

C C C S S
E - N E W S L E T T E R
M E M B E R S P A G E

This month, the members page is dedicated to additional images of

Turbónicarpus



On the Dry Side

AUGUST 2012



T. alonsoi



T. alonsoi crest



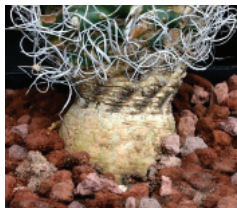
T. gielsdorfianus



T. lophophoroides



T. lophophoroides monstrosa



T. pseudomachrochele collar



T. schmiedickianus



T. schmiedickianus root



T. pseudomachrochele

CCCSS July Meeting Recap

Minutes from July 8, 2012

We had the pleasure of including members of the Moñtana de Oro Chapter of the California Garden Clubs at our first meeting presided over by our new president, Charles Varni. Linda Hicks gave a brief description of the group and its activities. Charles introduced the new Board members and again thanked the outgoing members for their work on behalf of the club over the last year(s). Charles mentioned that CCCSS has received an award for increasing our membership and introduced a large group of first-time visitors, all of whom received a customary free plant along with the snack donators. Terry Excell, newsletter editor, discussed the new email format. Items being added include links to various websites of interest and a page where members can contribute notices, photos, special events, etc. See the newsletter for contact info. Our publicity chairperson, Wayne Mills, reported on the club's June 30 bus trip to the show and sale at The Huntington Gardens. The bottom line was that everyone had a terrific time and we all arrived back happy and tired from a long day of socialization and succulents. Our own Rob Skillin ran roughshod over the competition in the show.

Dr. Charles Spotts gave his usual charming and educational presentation of the Plant-of-the-Month portion of our meeting; this month's featured plants were senecio and othonna. Charles was somewhat put out that no one brought in any of these and asked that *members bring in examples of the plant of the month if they have a presentable specimen*. Not all senecio and othonna are succulents. Sunflowers are a good example of the distinctive inflorescence – the inflorescence looks like a flower but is actually a mass of flowers on a disk without petals and a ray of flowers; the outside petals are also flowers. Othonna are winter-growing succulents from the west/south coast of Africa. Senecio are found in many different locations. The two have different watering habits, depending on where they originate, so you should research habitat before beginning a watering program. Rob Skillin presented the plants on the Brag Table and the raffle plants, which were particularly awesome this month.

Mary Peracca introduced this month's guest speaker, Tom Glavitch, vice president of CSSA, from the Los Angeles area. Tom's specialty is mutants and he gave a fascinating and entertaining presentation on crests, monstrose plants and other interesting mutations. Tom prefers to use pumice, fertilizes routinely and advises checking the pH of irrigation water.

~ Submitted by Carol Moss, Secretary

PLANT OF THE MONTH- TURBINICARPUS

AUGUST
BY CHARLES SPOTTS

Turbinicarpus

Turbinicarpus is a Mexican genus of small cacti occurring in a very limited region along hillsides, primarily in the regions around San Luis Potosi. In habitat they form single heads or small clusters, rarely more than 1 to 2 inches in diameter, partially buried and hidden in gravelly soil or rocky crevices in the full sun, but in cultivation they may produce surprisingly large clusters. Many of the species are restricted to only one or a few hills and heavy overcollecting has resulted in a depredation of their populations; the entire genus has been placed on the endangered list as the result. The most recent descriptions of the genus identifies about 25 species, but many more names are still used by those who consider the many varieties to be valid species in their own right. The genus as currently described includes many plants previously identified in other genera such as *Gymnocactus* and *Pelecyphora* and may be found under those names in older books.

Turbinicarpus are much desired by collectors because their small size requires little growing space, they flower readily at a small size, and they are relatively hardy. They like bright sun but are somewhat sensitive to overwatering. They prefer a more mineral substrate. They are hardy in winter if kept dry.

Some of the most frequently encountered species include:

T. alonsoi. Solitary, globose, 2.5-3.5 in. diameter, red flowers, flattened cardboard-like spines about ½ in. long

T. gielsdorffianus. (formerly *Gymnocactus*). Occasionally clustering, stems bluish green, tending to be somewhat cylindrical, 1.5-2 in diam. Flowers white, spines straight, needle-like.

T. horripilis. (*Gymnocactus*) Often clustered, stems 1.5-2.5 in diam, globose, olive-green. Flowers magenta, Spines straight, needle-like.

T. knuthianus. Solitary, globose, 1-5-2.5 inches high, bluish-green. Flowers magenta. Spines numerous, slender, curved upward.

