

CACTUS COURIER

Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

Volume 60, Number 9

September 2014

The Meeting is the **4th** Saturday

SEPTEMBER 27, 2014

Park Avenue Community Center

**210 Park Ave
Escondido, CA 92025**

Noon!!



“Madagascar: The Plants, People and Places”

•• Wendell “Woody” Minnich ••

Madagascar is a special place, an island in many respects, where the plants, people and animals are as unusual as anywhere in the world. This presentation will feature most of the succulent plants that we find so special. It will also address its most fascinating people, the Malagasy, with their intriguing heritage from the Malaysian, Arabian and African regions. Also, their many wonderful landscapes and biological regions vary from moderately high mountains to the rolling hills of grasses and inselbergs, to the dynamic canyons and geologically special places of rugged treacherous limestone, to dense jungles. Because this island is so isolated from the main continent of Africa, its endemism of plants and animals, estimated at 6,400 species, is also very remarkable. One could spend a lifetime roaming this special island and not see it all.

The plants from Madagascar are considered to be most spectacular, especially the succulents, palms, orchids and carnivorous genera. The succulent plants are notably diverse and range from giants to geophytes, which include such spectacular genera as: *Adansonia*, *Adenia*, *Alluaudia*, *Aloe*, *Commiphora*, *Cyphostemma*, *Didierea*, *Euphorbia*, *Kalanchoe*, *Moringa*, *Pachypodium*, *Senecio* and *Uncarina*. There are also many fine genera of palms including such icons as the Travelers Palm, the giant noble blue palm *Bismarkia nobilis* and the famous bottle palm *Chrysalidocarpus decipiens*. The orchid species total more than 1,000 and many are considered some of the most unusual in the world. The carnivorous plants range from the fascinating Pitcher plants (*Nepenthaceae*) to the amazing *Droseras*. It can be said that it is difficult to ignore Madagascar's tremendous diversity of plants, many of which are often growing side by side. Also, it can be said that it is very difficult to know and understand them all.

In my travels around the world, the people of Madagascar are some of the most fascinating and happy people I have ever seen. Their smiling faces and friendly demeanor are a genuine treat. Some of their customs, from their often very colorful clothing to their facial décor, are most attractive. The children are wonderful as they bounce around in a most innocent barefoot manor and always act as if they are excited to see everything. The soil that stains their feet and their windblown hair is very refreshing, and not one of them has an iPhone. To watch the youngsters and old-timers all carrying their possessions, all balanced so well on the top of their heads, is also quite impressive. From region to region their facial characteristics seem to change and one can almost imagine their African, Malaysian or Arabian heritages.

The places of Madagascar are also a real surprise. Large cities with paved roads are not common. The

smaller towns and villages are truly exciting, as many operate with a simple barter or hand to mouth system. Imagine the USA 150 to 200 years ago; this is what much of the rural life style in the remote regions seems to be. Grasshoppers, river fish, tubers, rice and zebu - - the staples of life! Outdoor toilets, bathe in the river and drink the same water, it is what it is! Since the French left Madagascar in the 50s - 60s, much of the infrastructure has had no repair or modernization. Thus, Madagascar appears to be a country in decline as many of the wild places are being destroyed to feed a populous of 22 million. They also have no major economic exports. [Woody]



Woody Minnich has been in the cactus hobby for some 45 years and has become well known for his participation in many of the cactus and succulent clubs. He is an honorary life member of nine clubs as well as a life member of CSSA (Cactus & Succulent Society of America.) He has served in almost all positions of leadership from president, to newsletter editor, to show chairman and so on. He is also known for his extensive fieldwork studying primarily the cactus family. He has traveled throughout Africa, Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Peru, Socotra, the United States and Yemen. From these trips he has developed an extensive knowledge of the cactus family as well as many of the other succulent genera.

Woody is one of the **best** speakers out there. His photography is considered to be special and his commentary very entertaining and educational. He is a recognized international speaker and has spoken for plant conventions - organizations all over the USA, as well as in England, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina and Mexico. Woody has also authored a number of articles for various newsletters, the CSSA journal and his photographs are well published. Woody is the creator-originator of the first color version of the CSSA journal "**Cacti and Succulents for the Amateur**" that also featured show plants, shows and the growers of the pictured plants.

His nursery, **Cactus Data Plants**, is known throughout the world of cactus and succulents as an outstanding resource. CDP was started in 1975 and is still in operation today. Cactus Data Plants specializes in show specimens and rare cacti and other succulents with particular emphasis in *Ariocarpus*, *Astrophytum*, *Mammillaria*, *Gymnocalycium*, *Turbincarpus*, *Melocactus*, *Copiapoa*, *Fouquieria*, *Pachypodium*, *Euphorbia*, *Cyphostemma*, *Adenium* and *Adenia*.

