

# Cactus and Succulent Society

*Our mission is to provide opportunities for fellowship and exchange of information among persons sharing an interest in succulents; encourage, promote and support all aspects of the collection, culture and study of succulent plants; and to provide opportunities for the exchange and exhibition of succulent plants.*

December 2009

Friday December 4, 2009

6:30 pm

**DON'T FORGET We're at MacKenzie Park**

Speaker: Our own, Randy Baldwin

**Christmas Potluck:** We start our December meeting with our Christmas potluck at 6:30 PM. Aperitifs will be available from 6 PM onward. I suggest you arrive early to socialize *and* to find parking nearby because Santa Barbara's Christmas parade takes place at 6:30 PM and parking spaces fill up early. For the pot-luck, bring your favorite dish, from salads to desserts, enough for 8 to 10 people. Also bring your own favorite beverage and place settings.

## President's Message

It sounds cliché, but it's hard to believe this year is already coming to an end. As President of the Santa Barbara Cactus and Succulent Society I'd like to thank everyone for their continued support of this fantastic plant society. The strength of our membership reflects on the ever increasing popularity of succulent plants, the quality of the informative monthly presentations, the great rapport within the club and, simply, our passion for the plants.

This year we had our first Annual Memorial Lecture in honor of Gunther Schwartz, which had a huge turnout and a fantastic presentation by Stephen Ingram, author of "Cacti, Agaves and Yuccas of California and Nevada". Our annual show and sale was an enormous success, also with great attendance, excellent displays by our members, great auction items and the ever popular potting and plant culture demonstrations. The annual picnic, another great event, was once again enjoyed by all – this year in the beautiful garden of Harold and Carrie Shrontd.

The coming year will present the challenge of filling some important positions within the society that will be vacated: Treasurer and Membership Coordinator. We will be looking for the right person/people to start training for these positions soon and SBCSS will supply the software necessary for each position.

Once again thanks to all and here's looking forward to another great year with the Santa Barbara Cactus and Succulent Society. Happy Holidays! Paul Mills

The Club notes with sadness the recent passing of a former member Frank Jordano, someone who loved plants

**2009 Officers - President:** Paul Mills, **Vice President & Program Coordinator:** Rob Hofberg, **Secretary:** Loretta Berlin, **Treasurer:** Jim Foster  
**Chairpersons - CSSA Affiliate:** Martin Dent, **Garden Tours:** Martin Dent **Historian:** John Bleck, **Library:** Karen Davidson, **Membership:** Will Silver, **Newsletter:** Sandra Russell & Jim Foster, **Publicity and Hospitality:** Delia Smith, **Show Chairs:** Martin Dent & Karen Davidson,  
 SBCSS welcomes submission of material or suggestions. All address information is confidential, not to be sold, duplicated or supplied to adver-

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How about a really cool tour to visit someday - talk about fat plants! These puppies need to watch their carbs! We've had some talks about Socotra.

<http://www.darkroastedblend.com/2008/09/most-alien-looking-place-on-earth.html>

Another DarkRoastedBlend site with a really strange plant, one I feature on my Lotusland tours. Not necessarily a succulent but weird enough to have a look.

<http://www.darkroastedblend.com/2007/02/strangest-plant-on-earth.html>

Traveling and looking for gardens to tour? Well?

<http://www.cactus-mall.com/gardens.html#usa>

by the way the cactus mall is the host for our SBC&SS web site so we get a lot of world wide exposure!

One person's view of 8 of the most unusual plants. Sandy and I saw #4 this past August. It is located in the botany greenhouse at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

<http://www.divinecaroline.com/22167/37205>

Hey! Perhaps the club could do this!

<http://www.succulent-plant.com/kitsch/badge.html>