

The Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society
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Ferocactus crysacanthus
Yellow Barrel Cactus

The Cactus Patch



Opuntia basilaris var. treleasei

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BAKERSFIELD CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

This Month's Program

Exploring Euphorbias

Tom Glavich

October 8th

7:00 PM

Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, OCT 8th
at 7:00 PM
@ St. Paul's
Church
2216 17th St.

**Meet the
Speaker!**
Dinner at
Sizzler
5:00 PM
900 Real Road



The Cactus Patch

Volume 22 Number 10
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The Cactus Patch is the official publication of the Bakersfield
Cactus & Succulent Society of Bakersfield, California



Membership in the Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society costs \$20 per year for an individual and \$25 a year for a family.

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www.BakersfieldCactus.org

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October 8th Meeting

Exploring Euphorbias Tom Glavich

This talk is a look at Euphorbias around the world, comparing the similarities and differences of the Euphorbias of South Africa, Madagascar, Northern Africa, and Mexico. A look at crests and other mutants and a discussion on how to prepare them for show are included along with a section on propagation and cultivation. It really is a quick tour of the world of Euphorbias.

Tom Glavich is a member of the board of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, and a long time grower and propagator of succulent plants. He is one of the co-chairs of the Inter-City Cactus and Succulent Show held every August at the Los Angeles County Arboretum. He is the author of many articles published in the Cactus and Succulent Society of America's Journal. Many of his plants can be seen at skyviewsucculents.com.

He will bring plants for sale.



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September 10th, 2019

What you need to know about Successful Succulent Culture

J D Wikert

J. D, puts a lot of effort bringing things together is a succinct way to make it easier for the rest of us!

Like any good teacher, he is one chapter ahead of us.



BRAG TABLE



Jack Reynolds brought a rooted cutting of *Decarya madagascariensis* which has delightful zigzag stems.



Bruce Hargreaves brought Gordon Rowley's book on the History of Succulents.

We will miss his prolific writing.

Show and Sale

October 12th and 13th

Date & Times:

Set up Friday October 11, 3:00pm – 5:00ish. We set up the tables, put the covers on them, post signs, organize the hold table and other general things. This is a good time to bring boxes (cut to size with flaps removed) and bring your plants.

The S&S is open from 10:00am – 5:00pm on Saturday,
11:00am – 3:00pm Sunday.

Help!!

We need help with “running” the S&S. Please consider helping as much as you can. The greatest need is to have members there Saturday morning. We do need help Saturday afternoon and on Sunday, especially the take-down at 3:00pm. Various duties include:

- * “mingling” with visitors & watching for any problems
- * counting and adding up the prices of plants/pots being purchased
- * taking the \$\$ - either cash or charge (we have a Square account)
- * greet visitors and help them find a box and see the difference between sale and show plants
- * take visitor’s hold plants, give them a raffle ticket (matching one left in the box) and write their name on the box
- * other

Bring some boxes

Box “lids”. If you have other boxes, please cut off the folding lids.

Bring a few show plants

If you have an interesting plant (any one that you like will also be interesting to visitors), please bring it. It does not need to be “perfectly” staged. Just make certain it is disease free, cleaned of spider webs and such, has some top dressing, and has a clean pot. Plastic pots brighten up with a little cleaning and wiping gently with WD40. A Show Label should be made for each plant. . I’ll also bring some to our October meeting, just before the Show & Sale.

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Please drop me a note (email) with a rough guess as to how many plants you plan to bring.

Please bring your plant(s) to the auditorium either Friday afternoon or Saturday BEFORE 9:30am

If you have any questions, please ask – either via email or at our October meeting.

Cheers

maynard



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Plant of the Month



Dudleya brittonii

We have been adventuring among the Crassulaceae as described by Dortort for a while now but before moving on we must visit the genus Dudleya. This genus is

confined to western North America from Oregon to Baja California, mostly along the coast, with a few species venturing inland into the Mojave Desert and central Baja California. *Dudleya brittonii* is one of the most common and typical members of the group which contains about forty species altogether.

Dudleya brittonii is native to the west coast of Baja California where it grows on rocky cliff faces. Plants are rosettes of pointed spoon-shaped leaves up to a foot (30 cm.) across.

Leaves are pale blue-green made almost white by a heavy coating of chalky wax which is highly reflective to visible and ultraviolet light and gives the plant the common name “giant chalky dudleya”. Sometimes they form clusters of many heads. Flowers are yellow, urn-shaped, formed in clusters on reddish stems up to 2ft. (60 cm.) long in the spring.



This plant is a winter grower and should receive little or no water in the summer. In the wet season it will soon plump up and begin growing. They can be propagated from seed or stem or leaf cuttings. If over watered they may be attacked by snails or root rot.

