

CACTUS COURIER

Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

Volume 61, Number 2

February 2015

The Meeting is the **4th** Saturday

FEBRUARY 28, 2015

Park Avenue Community Center

210 Park Ave
Escondido, CA 92025

Noon!!



Old Friend *Echinocactus platyacanthus*



***“Fog Deserts:
The Atacama, Vizcaino and Namib”***

•• Paul Klaassen ••

Paul Klaassen will be speaking on the succulent plants that live in and around the three major fog deserts in the world, the Chilean Atacama Desert, the Vizcaino desert in Baja Sur and the Namib Desert in southern Africa. These areas are among the driest places on earth – the town of Maria Elena is officially the driest place on earth, but only because the disused airport has a weather station to measure the volume of rain that has fallen here during the last 40 or so years. Other places, without measuring equipment are thought to have been dry for 450 years or more!

He's primarily a cactophile but 'had' to see the fog in the Namib Desert to see how it compares to similar deserts in Chile and Baja California.

Born in the Netherlands, Paul won his first cactus show at school in 1959. His Opa (Grandad) gave him his first subscription to *Succulenta*, the Dutch C&S Society, as a birthday present in 1963 – he had been a member himself since 1933 but WWII had destroyed his collection.

He moved with his family from the Netherlands to Denmark where his collection continued to grow, under artificial lights. He remembers: *"In 1967 we moved to England, supposedly just for two years. I still live there today. As I discovered girls, Irish Guinness and rock 'n' roll, my cactus collection went downhill, but a beaten up Ferocactus histrix somehow followed me around as I got married and moved around, from Surrey to Bristol and back to Dorking in Surrey, growing my own family. A move in 1988 gave me my own study, with my own windowsill for the lonely F. histrix. It was soon joined by many other cacti."*

Paul joined the British Cactus & Succulent Society (BCSS) and lives in Wiltshire, some 5 km (3 miles) from iconic Stonehenge. A house move now included a collection of 3,500 cacti – quite a challenge!

In 1997 Paul made his first trip to Cactus Country, three weeks with his two teenage sons travelling through New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado in pursuit of cacti, before a final week of theme parks and tourist attractions around Los Angeles. This first trip fired up a passion to see cacti in their habitat in preference to pots at home. Since then Paul has explored for cacti and other succulent plants in their habitats in South Africa and Namibia, South America (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, and Peru) and North America (USA, Mexico and Cuba).

Paul is a published author: *The Plantfinders Guide to Cacti & Other Succulents* by Keith Grantham & Paul Klaassen (1999) (David & Charles Publishing in the UK, Timber Press in the USA)



Board Meeting • Plant Sales • Brag Plants • Exchange Table

REFRESHMENTS

We Found It! (It was hiding...)

Annie Morgan Susan LaFreniere Mike Nelson

Judy Goldman Jean O'Daniel Judy Warner John Barkley

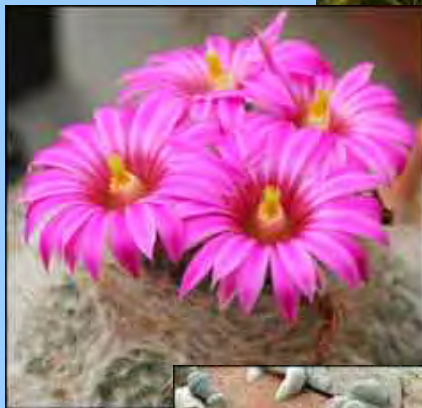
••• YOUR NAME HERE! •••

Plant of the Month

• • Mammallarias • •

Mammillaria is a large genus of cacti with over 250 species and varieties with a distribution from Columbia to the Mid-West USA. The center of distribution is Mexico. There are many forms, shapes, sizes, flower color, and spination.

The discussion will focus on the care and cultivation to grow this wonderful group of cactus successfully including water, fertilizer, lighting and pest control.