Woody and his wife Kathy now live in the beautiful mountains south of Santa Fe New Mexico in a region called Cedar Grove. He has a small 1,200 sq. ft. greenhouse where he grows his unique plants. He is always on the move and travels frequently to do presentations and shows throughout the western United States. Woody is the proud parent of three children, Leah, Denver and Sarah, all of whom are now grown and out in the big world. Woody is also the proud grandparent of three grandsons, Indiana, Ashton and Logan. He is a retired high school teacher of 32 years teaching Graphic Arts, Architecture, Art and Health.



BOARD MEETING • PLANT SALES • BRAG PLANTS • EXCHANGE TABLE



REFRESHMENTS

Jean O'Daniel	Mike Regan	Lorie Johansen	Don Nelson
Maurilio Bernal	Mary O'Donnell	Teri Shusterman	Vicki Martin



Ron Chisum sent me some pictures of his *Sansevieria* "Baseball-Bat" in bloom. He has had the plant over 10 years and it has never bloomed before. The flowers are 6 to 7 inches long. They must open in the night, as they look good early, but wilt by mid-afternoon.



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE •• SEPTEMBER 2014

The Succulent Symposium at the Huntington was one of the best that I have attended right up there with Steve Hammer and the 2012 Symposium. There were well over 100 succulent lovers in attendance along with Peter Tashjian and Stan Yalof, our volunteer drawing winners. Peter T. had never been to this event before and reported to me that he had a terrific time and wants to go next year. He has agreed to give a few words on his experience for the members at the beginning of the meeting.

If you would like to go next year for free all you need to do is do some volunteering at any one of our special events or at our regular meetings. To volunteer just ask one of the Board of Directors about what positions need filling. Our next need for volunteers will be for our show and sale at the San Diego Botanic Garden on October 24, 25 and 26th. There will be a signup sheet passed around at this next meeting. Positions will include; food/kitchen, setup and tear down, register/ check out, security, show clerks, info table, etc.

There will be some changes for the show this year in that we will have three levels, Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced. We are also adding third places ribbons. Categories are as follows: **Advanced** is someone who is typically a long term grower/collector whose plants are exceptional, **Intermediate** is for those who are beyond Novice but not Advanced, and **Novice** is for the more casual or beginning collector who has won 10 blue ribbons or less. If you are unsure bring your plants and we will assist you as to which is the appropriate category.

This is the time to get your show plants ready for the show. Do your pruning and transplanting now so the plants have a chance to settle in and put on some new growth. We need your plants for the show, this is our chance to show the world who we are, what we are about. Bring plants on Friday from 12 noon until 5pm, and Saturday from 8am to 9:30am.

Plant of the month will be *Ariocarpus*. This is the time of year they come into their glory with flowers ranging from white, yellow pink to purple. Bring in your brag plants and if you own an *Ariocarpus*, bring them too.

Peter Walkowiak
President



Plant of the Month

•• *Ariocarpus* ••

The generic name "*Ariocarpus*" is derived from the Greek *Aria* meaning "Sorb" (*Sorbus aria* – Rosaceae - is the white-beam tree) and the Greek word *karpos* meaning "fruit." The Genus name implies: "fruit similar in appearance to that of the white-beam."

Nearly all, if not all, cacti enthusiasts have great admiration for the genus *Ariocarpus*. The rugged stone-like appearance and geophytic, subterranean bodies of these plants are not only unique among cacti, but quite unique among plants. In addition, it is well-known that they are very slow growing and so when enthusiasts see a large plant, they can truly appreciate the achievement, whether it was grown in cultivation or in habitat. That said, plants in habitat appear much different than those in cultivation. In habitat, the star-shaped rosettes are often flat against the ground and may be mostly buried beneath the soil with large taproots underneath. Extreme conditions keep these plants looking almost dead. In cultivation, on the other hand, admiring growers create ideal conditions for these plants and they are often grown into plump little mounds of green tubercles. Atypical of cacti, *Ariocarpus* do not have spines (except when they are seedlings). The flowers come out of the center of the plant and most are pinkish-red or white, but can be yellow. Fruits are non-descript and typically are just dried up material surrounding little black seeds. *Ariocarpus* are denizens of the Chihuahuan desert of Mexico and South Texas.

[CactiGuide.com]





Officers • Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

Peter Walkowiak – President & Program Chair & Show Chair

Brita Miller – Vice-President & Librarian & Event Coordinator

Annie Morgan – Treasurer & Website & Publicity

Lorie Johansen & Francis Granger – Temporary Secretaries

Don Nelson – Board Member

Francis Granger – Board Member & Exchange Table

Leon LaFreniere – Board Member

Your Name Here!! – Board Member

.....

