



# Open Gates

A publication of the  
**Gates Cactus & Succulent Society**  
**October 2018**



NEXT MEETING, WEDNESDAY, October 3rd at 7:00 PM  
AT THE REDLANDS CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE  
1307 E CITRUS AVE, IN REDLANDS, CA

## Plants of the Month

**Cactus – Ariocarpus**

**Succulent – Crassula, Kalanchoe**

## Save the Date!

Oct 5 -6 *JoAnn's*  
**Succulent & Yard Art**  
*Extravaganza!*

Oct. 13-14  
 BAKERSFIELD  
 CACTUS and  
 SUCCULENT  
 SOCIETY

OCT. 27-28  
 PALOMAR CACTUS  
 &SUCCULENT  
 SOCIETY FALL  
 SHOW AND

## From Our President:

Hopefully by now you would know which characteristics of succulents that most appeal to you and subsequently your collection. Thanks to Gunnar's presentation last month, you now have a better idea where you stand in terms of being a cactus or non-cactus, succulent lover. Be sure to check out his website for more informational pictures of his collection.

Did you enjoy the BBQ/cactus cook-off? Thank you everyone who participated and shared your potluck dish(s). They were so scrumptious which made our annual BBQ that much more memorable amongst friends and fellow succulent lovers. Special recognition goes to those who had a cactus dish entered in the cook-off. The dishes were indeed unique and quite cactus-oriented. Final result of the cook-off is available in this edition. Lastly, thank you Diane and Epimenio for hosting this event and opening up your home and garden to our members. Muchos Gracias!

Next month will be our annual night of succulent plant auction and our election night. Two positions of the Board of Director will need to be filled. Here's where you can help the club. Nominations are being accepted for these two positions. Please consider joining the Board and help guide the future mission and goals of our beloved club. You can also nominate another club member as well. Please contact any Board member or myself and give us your input.

Remember to bring your best dead cactus (plant) for this month's mini-show. Here's where the worst of the worst plant is most prized.

Please feel free to share your favorite photos of cactus and/or succulents with the club. Email pictures of your ever-evolving garden, plant design, or anything pertaining to drought tolerant plants to our newsletter editor, Trisha.

Until Wednesday evening...

-Phuc

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Program chair	661-406-9816	Woody Minnich			

**Leadership Team 2018**

# Our Program This Month

J.D. Wikert

"What you need to know about successful succulent culture"

"What you need to know about successful succulent culture" will include a discussion of succulent taxonomy, world distribution, cultivation, and propagation.

The presentation is ideal for beginners and should leave the audience understanding why long term growers often have difficulty answering the question "How often should I water my succulent".



Pictures of many of the more readily available genera will be shown in conjunction with information relevant to the particular plant group.



## BIO

J.D. is a fisheries biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service working on restoration of habitat for salmon in the Central Valley and lives in Lodi California.

Previously, he worked in Florida sampling fish and doing lake restoration. He is a self-trained succulent hobbyist and usually has more than 100 flats of plants in his back (and side) yards. J.D. has been actively propagating succulent plants for around 15 years and has figured out how to kill most succulent species over that time period. He is a member of both the Sacramento and Stockton

Cactus and Succulent Societies, and even served a 2 year term as president for the Stockton Club.

J.D. has a number of presentations on succulent plants that he has given in the past, so if you like the current talk but would like more detail on a smaller group of plants, feel free to request any of the others from this list:



Adromischus, Aloe, Dudleya, Gasteria, Haworthia, Sedum, Senecio, and Stapeliads. J.D. has developed these talks to teach himself more about these cool groups of plants, but by no means considers himself an expert.

J.D. also spends way too much time on Facebook in various succulent plant groups.



## Mini Show 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

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Cereus perviannus monstrose – Ann Platzer
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Cereus forbesii monstrose – Ann Platzer
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Rebutia sp – Ann Platzer

#### Intermediate

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Gymnocalycium mihailovichii friendrickii (graft) – Mike Madrigal
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Mini sp. – Ann Reynolds
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Gymnocalycium variegated – Judy Horne

### Succulents

#### Novice

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Gasteria juji – Ann Platzer
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Gasteria glomerate – Ann Platzer

#### Intermediate

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Pseudo lithos cubiformis – Mike Madrigal
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Sedum 'blue spruce' crest – Rene Hernandez
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Mini thipsalis – Judy Horne
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Aloe krapholaina v. doumolinii – Mike Madrigal
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – haworthia – Judy Horne

#### Advanced

- 1<sup>st</sup> – Gasteria lilputiana – Joella Olson
- 1<sup>st</sup> – Copiapoa laui – Rico Leon
- 2<sup>nd</sup> – Turinacarpus flaviflorus – Rico Leon

## Annual BBQ/Cactus Cookoff

Thank you everyone who came out to the Annual bbq/cactus cook off! Below are the cook off results. I hope you all enjoyed the food as well as the time with cactus friends. Congrats to our winners!

Gates CSS 2018  
Cactus Cook-off result

1st place: Rene and Teresa Hernandez- Chicken and nopales with chipotle sauce  
2nd place: Sean Roman- Cactus fajitas  
3rd place: Epimenio and Diana Roman - Mexican deli  
4th place: Epimenio and Diana Roman- Home made bread and prickly pear jelly

## October's Special Guest Plant of the Month

Its time to bring out your Dead plants! Any species of Cactus or Succulent. All sizes. But it must be dead. Best in show will receive a little trophy and bragging rights! So throw some decorations on your dead plant and show it off!

