

CACTUS COURIER

Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

Volume 60, Number 2

February 2014

The Meeting is the **4th** Saturday

FEBRUARY 22, 2014

Park Avenue Community Center

210 Park Ave
Escondido, CA 92025

Noon!!



Portulaca californica



“Baja California Sur”

• • Jon Rebman • •



Official Title:

**“Sierra Cacachilas Binational,
Multidisciplinary Expedition”**

John P. Rebman, PhD

Botanical surveys and collecting expeditions are important scientific endeavors that are conducted in order to: improve our natural history knowledge of little-known regions, make new botanical discoveries, facilitate conservation awareness, and improve

binational collaboration. Late last year, **Jon Rebman**

was involved in an expedition to the Sierra Cacachilas, a granitic mountain range southeast of La Paz in the Cape region of Baja California Sur. This sierra has had very little scientific exploration and its flora and fauna were relatively unknown.

In October-November 2013, the San Diego Natural History Museum (SDNHM) in collaboration with the Centro de Investigaciones Biologicas del Noroeste (CIBNOR) organized a binational, multidisciplinary natural history expedition to this region in order to better document the biological resources of this underexplored part of the peninsula. The two-week expedition consisted of approximately 35 scientists and volunteers from many different institutions in Mexico and the USA representing an array of scientific disciplines ranging from botany and plant ecology to entomology, herpetology, mammalogy, ornithology, and others.

Preliminary botanical discoveries include: occurrences of many rare plants previously thought to be endemic to the Sierra de La Laguna e.g., *Acourtia pinetorum* (Asteraceae), *Bernardia lagunensis* (Euphorbiaceae), *Bidens nudata* (Asteraceae), *Carex longissima* (Cyperaceae), *Desmodium batocaulon* (Fabaceae), *Euphorbia lagunensis* (Euphorbiaceae), *Mirabilis exserta* (Nyctaginaceae), *Morangaya pensilis* (Cactaceae), and *Verbesina pustulata* (Asteraceae); a collection of a species of *Senecio* (Asteraceae) which is the first specimen representing this genus in the Cape region; new populations of *Bursera rupicola* (Burseraceae), a very rare elephant tree that is a localized endemic to the Sierra Cacachila and only recently described; a collection of a tiny annual *Stenotis* (Rubiaceae) with minute flowers that is likely a new species. Although the plant specimen collections are still being processed before they can be studied in detail, the data collected during this expedition has already provided new insight on diversity and biogeography in the Cape region of Baja California Sur.

In a very interesting article in the [San Diego Union-Tribune January 27, 2014](#), the various researchers gave an overview of the trip to the Sierra Cacachilas mountain range near La Paz that they are calling a treasure trove of natural riches. The researchers' findings will help map out species in need of protection and offer insights for conservation as urban growth and resort development spread across the Baja peninsula.

"We didn't have a clue what was in the area. Basically, it was completely unknown. It was fascinating, botany-wise. We found a new type of senecio (a daisy variety also called ragwort of butterweed.) It's an herbaceous perennial that grows almost a meter tall. It may be a new species or a range extension. And we found a tiny annual from a genus only restricted to the state of Baja. I'm almost positive

it will be a new species. It's in the coffee family, and is an inch high, with a tiny, tubular pink flower. And we found species only found before in the Sierra de la Laguna. If something happened to them in the Sierra de la Laguna, we now know they are in the Sierra Cacachilas. I think this will help us understand the species in the cape region of Baja." (Dr. Rebman)



←
Bursera rupicola
Ibervillea sonora
→



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE •• FEBRUARY 2014

What a nice talk from Tom Glavich, it's nice to hear about some different types of succulents. There are so many types of bulbs that are not commercial because they do not offer the floral display of the common types. But we are not interested in just the flowers; we find the unusual leaf forms fascinating too. I have started collecting some of these winter growing bulbs over the past couple of years. Winter growers should be apart of every collection, this way you will get year around enjoyment.

Our speaker for February will be Jon Rebman, curator of botany at the Natural History Museum in Balboa Park. He recently did a trip to Baja Sur, the lower half of Baja California. In his presentation you will see many native plants of this region, both succulent and herbaceous.

To tie into the theme of Baja, the plant of the month will be any succulent plants that are native to Baja California, cactus: Mammillarias, Echinocereus, Ferrocactus, Opuntias and many more, and succulents; Dudleyas, Fouquieria, Bursera, Pachycormis, Jatropha, Pedialanthus and others. Bring in your brag table plants and share them wit the rest of the club, cactus, succulents and plant of the month.

Our Spring Plant Sale and show is coming up next month, now is the time to get your plants ready to sell, transplant, cleanup and prune as needed.

The plants will need to be double tagged, one plant tag with the name of the plant, the second tag should have your mark and the price. If you wish to donate plants for the sale, the mark on the price tag should be PCSS. The club part on all sales will be 20% and you will receive 80%. There will also be a Mini Show that will be judged, points normally given out for brag table entrants will be doubled for this event.

