

# Cactus Courier

Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

The North San Diego County Cactus and Succulent Club

Volume 71, Number 7

July 2025

## What's Inside



Club Info .....	1
July Meeting Speakers .....	1
June Meeting Recap .....	2,3
June Brag Table Winners .....	4-6
Home Garden Brag Plants .....	7-10
Plant of the Month .....	11
San Marcos Library POM .....	12
Tribute to Donors .....	13
Misc. Club & Meeting Info .....	14,15



## Meeting Fourth Saturday, July 26

11:00 am—3:00 pm

Grace Presbyterian Church  
1450 E. Vista Way, Vista

- Brag Plant Table: **Plants must be labeled and on the table no later than 11:30 am to be judged. Please note the earlier time.**
- Benefit drawing and exchange tables and auction will all be held.
- Plant of the month: Echeveria

## July Speakers:

### Julian Duval

#### Topic: Succulent Bonsai



The July program has changed because our scheduled speaker is no longer available. Two of our wonderful PCSS members have stepped up to provide us with an interesting program.

Julian Duval will present on using succulents as bonsai specimens. Julian will give some tips and hints on how to turn some of your favorite succulents into show-stopping bonsai displays.

### Debra Lee Baldwin

#### Topic: Palomar College Succulent Garden



Debra Lee will present a slide show and talk about the Palomar College Cactus and Succulent Garden. This talk will be especially helpful to our new members because we will be there next month for our annual picnic.

For our new members: The garden was founded by PCSS in 1962 and was maintained by us until 2011 when we donated it to the college. Some PCSS members still take care of the garden.  
<https://www.palomarcactus.org/club-history/>

## PCSS IS HAPPY TO WELCOME THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:



Julian Rey Saenz  
Nancy Woodard

## Coming Next Month

*PCSS's Annual picnic at Palomar College Cactus and Succulent Garden  
Details at the July meeting and in the August newsletter.*

## For Sale!

*Several cactus & succulent books will be available for sale at monthly meetings.  
All are in good condition.*



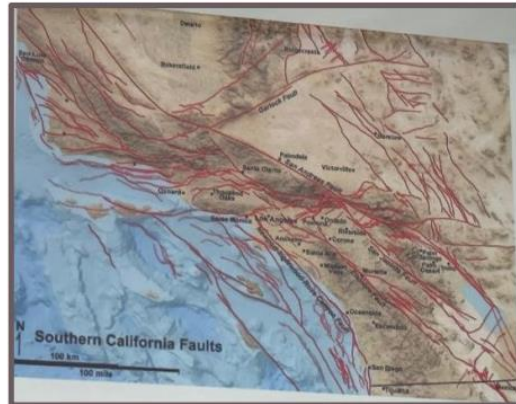
# June Meeting Recap

## Pages by Charlyne Barad

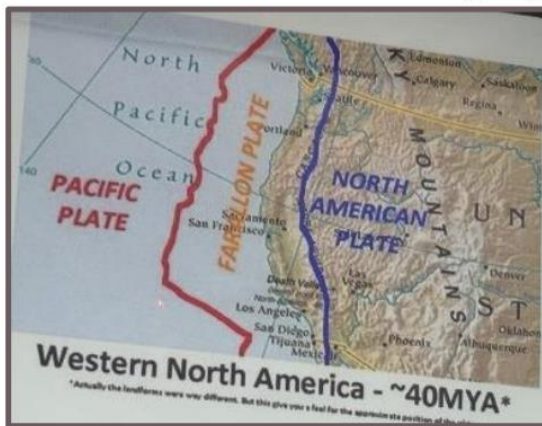
Photos by Charlyne Barad & Lorie Johansen



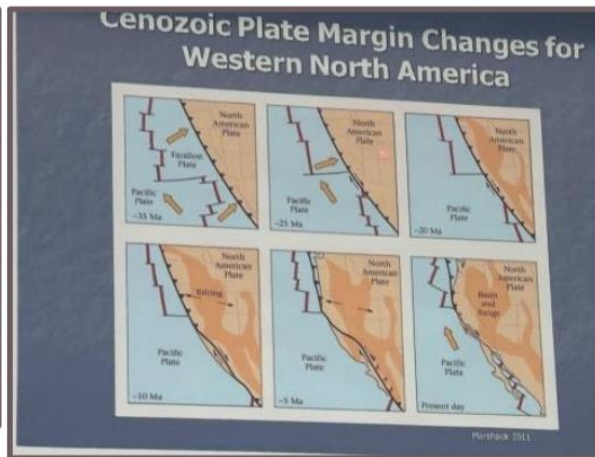
Jim Anderson  
enlightened us about  
the geology of the  
Anza Borrego area.