## 2018 Upcoming Events

Oct 5 -6

[JoAnn's Succulent & Yard Art Extravaganza!](#)

Fri October 5<sup>th</sup> 8:30am – 5:30pm Sat October 6<sup>th</sup> 8:30am – 12:30pm

1014 W. Sunset Drive Redlands, CA 92373

For info or requests, call 909-793-0680

Oct. 13-14

BAKERSFIELD CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY

SHOW & SALE SAT. 10-5---SUN. 11-3 ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, 2216 17<sup>th</sup> STREET

BAKERSFIELD, CA 93304 FREE ADDMISSION & PARKING, INFO 661-8318488

OCT. 27-28

PALOMAR CACTUS &SUCCULENT SOCIETY FALL SHOW AND SALE

SAT 10-5, SUN 10-3, SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDENS

230 QUAIL GARDENS ROAD, ENCINITAS, CA INFO [BritaMiller1@g-mail.com](mailto:BritaMiller1@g-mail.com)

NOV. 10-11

SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY 9am-4pm BOTH DAYS

SHOW AND SALE---LA COUNTY ARBORETUM 310 NO. BALDWIN, ARCADIA, CA MANNY

RIVERA 626-780-6957 or JOHN MATTHEWS 661-714-1052



## ***Ariocarpus*** **by Tom Glavich**

*Ariocarpus* is one of the treasures of the world of Cacti. This genus, from Central to Northern Mexico and Southern Texas has some of the most spectacular species of the entire family. Some succulent growers, who otherwise avoid cacti, make this genus their sole exception. There are collectors who collect nothing but *Ariocarpus*, and have hundreds of plants in their collections. Rare specimens can change hands for hundreds of dollars. Rare cultivars with unusual tubercles can be sold for even more, particularly in Japan. There is no denying that this genus has generated a worldwide cult of devotees.

With all of this, you might expect *Ariocarpus* to be expensive, difficult to come by, and difficult to grow. Nothing could be further from the truth. They are no more difficult to grow than any other central Mexican genera. All of the species and all of the varieties are readily available, and all are affordable. This genus is well within the range of even beginning novice growers. Field collected specimens are occasionally available, and these are much more expensive, and much harder to grow. Recently collected specimens are now almost always illegally obtained. However, interesting hybrids have been produced by several growers, Frank Nudge of our club, Miles Anderson and Gene Joseph of Tucson being just a few.

With all of the fuss we make over the horticultural merits of this genus, we shouldn't overlook the plants important ethno-botanical uses from several Native American cultures. The tubercles contain sticky mucilage, and this was often used as glue to mend broken pots. *A. kotschoubeyanus* was boiled and used as a cure for rheumatism, and several species were used as 'false peyote' in religious ceremonies.

Cultivation is not difficult, when the home environment of these plants is remembered. They grow in mineral soils, with very little organic matter. They all have large tuberous roots. They grow in areas that are very hot in the summer, and that have summer rainfall. If they are protected from excess organic matter, particularly peat, and watered heavily and fertilized only in hot weather, good growth will result. They need protection from winter rains.

There are six species, several varieties, and a near infinite set of cultivars.

*Ariocarpus agavoides*, as its name implies resemble agaves. Discovered only in 1941, it is rare in nature and cultivation. It comes from just a few areas in Tamaulipas and San Luis Potosi.

*Ariocarpus bravoanus* has flattened triangular tubercles. A beautiful species, it is slow growing and still not seen in many collections, although seedlings are now often available. This species also comes from just a few localities in San Luis Potosi.

*Ariocarpus fissuratus* is much more common. This species spreads from the Pecos River in Texas south to Durango. The wide geographical rang of this species; along with the isolation of some of the populations has given rise to several cultivars. This species is one of the more collectable, with many cultivars and hybrids with extra hair, wide tubercles, etc.

*Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus* is the miniature of the genus. This species never gets



above ground. It is widespread in Mexico, occurring in silt plains from Coahuila to Queretaro. In habitat, this species is sometimes under water! It is relatively easy to grow, requiring only a good, quick draining potting mix. Multiheaded specimens of this species are especially appreciated.

*Ariocarpus retusus* was the first species discovered, first described in 1938. This is an easily grown species. It is widespread throughout the Chihuahuan desert. A subspecies *A. retusus ssp. trigonus* has more triangular tubercles. As with *fissuratus*, there are dozens of cultivars, variants, variegates, etc. of the species and the subspecies. *Ariocarpus scaphirostris* is another of the small, less collected species. Seedlings are available and it is no more difficult than many others. It is native to Nuevo Leon.

# 2018 Cactus & Succulent Show & Sale

## Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society

The North San Diego County Cactus and Succulent Society!

October 27 & 28

Sat. 9 - 5

Sun. 10 - 3



**San Diego Botanic Garden**  
**230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024**

For Directions: [www.sdbgarden.org/directions.htm](http://www.sdbgarden.org/directions.htm)

- ~ See spectacular succulent specimens from around the world!
- ~ Show plant judging is Saturday from 11am - 12:30pm. The public may follow and listen to the judges as they make and explain their decisions.
- ~ All show plants will be available for viewing Saturday and Sunday.
- ~ There will be experts available to answer your questions.
- ~ Specimen plants for the novice or collector and handmade ceramic pots, driftwood planters, decorative rocks, top dressing, etc. will be for sale.

### **ONE STOP SHOPPING!**

**Cost: Free with SD Botanic Garden admission or membership**

For more info: Brita Miller @ [eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org](mailto:eventcoordinator@palomarcactus.org) or 858-776-7216

We're on Facebook! [PalomarCactus.org](http://PalomarCactus.org)

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