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 Cactus & Succulent Club!
*Membership Application***

I/We wish to join/renew membership in the
Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

Single Membership, mailed newsletter - \$25
Single Membership, emailed newsletter - \$20

Dual Membership, (one address) mailed newsletter - \$30
Dual Membership, (one address) emailed newsletter - \$25

(Half 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 MEETING SCHEDULE

27 September Park Ave. Community Center

25, 26 October San Diego Botanic Garden **22**

November Park Ave. Community Center

20 December Park Ave. Community Center

NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !

Prickly City





2014 Plant Show & Sale

Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

October 25th & 26th

Saturday 9am to 5pm

Sunday 10am to 4pm

San Diego Botanic Garden (formerly Quail Gardens)
230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024

For Directions: <http://www.sdbgarden.org/directions.htm>



See Succulent Specimens from around the world!



Plant Judging is Saturday from 11am – 12:30pm.



The public can follow along as the judges comment on entries and make their decisions.



All Show Plants will be available for viewing Saturday and Sunday, with Winners identified after 1pm Saturday.



Specimen plants for the novice or collector, as well as handmade ceramic pots will be for sale.



Free with garden admission or garden membership



For more info contact:

Brita Miller at

eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org

OR

Annie Morgan at

publicity@palomarcactus.org

PUBLIC SCHEDULE

Saturday, 10/25

9:00am – 5:00pm

• Sales area open to all

10:30am – 5:00pm

• Show area open to visitors

11:00am – 12:30pm

• Judging – visitors may follow and listen

Sunday, 10/26

10:00am – 4:00pm

• Show and Sales areas open

MEMBER & VENDOR SCHEDULE

Friday 10/24

Noon – 5:00pm

- Paul Ecke Hall open to set-up crew and vendors
- Members may bring in show plants

Saturday 10/25

8:00am – 9:30am

- Members continue to bring in show plants.
- All plants must be logged in by 9:30am!

9:00am – 5:00pm

• Vendor sales

11:00am – 12:30pm

• Judging

– members and visitors may follow and listen to judges

11:00am – 2:30pm

• Potluck table open for lunch and snacks for **Members only**

5:00pm

• Sales and Show close for the day

Sunday 10/26

10:00am – 4:00pm

• Sales and Show open

11:00am – 2:30pm

• Potluck table open for lunch and snacks for **Members Only**

4:00 – 5:00pm

• **CLEAN UP!!!**

• Please stay and help!

Gates are locked at 5:00pm



Here is the list of Categories for next month's Plant Show at San Diego Botanic Gardens. This is to give you time to make labels for your special plants!

DIVISION 1: CACTACEAE

North American Cacti

- 1) Ariocarpus, Astrophytum
- 2) Aztekium, Pelecyphora, Epithelantha, Strombocactus, Obregonia, Encephalocarpus, Ortegocactus
- 3) Coryphantha, Escobaria, Neobesseya, Neolloydia, Leuchtenbergia
- 4) Gymnocactus, Turbinocarpus, Stenocactus
- 5) Echinocereus
- 6) Echinocactus, Ferocactus, Hamatocactus
- 7) Mammillaria; hooked spines
- 8) Mammillaria; straight spines
- 9) Thelocactus, Sclerocactus, Pediocactus

South American Cacti

- 10) Blossfeldia, Frailea, Uebelmannia
- 11) Buiningia, Discocactus, Melocactus
- 12) Copiapoa
- 13) Echinopsis, Lobivia
- 14) Eriogyne, Neochilena, Neoporteria, Pyrrhocactus, Horridocactus
- 15) Gymnocalycium
- 16) Notocactus, Parodia, Acanthocalycium
- 17) Rebutia, Sulcorebutia, Weingartia
- 18) Matucana, Submatucana, Oroya, Borzicactus

Other cacti

- 19) Ceroids, columnar types
- 20) Opuntioides
- 21) Epiphytic cacti
- 22) Variegates, crests and monstrose
- 23) Seed-grown by exhibitor

DIVISION 2: NON-CACTUS SUCCULENTS

Aizoaceae (Mesembryanthemaceae)

- 24) Lithops, Conophytum
- 25) Pleiospilos, Titanopsis, Dinteranthus, Faucaria
- 26) Mestoklema, Aloinopsis, Trichodiadema

Asphodelaceae

- 27) Aloe
- 28) Gasteria
- 29) Haworthia, Astroloba

Crassulaceae

- 30) Cotyledon, Tylecodon
- 31) Crassula, Kalanchoe
- 32) Dudleya
- 33) Echeveria
- 34) Pachyphytum, Graptopetalum, Tacitus
- 35) Aeonium, Sedum