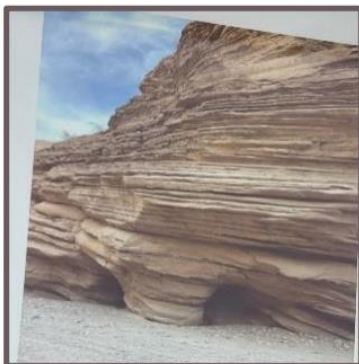
Map showing fault lines in Southern California. No wonder there's a whole lot of shakin' going on!



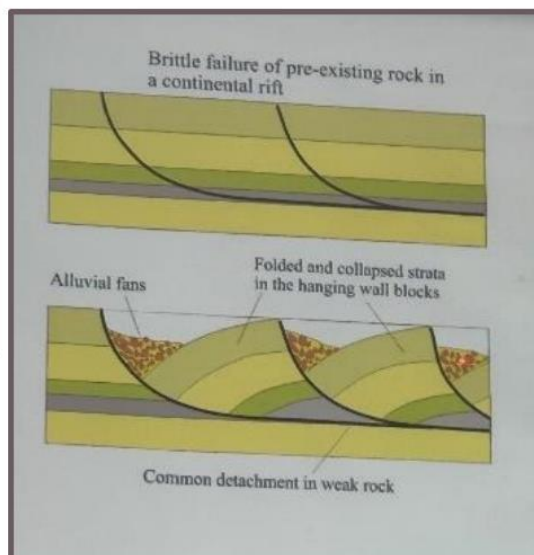
Earth's plates move about as fast as fingernails grow.



Western North America plate changes during the Cenozoic (last 66 million years) era.



Colorado River  
sediment. Split  
Mountain area.



Raise your hand if you enjoyed Jim's presentation!



# June Meeting Recap, cont.



As usual, there was a splendid assortment of plants at auction.



Members sell plants and pots.



Our erudite judges, Debra and Wanda, explain brag winners.



Debra displays Lori's "hedgehog."



Scoping out benefit drawing and exchange tables. ⬆



David talks in front of a summer camp backdrop.



Lottie wins the award for cutest cart! Her cart is truly worthy of its cargo.



# June Brag Table Winners

## 2025 June Brag Plant Winners

### Novice Cactus

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Lynn Cahill  | <i>Opuntia basilaris</i> 1                   |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lynn Cahill  | <i>Cylindropuntia imbricata</i> 2            |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Jamie Straub | <i>Cereus forbesii</i> cv. <i>Spiralis</i> 3 |

### Intermediate Cactus

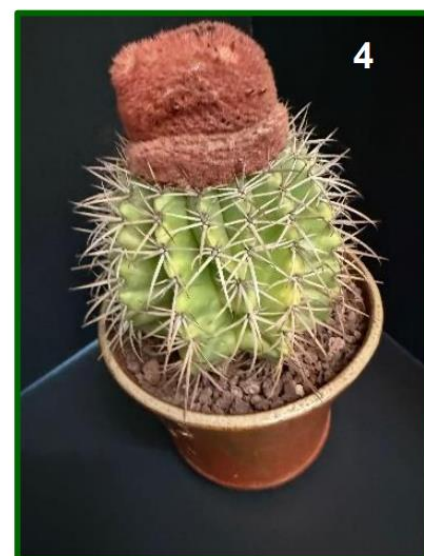
- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Kathy McNair | <i>Melocactus zehntneri</i> 4 |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|

