

# CACTUS COURIER

*Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society*

Volume 61, Number 5

May 2015

**The Meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday**

**MAY 16, 2015**

**Park Avenue Community Center**

210 Park Ave  
Escondido, CA 92025

**Noon!!!**



• • Robert Kopfstein • •  
*“Baja After the Hurricane”*

**Robert Kopfstein** has been a member of the Palomar Club since 2012. He's an Old Hand at traveling throughout Mexico. In the past five years he has driven more than 30,000 miles (in the same 2002 Dodge van) throughout the Republic of Mexico, from the U.S. to the Guatemalan border. He began his serious trips to Baja in 1966, and in 1971 drove the old "Camino" from Tijuana to Cabo San Lucas before the road was paved.

Robert is a retired college English and Reading Professor. Besides cacti and succulents, he is also a bromeliad grower and bromeliad master judge. Currently he is president of the San Diego Bromeliad Society. Since the 1970's cycads also have been a big part of his life. As a volunteer/docent he is the caretaker of the **Cycad Collection** at the San Diego Botanic Garden in Encinitas.

Many Southern Californians have had the chance to drive the trans-peninsula highway between Tijuana, B.C. and Cabo San Lucas, and many of the sights along the way are familiar to them.

But following the heavy rains that accompanied the two hurricanes that struck the state of Baja California Sur, and the southern part of Baja California Norte in 2014, the scene was transformed. The plant life responded to the unusually heavy rains, and as a result the landscape, normally dry, became verdant. And of course if the plants thrive so

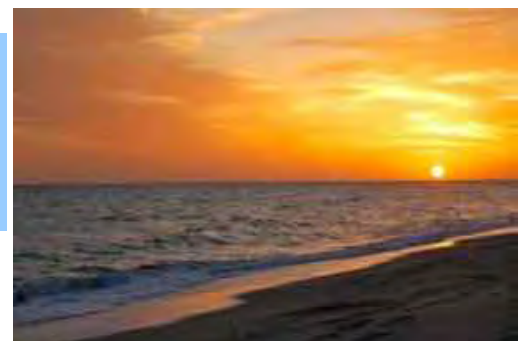


do the mammals, reptiles, insects and birds that depend on them.

On this trip Robert, along with Jason and Stacy Kubrock, drove south from Tijuana to Todos Santos on the Pacific side of the Cape and back again, almost 2000 miles. Veterans of other Baja trips, they were impressed with the verdant countryside, and the remarkable display of wildflowers.



**PLANT SALES • BRAG PLANTS • EXCHANGE TABLE**



## MAY REFRESHMENTS

Janice Thompson

Judy Warner

Don Nelson

Jean O'Daniel

Tina Cord

Fran Komarek



### Plant-of-the-Month

#### • • Tree Aloes • •

*...Erik Gronborg...*

*Aloes* are classified as belonging to the family *Asphodelaceae* which also includes *Gasterias* and *Haworthias*. All the plants in *Asphodelaceae* are succulent with fleshy leaves which can store water. The *Aloe* genus has about 400 species distributed mostly in southern Africa, extending to Madagascar and north throughout Africa and into the Arabian Peninsula. Their natural habitats range from the dry grasslands in southern Africa to the deserts of Yemen, from the beaches of South Africa to mountains up to 11,000 feet.

When broken, *Aloe* leaves exude a sticky bitter sap. In most species the leaves form rosettes. The tubular flowers are on single or branched stalks and range in color from red through orange, yellow to almost white. In their native habitats they are pollinated by sunbirds and bees, and here by hummingbirds. *Aloes* prefer lots of sunlight and a soil with fast drainage. They are generally easy to grow.

*Aloes* range in size from *Aloe squarrosa* with rosettes 2 inches wide to *Aloe bainesii* which can grow to a 60 feet tall tree. The presentation will focus on tree *aloes*, which means that they have trunks with a number of branches. Included will also be some large aloes with an unbranched trunk and one large rosette of leaves. Though there are a great many aloes, which grow to be more than six feet tall, I have limited the presentation to species you can actually see growing in San Diego. I took all the pictures here in San Diego County.



**April Brag Plants**

**PLANT OF THE MONTH**

**Intermediate**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Don Nelson      *Kalanchoe beharensis*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Annie Morgan    *Kalanchoe tomentosa*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Don Nelson      *Kalanchoe baharensis*

**Novice**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Fran Komarek    *Kalanchoe blossfeldiana*

**NOVICE CACTUS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Chet Reed      *Tephrocactus*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Beverly Ficuciello *Mammillaria elongata*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Beverly Ficuciello *Rebutia*

**INTERMEDIATE CACTUS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Maddy Beasley    *Rhipsalidopsis* (Easter Cactus)

**NOVICE SUCCULENTS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Jeannie Zoana    *Adenia glauca*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Fran Kroarek    *Orostachys malacophylla*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Kim Stone      *Echeveria Crested*

**INTERMEDIATE SUCCULENTS**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Don Nelson      *Kalanchoe saundersii*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Don Nelson      *Senecio tropaeifolius*

**DISH GARDEN**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Robert Kopfstein *Orthophytum sanctum*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Robert Kopfstein *Dyckia* "Brittle Star"



**June Plant-of-the-Month**

*Dyckia, Hechtia, Deuteroehonia*  
(formerly *Abromeitella*)  
presented by Robert Kopfstein...



**Ron Chisum** is thinning his bamboo "plantation" because of the drought. If you are interested in some cuttings or decorative pieces, please give him a call. He has a number of different species ranging from 3/4-inch up to 3 inches in diameter.