Euphorbiaceae

- 36) Leaves, no spines: decaryi, capsaintemariensis, bupleurifolia
- 37) Leaves and spines: milii, gottlebei, viguieri, unispina
- 38) No leaves or spines: caput-medusa, inermis, esculenta, obesa

- 39) Spines, no leaves: stellispina, horrida, ferox, stellata, clavigera
- 40) Monadenium, Jatropha, Pedilanthus

Geraniaceae

- 41) Pelargonium
- 42) Sarcocaulon

Apocynaceae

- 43) Adenium
- 44) Pachypodium

Asclepiadaceae

- 45) Fockea, Petopentia, Raphionacme
- 46) Caralluma, Hoodia, Huernia, Stapelia

Agavaceae

- 47) Agave
- 48) Nolina, Yucca, Beaucarnea, Calibanus

Asteraceae

- 49) Senecio
- 50) Othonna
- 51) Abromeitiella, Dyckia, Burseraceae
- 52) Commiphora, Didiereaceae
- 53) Alluaudia, Didierea, Dracaenaceae
- 54) Sansevieria
- 55) Moraceae, Ficus, Dorstenia, Passifloraceae
- 56) Adenia, Portulacaceae
- 57) Avonia, Anacampseros, Ceraria

Caudiciforms, Pachycauls, Geophytes

- 58) Bombax, Cucurbits, Fouquieria, Dioscorea, Pachycormus

DIVISION 3: OTHER

- 59) Succulent Bulbs
- 60) Variegates, Crests, and Monstrose
- 61) Succulent Bonsai; any succulent plant presented in a Bonsai style, classical or unconventional
- 62) Seed-grown by exhibitor
- 63) Dish Gardens; more than one plant per dish
- 64) Collections: minimum of three, maximum of ten plants of the same genus. They may or may not be in the same pot.

DIVISION 4 – ART

- 65) Photography & Art in any media, about succulent plants, or habitat. Art made from plant materials also included. Display Only – NOT JUDGED. Figurines, etc, may be included.



OCTOBER SHOW & SALE PUBLICITY

Do you belong to another Garden Club?

This year Annie Morgan is asking for PCSS members' help. She will contact as many garden clubs in San Diego County, Temecula, Ramona, etc. as she knows about, and ask if they can put a notice in their newsletters and websites, and

hand out flyers. She will then reciprocate when they contact her.

Please help out by emailing, or speaking to Annie at the next PCSS meeting and providing her with information about any clubs you know of who might be able to help. And most importantly, if you know the name of a specific person she should contact, please let her know.

The more publicity, the more successful our event will be! Thanks in advance for your help.

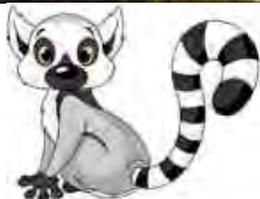
Annie Morgan
publicity@palomarcactus.org



•• 2014 ••
Southern California Events

October 25th & 26th
Palomar C&SS Show & Sale, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm, San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024

November 1st & 2nd
San Gabriel Cactus & Succulent Soc. Show & Sale
9am to 4pm daily
LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, C



Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society Plant Show and Sale

October 25 and 26, 2014

San Diego Botanic Garden, Encinitas
(formerly known as Quail Botanical Gardens)

It's time to get your best plants all spruced up and ready for the Plant Show in October. They will benefit from that extra Tender Loving Care – it shows the Judges you know your business.

The Show Judging is on Saturday; the Sale is both Saturday and Sunday. The plants may be enjoyed both Saturday and Sunday.



WE NEED YOU!

Fall Show & Sale Volunteers Needed !!!

Some of these are sit-down jobs...

Friday
Setup - noon - 5pm - 2 or 3 people
...to share the time

Saturday
Set Up Signs - 8am - 9am - 2 people plus car
Plant Check in - 8am - 9:30am - 1 person
Sales Table - 9am - 1pm & 1pm - 5pm - 2 people per shift
Security - 9am - 1pm & 1pm - 5pm - 2 people per shift
Membership - 9am - 1pm & 1pm - 5pm - 1 person per shift
Clerks for Judging - 11am - 1-ish - 2 people
Kitchen - 11am - 2pm - 1 person per shift

Sunday
Sales Table - 10am - 1pm & 1pm - 4pm - 2 people per shift
Security - 10am - 1pm & 1pm - 4pm - 2 people per shift
Membership - 10am - 1pm & 1pm - 4pm - 1 person per shift
Kitchen - 11am - 2pm - 1 person per shift
Cleanup* - 4pm - 5:30pm - 3 or 4 people

We'll also need some food...
...plant shows & sales work up an appetite!
What will you be bringing?

Please think about how and when you can help out. If you're not sure, sign up anyway and we'll work it out!

Contact Brita Miller at
or eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org