For your planning pleasure, here is the list of
Plant of the Month
for the rest of 2015:

March	<u>Spring Member Festival</u>
April	<i>Mesembryanthemum</i>
May	<i>Crassula</i>
June	<i>Opuntia</i>
July	<i>Ferrocactus</i>
August	<u>Picnic!</u>
September	<i>Gasteria/Haworthia</i>
October	<u>PCSS Show & Sale</u>
November	<i>Pacypodium</i>
December	<u>Holiday Party</u>



2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

28 February Park Ave. Community Center

28 March Plant Sale – Park Ave. Center

25 April Park Ave. Community Center

16 May Park Ave. Community Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!

27 June Park Ave. Community Center

25 July Park Ave. Community Center

22 August Picnic & Auction SD Botanic Gdn

26 September Park Ave. Community Center

24, 25 October San Diego Botanic Garden (*Quail*)

21 November Park Ave. Community Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!

19 December Park Ave. Community Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!



2015 Sounthern California Events

March 27-29

Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
First Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 S. State College Blvd,
Anaheim

www.occss.org

April 11, 12

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
South Coast Botanic Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Blvd, Palos
Verdes

www.southcoastcss.org

April 18, 19

Green Scene Plant Sale & Garden Show
Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Rd, Fullerton, CA 92831
www.fullertonarboretum.org

April 26

Huntington Botanical Gardens Plant Sale
1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino, CA, 626-405-2160
www.huntington.org/

May 2, 3

Sunset Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale
Veterans Memorial Center, 4117 Overland Ave, Culver City
www.sunsetsucculentsociety.org



January Brag Plants

Plant of the Month – Aeonium

Intermediate/novice

- 1st *Aeonium* ‘Mardi Gras’
Leon La Freniere
- 2nd *Aeonium cabernet*
Annie Morgan
- 3rd *Aeonium* ‘Sunburst’ Montrose
Leon Lafreniere

Plant of the Month – Aeonium Dish Gardens

Intermediate/novice

- 1st Brita Miller
- 2nd Leon LaFreniere

Cactus •• Intermediate/Novice

- 1st *Optunia sp.*
Bill Diangelo
- 2nd *Optunia vestica cristata*
Chet Reed
- 3rd *Notocactus leninghausii*
Victor Zonana

Cactus •• Advanced

- 1st *Cereus pachanoi*
Alejandro Cardenas
- 2nd *Oroya peruviana*
John Barkley
- 2nd *Ferocactus chrysacanthus*
Stan Yalof
- 3rd *Ferocactus viridiscens*
Stan Yalof

Succulents •• Intermediate/Novice

- 1st *Kalanchoe syncepala*
Jeaninie Zonana
- 2nd *Pelargonium sp.*
John Barkley

- 3rd *Pleiospilos nelii*
Mike Regan
- 3rd *Gasteria sp.*
Debby Wanamaker

Succulent •• Advanced

- 1st *Agave filifera v. compacta*
Phyllis Flechsig



Spring Member Festival

Saturday, March 28, 2015

10am to 2:30pm

Park Avenue Community Center (Joslyn)

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.

Plant Show

This Show is primarily for the Novice and Intermediate collectors, and is a great dress rehearsal for the Big October Show. It will be judged like the monthly Brag Plants, except participants will receive double points. The judge will share what makes a plant a good show plant.

Novice/Intermediates

Bring your favorite plant(s) or dish gardens to show. There will be someone there to help identify your plants if necessary.

Advanced

Please bring a plant or two. We would love to see plants that are easier to grow and will inspire and encourage the rest of us.

Cactus

- 1. **North American** – *Mammillaria, Echinocereus, Ferrocactus, Echinocactus, Thelocactus, Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, etc...*
- 2. **South American** – *Gymnocalycium, Notocactus, Lobivia, Rebutia, Copiapoa, Eriocyce, etc...*
- 3. Monstrose, Crests and Variegates – all regions

Succulents

- 4. **Leaf Succulents** – *Echeveria, Dudleya, Crassula, Sedum, Aeonium, Lithops, Agave, Sansevieria,* etc...
- 5. **Stem Succulents** – *Hoodia, Tylecodon, Bombax, Bursera, Pelargonium, Fouquieria, Othonna,* etc...
- 6. **Root Succulents** – *Bulbs, Fockea, Pentopentia, Mestoklema, Ipomea, Raphioacme,* etc...
- 7. Monstrose, Crests and Variegates – all regions
- 8. **Dish Gardens – Cactus and Succulents**

Every category has many more genera in them. Those used are examples of plants in that category. Some genera have plants in multiple categories such as *Euphorbias*. If you have questions regarding which one your plant belongs ask show committee.

There will also be size divisions for each category except dish gardens:

- 6" or less
- Greater than 6"

There will be 15 gift plants for blue ribbon winners given out by a drawing after the judging.

You will earn double points for the Brag Plant Drawing at the Holiday Party in December.

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Member Plant Sale

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 have to do is bring clean, rooted, salable plants. Or you can donate plants with the proceeds going to the Club.

