

CACTUS COURIER

Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society
The North San Diego County Cactus and Succulent Society

Volume 63, Number 12

December 2017

NEXT MEETING

Sat., December 16th

THIS IS A WEEK EARLY

Park Ave. Community Center
210 Park Ave., Escondido

NO Brag plants, Exchange Table, or Benefit Drawing

INSTEAD - LOTS OF GIFT PLANTS!

11:00am - 3:00pm

Membership Renewal Time

It's that time of year again!
We would love to have you renew
at the Holiday Party – cash,
checks, & credit cards accepted.

REFRESHMENTS

See p. 3 for the
Potluck Sign-up List

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Click here to visit our webpage:

www.palomarcactus.org

We're on Facebook!



HOLIDAY PARTY UPDATE!

**WANT A GUARANTEED SEAT & GIFT PLANT?
PLEASE SIGN UP!**

- To make sure a seat is waiting for you, please sign-up by contacting Brita if you haven't already.
- Come socialize and enjoy some appetizers from 11 – 12:00. Lunch will start being served at approximately noon.

**IF YOU DON'T SIGN UP WE CANNOT
GUARANTEE YOU A MEMBER GIFT PLANT!**



Holiday Party 2017



As is traditional, the Club will be providing the main entree of turkey (yes, there will be more dark meat than white!) and Eleanore and Lorie are doing the cooking. Peter will be bringing a delicious smoked ham.

Since the Community Center has no refrigerator bring your cold dishes in coolers. We do have a microwave and oven for reheating, not for cooking. If you are bringing a cooler with hot food here's how: one of Eleanore's friends showed her a trick with foil-wrapped bricks heated in the oven – they keep food hot for hours! Any hot trays you may have tucked away in your back cupboards will be much appreciated as well. Don't forget the cords!



The set-up crew should arrive ready to work by 10:30am. There are tables to set and decorate. Luckily, Evelyn Voth and Julie Slater have once again volunteered to bring Evelyn's adorable reindeer and coordinate the centerpieces, but we still need greenery and berries, etc. And of course, we will need help placing the decorations, as well as with general setup, and Annie needs help organizing the gift plants.

We welcome the spouses or SOs of all our members to the party. We would be delighted to meet them, just make sure that you sign up for them too, as mentioned on the first page.

**PLEASE – remember to put your name on ALL serving utensils, dishes, and lids!
We would hate to have anything get lost in the cleanup shuffle.**



HOLIDAY PARTY

Potluck Sign-up for
Dec. 16, 2017

- Turkey Thighs** - Eleanore
Turkey Breasts - Lorie Johansen
Smoked Ham - Peter W
Gravy - Eleanore

SALADS & APPETIZERS

- Pam Dunlap - Clam Dip & Chips - APPETIZER
Annie Morgan - Cheese & Salami - APPETIZER
Barbara Raab - Veggie Tray - APPETIZER
Annie Morgan - Cr. Cheese w/Chipotle Rasp. - APP
Jean O'Daniel - Fruit Salad
Charlyne Barad - Tomato/Cuc/Onion Salad
Emily Minchin - Green Salad
Dolores Fazzino - Caprese Salad
Phyllis Flechsig - Fruit Salad
Nancy Conway - Vegetable Salad
Christine Hays - Salad
Phil Baum - Salad

CRANBERRY & RELISH DISHES

- Ron Chisum
Chris Barkley
Don Nelson
Mike/Peggy Regan



VEGETABLES

- Neila Rybicki - Green Beans
Francis Granger - Baked Beans
Kathie Hoxsie - Veggie Casserole
Nancy Dunn - Savory Vegetable Tart
Robert Kopfstein - Corn Pudding
Bill/Bonnie Diangelo - Veggies
Vivian Follmer - Mashed cauliflower
May Fong Ho - Vegetable Dish
Libbi Salvo - Roasted Root Vegetables

ROLLS / BREAD

- Neila Rybicki - Rolls
Elizabeth Imperial - Cheese Rolls
Linda Schmalfeldt - Rolls

