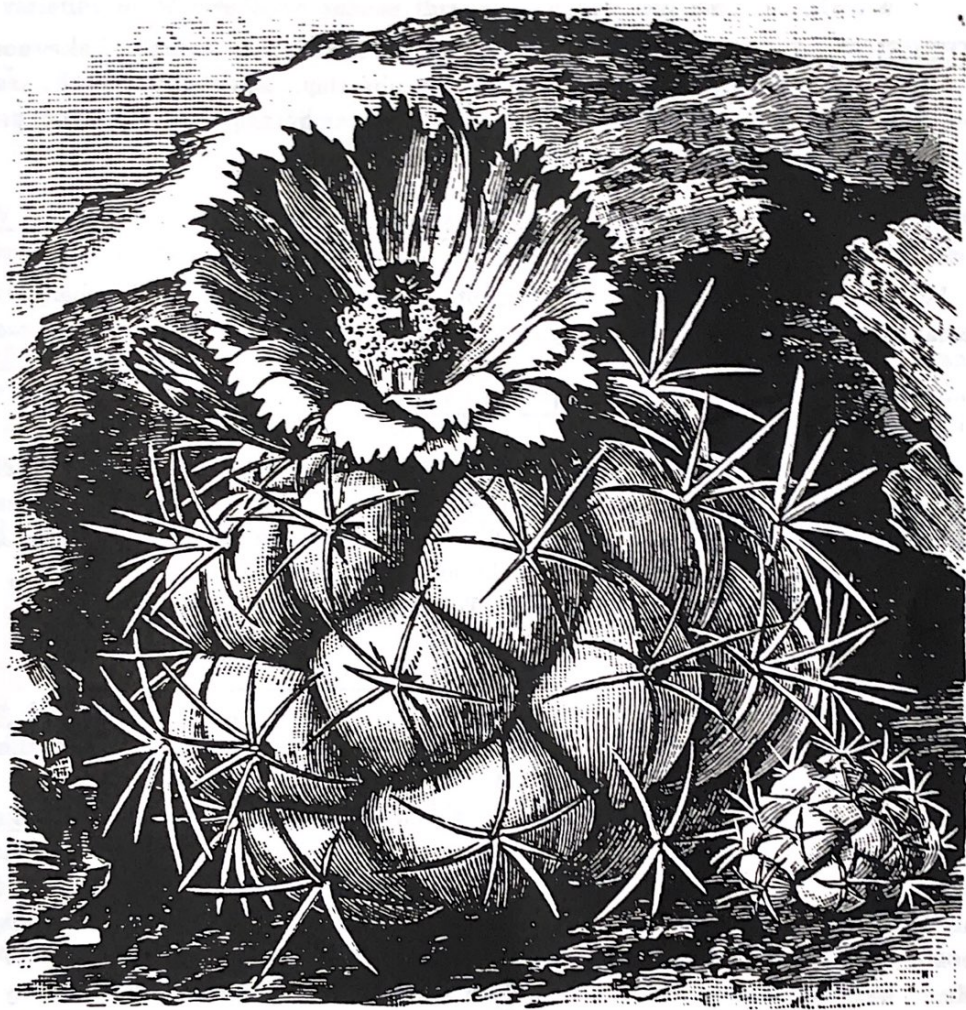


Long Beach Cactus Club  
*Roadrunner News*  
July 1995

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MEMORIES OF MEXICO  
WITH  
VIRGINIA MARTIN



### LBCC OFFICERS FOR 1995

President	Dick Hulett (310) 832-2262	Secretary	Alice Richardson (310) 434-3541
VP	Gary Duke (714) 840-0505	Treasurer	Jim Hanna (310) 920-3046

Board Members, in alphabetical order, are Larry Grammer, Bill Hagblom, Virginia Martin, Laverne Pitzer, Pat Staub, and Sharon Thoerner (Past President)

MEMBERSHIP: Jim Hanna, (310) 920-3046, 6019 Pepperwood Avenue, Lakewood, CA 90712. Dues are \$8 per year for regular membership, seniors \$5; each associate member (same household) \$1.50 additional. (Senior membership is for retired persons, 65 and older.) Checks should be made out to LBCC.

### REFRESHMENTS CHAIRMAN NEEDED

We are in need a regular refreshments chairman who will be in charge of the coffeemaker, plates, napkins, etc. If you are interested please see Dick at the meeting.