**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**



**Vicki Martin – Assistant Librarian**

**Tina Zucker – Show & Sale Vendor Coordinator**

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

**Dennis Miller – Benefit Drawing & Plant Sales**

**Eleanore Hewitt – Newsletter & Membership Chair**



## 2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

**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 !!



## **BRAG PLANT PHOTOS**

**~ A NEW CONTEST!!! ~**

Do you have plants that are too big to bring to the Brag Table?

Is there a section of your garden that you'd like to show off?

Perhaps a plant had some gorgeous blooms in between meetings!

We are starting a photo/slide show contest where you send in pictures of your favorite cactus and succulent plants. You can submit pictures of plants too big to bring in, plants in the ground you can't bring in, garden photos, etc, all are also eligible. Since this is a new venture, the Board will be determining the specific categories based on the submissions. Photos will be shared and voted on at the November meeting and Brag Points will be awarded based on member votes. At the May meeting there will be some examples available for viewing. Submissions of photographs are due by November 1st.

Photos can be e-mailed to Board Member **Mike Nelson** or brought to the meeting. Be sure to include your full name and contact information, whether you're a novice, intermediate, or advanced, and the plant name. Contact Mike with any questions.



## 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

\_\_\_\_\_ Engraved PCSS Name Badge + \$6

**TOTAL** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT! We must 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



**•• 2015 ••**

### **Southern California Events**

**May 9, 10**

San Diego Epiphyllum Society 45<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Mother's Day Show & Sale, 11am -4pm  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA  
[www.sandiegoepi.com](http://www.sandiegoepi.com)

**May 9, 10**

Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show & Sale  
Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hills Rd, Long Beach, CA  
[www.lbcss.org](http://www.lbcss.org)

**May 15, 16**

Gates Cactus & Succulent Society 34<sup>th</sup> Show & Sale

"Landscapes Southern California Style"  
 450 E. Alessandro Blvd, Riverside, CA 951-360-8802  
[www.gatescss.org](http://www.gatescss.org)

**May 30, 31**  
 Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society  
 Annual Drought Tolerant Plant Festival  
 Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd, Encino, CA  
[www.lacactus.com](http://www.lacactus.com)

**June 6, 7**  
 San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale  
 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park San Diego, CA  
[www.sdcss.net](http://www.sdcss.net)

**June 14-19**  
 CSSA Biannual Convention  
 Pitzer College, Claremont, CA  
<http://cssainc.org/>



**ADMISSION FREE**

**LACSS**  
 The Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society  
 Since 1938  
 Celebrating 80 Years

**Annual Drought Tolerant Plant Festival**  
**Sat. May 30, 2015 9 AM to 4 PM**  
**Sun. May 31, 2015 9 AM to 3 PM**

Plant, Pottery and Crafts Sales  
 Lectures and Workshops  
 Interior Show (Public Judging)  
 Silent Auction

Kids' Program 10:30 AM to 3 PM Sunday Only  
 Games and Crafts  
 Turtle and Tortoise Club  
 Pot-A-Plant  
 Educational Gardens and Displays

**Sepulveda Garden Center**  
**16633 Magnolia Blvd Encino, CA 91316**

There will be available for sale lots cacti and succulents from all over the world, bromeliads, California and Australian natives, top dressing, staging rocks, pottery, crystals, gems, toys, landscape plants, and live plant art.

For more info call 818 749 5346 or visit our website  
[www.lacactus.com](http://www.lacactus.com)

The latest issue of the **free journal**  
**"Cactus Explorer"**

...is available to download. If you haven't had a chance to look at these, I strongly recommend you do so. The editor, Graham Charles, and his team have put a HUGE amount of work into them.

<http://www.cactusexplorers.org.uk/journal1.htm>



Prepare to Enjoy!  
 the 2015 CSSA Biannual Convention  
 in a setting filled with Succulent Plants

Pitzer College  
 Claremont, California  
 June 14 - 19, 2015  
 online registration  
[www.cssainc.org](http://www.cssainc.org)

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

Presenting:  
 Marilyn Cloud-Hughes  
 Thomas Cole  
 Doug Dawson  
 Lisa Day & Mark Green  
 Andy Griffin  
 Susan Harman  
 G. Philip Matthews  
 De Thomas  
 Doug Williamson  
 Gary Jones  
 John Jordan  
 Raymond Kesteven  
 Stuart Kesteven  
 Stephen McGuire  
 Jon Pennington  
 Andy Pittman  
 Jon F. Robinson  
 Jeremy Smith  
 John Smith  
 Tracy Vandenberg

Host:  
 San Gabriel Valley CSS Society and Clare CSS Society

Wanda Mallen and Gary Vincent  
Are Hosting...  
**“Coffee in the Garden”**  
Saturday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>  
10am to 2pm



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*Coffee in the Garden* is a great way for our members who wish to open their garden to other enthusiasts. If you would like to share your garden, all you need to do is pick a date and time, usually on a Saturday or Sunday, and contact Annie Morgan. If you have some plants you would like to sell at the same time, all the better. The Club will provide \$30 to help cover the cost of coffee, water, and any snacks you may wish to provide the members.

*We want to thank Leon and Susan LaFreniere for sharing their beautiful garden with in March.*



## **CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SALE!!**

**Ric & Marilyn Newcomer's** entire collection of Cacti and Succulents is being sold.

Over 1500 in show pots, plus others.

Included are landscape plants.

Everything goes including ceramic pots.

Appointments may be made starting May 15<sup>th</sup> for sales from **May 22<sup>nd</sup> through May 30<sup>th</sup>**

Please, no calls for earlier appointments.

We are located in Menifee (Sun City) off the 215 freeway.

Directions will be given at the time an appointment is made.