T. laui. Solitary, flattened, 0.5-1.5 in diam. Tubercles pronounced, conical. Flowers white with brownish midribs. Spines straight

T. lophophoroides. Solitary, depressed globose, blue-green, 1.5-2 in diam. Tubercles pronounced but low and rounded. Spines short and straight. As name implies, resembles *Lophophora*.

T. pseudomachrochele. Usually solitary but occasionally clustered. Stems globose with wooly tips, tubercles low, rounded. Flower color varies-white-magenta-yellowish-reddish. Distinguished by longer, twisting, bristly spines, often partially obscuring the body of the plant/ Several subspecies are identified (*krainzianus*, *lausseri*)

T. pseudopectinatus. (formerly *Pelecyphora*). Solitary, depressed globose, about an inch (+/-) in diameter. Distinguished by dense pectinate spination. Grassland / Pinyon-Juniper woodland.

T. schmiedickianus. Current treatments now include about 10 previously named species under this name as subspecies or varieties (*macrochele*, *klinkerianus*, *schwarzii*, *dickisoniae*, *flaviflorus*). Many growers do not completely accept this lumping and still maintain many of the original names as valid species. Usually solitary, ½ to 2 inches in diameter. Flowers variable, whitish to yellow to magenta. Spines weak, thickened, flexible, sometimes absent.

T. valdezianus. (formerly *Pelecyphora*). Globose, very small (1/2-1 inch diameter) Dense pectinate spination covers and obscures the stem.



T. pseudopectinatus



T. horripilis



T. pseudopectinatus root



T. laui



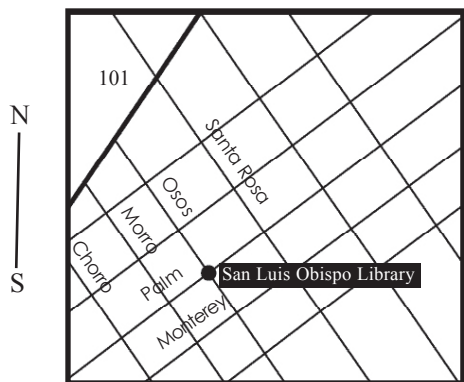
T. knuthianus



T. valdezianus

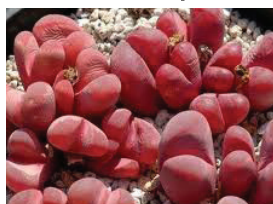
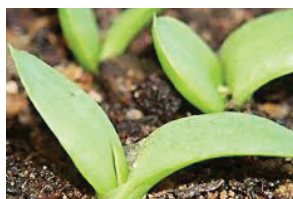
NEXT MEETING:

Sun. August 12
at 2:00 pm



San Luis Obispo
Public Library

995 Palm Street
San Luis Obispo



Succulent seeds and seedlings

Please be aware that the City of San Luis Obispo has started charging for parking on Sunday afternoon, 1pm.

The parking structure gives the first hour free and has 2 elevators. Or, you can park on the street and feed the meters!

TIME TO PAY YEARLY DUES!

(FOR NEW PHYSICAL YEAR July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013)

\$15-individual, \$20-family

\$35-business (allows for business card ad in newsletter)

*****If you have not had any changes to your phone, email address or mailing address since 2010 just bring a check to the meeting OR mail a check to Maggie.*****

If you have had any changes please do the following:

-**email members:** print and fill out attached pdf form

-**regular mail members:** tear off front sheet of this newsletter

-make check payable to: CCCSS

-bring form and payment to the meeting or mail to:

Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society
c/o Maggie Wagner
780 Merced Street
Pismo Beach CA 93449

AUGUST'S PROGRAM

Discussion workshop of the Month: How to Grow Cacti and Other Succulents from Seed

This month fellow club members Rob Skillin, Gene Schroeder, Margaret Wagner and Markus Mumper will speak about growing cacti and other succulents from seed.

They will demonstrate how they sow and, more importantly, keep cacti and other succulents alive and growing after germination.

The club will provide all supplies: seeds, soil, pots, other materials and cleanup (if some would like to stay and help clean up after the meeting that would be great).

We'll have seed (Astrophytum, Gasteria, Haworthia, Frailea and more) but you can bring your own too.

So be ready to get your hands a little dirty and propagating!