### NEWSLETTER

If you have any stories, cultivation tips, information about upcoming calendar events or news in general about cacti and succulents that might interest our members, please send them in or give me a call. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Remember, this is your newsletter. The address is: Lisa Smith, 2075 Appleton St. #24, Long Beach, Ca 90803. Telephone: (310) 439-8056.

### ROADRUNNERS AT THE CSSA SHOW

Space does not permit a full listing of winners at the CSSA Show but they will appear in the CSSA Newsletter. A few of the many magnificent award winning plants exhibited by LBCC members were: Bill Hagblom's blooming *Adenium obesum* which took Best Succulent in Show and his *Aeonium sedifolium* which was Best Crassulaceae; Jim Hanna's Best *Lithops*, *L. dorothea* and his Best *Agave-Yucca*, *A. pattonii* (dwarf); Sharon Thoerner's Best *Opuntia*, *O. pycnantha*; Marylyn Henderson's Best *Echeveria*, *E. domingo* (Wright hybrid) (*subrigida* x *runyonii*); Dorothy Byer's Best African Succulent, *Mestokerna tuberosum*, a miniature tree with raised with roots and tiny coral colored flowers.; Dave Tufenkian's Best *Haworthia*, *H. pumila* 'Donuts'; and Woody Minnich's Best *Cereus*, *Micranthocereus auriazureus*. Charles Spotts won the Sweepstakes for Overall High points as well as High Points - Cacti, Best *Rebutia* or *Sulcorebutia* and Best *Ariocarpus*. Jim and Roberta Hanna won High Points - Succulents. The ten *Pachypodiums* in Bill Hagblom's Best Collection included a double headed *P. namaquanam*. Carol Wujcik's award winning photo collection included a close-up of a flowering *Dudleya brittonii* set against a Baja landscape of mountain and sky.



## JUNE 1995 MEETING

TIME: Sunday, July 23, 1995 at 1:30 P.M.

NEW LOCATION: Bellflower Medical Center on the corner of Artesia and Ardmore in Bellflower. Park in the employees parking lot behind the hospital. Map on back page.

PROGRAM: "Memories of Mexico" presented by Virginia Martin. Virginia is a past CSSA president and long time member of the Long Beach Cactus Club. Her talk and slides will show plants in habitat as well as the people and sights along the way. In the company of Ted Taylor, Ed and Betty Gay and other succulent enthusiasts she will trace varieties of *Mammillaria saboae* through Durango and northern Mexico.

### PLANT OF THE MONTH:

Cactus: Any Mexican Cactus (*Astrophytum, Mammillaria, etc.*)  
Succulent: Any Mexican Succulent (*Agave, Echeveria, Tacitus, etc.*)

SHOW AND TELL: Bring plants you are proud of. Bring plants you are not proud of and don't know why. This is your opportunity to discuss and learn. No experience necessary.

REFRESHMENTS: This month Freddie Rego and Louise Vekemans have signed up but everyone is welcome to bring snacks and finger foods. Thanks to everyone who has been bringing something. Please sign up for future months and remember to drop a coin in the coin catcher for coffee, plates, cups and so on.

DOOR PRIZES, BIRTHDAY PLANTS & PLANT SALES: Something for everyone.

## LBCC FUTURE PROGRAMS

August 27: Michael Vassar will talk on "Winter Growing *Pelargoniums* from South Africa."

September 24: LBCC FABULOUS PLANT AUCTION; see . Upcoming Events, page 6.

October 25: Steve Plath of Las Vegas presents "A Year in the Life of a Gold Mine." A Mojave gold mining company is struggling to be environmentally responsible to the extent of restoring even the individual specimens to an area after it has been mined.

November 19: (one week early due to Thanksgiving) Woody Minnich's newest program is "Cactus, Canyons and Coyotes!: the Southwest United States." Woody is an excellent photographer and one of the world's most knowledgeable cactophiles. The Southwestern U.S. cacti are a fascinating and demanding group. They include some of the most difficult cacti in the world to cultivate.

December 17: Annual Holiday Party!



## LBCC JUNE PROGRAM

Bob Kent, expert *Haworthia* grower and collector, presented a program on his favorite genus. Bob is the man who demonstrated at last year's Huntington Symposium that all *Haworthias* don't look alike.

