



Open Gates

A publication of the
Gates Cactus & Succulent Society
February 2018



NEXT MEETING, WEDNESDAY, Feb 7th at 7:00 PM
AT THE REDLANDS CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
1307 E CITRUS AVE, IN REDLANDS, CA

Plants of the Month

Cactus – Columnar Cacti

Succulent – Gasteria, Haworthia

Save the Date!

FEB. 10 - SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY, WINTER SHOW AND SALE

MAR. 22-24 - ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING

From the President:

The 2018 cactus and succulent show and sale season will officially begin this month. First up is the San Diego winter show and sale. Please refer to January's newsletter for the most updated 2018 event schedule.

Our show and sale planning committee is already busy in the midst of preparing for the club's May event. There is still much to be planned and we definitely will need more volunteer help from now to the end of the two-day extravaganza. Everyone is invited to attend any of the Board meeting held on the third Tuesday evening monthly at 6PM and be involved during this planning process. Your input is valuable to the committee and to the success of our show and sale. You can speak to any Board member at any time and share your thoughts.

Here's a reminder of some benefits to being a club member and why you should renew your membership. You must be a member to participate in the monthly mini-show and to sell plants at both the monthly meeting and the annual show & sale. Membership also allows you to participate in all of the club's sponsored events such as field trips, BBQ/potluck cook-off, holiday party, and other CSSA-related or other affiliate club's official activities. You have access to the many professional resources on cactus and succulents from the club's library collection. So please take a brief moment to visit our treasurer, Joann sitting at the front, to renew your 2018 membership. Now you can sit back and enjoy the rest of this month's meeting.

Regards, Phuc.

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Director	909-882-6013	Sande Martin
Director	909-987-5706	John Reynolds
Librarian	951-682-3795	Karen Fleisher
Greeter	951-781-8205	Teresa Wassman

Leadership Team 2018

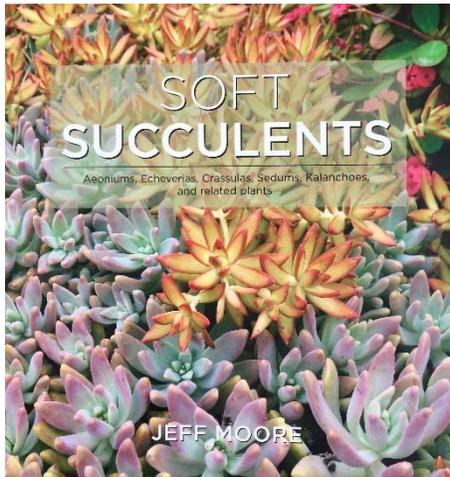
Our Program This Month



Jeff Moore "Soft Succulents"

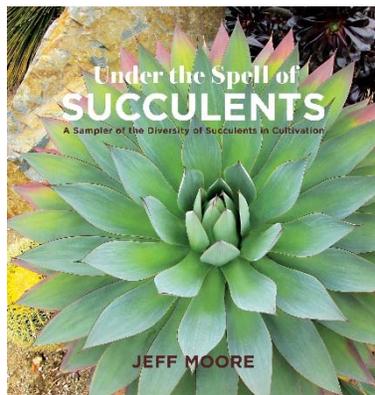
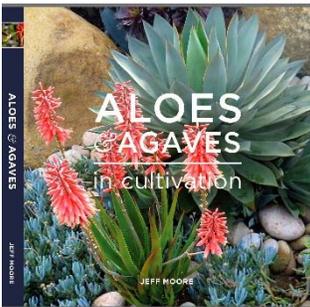
A powerpoint to follow his new book, and there will be lots of nice images.

Aeoniums, echeverias, dudleyas, crassulas, sedums, senecios, kalanchoes, etc



BIO

I have operated Solana Succulents in Solana Beach for 25 years, and writing succulent books for the past 3 or 4.



