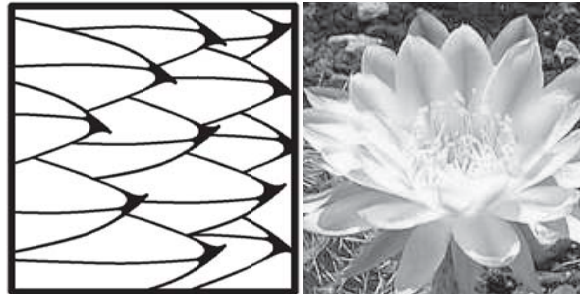


On the Dry Side

February 2009



Central Coast Cactus
& Succulent Society
c/o Markus Mumper, Editor
780 Merced St.
Pismo Beach, CA 93449

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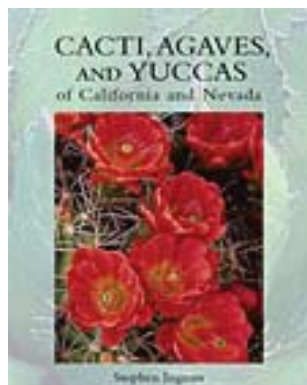
- Upcoming Speaker
- Upcoming Events
- Hospitality News - Free Plant!
- Plant of the Month: Ferocactus
- Upcoming SLO Library Display

January Meeting Recap

Happy New Year to all, and as always, welcome newcomers! Remember, New Year's is the time to re-new your membership dues; You'll be glad you did! Each meeting is fun, informative, and full of flavor, not to mention overflowing with cacti and other succulents. January's plant of the month was Winter growing Tylecodon and Cotyledon. Rob Skillin and Nick Wilkinson introduced unusual varieties of the South African native species (keep in mind, Tylecodon reticulatus shows best when the old flowers are left on). Our speaker of the month was Michael Glikbarg, owner of Orchids of Los Osos. He gave an engaging presentation on succulent orchids and brought many exquisite varieties to show. Orchids are the largest family of plants with more than 30,000 species! They grow almost everywhere and their flowers span the entire color range. Most grow on the sides of trees in tropical forests at altitudes between 3,000 and 7,000 feet. Did you know vanilla comes from an orchid? Orchids have fleshy pseudo bulbs that store water and food, and the butterfly orchid, Psychopsis, from Central America, can go for months without water! The butterfly orchids are striking and helped start the Victorian rage for orchid growing. Speaking of growing orchids, Mr. Glikbarg informed us NOT to use redwood bark as an orchid medium. It is too acidic and too soft, use Douglas fir bark instead. Generally, water orchids once a week and fertilize twice a month with a 20-20-20 fertilizer, 1 tbsp. per gallon. Mr. Glikbarg covered much more than I can here. I suggest you treat yourself to his Open House, this Valentine weekend!

~Eva Zayha

Steven Imgram



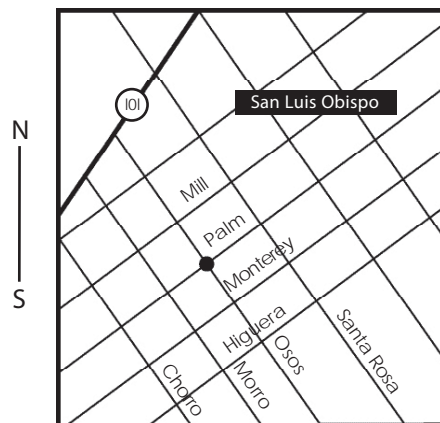
California Native Plants

The speaker for November is Steven Imgram. Steven has written many articles and has provided nature photographs for various books and articles. He has also published his own book: Cactus, Agaves, & Yuccas.

Steven will talk about the native cacti and other succulents of California and Nevada.

Help Wanted: Joan Field, the Publicity person, needs assistance with a display to be placed in the SLO City/County Library during the month of May. The display will feature art work including paintings, drawings and photographs from our membership. It will be used to publicize our annual Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale. Anyone is welcome to contribute with a suitable piece. Joan also needs help in setting up and arranging the display. Call her at 773-6644 or see her at the next meeting if you can help in any way.

NEXT meeting:



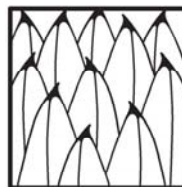
Sun, Feb. 8th
at 2:00 pm
SLO Public Library
(large room)
995 Palm Street
San Luis Obispo
805-781-5991

next.....