Bob has visited South Africa twice in the last ten years. His slide show talk, "From Wolfskloof to Oudtshorn," traced *Haworthias* in habitats across the Cape Province of South Africa. If you laid California on its side and cut it off at Redding, it could represent the main *Haworthia* area with a horn on the west going up to Namibia where there are two species and a horn on the east going up to the Orange Free State and possibly Mozambique with another two or three species. Southwest Cape Province has a Mediterranean climate like Southern California. Eastward there is summer or year round rain and in the north, strictly summer rain. Temperatures vary tremendously, so there is a vast series of microclimates much like San Diego County.

Bob observed that taking pictures of *Haworthia* in habitat takes two people: one to hold the camera and one to hold the bushes back. A good picture is one where the hands aren't showing. *Haworthias* also take shelter in grass. *H. heidelbergensis* grows in the cracks of rocky banks almost hidden by moss. *H. mirabilis* Haw. subsp. *badia* has a growing center covered by dirt and gravel to protect itself from harsh light.

Bob showed many examples of variation: A series of shifts in population where the plant form moves slowly from *H. arachnoidea* to *H. unicolor*. A "zone of encounter" where *H. emelyae* from the north, *H. pygmaea* from the east, and *H. magnifica* and *H. retusa* from the west have met, and each place they have met the result has been different. A group of twenty unnamed plants, probably a mix of *H. emelyae* and *H. pygmaea*, showed striking variation in color within the group. Bob believes such variation is due not only to stress from the sun but also to genetic factors.

On the subject of cultivation, Bob prefers plastic pots because terracotta dries out too quickly. He advises planting deeply in an open mix; *Haworthias* do not grow on top. He started out planting with the Huntington mix of two parts humus, two parts pumice and one part sand, but has now dropped the sand. There is no firm rule for watering: a week to ten days is his general practice. Bob prefers rainwater because of its higher pH. It is important to have good drainage and not to overwater winter growing plants in the summer. Excessive fertilizer can cause root loss. Going from strong light to shade can help root development in plants that have suffered root loss.

In his fiberglass shed in Poway, Bob uses 55% shade cloth and 40% shade cloth. Burnt tips are to some extent inevitable due the natural effect of sand and water. The latitude of most *Haworthias* in South Africa is 34 S and San Diego is 34 N, so there are not many excuses for failure in Southern California.

### JUNE PLANT OF THE MONTH WINNERS

#### Cactus -- Advanced

1. Jim Hanna *Sulcorebutia arenacea*
2. Bill Hagblom *S. mentosa*
3. B. Hagblom *Rebutia steinmannii*

#### Succulent -- Advanced

1. Bill Hagblom *Haworthia badia*
2. B. Hagblom *H. emelyae*
3. G. McNaughton *H. magnifica* v. *atrofusca*

#### Cactus - Novice

1. LaVerne Fitzer *S. polymorpha*
2. L. Fitzer *Rebutia spp.*
3. Jim Larson *R. sarcus*

#### Succulent - Novice (no 2nd awarded)

1. L. Fitzer *H. limifolia*
3. L. Fitzer *H. "Harvey Johnson #11"*
3. L. Fitzer *H. venosa*



## CSSA CONVENTION 1995

A number of Roadrunners joined over six hundred cactophiles and succulent enthusiasts from around the world at the biennial Cactus and Succulent Society Convention held this year in Tucson from June 18 to June 23. Jim Hanna reports meeting attendees from South Africa, New Zealand, Czechoslovakia, Wales, Australia, and Hawaii. There were eight programs per day lasting forty-five minutes each: three in the morning, three in the afternoon and on some days, three at night. The Tuesday night rare plant auction lasted over four hours, bringing in over \$12,000. There were bus tours to see the Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix and the Boyce Thompson Desert Arboretum as well as growers in the area. There were also trips each morning to harvest fruits from the top of saguaros at the Indian reservation.

The 1997 convention will be held in San Diego at the Town and Country and the 1999 convention will be at the Showboat in Las Vegas. Mark your calendars.

## CSSA SHOW & SALE 1995

The 1995 CSSA Show was held at the Huntington Botanical Gardens on July 1 and 2. In the show, Cacti were judged in forty-nine categories, succulents in sixty-two, with additional categories for allied interests in photography, drawing and painting. There were also awards for high points and trophies in special categories. Show chairmen Duke Benadom and Joe Clements, were assisted by many volunteers. Jim Hanna was chairman of the successful sale area in the Huntington parking lot.