The Orange County Cactus and Succulent Society is doing a campout in March. Our club is looking to do one this fall. There are six spaces available for members of this club to take part in this camping trip. You will need to be physically fit to do hikes and be willing to help in the organizing of our camping trip in the fall. Please see announcement in this newsletter for details. If you would like to do this please contact me as space is limited.

Peter Walkowiak
President PCSS



Euphorbia hindsiana



Plant of the Month

February 2014

•• Plants Native to Baja California ••

Cactus: *Mammillarias*, *Echinocereus*, *Ferrocactus*, *Opuntias* and many more...

...and Succulents: *Dudleyas*, *Fouquieria*, *Bursera*, *Pachycormis*, *Jatropha*, *Pedialanthus*, etc...



A wintering gray vireo in an elephant tree (*Bursera microphylla*), discovered during the recent expedition.

BOARD MEETING • PLANT SALES • BRAG PLANTS • EXCHANGE TABLE

REFRESHMENTS

Beverly Ficuciello Mary Bahoshy Anna R. Marvca Maddy Beasley
 Neut & Jerre Stafford Betty Falc Ron Chisum Mary O'Donnell



January Brag Plants

Plant of the Month

Leon LaFreniere *Echeveria agavoides v. corderoyi*

Novice to Intermediate Cactus

1st Jerre Stafford *Mammillaria sp.*

Novice to Intermediate Winter Grower

1st Leon LaFreniere *Dudleya britonii*
 2nd Ron Chisum *Tylecodon paniculatus*
 3rd Patti Nelson *Ceraria pygmaea*

Novice to Intermediate Succulent

1st Maddy Beasley *Echeveria sp.*
 2nd Leon LaFreniere *Echeveria agavoides v. corderoyi*
 3rd LaFreniere *Aloe hybrid*

Advanced Cactus

1st Stan Yalof *Pilosocereus pachycladus*

Advanced Winter Grower

1st Phyllis Flechsig *Dudleya ingens*
 2nd Mitch Bahr *Pachypodium Namaquanum*
 3rd Stan Yalof *Aloe melanacantha*

Advanced Succulents

1st Stan Yalof *Portulacaria afra variegata* bonsai

2014 MEETING SCHEDULE

22 February Park Ave. Community Center

22 March Plant Sale – Park Ave. Center

26 April Park Ave. Community Center

17 May Park Ave. Community Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!

28 June Park Ave. Community Center

26 July Park Ave. Community Center

23 August Picnic & Auction SD Botanic Gdn

27 September Park Ave. Community Center

25, 26 October San Diego Botanic Garden

November Park Ave. Community Center

20 December Park Ave. Community Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!



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

\$25.00 Single Membership
\$30.00 Dual Membership (Same Address)
(1/2 price after June 30th)

There is a **\$5 discount** on the fees if you choose to receive your newsletter by email-only. Save money, leave a small carbon footprint, and reduce Eleanore's workload!

Please **print!** We have to be able to read it!

Email _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make checks payable to:

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



•• 2014 ••

Southern California Events

March 28-30

Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
Anaheim United Methodist Church, 1000 S State College Blvd., Anaheim, 562-587-3357
www.occss.org

April 12, 13

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
South Coast Botanic Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd, Palos Verdes, 310-378-1953
www.southcoastcss.org

April 27

Huntington Plant Sale
Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino

May 4

South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale
South Coast Botanic Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd, Palos Verdes, 310-833-6823

May 3 & 4

Sunset Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
Veterans Memorial Center, 4117 Overland Ave, Culver City
310-822-1723

Officers • Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

Peter Walkowiak – President & Program Chair & Show Chair

Brita Miller – Vice-President & Librarian

Annie Morgan – Treasurer

Kathie Hoxsie – Secretary

Don Nelson – Board Member

Francis Granger – Board Member & Exchange Table

Leon LaFreniere – Board Member

Fran Komarek – Board Member

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Dick Henderson – Garden Representative

Vicki Martin – Assistant Librarian

Tina Zucker – Show & Sale Vendor Coordinator

Bruce Barry – Refreshments & Exchange table

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

We need an Assistant for the Plant Sales

Eleanore Hewitt – Newsletter & Membership Co-Chair



Plant Sale!



VOLUNTEERS, GOD BLESS THEM

By Mildred Johnson
Friends of the Cardiff-by-the-Sea Library

Many will be shocked to find
When the day of judgment nears
That there's a special place in heaven
Set aside for volunteers.
Furnished with big recliners,
Satin couches and footstools,
Where there's no committee chairmen,
No group leaders or carpools.
No eager team that needs a coach,
No bazaar and no bake sale,
There will be nothing to staple,
Not a thing to fold and mail.
Telephone lists will be outlawed,
But a finger snap will bring
Cool drinks and gourmet dinners
And treats fit for a king.
You ask, "Who'll serve these privileged few
And work for all they're worth?"
Why, all those who reaped the benefits
And not once volunteered on Earth.



Spring Show & Sale Event

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Saturday March 22, 2014
10am to 4pm

Park Avenue (Joslyn) Community Center

The last few years we've had a very successful Spring Plant Sale. This year we are going to try something a little different. We have many members who are just starting out, or have been doing it for a while as a relaxing hobby. Next month's meeting we will have a variety of interactive events.