POTATOES - Sweet & Other

- Anna Devine - Baked Yam Slices
Heather Chan - Jewel Yams
Mike & Peggy Regan - Yams
Marcy Singer - Mashed Potatoes
Bill/Bonnie Diangelo - Potatoes

STUFFING

- Gloria Medina
Brita Miller
Julie Slater



DESSERTS

- Victor Zonano - Cheesecake
Deborah Pearson - Pumpkin Pie
Peggy Regan - Chocolate Persimmon Pudding
Winston Chan - Pie
Thelma Gerome - Cake or Pie
David Buffington - Date Bars
Chet Reed - Apple Pie
Wanda Mallen - Brownies
Beth Bradsher - Cookies or Cake



SET UP - 10:30

- Brita Miller
Gary Vincent
Gloria Medina
Evelyn Voth
Julie Slater
Barbara Raab

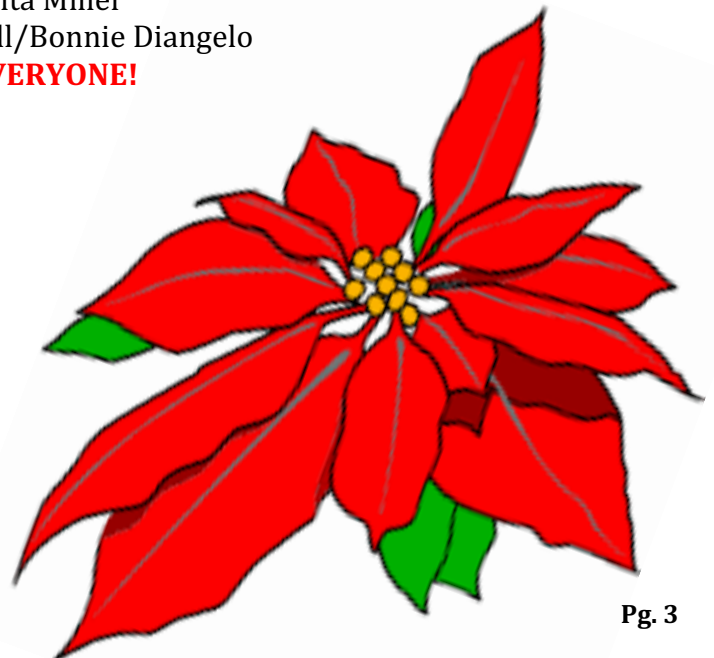
SERVING - noon

- Eleanore Hewitt
Gloria Medina
May Fong Ho

CLEAN UP

- Gloria Medina
Brita Miller
Bill/Bonnie Diangelo

EVERYONE!



~ NOTICES ~

THANK YOU WOODY!

Once again Woody Minnich presented a fantastic program! Everyone loved all the useful information to help us grow healthier plants. Proper soil and acidifying water really do make a difference for optimum growth, as we learned.

HUNTINGTON FIELD TRIP 1/13/18 - A NEW TRIP COORDINATOR IS NEEDED

As of now we will not have a field trip as Annie is ready to pass this on to someone new. See p. 9 for more information.

BOARD ELECTIONS

It's time to elect Board Members whose terms are up. We will vote at the Holiday Party.

The proposed Slate of Officers is:

- President (1-year term) - Peter Walkowiak
- Vice President (2-year term) - Brita Miller
- Secretary (1-year term) - Annie Morgan
- Member at Large (2-year term) - Jim Anderson

Officer Position OPEN

- Treasurer (2-year term) - After three years as Treasurer, Leon LaFreniere is looking for someone to replace him. This is a critical position and it is time for someone new to step up. **Please contact Brita if you are interested &/or have questions.**

VOLUNTEER POSITION NEEDS FILLING ASAP

Cash Register - As you know Dennis Miller has run the cash register at our monthly meetings for many, many years and now finds that he needs to let someone new take over. We need this position to be filled ASAP. It's a simple register to run and help will of course be available. *We don't want to have to curtail sales at monthly meetings, so it's time for another new person to step up.*

Membership - Richard Miller, Brita's husband, has agreed to take over Membership.