Mini Show 2017 Results

Please remember to CLEARLY fill out the Mini show entry forms. **Incomplete or illegible forms will be disqualified.**

Please note, we will no longer have the Large and Small categories.

Cactus

Novice

1st Mammillaria senillis – Sande Martin

2nd Mammillaria sp. – Jo Ann Crabtree

Intermediate

1st Mammillaria elongata – Ann Reynolds

2nd Mammillaria gracilis – Mike Madrigal

2nd Mammillaria melaleuca – Ann Reynolds

3rd Mammillaria plumose – Mike Madrigal

Advanced

1st Mammillaria supertexta - Greg & Anna Cavanaugh

2nd Mammillaria hahiana - Greg & Anna Cavanaugh

Succulent

Novice

Intermediate

1st Aloe cameronii – Ann Reynolds

2nd Aloe somaliensis – Mike Madrigal

3rd Aloe humilis – Rene Hernandez

Advanced

1st Aloe erinacea – Rico Leon

2nd Aloe peglerae – Kim Urman

2nd Aloe "wily Coyotee" – Rico Leon

3rd Aloe suprafoliata – Frank Nudge

Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your memberships.

The dues for **mail** membership are \$35 dollars and **email** membership renewal is \$20 dollars for the year. A membership renewal form is on the last page of this newsletter for your convenience. You can renew your membership with Jo Ann Crabtree at our next meeting or you can mail in your renewal.

Ask the Experts

Have a mystery plant? would you like to know the species name of your plants? Well the experts are here to help! Bring in your plant, or a good picture, to our next meeting and we will call on our expert members to help solve your mystery

Newman Achievement Award

The **Hazelle and Davis Newman Award** is given annually to a person or couple who have served the society with contributions of time and talent and have not been so honored before. The nominations must be in writing (none from the floor) and be presented or emailed to the President or the Newsletter Editor prior to the beginning of the January meeting. We will vote on the winner in the February meeting.

2018 Upcoming Events

FEB. 10 SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY, WINTER SHOW AND SALE BALBOA PARK, ROOM 101, SAN DIEGO, CA—INFO 619-990-2051

MAR. 22-24 ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SHOW AND SALE THURS. 22nd 6-9PM---FRI. MAR. 23rd 9-7PM---SAT. MAR. 24TH 9-5
1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA INFORMATION CALL 562-587-3357

A very special mention goes out to our President, Phuc.
Happy Birthday!

Columnar Cacti

Buck Hemenway

For the purpose of our Mini-Show, these will be all cacti that tend to grow as upright stems, whether they are solitary (one stem) or multiple stems ramifying from the base of the plant or single or multiple stems branching higher up. Any plant genus that ends in the word cereus (aka "ceriod"), such as *Oreocereus*, *Pachycereus*, *Trichocereus* etc, is part of this group. We will include all of the upright growing *Echinopsis* (for the most part the old *Trichocereus*), *Cleistocactus*. Basically any cactus that tends to grow relatively tall and relatively skinny.

The plant that we are most familiar with is the Saguaro (*Carnegiea gigantea*) which is the largest growing of the columnars in the United States. The Cardon (*Pachycereus pringlei*) grows prolifically in Northwestern Mexico and on the Baja Peninsula. Both of these plants are very easy to grow in our Inland climate as long as they are planted in very well draining soil. They both grow in the Sonoran desert and as such need some added summer water here, but can be left alone the rest of the year. They and most of the very large "ceriods" can do well with one good watering per month from July through October when they are good sized.

The group tends to be pest free. Just a little inspection once or twice a year will show any evidence of scale or mealy bug.

They tend to have very large, and shallow root systems. We always water the areas in which they grow with overhead sprinkling so they can gain as much root growth as possible.

Transplanting of nearly all columnar cacti should be done in the heat of the year (from May through September). We do not water the large ones at all during the first summer/winter after planting. They have plenty of reserve energy to begin new root growth before our rainy season.

Many of them grow at extreme altitudes in the Andes and their connected mountain ranges. Our weather tends to be a little too hot, but most adapt well after a season or two.

