



STICKY ISSUE

STOCKTON CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2013

MEETINGS: Fourth Thursday each month, 7:00 p.m.

* Unless otherwise noted

WHERE: San Joaquin County Building
2707 Transworld Drive
Stockton, California

***NEXT MEETING:** Thursday, March 28th, 2013

PRE MEETING DINNER: Denny's Restaurant
Arch Road location 5:30 p.m.



**STOCKTON CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
C/O BRIAN POOT
1180 BOXWOOD WAY
TURLOCK, CA 95380**



2013 BOARD:

President: Roelyn Poot (209) 599-7241 pootscactus@yahoo.com
Vice President: Brian Poot (209) 664-9232 jeffgordonfan24@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer: Lori Mace (209) 847-0180 lmace@ainet.com
Secretary: Pam Fish (209) 887-9190 pfish.fish61@gmail.com
Newsletter: Brian Poot (209) 664-9232 jeffgordonfan24@sbcglobal.net
Board Members: Bill Poot, Steve Roberts & Maybelle Abplanalp

BOARD MEETINGS: Please note, board meetings will now be held the second Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 p.m., except in December, or if that date conflicts with something else. Anyone is welcome to attend, but please call first to let them know you will be coming to make sure of the date. Thanks!



We can always use new ideas & opinions for the club, as well as help with behind the scenes stuff. If you are interested, please come to a board meeting. Thx!

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION:

Individual	\$20/yr
Family	\$25/yr
Contributing	\$35/yr
Patron	\$50/yr

All dues should be sent to the treasurer before the February general meeting.

Membership runs January-December. Complimentary Jan. & Feb. issue if unpaid.

CALENDAR:

March 12th - Board Meeting at the Poot's 7:00 p.m.
28th - General Meeting 7:00pm: **J.D. Wikert – Succulent Senecios**

April 9th - Board Meeting at the Poot's 7:00 p.m.
25th - General Meeting 7:00pm: **Ernesto Sandoval – Plant Hormones (How They Grow)**



OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS: (not club related)

Monterey Bay Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale: April 27-28 at Jardines Restaurant Courtyard
115 3rd Street, San Juan Bautista. 9am - 5pm

****We will also be listing other clubs shows, sales, and speakers, as well as cacti related events that may be of interest to our members. If you know of something that should be listed, please let the editor know. Thanks**

SUNSHINE REPORT: by Trudy Spahn

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to: Maybelle Abplanalp & Ted Heath.



THIS MONTHS PROGRAM: J.D. Wikert - Succulent Senecios

This month's program will be presented by our own club member J.D. Wikert. His presentation is titled: **Succulent Senecios**, and J.D. will discuss various aspects about the often blue succulent members of this genus. The presentation will include information regarding taxonomy, distribution, cultivation, and propagation as well as providing pictures of many of the more readily available species.

You might have seen J.D. speak in previous meetings about Stapeliads, Dudleyas, or Sedums, and this talk will follow a similar format. Members are encouraged to bring their own Senecios for the mini-show and to share their own Senecio experiences with the club.

J.D. will provide the raffle plants and have additional plants, hyper tufa pots and dish gardens for sale, so be sure to bring your cash. He will also provide free cuttings from his own Senecio stock.

J.D. Wikert will provide the raffle table this month.

***Reminder to Maybelle Abplanalp (drinks) & Marcia Azevedo (snacks), this is your month to bring refreshments.**

***Reminder to Maybelle Abplanalp it is your month to be the greeter.**

CLUB NEWS:

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Starting this month we will be doing a segment at the club meeting called '**Plant of the month**' where we will bring in plants from one genera (family) in both Cacti & Succulents. We will discuss where the plants come from, what kind of temperatures they can handle & how to care for them. If anyone has the plants that we will be talking about please bring in one of yours to share with the rest of us. This month we will be talking about **Astrophytum** for cacti & **Agave** for succulents.

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY FAIR: by Barbara Coelho

The San Joaquin Fair will be held June 12 through 16 this year. Entry deadline is May 14. Barbara will try to get some entry forms, let her know if you are interested, or you can download the forms on line. Stanislaus County Fair is July 12 through 21. Exhibitor guidebooks are available at no charge from your County Library or download information on line.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Gloria Abplanalp
2325 Rivergate Dr.
Riverbank CA 95367
(209) 869-4438
gloandcarl@att.net

Marcia J. Azevedo
5454 W. Keyes Rd.
Modesto CA. 95358
(209) 416-5196
maraze79@yahoo.com

**NOTE: IF YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR
2013 THIS WILL BE YOUR LAST NEWSLETTER!!**

FEBRUARY MINI SHOW RESULTS:

Novice Division, Cacti:	1 st - Steve Roberts	w/ <i>Euphorbia melanostele</i>
Advanced Division, Cacti:	1 st - Kathy Zumbrunn 2 nd - Kathy Zumbrunn	w/ <i>Cereus peruvianus monstrose</i> w/ <i>Mammillaria boscana v-fairoseiflora</i>
Open Division, Cacti:	1 st - Bill Poot 2 nd - Brian Poot 3 rd - Bill Poot	w/ <i>Gymnocalycium myrquezii variegated</i> w/ <i>Astrophytum ornatum x capricorne</i> w/ <i>Ariocarpus retusus v-furfuraceus</i>
Novice Division, Succulent:	1 st - Steve Roberts 2 nd - Steve Roberts 3 rd - Pam Fish	w/ <i>Agave 'Kichiokan Marginata'</i> w/ <i>Euphorbia clavigera</i> w/ <i>Sempervivum sp.</i>
Advanced Division, Succulent:	1 st - Kathy Zumbrunn 2 nd - Kathy Zumbrunn	w/ <i>Crassula 'Ripple Jade'</i> w/ <i>Euphorbia sp.</i>
Open Division, Succulent:	1 st - Bill Poot 2 nd - Roelyn Poot 3 rd - Roelyn Poot	w/ <i>Euphorbia obesa hybrid</i> w/ <i>Euphorbia francosii</i> w/ <i>Euphorbia obesa</i>
Novice Division, Blooming:	1 st - Steve Roberts 2 nd - Ron Bradshaw 3 rd - Ron Bradshaw	w/ <i>Crassula 'Morgans Beauty'</i> w/ <i>Euphorbia 'Snow Flake'</i> w/ <i>Neoporteria nidus</i>
Advanced Division, Blooming:	NONE ENTERED	
Open Division, Blooming:	1 st - Roelyn Poot 2 nd - Roelyn Poot 3 rd - Brian Poot	w/ <i>Euphorbia schiazii v-limpopoane</i> w/ <i>Echiveria sp. crest</i> w/ <i>Haworthia cymbiformis variegated</i>
Allied Interest:	1 st - Vickie Milano 2 nd - Kathy Zumbrunn	w/ <i>Succulent Planter</i> w/ <i>Haworthia cuspidata</i>

MONTHLY MINI SHOW: OPEN TO ANY CLUB MEMBERS THAT WANT TO SHOW PLANTS!

The mini show, held at the general meetings, is a time when you can **bring your plants**, to compete against other members' plants. There are 10 categories: Cacti & Succulent, (Open, Advanced & Novice Divisions), Bloomers (anything in bloom, also three divisions) & Allied Interest (dish gardens or natural planters). You may bring up to 2 from each category. The forms for judging are available to take home so that you can fill them out prior to the meeting if you wish, or there will be some at the meeting as well.



The plants are judged by the members attending that meeting; Who ever receives the most votes wins that months mini show & will get their name in the next newsletter. The person(s) receiving the most votes at the end of the year will receive a gift from the club.

WE ENCOURAGE ALL MEMBERS TO BRING PLANTS TO SHOW THROUGHOUT THE YEAR!

FYI: The mini show categories are **Novice** - those with fewer than 5 years of showing in the mini-show. **Advanced** - those who have shown for more than 5 years in the mini-show & does not sell more than \$300 in plants a year. **Open** - those who sell more than \$300 in plants a year. **Also you must own the plant for at least 6 months before you can show the plant in the mini show.**

Brian Poot, Mini show coordinator

Echeveria Flowers Are Very Unique

With names like Afterglow, Big Red, Fireball and Lipstick (just to name a few), one might think that these flowering plants in the Crassulaceae family have a secret life or at least a juicy one. Native to semi desert areas of Central America, [Echeveria](#) can be evergreen or deciduous and will send out flowers from short stalks that are somewhat foreign and surprising. Echeveria's form compact rosettes that sometimes look like thick rose petals. The rosette colors become more pronounced in cooler months and can vary from green, red, blue and orange. These species are polycarpic -- they can flower (normally in the spring) and set seed over and over again -- spreading their love. They will also produce offsets or babies which are known as "Hens and chicks." This playful reference is also commonly applied to the genera of Sempervivum but please note that they are different from the supple Echeveria.



Echeveria can be used as garden plants in warmer climates and are quite tolerant as they are drought resistant. Hybrids of the flower are a little less tolerant. Even though they prefer full sun, some can handle some shade and frost. A majority of them will shed their lower leaves in cooler winter temperatures which should be cleaned up as to not invite unwanted fungus as they decay. During the warmer growing season they can still tolerate extended dry periods which makes them a resilient friend but still need adequate watering during the warmer months. Plant them in a well draining succulent soil so that water is not kept at their root system, avoiding rot. They are shallow rooted plants and can be planted with brethren in close proximity. Make sure they are well ventilated and check for mealy bug and aphids once and while as they do find Echeveria and most succulents just that - succulent. If you find an infestation, treat it immediately with an organic insecticide.

Some people fall in love with their compact rose like appearance but as they grow out people might be surprised since they become a little unkempt looking. When your Echeveria goes through what you can call its 'ugly period', they can be re-rooted or propagated to return them to their compact nature. You might run across already cut heads of Echeveria at your local garden center which can subside on their own almost like a cut flower for a couple of weeks but if given the chance to be place on some moist succulent mix they are more than happy to send out roots and grab in to the soil searching for water, giving it another chance to turn in to a growing plant. Keep on spreading the love.