T-SHIRTS



Everyone has picked up their orders and Annie has 2 extras that will be for sale at meetings. They are men's Lg in Sapphire and are \$16. For those who did not get an order placed our printer will have a PCSS Store open on his website, BeSeenWear.com, as of the first of January 1st. Shirts will be the same price, \$16, and you can pick them up or he can mail them for \$4. You can also call Bryan at 760-580-3909.

NOVEMBER'S REFRESHMENT TABLE

Our members always provide a great selection of snacks, and we thank and appreciate those who contribute. But WOW, what a fantastic selection of delicious goodies you brought in November! We haven't seen one like that in a long while! Thank you so much to everyone who contributed!



WEBSITE INPUT

Annie Morgan and Jim Anderson are in the process of reformatting our website to make it more user friendly. If you have any comments please send them to Jim Anderson ASAP. We hope to have it completed by the end of January

2017 SHOW AWARD WINNERS RECEIVING THEIR AWARDS

L to R: Annie Morgan, Woody Minnich, Mike Nelson, Peter Walkowiak

Missing: Alejandro Cardenas, Lisa Brosseau, Celine Newman



BRAG PLANT POINTS LIST

We had another fabulous year of BRAG PLANTS and Plant of the Month entries. This year we had 56 people enter their plants to show and share their delight in our favorite hobby – an additional 10% over last year and another new record! Each time they brought in a Brag Plant they earned one point for bringing in a plant, plus more points for a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place. Garden Brag Photos which go in the newsletter also earned points.

Our top point earner was Brita Miller with 140 points, followed by Annie Morgan with 136, John Barkley 129, Robert Kopfstein 115, Mike Nelson 102, Lorie Johansen 97, plus 50 others who participated. Each person who brought in plants will receive a Gift Plant at the Holiday Party. Following are the names of those who participated. The person who earned the most points chooses first, etc.

If you are not able to attend the event you will receive a coupon for \$3 good for purchases at club meeting. This is only good for Brag Point Winners and Volunteers.

* Brita Miller Annie Morgan John Barkley Robert Kopfstein Mike Nelson Lorie Johansen *

Jeannie Zonana Neila Rybicki Mitch Bahr Sue Steed Ron Chisum May Fong Ho

Phyllis Flechsig Victor Zonana David Buffington Tammy Harmon Don Nelson Chris Barkley

Susan LaFreniere Nell McChesney John Tashjian Patti Nelson Chet Reed C&J Garner Stan Yalof

Julie Slater Tina Cord Kathie Hoxie Jim Anderson Libbi Salvo Leon LaFreniere Bill Diangelo

Ruta Caldwell Paula Deubig Moni Waiblinger Harold Dunn Peter Walkowiak Heather Chan

Nancy Walker Sandy Wetzels-Smith Bob Schmutz Nancy Dunn Winston Chan Jerry Kahn

Sherrie Wasson Carol Carrillo Victoria Gee Deborah Pearson March Singer Sam Armenise

Christine Hays Ginny March Margaret Regan Vivian Follmer Michael Regan Kevin Smith

Education Page – NEW

~ “What Plants Talk About” ~ A Documentary from the Series Nature

While this is not on succulents, it is about plants in general, and I’m taking the liberty of assuming we are all plant lovers.

When we think about plants, we don’t often associate a term like “behavior” with them, but experimental plant ecologist JC Cahill wants to change that. The University of Alberta professor maintains that plants do behave and lead anything but solitary and sedentary lives. “What Plants Talk About” teaches us all that plants are smarter and much more interactive than we thought.

Click on this link to watch, or copy and paste it into your browser. Or you may also Google “What Plants Talk About ” and it will take you to the link to watch it on YouTube.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CrrSAC-vjG4&t=666s>

I’m betting you too will be fascinated and glad you took the time to watch. Let me know what you think.

