

Special Edition

President's Message

I hope everybody is doing well and sheltering in place staying sane and I hope tending to your cacti and succulents. With regret I'm sorry to report that we have lost one of our long-term members, Ruth Pantry. In comparison to the Bloss family or the Stubblefields, I didn't know Ruth on a personal level. I knew that she was a pillar of our club for years taking on various duties, most recently as our membership chair before stepping down. I will always remember the kind handwritten notes in perfect cursive, reminding me that my membership will expire. Ruth always praised my works in ceramics when she saw other members buzzing about meetings with my pots. Ruth was always kind and thoughtful. Ruth will be missed.

Future meetings and our show and sales have been cancelled until further notice. When the Governor gives the order that the state is open for regular business we will send out communication about the next meeting. I imagine adjustments will have to be made in our setup so we can maintain a bit of distance between us. If you are feeling isolated and would like to share your gardening triumphs, blooms or you are looking for plant advice please check out and join our group on Facebook.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting.

Joseph Hidalgo



WEBINAR

Video Meeting

The Cactus and Succulent Society of America Webinar Series

Hello folks,

Join us Saturday, May 30th at 10:00 a.m. PDT for the second of a series of webinars featuring Cactus and Succulent experts from around the world.

Noted photography, Irwin Lightstone, will present a program entitled, "Capture the MAGIC of the Plants You Love in Your Photography". The program will concentrate on the creative use of light and composition. Irwin will assist both the new photographer as well as the expert in giving their plant photography the little extra it needs.

The program will be 45 minutes followed by a short question and answer period.

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7OB58mINRUyMKx7Ma1hbrg

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email about joining the webinar.

For additional information, visit the CSSA website: <http://cactusandsucculentsociety.org/>

Best regards

Gunnar Eisel

CSSA Executive Director

RESOURCES

On-Line Resources

Online Resources for Cactus & Succulent Growers

By Tom Karwin

When I need to identify or learn more about a plant, I search a few favorite websites, often with quick success. Many growers of cacti & succulents are frequent users of the Internet, but some might find value in these selections, which are not in any order.

Wikipedia.com

This encyclopedic resource is my first choice for learning about a new and unfamiliar plant. When I can start by entering the plant's botanical name, Wikipedia provides solid basic information. By entering the generic name, e.g., "agave," brings the searcher to a list of 270 agave species. Many of the species will be listed in blue letters, indicating a link to more about that species. Pages for an individual species typically are organized under several sub-headings:

- Description

- Taxonomy and naming

- Cultivation (including subspecies and varieties)

- Uses

- References

- Further reading

- External links

Wikimedia Commons

After reading about a particular plant on Wikipedia, you might want to see images of the plant. Look to the column on the left side of the Wikipedia page and click on "Wikimedia Commons." This brings you to a page of photographs (and perhaps some drawings) of the plant. These photographs are generally good examples of the plant of interest, but often are casual snapshots more than works of photographic art. Still, they usually represent the plant well.

PlantZAfrica.com (<http://pza.sanbi.org/>)

To learn more about a succulent plant from South Africa, check out this website, which offers several ways to learn about South African plants. You can enter a plant's botanical name in the search window (upper right corner) or explore the site's pages for "Plants of the Week" and "Vegetation of South Africa." The page titled "Information Library/Veld & Flora" lists numerous articles about South African plants, organized by date. Most of these articles are a few years old, but still quite useful.

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RESOURCES

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Online Resources for Cactus & Succulent Growers

By Tom Karwin

World of Succulents (<https://worldofsucculents.com/>)family

This website calls itself the "Prime Destination for Succulent Lovers," and it could be right. There is much to explore on this site, starting with a search window to enter a plant's botanical name. Then, there's a menu listing the following:

- Succulentopedia: to browse plants by botanical name, common name, genus, hardiness zone, and geographic origin.

- About Succulents: many articles to browse, aided by keyword tags (right column)

- Cultivation: all aspects of care for succulent plants

- Succulent Uses: including medicinal, cosmetic, culinary, and sacred uses

- Library: books, stories, myth & legends, video

- World of Flowering Plants: a link to a related website

Debra Lee Baldwin

This succulent aficionado must hold the title of most prolific and versatile communicator on this subject. In addition to giving public talks & demonstrations and publishing three books (at last count) she maintains these outlets:

- Website (<https://debraleebaldwin.com/>),

- Blog "All About Succulents" with articles (<https://debraleebaldwin.com/succulent-blog/>,

- YouTube channel (tour her personal garden at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UYHXsgK98U>),
and

- Instagram page (<https://www.instagram.com/debralbaldwin/?hl=en>).