This Year you will receive 100% of the sales, but you will be responsible for reporting the sales tax.

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Workshops/Ask the Experts

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

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

Are there topics that you would like to learn more about? Please let Brita know ASAP.

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Time to Socialize

Last year many people mentioned how nice it was that there was time to socialize with friends.

Would you like to Volunteer?

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

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Even if you are not sure, but think you *might* want to show, sell or volunteer, please contact:

Brita Miller



**Workshop:
Succulent
Bonsai
Pruning**

The art of making a small plant look large and old takes time and patience. Fortunately the succulent plants we

like can do this in as little as 6 to 10 years as opposed to decades or more. There are several stages in the process of reaching your goal.

The three steps are:

1. Grow the plant to size – Pruning is done once per year during dormant stage for structure.
2. Plant is to size – Prune once per year as before but also do tip pinching during the growing season to increase branching and control size.
3. Maintenance – Prune and pinch as needed to maintain size and shape.

In this workshop plants in each stage will be presented and used in the demonstration. You are encouraged to bring in a plant you would like pruned and as time permits, we will prune them for you.

The workshop will start at 11am and wrap up at 11:45.

– Peter Walkowiak



Officers • Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

Peter Walkowiak – President & Program Chair & Show Chair

**Brita Miller – Vice-President & Librarian
& Event Coordinator**

Leon LaFreniere – Treasurer

Annie Morgan – Secretary & Website & Publicity

Francis Granger – Board Member & Exchange Table

Mike Nelson – Board Member

Carol McAllister – Board Member

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Dick Henderson – Garden Representative

Vicki Martin – Assistant Librarian

Tina Zucker – Show & Sale Vendor Coordinator

**Bruce Barry & Gloria Medina
Refreshments & Exchange Table**

Dennis Miller – Raffle & Plant Sales

We need an Assistant for the Monthly Plant Sales

Eleanore Hewitt – Newsletter & Membership Chair & Website

Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

The North San Diego County C&S Club

Membership Application

Membership: Please ✓ a category:

New Member _____

Renewal _____

There is a \$10 charge if you receive your newsletter by U.S. Mail.
Save a tree, and \$10!

_____ Single Membership \$20

_____ Additional Members + \$5

_____ Printed Newsletter sent by U.S. Mail + \$10

TOTAL _____

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

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

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

Make checks payable to:

Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society (or PCSS)

P.O. Box 840, Escondido, CA 92033





Before

Coffee in the Garden

Sunday
March 8th
11am – 2pm



After

Leon & Susan LaFreniere

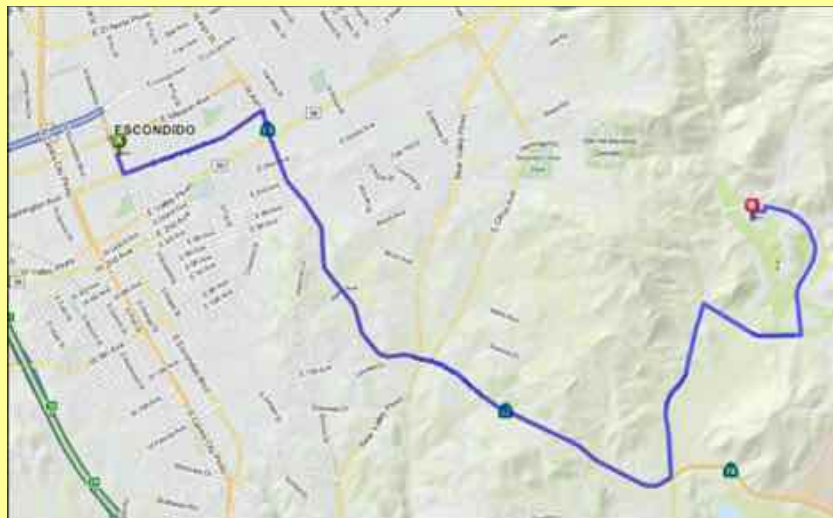
Rancho San Pasqual

Susan and I will be hosting our first SDCSS/PCSS **Coffee in the Garden**. We transplanted from Connecticut to Escondido in late 2008. As avid gardeners back east we needed to get our hands dirty and learn about new plants and xeriscape gardens. Five years later we have removed all of the grass in our yard and have transformed it with Aloes, Agave, Euphorbia and many other succulents and cacti. It is a young garden and has lots of growing to do, but we are pleased with the results so far. We are located a couple of miles west of the San Diego Zoo Safari Park. We hope you will take a ride out and come see our garden makeover.

