- \$25 for plant, \$40 w/pot
- 7' tall with many branches
- Very easy to grow!
- You must pick up
- PCSS will get 15%

Annie Morgan
Carlsbad

This photo is of the last time it bloomed. Email Annie for a current photo.



The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society presents its...

2017 Winter Show and Sale

Saturday, February 11th

10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Members Only shopping from 9:00 - 10:00 am

Room 101 and Adjacent Patio area

Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

FREE Event!
Open to
the Public

The Show

Unusual and Exotic Plants on Display
Highlighting Winter Growers from around the World
Novice, Intermediate, & Expert Growers

Plant and Pottery Sale

Small Plants & Specimen Plants
Landscape Plants for Arid Gardens
Beautiful Handmade Pottery



Echinopsis humilis gracilis
by Peter Walczak

For additional information visit: www.sdcss.net

2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS for Southern California

February 11th

San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society

Winter Show & Sale, Balboa Park,
Casa del Prado, Rm 101, San Diego,
Info – 619-258-9810

March 23 - 25

Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society

Spring Show & Sale – 23rd 6 - 8pm,
24th 9am - 7pm, 25th 9am - 5pm,
1000 S. State College Bl., Info – 562-587-3357

April 8 - 9

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society

Show & Sale, South Coast Botanical Gardens,
26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes
Info – 310-378-1953 www.southcoastcss.org

April 29th

Huntington Gardens Plant Sale, 1 - 5pm

Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd.,
San Marino Info – 626-405-3504

May 6 - 7

Sunset Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale

Veteran's Memorial Center, Garden Room
4117 Overland Ave., Culver City
Info – 310-822-1783

May 7th

South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale

9am - 4pm, South Coast Botanical Gardens
Info – 310-833-6823

May 12 - 13

Gates Cactus & Succulent Society 35th Show & Sale

9am - 4:30pm, Landscapes Southern California Style
450 E. Alessandro Blvd., Riverside
Info – 941-360-8802

May 20 - 21

Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show & Sale

10am - 4pm, Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Rd.
Long Beach Info – 562-631-5876

May 27 - 28

Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society

Annual Show & Sale, 10am - 4pm, Ludwick Center
864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo
Info – 805-237-2054 www.centralcoastcactus.org

June 3 - 4

San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society

Summer Show & Sale, Balboa Park, Rm 101, San Diego
Info – 619-258-9810

June 10 - 11

Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale

10th 9am - 5pm, 11th 9am - 3pm, Sepulveda Garden
Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd, Encino
Info – www.lacss-show.com

June 10 - 11

San Diego Bromeliad Society Show & Sale

Balboa Park, Casa del Prado - Rm 101
Info - Nancy Groves 858-952-6154
nancygroves@me.com

June 30 - July 2

CSSA Annual Show (7/1-2) & Sale (6/30-7/1)

Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd.,
San Marino Info – 626-405-3504

July 20 - 22

Orange County C & S Society Show & Sale

20th - 6 - 8pm, 21st - 9am - 7pm, 22nd - 9am - 5pm
1000 S. State College Blvd, Anaheim
Anaheim United Methodist Church
Info – 949-212-8417

July 26 - 31

CSSA Convention, Tempe AZ

August 12 - 13

32nd Annual Intercity Show & Sale, LA County

Arboretum, 9am - 5pm, 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia
Tom Glavich 626-798-2430, John Martinez 805-390-2139

September 2nd

Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent

Symposium

Info – 626-405-3504

September 3rd

Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction,

12 - 5pm, Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Rd.,
Long Beach Info – 562-631-5876

October 7 - 8

Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale

Sat. 10am - 5pm, Sun. 11am - 3pm, St. Paul's Church
2216 17th Street, Bakersfield Info – 661-831-8488

October 28 - 29

Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society Show & Sale

Sat. 9am - 5pm, Sun. 10am - 3pm
San Diego Botanic Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Rd.,
Encinitas, Info: Eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org

November 4 - 5

San Gabriel Cactus & Succulent Society

Show & Sale, 9am - 4pm,
LA County Arboretum,
301 No. Baldwin, Arcadia
Info - Manny Rivera
626-780-6957
John Matthews
661-714-1052

**CSSA Show 2010
Best Monadenium**



Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

The North San Diego County C & S Club!

Membership Application

Membership: Please ✓ a category:

New Member _____ OR Renewal _____

_____ Annual dues w/color email newsletter \$20

_____ Additional Household Members + \$ 5

_____ Engraved PCSS Name Badge + \$ 6

Total _____

PLEASE PRINT! We must be able to read it!

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Membership Directory: Please ✓ which, if any, we may include:

_____ Phone # _____ Email _____ City _____ OR _____ None

Disclaimer: This directory is for the use of members only and may not be shared, etc.

Bring form & check or cash to a meeting, or mail it in.

Make checks payable to PCSS.

Credit cards accepted at meetings.

PCSS P.O. Box 840, Escondido, CA 92033

Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Peter Walkowiak – President & Co-Program Chair

Brita Miller – Vice-President, Show Chair, Event Coordinator

Leon LaFreniere – Treasurer, Membership

Annie Morgan – Secretary, Co-Program Chair, Publicity,
Website, Newsletter Editor (paid position)

Francis Granger – Board Member, Member/Guest Ambassador

Mike Nelson – Board Member, Brag Table Points

Carol McAllister – Board Member, Monthly Meeting Volunteer

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OTHER VOLUNTEERS

Vicki Martin – Co-Librarian

Bruce Barry & Sandy Wetzel-Smith – Refreshments

Dennis Miller – Plant Sales & Benefit Drawing

Tina Cord – Meeting Setup, etc.

Brian Magone – Exchange Table

Lorie Johansen – Guest/New Member Ambassador

Chet Reed – Brag Plant Photographer

Nell McChesney – Name Tag Drawing Plants

Kathie Hoxsie – Monthly Meeting Publicity

May Fong Ho – Website

2017 PCSS MEETING SCHEDULE

Meetings are at the Park Ave. Community Center in Escondido unless noted.

January 28th

February 25th

March 25th ----- SPRING MEMBER FESTIVAL

April 22nd

May 20th – **Note 3rd Saturday**

June 24th

July 22nd

August 26th ----- PICNIC & AUCTION at SD Botanic Garden

September 23rd

October 28 - 29 ----- ANNUAL SHOW & SALE at SD Botanic Garden

November 18th – **Note 3rd Saturday**

December 16th – **Note 3rd Saturday**