There are many more Internet resources of value to cactus & succulent growers. The sites listed here are good places to start your explorations. If you have other websites that you like, write about them for a future issue of the MBACSS newsletter.

EPIPHYLLUMS

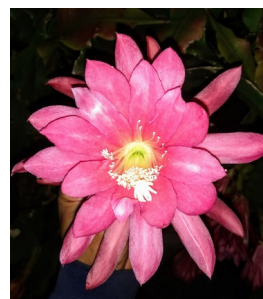
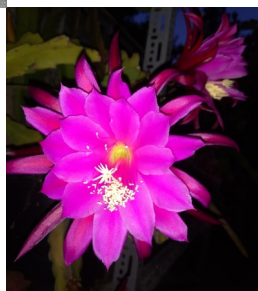
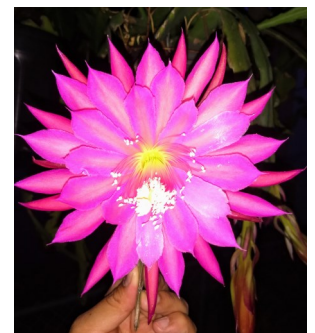
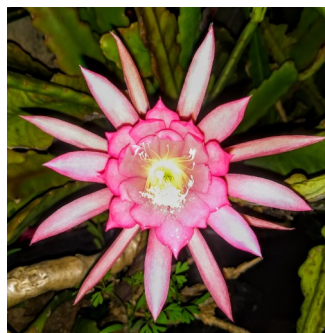
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Epiphyllums

By Joseph Hidalgo

Epiphyllum cultivars are result of crossing multiple genera of Central and South American epiphytic cactus species. Some goals of the hybridizers were, longer lasting flowers, bigger more colorful blooms, scented flowers, solid yellow blossoms and miniature plants.

Fast forward to the present, we have all of the above and more with over 10,000 registered hybrids! In California we are spoiled with the perfect weather for Epis (as they are commonly nicknamed.) They grow in the spring and fall, rest in the winter and hottest weather in summer, blooming mostly in May. Some plants are beasts growing individual leaves that are thick and over 5ft long. Others with closer ties to their wild relatives will climb walls, rooting and anchoring like orchids as they grow. Miniatures may be happy in a 1 gallon pot and oddly are more prone to having spines. All are easy to grow, just provide some shade to protect them from harsh full sun and protect from snails which will disfigure the plant, eating tender new growth. I have found they like to grow underneath my citrus and fig trees, liking the dappled light and microclimate the trees provide. More care instructions can easily be accessed online. I have found many California growers who sell on eBay if you wish to start a nice collection or expand the current one. The only issue is you will need room. After seeing one epiphyllum bloom you will want more plants!



MEMBERSHIP

The Passing of Ruth Pantry

Obituary

Ruth Mozelle Glidden-Pantry, a Salinas native was born November 6, 1936 to Lloyd and Dorothea Barnwell. She passed away on April 29, 2020.

Ruth was raised off of Old Stage outside Chualar. She was known as Ruthie by her family and classmates. She attended Chualar Grammar School, graduated from Gonzales High School, class of 1954 and attended UC Berkley.

Ruth retired after almost 28 years of checking out books at the Salinas Public Library and was part of the team that brought the library online with its first automated computer system.

She was a member and past president of the Monterey County Stamp Club, a member and past officer of the Cactus and Succulent Society, a 20 year volunteer and past board member of the Steinbeck House Restaurant, a former member of Anne's Web Spinning Guild and a member of First Presbyterian Church (now Compass Church). She researched her family genealogy back to North Carolina, Virginia and the Revolutionary War and was always ready to help with any class reunion plans.

She was predeceased by her son Kurt Glidden, sister Peggy Bales and nephew Bobby Bales.

Ruth is survived by her son Mark Glidden, granddaughters Joell Glidden and Nicolle King, brother in law Robert Bales and Numerous cousins.

At her request no services are planned.

Memorials to: Steinbeck House, 132 Central Ave., Salinas, CA 93901 or donors favorite charity

LEADERSHIP

Officers and Chairpersons for 2020

Chairpersons

Librarian - Suzy Brooks
Mini-Show - Jeff Brooks
Newsletter Editor - Nancy Thomsen
Photography - Paul Albert
Fred Valentine
Programs - Annie Wolf
Publicity - Sharon Lucchesi
Raffles - Gary Stubblefield
Sale Floor Manager/Liaison - Peter Beiersdorfer
Show - Naomi Bloss & Janet Sparks
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