Annie

DIY Succulent Topiary Christmas Tree By Debra Lee Baldwin

This one is not educational exactly, but is a fun holiday project to make. I’ve watched it and Debra gives excellent step-by-step directions. I think paperclips would work as well as the floral clips mentioned, and you probably have them around. It is 8:27 minutes long. Following is the link to click on and watch, or copy into your browser to watch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y1wfWMyfnrY&feature=youtu.be>



Brag Plant Winners - September

Intermediate Cactus

1st Victor Zonana *Opuntia microdasys* #1

Advanced Cactus

1st Lorie Johansen *Opuntia crest* #2
 2nd Lorie Johansen *Cereus peruvianus monstroze*

Novice Succulent

1st Moni Waiblinger *Pachypodium succulentum* #3
 2nd Moni Waiblinger *Ficus nitida ginseng* #4
 2nd Moni Waiblinger *Crassula ovata*
 3rd Kathie Hoxie *Euphorbia trigona*

Intermediate Succulent

1st John Tashjian *Welwitschia mirabilis* #5
 2nd Jeannie Zonana *Stapelia gigantea* #6
 2nd Don Nelson *Pachypodium saundersii* #7

Advanced Succulent

1st Ron Chisum *Euphorbia esculenta* #8
 2nd Lorie Johansen *Echeveria*
 2nd Lorie Johansen *Adromischus cristata* #9
 3rd John Barkley *Pelargonium*

Plant of the Month – Caudiciforms

Novice

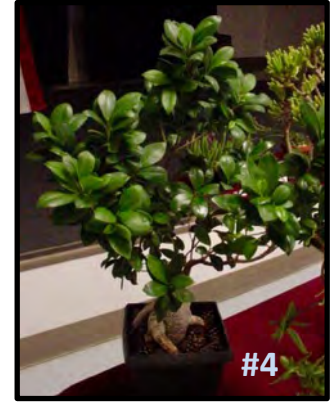
1st David Buffington *Calibanus hookeri* #10
 2nd Neila Rybicki *Fockea edulis* #11
 3rd Neila Rybicki *Adenia glauca* #12

Intermediate

1st Jeannie Zonana *Fockea edulis* #13
 2nd Victor Zonana *Cyphostemma cirrhosum* #14
 2nd Don Nelson *Begonia dregei* #15
 3rd Don Nelson *Cissus tuberosus*

Advanced

1st Robert Kopfstein *Ficus petiolaris* #16
 2nd John Barkley *Fockea edulis* #17
 2nd Robert Kopfstein *Firmiana colorata*



Brag Plant Winners - November

Novice Cactus

- 1st Chet Reed *Mammillaria muehlenpfordtii* # 1
 2nd Nell McChesney *Mammillaria hahniana* # 2

Intermediate Cactus

- 1st Brita Miller *Rhipsalis* # 3
 2nd Neila Rybicki *Mammillaria compressa* # 18
 3rd Victor Zonana *Helianthocereus randallii*
 3rd Neila Rybicki *Mammillaria plumosa*

Advanced Cactus

- 1st Robert Kopfstein *Mammillaria hahniana*
 2nd Robert Kopfstein *Espostoa melanostele v. inermis* # 4

Novice Succulent

- 1st Tammy Harmon *Kalanchoe baharensis* # 5
 2nd Tammy Harmon *Peperomia obtusifolia variegata*

Intermediate Succulent

- 1st Victor Zonana *Agave titanota* # 6
 2nd Don Nelson *Euphorbia flanaganii crest* # 7

Advanced Succulent

- 1st Ron Chisum *Tylecodon paniculatus* # 8
 2nd Robert Kopfstein *Aeonium 'Mardi Gras'* # 9
 3rd Lorie Johansen *Echeveria pollex*

Novice Dish Garden

- 1st Tammy Harmon # 10

Intermediate Dish Garden

- 1st Don Nelson # 11

Advanced Dish Garden

- 1st Lorie Johansen # 12

Plant of the Month - Your Favorite Plant

Novice

- 1st Harold Dunn *Euphorbia ferox* # 13
 2nd Kathie Hoxie *Old Man's Beard* # 14

Intermediate

- 1st Annie Morgan *Euphorbia pseudocactus 'Zig Zag'* # 15
 2nd Neila Rybicki *Pachypodium brevicaule grafted* # 16
 3rd Brita Miller *Mangave 'Bloodspot'*

Advanced

- 1st Robert Kopfstein *Ursulaea macvaughii*
 2nd Phyllis Flechsig *Ceraria namaquensis* # 17



MEMBERS' BRAG GARDEN OR PLANT PHOTOS

Share a section of your garden, a plant that bloomed in between meetings, or one that is too large or heavy to bring to the Brag Table. Email or text photos with plant names to Annie.