The conceptual design of the garden was done by Susan Rojas of **Waterwise Botanicals**:
susan@waterwisebotanicals.com

The installation of the garden was done by **Landscape One**, owner Robert Oldfield:
robert@landscapeoneinc.com

– Leon & Susan



Prepare to Enjoy!

the 2015 CSSA Biennial Convention
in a setting filled with Succulent Plants



Pitzer College
Claremont, California
June 14 – 19, 2015

online registration
www.cssainc.org



- Internationally renowned Speakers
- Plant and Book Sales
- Plant Auction
- Field Trips
- Tours
- Opening Banquet at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens



Hosts
San Gabriel Valley C&S Society and Gates C&S Society

Presenters

Michelle Cloud-Hughes
Thomas Cole
Doug Dawson
Julia Etter & Martin Kristen
Kelly Griffin
Steven Hammer
Dr. Heidi Hartmann
Tim Harvey
Emil Van Jaarsveld
Gary James
Zofka Janabova
Panayoti Keloidis
Brian Kemble
Stephen McCabe
Lari Newton
Andry Pelignat
Jon P. Rebman
Jeremy Spath
Joe Stead
Sula Vanderplank



City of Ventura

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eae425gl09128bee&llr=ybiva8eab>

California-Friendly Landscape Training

A more attractive and water-efficient yard sounds enticing, doesn't it?
Need more inspiration?

Saturday, March 7, 2015

9 am to 12 pm

Encinitas Community Center
1140 Oakcrest Park Drive
Encinitas, CA 92024
760-415-3458

Learn 6 Ways to Make Your Garden California Friendly

1. Using a Holistic Approach to Gardening
2. Building a Living Soil Sponge
3. Rethinking Elements of Your Site
4. Right Plant, Right Place
5. Using Rainwater as a Resource
6. Managing Irrigation

This three-hour workshop is fast-paced, informative and introduces attendees to a holistic approach to landscape design and maintenance that emphasizes water-use efficiency. This class is geared for residential customers and provided at no cost.

Solutions to common landscape problems are offered while participants learn to think about landscapes from the soil up. In addition, they will learn how to design landscapes that are sustainable in the San Diego climate. Workshop topics include how to make the best use of the region's limited rainfall, irrigate efficiently and choose the best plants for your yard.

Certified Trainer provided by Green Gardens Group.

Can't make this date? Visit the regional training calendar at www.watersmartsd.org for other dates and don't miss the amazing eGuide to a WaterSmart Lifestyle that is full of resources for every aspect of your landscape, as well as tips for saving water and energy indoors.

Training provided through a partnership between Olivenhain MWD, San Dieguito WD, Santa Fe ID, San Diego County Water Authority, and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.



<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07eae5zuzq58bdb537&llr=ybiva8eab>

Saturday, March 21, 2015

9 am to 12 pm

Encinitas Community Center
1140 Oakcrest Park Drive
Encinitas, CA 92024
760-415-3458

Life After Lawns

Have you considered replacing your lawn with an alternative that will not only use less water, but can also save you time in maintaining that healthy yard? Are you uncertain about where to begin? Attend this workshop and learn a simple step-by-step approach for creating an attractive, watersmart landscape that suits your lifestyle.

Topics to be covered include:

- Designing a garden that feels like home
- Saving money and water on irrigation
- Killing the lawn and preparing the soil
- Selecting the best plants for each part of the yard
- Planting and tending the garden
- Sustainable techniques such as retaining rainwater, fire-safe landscaping, and composting

This workshop will be taught by local author, Bill Schnetz, who has been a passionate and successful landscaping business owner for over 30 years. He has been actively involved with the CLCA San Diego chapter for over 10 years where he acted as the event chairman and president.

As relayed in Bill's book, there's a reason grass doesn't grow naturally in arid regions; there's just not enough water. Residents can spend a lot of time and money fighting nature to grow lawns, or they can adapt their landscape to their surroundings, build waterwise gardens with eye-catching plants, and relax. Join us as Bill shares stories that will open your eyes to beautiful alternatives to lawns.

Light refreshments will be served. Workshop provided through a partnership between Olivenhain Municipal Water District, San Dieguito Water District, and Santa Fe Irrigation District.

After the question and answer period of the workshop, Bill will remain onsite and copies of his book will be on sale for \$25.