### Advanced Cactus

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Candy & Jerry Garner | <i>Stenocactus</i> sp.<br>(formerly <i>Echinofossulocactus</i> sp.) 5 |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lorie Johansen       | <i>Mammillaria elongata</i> 6   |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> John Barkley         | <i>Pereskia grandifolia</i> 7   |

Pages by Charlyne Barad

Photo team: Heather Chan, Sara Velarde, Charlyne Barad





# June Brag Table Winners, Cont.

## Novice Succulent

- 1<sup>st</sup> Jamie Straub      *Echevaria secunda* var. 8  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Lynn Cahill      *Portulacaria afra* 9  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Lynn Cahill      *Sansevieria cylindrica* 10

## Intermediate Succulent

- 1<sup>st</sup> Chris Barkley      *Pelargonium xerophyton* 11  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Pauline Wong      *Echevaria pulvinata* 12  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Pauline Wong      *Anacampseros rufescens* 13

## Advanced Succulent

- 1<sup>st</sup> Candy & Jerry Garner      *Pachycormis discolor* 14  
 2<sup>nd</sup> John Barkley      *Plectranthus ernsii* 15  
 3<sup>rd</sup> John Barkley      *Pachypodium bispinosum* 16





# June Brag Table Winners, Cont.

## Plant of the Month – Intermediate

- 1<sup>st</sup> Kathy McNair    *Parodia mammulosa* 17  
2<sup>nd</sup> Kathy McNair    *Parodia rutilans* 18  
3<sup>rd</sup> Jeff McNair    *Parodia sellowii* 19

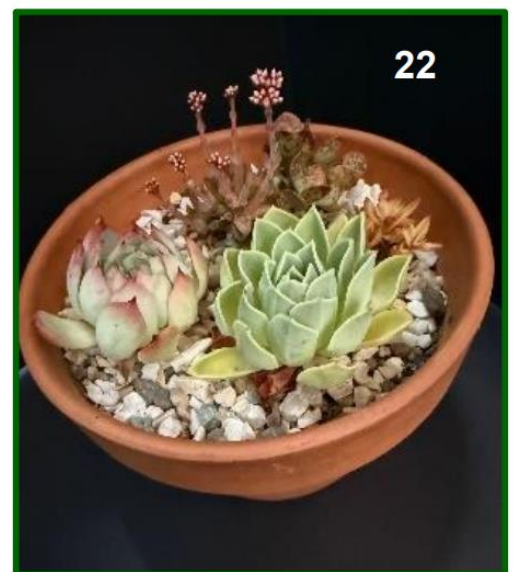
## Plant of the Month – Advanced

- 1<sup>st</sup> John Barkley    *Parodia rudibuenekeri* 20

## Dish/Bowl Garden - Novice

- 1<sup>st</sup> Jamie Straub    *Crassula ovata*, *Echevaria gibbiflora* 'Decora', *Sedum nussbaumerianum* 21

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jamie Straub    *Adromischus mh;ugensis*,  
*Echevaria chihuahuensis*, *Crassula capitella*,  
*Echevaria secunda* 22





# HOME GARDEN BRAG

by Joan Herskowitz

Share an especially nice section of your garden, a plant that bloomed in between meetings, or one that is too large to bring to the Brag Table. Earn 2 points for each published photo. Please submit a maximum of two photos to: [jmherskowitz@yahoo.com](mailto:jmherskowitz@yahoo.com) . **NEW SUBMISSION DATES FOR 2025:** July 2, Aug. 2, Sept. 2, Oct. 2, Nov. 2, and Dec. 2.