PLANT NEARS DEATH, BUT STILL TALK OF THE TOWN: by Hannah Mcleod

03/03/13

Invercargill man Clint Matthews says he loves the cactus he has been growing for the past 15 years, and even though it is about to die, he will not mourn its death. Mr. Matthews is the proud grower of an *Agave americana*, or century plant, which flowers only once, then dies. The cactus was a gift from his mother over 15 years ago, when it was small enough to hold in his hands. He said when this one died; he would replace it with one of its seedlings, called "pups". Mr. Matthews said he noticed a stalk beginning to protrude from the center of the plant in November. Since then it has grown to be around 8 meters tall, and is now producing bright yellow flowers.

The stalk has proved to be a bit of a concern for Mr. Matthews, who has had to secure it to his house and a car parked in his driveway to prevent it from being blown over. "I haven't waited 15 years for it to be blown onto my drive," Mr. Matthews said. The stalk attracted attention from all over the neighborhood, he said. "I've got up in the morning to go and get my mail, in my dressing gown, and there's a guy at my mailbox who says to me 'I've been waiting to talk to someone about this'." "Heaps of people have been interested," he said. The challenge Mr. Matthews now faces is how to remove it from his garden when it dies. "I'd hate to think what kind of root system it's got," he said. As soon as the century plant was removed, he would replace it with another one, Mr. Matthews said.



Succulent plants live by their own rules. To really understand their preferences I had to throw out what I know about traditional gardening and start again. Now that these plants are finding their way to every corner of America, those who have fallen in love with their beauty and easy care will have to rethink the rules as well.

If you study cactus and succulents in the wild as I do here in the Southern California desert, simple observation reveals many things. These plants tend to occur on well-drained rocky, south facing slopes. They perch in nooks and crannies where there is little to no soil. The roots survive in crevices that reach deep into the cliff where rock has trapped moisture year around.

Walk through the desert and you'll find plants springing out from beneath rocks and boulders. Here the ground is sandy gravel and porous, so the plants send their roots beneath the rock where it's cool and moist. Sure, they root out into the open to catch scant rainfall, but it moves so quickly through the granular ground that it's difficult to capture. The rain will soak the ground beneath the rocks where it remains long after skies have cleared so roots have more time to take it up. Soil beneath rocks is also more stable. In the desert sudden rainfall causes enormous erosion, carrying sand far and wide along dry washes and drainages. Plants that depend on this soil for stability will be washed out unless they find anchorage beneath a rock or boulder.

The natural model also is why I like to use at least one decorative stone when I plant young succulents in pots. It's hard to apply water without its velocity picking up particles as it hits the potting soil. This causes the soil levels to drop on the watered side and the traveling particles build up on the other side. It's doubly problematic when your plants have limited access. Soil movement is more prevalent in pots containing very young succulents and cactuses. It's my practice to find a beautifully complementary "watering" rock to go into the pot of every youngster. When I water, I pour it onto the rock, and from there the water flows naturally into the surrounding soil. There is no high velocity flow applied to the soil so there is no erosion, and I can be sure there is plenty of moisture beneath the stone.

Watering inevitably brings the white perlite and woody matter in the potting soil to the surface where it floats. This is reduced by using a fine gravel mulch layer on top, which is far more than decorative, but actually mimics the layers of soil laid down in the desert from rain events. When you water your rock, it flows down into the gravel mulch so the root zone remains undisturbed. You might be surprised to discover that your succulents tend to send out pups on the far side of the stone. This demonstrates how well they root beneath it and why they prefer to put out new growth points around its edges. Over time many succulents will flesh out the ground around the stone to create a truly eye-catching adult. For plants such as cactuses that demand more space as they grow larger, the rock can be removed to allow for development. By that time the roots will be dense enough to hold the entire soil mass tightly.

Ever since I began using watering rocks, I've become a rock hound, collecting unique colors, shapes and sizes that work with my plants. Every hike, every trip to the beach or every visit to my favorite stone yard yields great finds. For high-end creations, don't overlook specialty minerals that can turn a \$2 succulent into a big-bucks specimen in just the right pot.



A succulent's color and form as well as the space in the pot will dictate the kind of rocks that look best.



This pot was staged with reddish rocks that stand in sharp contrast against the dark green Haworthia.

FEBRUARY MEETING 2013 - PHOTO'S BY STEVE ROBERTS



FEBRUARY MEETING 2013 - PHOTO'S BY KATHY ZUMBRUNN



**STOCKTON CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Annual dues (January-December 2013)
Single Membership.....\$20.00 (\$10.00 AFTER JUNE)
Family Membership.....\$25.00 (\$12.50 AFTER JUNE)
Contributing.....\$35.00

Total Due\$_____

Please Print:

Name(s)_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone_____ E-mail_____

Birthday (year(s) optional)_____

Do you want the newsletter
E-mailed to you - Check 1
Yes _____ No _____
Please ☐ give at least ☐ month

*Please mail this form, along with a check made payable to the Stockton Cactus & Succulent Society to the membership chairperson before the February general meeting to continue receiving the newsletter.

**Lori Mace
P.O. Box 1902
Oakdale, CA 95361**