BOARD—MEETING

The next Board Meeting will be held on Feb. 8th right after our General Meeting. As always, members are welcome.

NOTE: Easter Sunday occurs during the second Sunday of April, the April meeting will occur on the third Sunday of the month.



Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society
e-mail: markusmumper@gmail.com


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

PRESIDENT Mary Peracca 550-6977	VICE PRESIDENT Charles Spotts 237-2054	SECRETARY Eva Zahya 546-8202	CCSA AFFILIATE Rob Skillin 473-0788	TREASURER Edie Price 489-8491
EDITOR Markus Mumper 773-1499	ASST. EDITOR Nick & Kara Wilkinson 528-8880	PUBLICITY Joan Field 773-6644	LIBRARIANS Martin Howell & Jeanne Hanyasz 544-5389	HOSPITALITY Maggie Wagner, 773-1499 Pat Gilson, 481-5596

A one time free newsletter will be shipped out to those who sign in at the monthly meetings. After this dues must be paid in order to continue this service.



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Upcoming Events

MAR 7 - 8 South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society
 Show and Sale
 South Coast Botanical Gardens
 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes
 310.832.2262

APR 10-15 CSSA 2009 Biennial Convention
 Westin La Paloma Hotel, Tucson, AZ
www.cssainc.org for more information.

APR 18-19 Green Scene Plant Sale
 Fullerton Arboretum
 1900 Associated Rd., Fullerton
 714.278.4791

MAY 3 South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show and Sale
 South Coast Botanical Gardens
 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes
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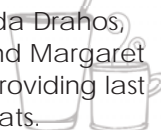
**The
 Clayworks**

Great News!!
 Sign up to bring refreshments and get a 4 inch plant!! Jeanne & Martin, Lena & Joann will be the first of our members to benefit from this new program. You must sign the Hospitality Sign-Up Sheet and bring refreshments to get a plant. We need refreshments for each monthly meeting and we need to know who is bringing them. And thanks to everyone who has been contributing to the refreshment fund, donations can be made at the refreshment table.

Maggie & Pat

hospitality news:

Thanks to Linda Drahos, Eva Zayha and Margaret Wagner for providing last meeting's treats.



This month Jeanne Hanyasz & Martin Howell, Lena Kapp and Joann Spotts will host.

If your interested in providing a snack for future meetings please sign up at the front desk or contact Pat Gilson, 481-5596.

CCCSS Library

CCCSS now has a library of books that can be checked out by CCCSS members. You will find the most updated list of books available for check out at each meeting. Please contact librarians Martin Howell & Jeanne Hanyasz, 544-5389, for more information and availability.

* Any book lost or damaged will require a replacement fee.

Ferocactus B. & R.

Division: Spermatophyta

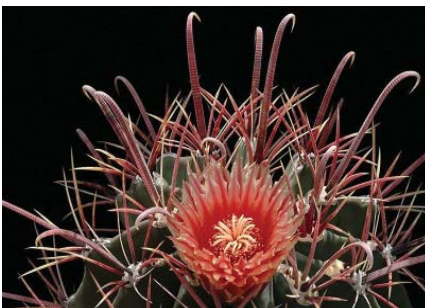
Class: Magnoliophyta

Order: Caryophyllales

Family: Cactaceae



One of the most distinguishing features of North American deserts are the awe inspiring forms of the barrel cacti that grace the hot rocky landscape. When many people think of barrel cacti, they immediately think of Echinocactus grusonii but, in reality, 'barrel cactus' is a general term for all barrel-shaped cacti and Ferocactus is absolutely included in that category. The major differentiating feature between Echinocactus and Ferocactus is that Echinocactus has densely woolly crowns at the stem tips and Ferocactus tend to be less woolly at the stem tips. Ferocactus, meaning "fierce or wild cactus," are always cylindrical or barrel shaped and are usually among the largest cacti of the North American deserts.



All members of this genus have prominent ribs and are fiercely armed with heavy spines. In some species, one or more central spines are curved like a fishhook, accounting for the common name, Fishhook Barrel Cactus. Ferocactus flowers are primarily orange, yellow, and red and always grow at the top of the plant and bloom during the day in spring and summer. Fruits become fleshy and often juicy when mature, but are not usually considered edible. There are a number of species of this genus, most of which grow in central Mexico and Baja California with a handful of species that are recognized as growing in the deserts of the American Southwest.