Deborah Pearson's  
Echinopsis 'Edwardian Lady' (Above)  
Cereus peruvianus (Right)



Chet Reed's  
Red-flowered Trichocereus &  
Yellow Bells (Techoma stans)



Christina Sangster's  
Aloe divaricata



Nick Van Der Westhuizen's  
Pilocereus pachychadus



Christina Sangster's  
Trichocereus 'Gratzer'



## HOME GARDEN BRAG (CONTINUED)



Bill Modi's  
Agave salmiana (Center) &  
Euphorbia antisiphilitica (Left of Center)



Nick Van Der Westhuizen's  
Echinopsis hybrid



Harold Dunn's  
Agave ovalifolia



Nord Roden's  
Gymnocalycium ritterianum



Nord Roden's  
Astrophytum capricorne



Joan Herskowitz's  
Aristaloe aristata



Joan Herskowitz's  
Euphorbia mauritania &  
Agave attenuata



Kathy McNair's  
Gymnocalycium  
denudatum



## HOME GARDEN BRAG (CONTINUED)



Kathy McNair's  
Lampranthus deltooides



Lois Walag's  
Hoya compacta



Jeff McNair's  
Echinopsis sp.



Jeff McNair's  
Echinopsis sp.



Donna Roden's  
Dish garden of grafted plants:  
Blossfeldia liliputana, Euphorbia lactea  
cristata & Copiapoa tenuissima montrosa



Susan Snow's  
Opuntia ficus-indica



Donna Roden's  
Hoya obovata



Susan Snow's  
Aloe nobilis variegata



Francis Granger's  
Cotyledon orbiculata



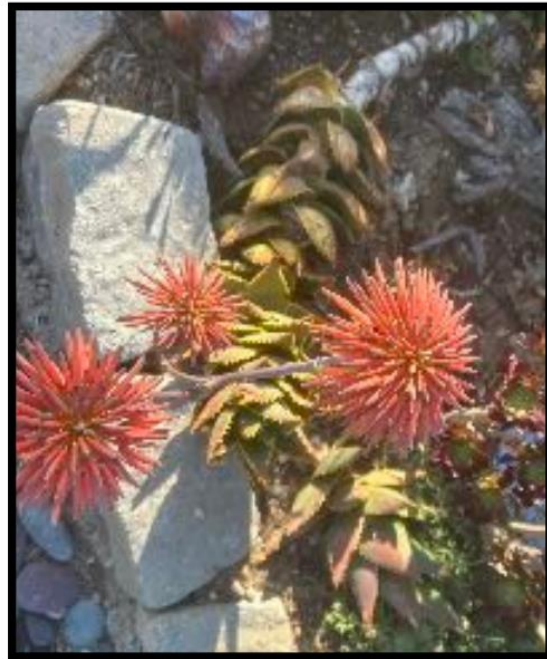
## HOME GARDEN BRAG (CONTINUED)



Jan Bayer's  
Dudleya britonii



Tom McCarter's  
Aloe vaombe



Tom McCarter's  
Aloe sp.



Chet Reed's  
Billbergia nutans (bromeliad)



Lynn Cahill's  
Trichocereus grandiflorus



Lynn Cahill's  
Parodia lenninghausii



# PLANT OF THE MONTH

## Echeveria

by Russel Ray



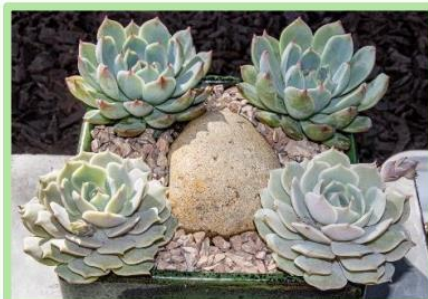
*Echeveria* is my second-favorite plant genus, behind *Mammillaria*. Sadly, echeverias don't grow well in the East San Diego County boondocks where I live because of its extreme temperatures which have ranged from 28°F to 118°F since moving here in July 2017. That doesn't prevent me from trying, though. I have placed them under the awning, in the ground on the shady side of the house, and even in the house. The house has never been hotter than 88°F, so you can imagine what 118°F does to them.

*Echeverias* are native to semi-desert areas of Mexico, Central America, and northwestern South America. A semi-desert area receives more rainfall than a desert and temperatures well above the low of 28°F at my house and well below my high of 118°F.

The genus was erected in 1828 and currently includes about 150 species. Plants are evergreen, and flowers on short stalks (cymes) arise from compact rosettes of fleshy, often brightly colored leaves. Plants also are polycarpic, meaning that they may flower and set seed many times over the course of their lifetimes. Often, numerous offsets are produced resulting in a common name "hen and chicks." Many species of *Echeveria* serve important environmental roles, such as those of host plants for butterflies.