L-R Lorie Johansen's *Schlumbergera* AKA Christmas Cactus, *Drimia Maritima* AKA *Urginea maritima* (these are the bulbs [Mort Fairfield](#) has been selling at our March Event), and center w/yellow flower *Copiapoa hypogaea* v. *barquitenensis*.

Left - Robert Kopfstein's *Ariocarpus fissuratus* with multiple blooms!

News From the Safari Park Gardens - By Janet Morgan



We're looking forward to moving into this new greenhouse this winter. Thanks to the San Diego Zoo Global and the Safari Park Horticultural Department for donations toward this project. Photos were taken by Juergen Menzel at the Safari Park and are used by permission of the San Diego Zoo Safari Park.



WE NEED A NEW FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR ASAP IF THIS TRIP IS TO GO ON!

Annie Morgan has been coordinating this trip for PCSS and SDCSS for the last 5 years and now needs to pass the baton to someone new. Members are of course welcome to drive up themselves, or to carpool.

This is a great trip, everyone always loves it, and we typically have a full bus of 50 – 55 so it would be a shame to let it go by the wayside. It takes approximately 15 hours to do all the organization, plus the day of the trip itself. And whoever coordinates it gets to ride free, plus you make so many people happy!

Annie has all the needed paperwork forms on her computer to pass on – notices for newsletter, an eblast, etc., and the spreadsheet already created. She is willing to help whomever can take this on.

Contact her with questions, or to jump in and get started.

She has already contacted the bus company and they have new guidelines, including a new deadline to reserve a bus. So, if you are interested in taking this over, preparations need to start in the next week.



THE HUNTINGTON

LIBRARY, ART COLLECTIONS, AND BOTANICAL GARDENS

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California 91108 (626) 405-2100

DESERT FORUM ~ Saturday, 13 January 2018

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

9:00 – 9:45

Registration

Please bring your CSSA or affiliated club badge or membership card for admission. In order to receive free admission, you must arrive by 9:45. Late arrivers will need to pay for Huntington admission.

9:00 – 10:00

Coffee and doughnuts will be available in the lower part of the Desert Garden

9:00 – 11:00

Desert Garden

- Knowledgeable staff and docents will be stationed throughout the Desert Garden and Desert Conservatory
- Aloes will be flowering

11:00 – 1:00

Plant Sales – (exclusively for CSSA and club members)

Gate opens by the Teaching Greenhouse at 11:00 for plant sales - ***please, no early bird shopping, and no shopping after 1:00.*** Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted

1:00 – 5:00

Free Time & Lunch

- Participants are welcome to tour the gardens and galleries from 10:00 to 5:00.
- The café in the visitor center features a variety of sandwiches, salads, and grilled items
- The tea room at Liu Fang Yuan is an option for Asian food
- The coffee shop by the Store offers a small selection of pre-made options

This is your opportunity to get into The Huntington Botanical Gardens at no charge. They open the Desert Conservatory (greenhouse) which has a fabulous collection of specimen succulents, and will have docents there to answer your questions. Then in the afternoon you can shop at their succulent greenhouses - a rare opportunity - and who knows what you'll find! This event is once a year and is not to be missed!



COFFEE IN THE GARDEN PARTY

For PCSS, SDCSS, & SDHS Members

Sunday, January 21, 2018 ~ 10am - 4pm at 4728 Allied Rd., San Diego

Hosted by Rick Bjorklund, a PCSS member, Kevin, and with James Chambers of Rocksmith Nursery as a Special Vendor

We are excited to host our Garden Party again! As many of you know, we removed a swimming pool and pond over a year ago and added large raised planters. We hope you will come see how the succulents and cacti have grown since then - they love the crushed lava/compost planting mix.