Gene Schroeder' photographs of the 2012 CCCSS Show & Sale are now on line at:

<http://tinyurl.com/2012-CCCS-Show>

(hit "slideshow" upper right corner)

Separating Offsets:

BY Chris Miller (SDCSS)

Taking rooted offsets and separating clusters is the fastest and most trouble free method of propagation. Offsets are smaller plants coming off from a main plant (the parent). In its simplest form, offsets can be pulled off the parent and will detach with their own root system already some-what developed. In other cases, the offset will have just a bare, broken stem, which needs to be dried off for about a week before being stuck into the potting mix. Roots develop quickly when the weather is warm. If roots are present and there is no cut surface, the offset or pup can be planted immediately in a dry mix. Always remember to remove any dead leaves.

Steps for separating offsets (pups):

- If a large clump: unpot parent plant and pups.
- Gently pull apart the clump of pups. If root ball is too tightly grown, soak plant to loosen up the roots and work the root ball until it starts to separate. Some pups will release freely, other will need to be cut or broken off (carefully).
- Clean up parent and pups, removing dead leaves and dead roots.
- Let dry out for a few days (depending on the weather) if there are broken roots or you had to cut or break the pups from the parent plant.
- Plant in dry mix and water as appropriate.

If you want to separate a single pup you use a clean knife, cut it from the base of the parent plant and try to loosen the soil around the pot so that you can retrieve as much of its roots as possible.

Upcoming Events

September 15 & 16

Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society Fall Show & Sale. Garden of Jardines Restaurant, 115 Third St., San Juan Bautista, CA 95045.

October 27 & 28

Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale. San Diego Botanic Garden, Encinitas, CA. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For information: Peter Walkowiak hciservices@gmail.com

November 3 & 4

San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society Winter Show & Sale, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia, CA. 9 a.m. to 4.30. For information: <http://www.sgvcss.com/>

November 9 & 10

Orange County Cactus & Succulent Winter Show And Sale. Sale Friday November 30: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday December 1: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Anaheim United Methodist Church. 1000 S. State College Blvd. Anaheim, CA. For information <http://www.occss.org/>

Visit our friends below!

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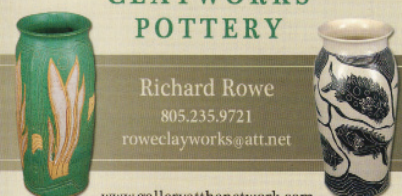


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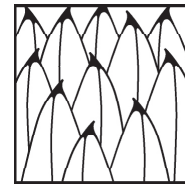


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July Board Meeting Notes:

After cleaning up the room, which involves taking down and putting away the tables, vacuuming the entire room and straightening the chairs – the Board would be grateful if they had some help doing this– the Board members convened and Jim Harlow gave a financial report for the Huntington trip. The Board agreed to give complete refunds to the several people who at the last minute were unable to attend. Edie Price, our former very long-time Treasurer who continues to wrap up financial matters for us, reported that the total profit for our 2012 Show and Sale was \$3,315! The Board then discussed our checking account, and noted that our by-laws require two signatures, one of them the Treasurer's. Authorized signatories will be Maggie Wagner (Treasurer), Rob Skillin, Charles Varni and Pat Gilson (**do-it-all** person). These people and your Secretary, who documented the Board's decisions, did the necessary paperwork at the Bank of America branch in Arroyo Grande on July 20. An ongoing discussion about the by-law review ensued and one of these days will be dealt with. Wayne reported that he and Kathie Matsuyama have arranged a garden tour of north coast succulents, and details will be presented when they are finalized. [Teaser: a trip to Lotusland is being considered, possibly in February 2013 (something to look forward to)]. Finally, the Board agreed that the length of today's presentation by Tom Glavitch was just right and future speakers will be asked to use 45 minutes as a guideline for their programs.



Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society
On the web at: <http://centralcoastcactus.org/>

EDITOR: Terry Excell: txlraiders@gmail.com

1680 13th St. Los Osos, CA, 93402

All submissions to the CCCSS newsletter **must be submitted two weeks prior** to the monthly meeting.

PRESIDENT Charles Varni charles@varni.org 459-6698	VICE PRESIDENT Markus Mumper MARKUSMUMPER@GMAIL.COM 773-1499	SECRETARY Carol Moss carol.moss@gmail.com 438-4906	TREASURER Maggie Wagner margaretwagner@gmail.com 773-1499	CSSA AFFILIATE Rob Skillin 709-3033
AT-LARGE James Harlow harlowj2@gmail.com 550-6660	AT-LARGE Nicole DeVecchio nifter@sbcglobal.net	PUBLICITY Wayne Mills wwmills50@hotmail.com 481-3495	HOSPITALITY Pat Gilson hupt74@att.net 481-5596	LIBRARIAN Gene Schroeder Leschroeder@earthlink.net 929-2161

A one time free newsletter will be mailed out to those who sign in at the monthly meetings. After this dues must be paid in order to start a subscription.