*Echeverias* are popular as ornamental garden plants, and they have been extensively hybridized. Although they are drought-resistant, they do better with regular deep watering and fertilizing. Sources say that most will tolerate full shade and some frost, but that has not been my experience. Most lose their lower leaves in winter, so after a few years, the plants lose their compact appearance, causing many growers to re-root or propagate them. In addition, shed leaves may decay, harboring fungus that can then infect the plant. They can be propagated easily by separating offsets, but also by leaf cuttings, and by seed if they are not hybrids.

Plant names: *Echeveria agavoides* 'Frank Reinelt,' *Echeveria agavoides*, *Echeveria agavoides* (flowers), *Echeveria* 'Raindrops,' *Echeveria* 'Doris Taylor,' *Echeveria* 'Tippy' (front) and *Echeveria* 'Lola' (back), *Echeveria* 'Ruffles,' *Echeveria* unknown species.





# San Marcos Library

## August Plant of the Month

Sponsored by Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

### *Dracaena angolensis* var. *patula* 'Boncel'

by Russel Ray

*Dracaena angolensis* var. *patula* 'Boncel' (previously known as *Sansevieria cylindrica* var. *patula* 'Boncel') is a cultivar of a variety of a naturally occurring species. Sound complicated? It is, especially as phylogeneticists (plant geneticists) continue to rename genera and species that have been around for decades, or even hundreds of years. In this case, *Sansevieria* is the genus name used by Carl Peter Thunberg in 1794 in Italy. Some sources believe it was a misspelling of the genus name of *Sanseverinia* used by Vincenzo Petagna in 1787 for a plant he saw in the garden of Pietro Sanseverino, a Count in Italy.



Variety and cultivar both refer to variations within a plant species, but they differ in their origin and how they are maintained.

A variety (var.) is a naturally occurring variation within a species, arising from natural selection or adaptation, such as different flower colors or leaf shape and size. Plants grown from the seeds of a variety will have the same characteristics as the parent plants.

A cultivar (the part of the name in single quotes, 'Boncel') is a plant that does not exist naturally in nature. Instead, it has been specifically

cultivated by humans to bring out specific characteristics, such as disease resistance, flower color, fruit size, or hardiness. Plants grown from cultivar seeds may not produce plants with the same characteristics of the parent plants. Thus, cultivars usually are propagated through asexual methods like cuttings, grafting, or tissue culture to maintain the desired traits.

*Dracaena angolensis* var. *patula* is native to Angola in Southern Africa, and its common name is African Spear. It is drought-tolerant and, in cultivation, requires water only about once every other week during the growing season and about once a month when it's not growing. It is popular as an ornamental plant as it is easy to care for in a home if given bright light and appropriate water. In Brazil, where it is known as "St. George's spear," it is grown outside houses to ward off evil that might harm the home.

The plant on display here through August belongs to Lyn Mardesich. Thank you, Lyn!



## Tribute to Our Donors

### *Thank you, Generous Members!*

#### Crassula Level (\$100 – \$249.99)

2024 (for 2025)

Lorie Johansen  
Charlyne Barad  
Liz Rozycki  
David & Debi Buffington  
Sandy Wetzel Smith  
Anonymous

2025

Anonymous (4)  
Ron Chisum  
Debra Lee Baldwin  
Phyllis Flechsig

#### Ocotillo Level (\$250.00 - \$499.99)

2024

Julian & Leslie Duval  
Candy & Jerry Garner  
Lynn Cahill & Joe Cobb

2025

Anonymous  
Stan Yalof  
Sandy Wetzel-Smith

#### Saguaro Level (\$500 & Above)

2024

2025

Anonymous (2)  
Mike & Nancy Peters

#### Other amount

Woody Minich (2024)