The planters include a large collection of Mesembs, Haworthias, Gasterias, miniature Agaves, and other succulents on the smaller side. Most have appreciated being liberated from the pots they had been in for quite some time. For example, a *Caesalpinia cacalaco* that had been 6" for many years is now well over 6' tall.



We've enjoyed being able to see the smaller succulents at a better height and have recently added three more planters, one of which is primarily composed of cacti. And, as always, January promises to be a peak aloe bloom time with newer varieties blooming each year, which we anticipate as eagerly as a child waiting for a beloved holiday to arrive.

This year, we are excited to have a special vendor who has awesome plants, many of which you will find in our gardens. James Chambers, owner of Rocksmith Nursery in Valley Center, California, has been an avid plant grower for over 25 years and has specialized in Sansevierias, Aloes, Agaves, and other rare succulents. The nursery currently has a large assortment of rare and unusual varieties of Sansevierias, with natural habitats ranging from South Africa to Ethiopia.

Unlike the usual selection of *Sansevieria trifasciata*, commonly known as the "Snake Plant" or "Mother-in-law's Tongue", the collection at Rocksmith Nursery focuses on many *Sansevieria* species that are rarely or never seen in cultivation. The *Sansevieria* plant forms range from tall, thin and green wispy leaves, to super blue and very thick and rigid flat fans. A diverse display of *Sansevierias* and other succulents will be offered for sale (cash only), and James will give talks about *Sansevierias* at approx. 11am & 1pm.



- We have extended the hours to allow for Mesembs to join the party this year, as they tend to start blooming around 1 or 2pm.
- We will have baked goods and appetizers as well as beverages available.
- Some of our propagated plants will be available for sale along with landscape sized cuttings/divisions.
- Since we have moved quite a few plants from pots, there will be a large number of pots for sale ranging from small to larger, both by artistic and amazing potters and some of a commercial nature.
- There is likely to be some garden-related items for sale and others that simply need to live at a new home.
- **Please plan on using cash if you will be shopping.**

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

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

Make checks payable to PCSS

Credit cards accepted at meetings.

Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society or PCSS

P.O. Box 840, Escondido, CA 92033

Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Peter Walkowiak – President

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

eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org

Leon LaFreniere – Treasurer

Annie Morgan – Secretary, Program Chair, Publicity, Website,

Newsletter Editor (paid position)

Info@palomarcactus.org

Francis Granger – Board Member, Member/Guest Ambassador

Mike Nelson – Board Member, Brag Table Points

Jim Anderson – Board Member, Website, Publicity

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OTHER VOLUNTEERS

Vicki Martin – Co-Librarian

Richard Miller – Membership

Bruce Barry & Sandy Wetzel-Smith – Refreshments

Brian Magone – Exchange Table

Lorie Johansen – Guest/New Member Ambassador

Chet Reed – Brag Plant Photographer

Nell McChesney – Name Tag Drawing Plants

2017 PCSS MEETING SCHEDULE ~ Speaker & Topic ~ Plant of the Month

| | | |
|--|--|--------------------------------|
| January 27 th - - - - - | Jeff Moore - Soft Succulents - Aeoniums, Echeverias, Crassulas, Sedums, Kalanchoes, etc. | ~ Dudleya |
| February 24 th - - - - - | TBA | |
| March 24 th - - - - - | Spring Member Festival | ~ YOUR SHOW PLANTS! |
| April 28 th - - - - - | TBA | |
| May 19 th - 3 rd Saturday - - - - - | TBA | |
| June 23 rd - - - - - | TBA | |
| July 28 th - - - - - | TBA | |
| August 25 th - - - - - | Annual Picnic & Auction | ~ YOUR PLANTS TO BE AUCTIONED! |
| September 22 nd - - - - - | TBA | |
| October 27 - 28 - - - - - | ANNUAL SHOW & SALE @ SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDENS IN ENCINITAS | ~ YOUR SHOW PLANTS! |
| November 17 th - 3 rd Saturday - - - - - | Woody Minnich | |
| December 15 th - 3 rd Saturday - - - - - | HOLIDAY PARTY!!! | ~ GIFT PLANTS FOR YOU! |