They are not frost tolerant so should be protected in cold weather. My only *Dudleya* lives in the greenhouse.

Jack G. Reynolds

Election of Officers for 2020

- PRESIDENT: WE HAVE NONE!
- VICE – PRESIDENT: Jill Brennan
- SECRETARY: Pat Tennant
- TREASURER AND MEMBERSHIP:
L. Maynard Moe
- NEWSLETTER: Polly Hargreaves

We need to nominate officers now and hold the election at the November meeting. They should be installed at the Winter Potluck in December.



Resurrection

A Letter From Bruce

Stephen Cooley had given me a small plant of *Moringa oleifera*, the horse radish tree, which I then planted in our front yard. I had grown this tree in Botswana and felt it was suitable for Bakersfield. It is an important caudiciform as it has edible leaves which have more complete protein than other plants. During the winter I covered it every time there was a freeze. None the less it slowly died back and I thought I had lost it. Then in September I noticed a new branch with leaves growing from the base!



On the 24th of August we went with John to a soul food festival out by the fairgrounds. It was disappointing both in food and entertainment and was over-priced. (We learned we could have bought cheaper tickets in advance,

but had had no notice of this.) For Soul Food I still recommend Jack's Nest in New York.

Next day we celebrated the birthday of our nephew Joshua. In addition to a giant cookie labeled Joshua, we had a shark made from a water melon and a train of bell peppers with cucumber wheels. (These last two were left from a baby's birthday party which we weren't at).



On 1st Sept. we drove south of Pear Blossom to a county park in the hills called the Devil's Punchbowl. This has a rocky section of the San Andreas Fault. It was nicely laid out and there was a small museum, but it was altogether too hot. There was a grove of pines with picnic tables so we had a pleasant (if warm) lunch. [John had suggested Sequoia, but Polly had wanted to use her birthday voucher for Claim Jumpers, so I searched and found the Punchbowl.]

After lunch we drove over to Claim Jumpers in Valencia, stopping to see the Vasquez Rocks where many movies have been shot. At Claim Jumpers Polly found her birthday voucher was discontinued, but they honored it any way as it was on her phone. On Labor Day we rested.

We did not go to Fresno for the CSS meeting. It was a members' plant sale.

On the 8th the family had lunch at the new India Bistro at the south end of town. We all overate and the goat was especially good.

On the 10th we heard J.D. Wikert. It was a very broad topic and although he did his best, it was too much to cover in a short talk.



On the 11th I went back to Mercy Hospital and had prostate surgery. It went well and I was released next day. I heard they used a robot, but was disappointed to find it wasn't R2D2. I am trying to relax and recover, but I find it difficult.

On the 13th we saw the first film of the Flix season, *The Guilty*, but found it slow and disappointing.

On the 15th we took a few plants for the BCSS exhibit at the Fair. It looks like another good year, but the plants up for judging are mostly poor and a lot of them placed in the wrong category. (A mesemb is not a cactus!) An exception, of course is the beautiful cactus which won the BCSS award. We returned to the fair on the 20th which was free for seniors.

Bruce Hargreaves

[Bruce's opinions are his own and are not necessarily that of the BCSS]

The Succulent Garden at Cal State

Gasteria in the Landscape

You've all seen *Gasteria*, even if you didn't know its name. It usually looks like a small, tough-skinned *aloe*.

There are about 20 species from South Africa but there are many more forms, variants and hybrids. It is a common plant to find in the trade and usually is not very expensive. And, it grows pretty well here.

Gasteria thrives in light shade. It will do well under trees around shrubs and next to buildings. If it gets too much of our intense afternoon sun it will burn badly. There is one out in the garden at Cal State but it suffers each year from the sun and is gradually declining.

It can be a bit cold sensitive and a little cover is all it needs to survive the winter (light shade usually provides that cover). It is a winter grower but is tolerant of being watered out of season – as long as it doesn't stay wet. *Gasteria* is a succulent that should be planted in the ground more often.



Stephen Cooley

Kern County Fair September 18-29, 2019



Frank and Paulette Drake with their BCSS prize winning Mammalaria

I would like to thank all the volunteers who brought plants to the fair for our display which was quite wonderful: Jack, Jill, Maynard, Sydney, Polly, Bruce, and Tim. I apologize if I have forgotten anyone.

Jack G. Reynolds



**October 8th BCSS Meeting
Exploring Euphorbias
Tom Glavich**

**October 11th
Set up for BCSS Show and Sale
October 12th and 13th
BCSS Show and Sale**

**November 12th BCSS Meeting
Astrophytum Revisited
Gunnar Eisel**

**December 10th BCSS Meeting
Winter Potluck**

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