## 2025 MEETING DATES, SPEAKERS & TOPICS, PLANT OF THE MONTH

<u>DATES</u>	<u>SPEAKERS &amp; TOPICS</u>	<u>PLANT OF THE MONTH</u>
Jan. 25	Scott Sandel So. Africa, Karoo, Cape area to Namibia	Mammillaria
Feb. 22	Russel Ray Succulent Terrariums	Miniature C or S - pots 4" or less
Mar. 22	Andy Cuffel of Cuffel Farms Topic: TBA	Stacked Crassula
Apr. 26	Dylan Zoller Brazil – orthophytums, xeric plants	Bromeliad
May 24	Spring Festival & Sale	None
June 28	Jim Anderson Anza-Borrego Desert, How It Got Here	Parodia
July 26	Julian Duval & Debra Lee Baldwin Succulent Bonsai & Palomar College Succulent	Echeveria
Aug. 23	Annual Picnic Palomar College Cactus & Succulent Garden	None
Sept. 27	Philippe de Vosjoli Topic: TBA	Bonsai C & S
Oct. 25	Fall Show & Sale – TBD	Pachypodium (if no Show & Sale)
Nov. 22	Christy Brenner The Cacti of Bolivia	Monstrose, Crests
Dec. 20	Holiday Party!	None





# PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

## Board of Directors

President — **David Buffington**, [president@palomarcactus.org](mailto:president@palomarcactus.org)

Vice-President — **Sherman Blench**

Treasurer, Meeting Cashier — **Teri Shusterman**, [treasurer@palomarcactus.org](mailto:treasurer@palomarcactus.org)

Secretary, Meeting Cleanup — **Moni Waiblinger**

Director at Large, Assistant Treasurer — **Liz Rozcycki**

Director at Large, SDCSS Representative — **Brita Miller**

Director at Large — **Martina Reed**

## Other Volunteers

Event Coordinator — **Charlyne Barad**, [eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org](mailto:eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org)

Assistant Event Coordinator — **Brita Miller**, [eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org](mailto:eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org)

Membership — **Richard Miller**, [membership@palomarcactus.org](mailto:membership@palomarcactus.org)

Brag Plant Table — **Lorie Johansen, Sherman Blench**

Brag Plant Tally — **David Buffington**

Brag Table Judge — **Mike Nelson**

Brag Table Photographers — **Annie Morgan, Charlyne Barad, Lorie Johansen**

Refreshments — **Bruce Barry, Sandy Wetzel-Smith**

Benefit Drawing — **Martina Reed, Annie Morgan**

Program, Plant Auction — **Robert Kopfstein**

Meeting Sales — **Teri Shusterman, Liz Rozcycki**

Name Badge Drawing — **Julie Kort**

Guest & New Member Ambassadors — **Brita Miller, Lorie Johansen**

Newsletter Team

**Charlyne Barad** — Coordinator, Club Info, Speakers, etc. pages

**Annie Morgan** — Pages on Brag Table Winners, reviewer, misc.

**Russel Ray** — Pages on Plant of the Month and San Marcos Library Plant of the Month,  
Newsletter Collator and Distributor

**Winston Chan** — Pages on Miscellaneous Information

**Joan Herskowitz** — Pages on Garden Brag Plants

**Brita Miller** — Pages on Spring Festival and Holiday Party Recap, misc.

**Wanda Mallen** — Proofreader

Publicity (print) — **Tom McCarter**

Librarian — **Barbara Raab**, [librarian@palomarcactus.org](mailto:librarian@palomarcactus.org)

Website — **Annie Morgan**, [info@palomarcactus.org](mailto:info@palomarcactus.org), **Russel Ray**

A/V, PCSS Plant of the Month, San Marcos Library Plant of the Month — **Russel Ray**

Additional volunteers who keep meetings running — **Moni Waiblinger, Brita Miller, Libbi Salvo**

## Volunteers Needed

Bring refreshments

Assist at meetings with set-up, bringing in plants, etc.

Assist at meetings with clean-up

If you have specific talents or interests, PCSS could use your help!

## Social Media

Website: [www.palomarcactus.org](http://www.palomarcactus.org)

Instagram: [palomar.cactus.succulent.org](http://palomar.cactus.succulent.org)

Email: [info@palomarcactus.org](mailto:info@palomarcactus.org)

Facebook group for members: Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society Group