Saturday evening, Joe Clements, Director of the Huntington Desert Garden hosted a walking tour of the garden pointing out the many changes to the garden over the years. William Hertrich, first director of the Huntington Gardens, laid out over 1100 feet of pathway when he designed the twelve acres of the Desert Garden on the site of an artificial lake. A bump on the path near the Joshua trees signals the presence of the Raymond Hill Fault, a reverse or thrust fault. Golden barrel cactus weighing 200-300 pounds flourish in one of the world's great rockeries built between 1925 and 1930. Recently a number of the huge tree-like *Euphorbia ingens* fell, wiping out an entire planting area. Dating back to 1932, they were the first *Euphorbias* to succumb to the oak root fungus, *Armillaria mellea*. Knowledgeable on many fronts, Joe explained how to make nopales from *Opuntia* pads and tequila from *Agaves*. Squirrels and coyotes forage in the gardens but there are no snakes. While we walked mockingbirds sang, hawks made strange wounded sounds and two exotic species gone native, the red military macaw and the golden headed parrot flew over.

The show dinner was held buffet-style on Saturday night at the home of Jim Folsom, Director of the Gardens. Jim and his wife Debbie and their daughter were away but the garden of their house on the Huntington grounds is always a charming informal setting. Danielle Rudeen, Jim's assistant, made an efficient and gracious hostess. After the dinner there was a plant auction of donated show quality plants to benefit the CSSA Research Fund directed by Seymour Linden. CSSA directors Dave Tufenkian and Mac Clarke served as auctioneers assisted by celebrity auctioneers, Buddy Hackett and his son Sandy.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 22 & 23: NORCAL SHOW & SALE (Put on by the Northern CA societies) 9 - 5 at SF County Fair Bldg., 9th Ave. at Lincoln Way, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Info, call (415) 665-8101.

August 19 & 20: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA INTER-CITY SHOW AND SALE, See full page notice on the following page. A special pre-show newsletter prepared by Carol Wujcik will be out shortly and should be available at the LBCC July meeting. If you have a plant you would like to show and would like advice on selection, staging, etc., help is available -- free! In the central Long Beach/Lakewood area call Larry Grammer (310) 599-1146 or Jim Hanna (310) 920-3046; Orange County -- Bill Hagblom (714) 538-6186; west of Long Beach -- Dick Hulett (310) 832-2262.

September 9: HUNTINGTON SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM at the Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino CA 91108, (818) 405-2160. Full day program of talks, sales, rare plant auction, tours. Program details and registration information should be available in August.

September 11 - 17: IOS Intercongress in San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato, Mexico - meetings taking place in the offices of CANTE. Info: IOS Intercongress, c/o CANTE, Mesones 71, San Miguel de Allende, 37700, Gto., Mexico. Phone (415) 22990 and FAX (415) 24015. There will be meetings on conservation, Cactaceae, Agavaceae and others. Also field trips are in the plans. Locally, call Dave Tufenkian (818) 794-3082.

September 24: LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB FABULOUS PLANT AUCTION at the historic Dominguez Adobe, home of the Long Beach Cactus Garden, 18127 S. Alameda St., Compton, CA 90221. All are invited, but you must be a member to auction plants. Auctioneers include Minnich, Turacek and Hagblom. BYO sack lunch. Coffee/water/sodas provided. Contact Dick Hulett (310) 832-2262.

October 14 & 15: (changed from Oct. 28 & 29): SAN GABRIEL VALLEY C&S SOCIETY WINTER SHOW & SALE at Huntington Botanical Gardens. Date change due to a conflict at HBG. Info, David Tufenkian (818) 794-3082.

### FIELD TRIP

The South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society is planning a field trip to the International Center for Earth Concerns in Ojai on Saturday, October 7, 1995. This is the same beautiful place that some of us visited in April along with the San Gabriel Club. A Mark IV bus with facilities will leave promptly at 8:00 A.M. from the parking lot of South Coast Botanic Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Boulevard in Palos Verdes. There will be a stop at Desert Images Nursery in Ojai and possibly another nursery if time permits. Bring a sack or picnic lunch to eat at the Center. The bus will return at 5:00 P.M.

Cost is \$10.00. If you are interested call Chuck Rennie at (310) 375-3790 to reserve a spot. It is not necessary to pay until August or September but checks should be made payable to SCCCS and sent to Chuck at 26837 Grayslake Road, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275.