Some of the activities will be:

Plant Show

This Show is primarily for the novice and intermediate and a great dress rehearsal for the October Show. It will be judged like the monthly Brag Plants, except participants will receive double the points.

The judges will share what makes a plant a good show plant.

Novice and Intermediates

Bring your favorite plant(s) or dish gardens to show.

There will be someone there to help identify your plants if needed.

Advanced

Please bring a plant or two (maybe three!).

We would love to see plants that are easier to grow and will inspire and encourage the rest of us.

Member Plant Sale

This event is for those of you who have not sold plants and pots, or those who only have a few plants to sell and have no other venue to do so.

Do you have some extra potted plants you would like to share?

We will do the selling for you. All you need to do is bring in clean, rooted, salable plants.

Or you can donate plants with proceeds going to the Club.

Workshops/Ask the Expert

Do you have questions about a plant, or need it identified, bring it in.

We will have workshops on the care and growing of succulents.

Would you like to volunteer?

We can't do it without you. Remember how much fun we had at last year's Spring Sale?

Please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to:

- Show plants
- Sell plants or pots
- Volunteer

Even if you are not sure, but if you think that you might want to show, sell and or volunteer please contact Brita ASAP.

Contact: Brita Miller

She will also be sending out an email/mail more details.



<http://www.latimes.com/opinion/la-le-0126-sunday-drought-20140126,0,6181050.story#axzz2swtsUIFx>



Drought-tolerant landscaping such as this can save water.
(photo by Los Angeles Times)

Letters: Want to save water? Then go native.

January 26, 2014

Re "Slaking SoCal's thirst," Opinion, Jan. 23

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California chief Jeffrey Kightlinger omits an important part of the demand side of the water equation: the need to use less water for residential landscape irrigation. Low-flow toilets and showerheads aren't enough.

Half of residential water use in Southern California is for landscape purposes such as keeping our lawns green. But the nonnative green lawn is inappropriate for a region that averages just 15 inches of rain annually.

Native California plants, once established, use about one-seventh as much water as a green lawn. Birds, butterflies, native bee species and many other native insects and animals depend on plants that belong in our local ecosystem. Additional benefits of native gardens include reduced runoff, no fertilizer use and reduced lawn waste to be collected.

It's time to reclaim the California environment for native species, one garden at a time.

Daniel Fink
Beverly Hills

The writer is a board member at the Theodore Payne Foundation for Wild Flowers and Native Plants Inc.



Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society

Anza Borrego Car Camp-Out
March 15-16, 2014

Come and camp out at the McNair's property on the edge of Anza Borrego State Park in the Colorado Desert section of the Sonoran Desert.

Bring your own food and camping supplies for a great weekend in the desert. We will camp on the McNair property next to Anza Borrego State Park. Water and a bathroom are available there. It is approximately a 3-hour drive from Orange County. We can accommodate campers, small trailers and tents. (No dogs, please.)

The weather will be nice (days 80's nights 60's). On Saturday morning, there will be the option to attend a 1-hour lecture on desert plants. We will take a short hike up a local canyon then come back to the cabin to play horseshoes or relax. On Sunday, we will do some more desert exploring. Here are some plants that we will be sure to see: *Cylindropuntia bigelovii*, *Mammillaria dioca*, *Opuntia basilaris*, *M. tetrancistra*, *Dudleya*, *Fouquieria splendens* and hopefully some wildflowers.

Saturday night we will have a potluck dinner and have a campfire.

Contact **Peter Walkowiak** at hciservices@gmail.com to get driving directions, meeting time, and what to bring. There are limited spaces available.



Old World Garden at the San Diego Safari Park

Club members have asked what type of plant donations we would like for the OWG, so a list has been created of plants we don't have, or are short of. It is based on main categories from a beginner's book.

The "wish list" can continue to be added to. If you have specific suggestions, we'd be happy to add them as long as the plants originate in the Old World of Africa, Madagascar, Canary Islands, Arabian Peninsula or Mediterranean coast.

We do want to replace the hill of *Aloe verdoorniae* that gets too much sun, moving them elsewhere.

We will also tackle the gulch at some point and would need plants ranging from tall to smaller sizes.

Thanks,
Susan LaFreniere

[Remember, the Garden gets a LOT of sun, so they won't need tender plants.]

- *Adansonia* (baobobs)
- *Aloe ferox*
- *Aloe plicatilis*
- *Aloe thraskii*
- *Grass Aloes*
- *Bismarckia nobilis* (palm)
- *Bulbine*
- *Cycad*
- *Euphorbias* (small sizes such as *obesa*)
- *Gasteria*
- *Gasteraloe*
- *Gaster Haworthia*
- *Fockea*
- *Kalanchoe*
- *Lampranthus* (Ice Plant)
- *Sanseveria*
- *Sedum*
- *Senecios*



For now, they would prefer not to have the following – apparently animals find them too tasty – not on their diets!

- *Adenia*
- *Aeoniums*
- *Haworthias*
- *Portulacaria afra*