The blooms are huge and trumpet shaped on many. The fruits on all are edible and normally delicious. Wait until they begin to turn red or purple in the case of *Myrtillocactus*.

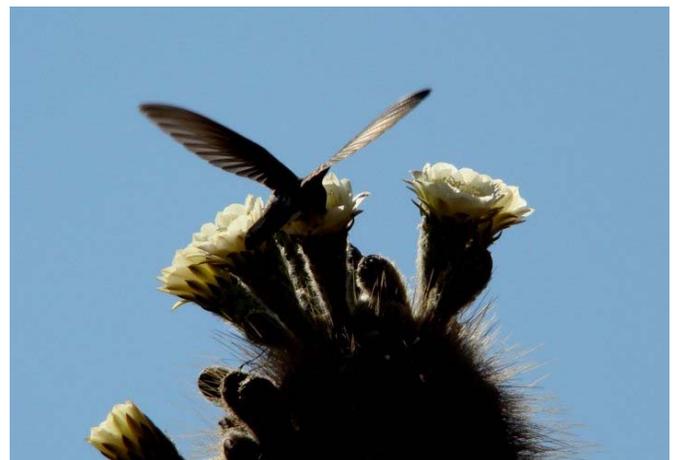
The most satisfying plants in our landscape are the large columnar cacti.



Our friend Ed takes a picture of a very large *Oreocereus celsianus* at 13,000 ft elevation.



Echinopsis poco at 11,700 ft elevation



Giant hummingbird drinks from *Echinopsis atacamensis* ssp. *pasacana* flower at the ruins at Tilcara Argentina

Succulent Plants of the Month Haworthia and Gasteria

These two genera are closely related and likewise related to Aloe plants, all in the family Aloaceae. They are among the most easily grown succulents. Their structural forms make them prize possessions for the beginner and master collector alike. Both genera are found in South Africa exclusively. They grow in the driest parts of the winter rainfall areas to coastal areas of the eastern part of the cape which receive fairly large amounts of summer rain.

In general, we consider both genera to be winter growers. They certainly look their best in our cooler, more wet season, but that is not necessarily true in habitat. Most of them bloom in the winter as well.

They are all relatively pest free, but will attract mealy bugs in a collection. The bugs are not difficult to control, but should be watched for.

Both genera are well studied by a number of modern botanists and with the advent of DNA testing the names and identities of many have been clouded to say the least. In addition, they tend to hybridize readily and as a result the plants that we grow are in the main not true species. The newest Haworthia text is Bruce Bayer's *Haworthia Revisited* published in 1999 and we are waiting a new book from Ernst Van Jaarsveld on the Gasteria genus.

The modern way of looking at a species of a genus is to look at the plant and how it changes over its range. This viewpoint has thrown Haworthia names into a mess. It will be some time before the botanists will agree on the names in this genus.

Haworthia

The plants are generally small with rosettes of stiff leaves in many colors. They tend to be divided between ones with a "retuse" shape, like your thumb extended with the pad becoming the window through which the plant takes sun nourishment. The others have pointy leaves or truncated leaves. All of them have very similar flowers and this is what

distinguishes this genus from the others in Aloaceae.



Haworthia attenuata



Bloom

Gasteria

The plants in this genus are easily recognizable by the flowers born on long inflorescences. The flowers look like little stomachs and thus the name.

The plants range in size from small (less than 2" across) to large (more than 4') with stiff leaves in many colors. In most of the species, the plants begin life with the leaves growing in one rank, known as distichous. Some continue to grow that way while others form rosettes.



Gasteria bicolor



Gasteria Blooms



GATES CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
New Member / Renewal

Date: _____ Renewal Year: _____
Name: _____ Spouse, S/O: _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Email: _____

Annual Dues:

\$20 Newsletter delivered by Email

\$35 Newsletter delivered by Mail

\$10 Name Badge

\$ _____ Total Paid

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