



Santa Barbara Cactus and Succulent Society

www.sbcactus.org

Our mission is to provide opportunities for fellowship and exchange of information among persons sharing an interest in succulents; to 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.

January 2007 Newsletter

Program: Friday, January 5, 2007, 7:30 PM
Meeting Hall: MacKenzie Park, Off Los Positas at State

January 2007 Meeting Speaker:

Kelley Griffin

Topic:

Aloes

2007 Annual Membership Dues will be collected at the January 5 meeting.

Single: \$12

Couple: \$14

Co-Presidents' Message from Bette Eliason and Karen Davidson

Happy New Year everyone! While we hope for peace - cooperation - respect - good will toward all men, women, children, animals and growing things...we will begin by continuing our society's efforts to present outstanding speakers to share their succulent/cacti expertise and experiences. Please continue to bring your own successful plants for all to admire, and your excess bounty for others to plant. We are also determined to choose our permanent meeting location, according to the majority preference, as quickly as possible. There is no doubt that the "location, location, location" mantra is a bit more complicated than it has been cracked up to be. We welcome your suggestions and advice, and look forward to the participation of all. To slightly paraphrase J.F.K. : "Ask not what the Succulent Society can do for you, but what you can do for the Succulent Society!" How many interested visitors can you bring this year? We will see you at the meeting.

Gunther Schwarz 1944-2006

After a grueling, six month battle with cancer, Gunther Schwarz died at his home on December 14, 2006. Gunther was a longtime member of the S.B. Cactus and Succulent Society and a regular attendee at our meetings. A friendly, generous man, Gunther frequently hosted the annual potluck lunch meeting for the society at his beautiful two acre estate on El Cielito Road in the Santa Barbara foothills. He was also a member of the S.B.County Horticultural Society and the International Palm Society. He had extensive plantings of succulents, with a wide variety of often unusual and mature plants. He also had over one hundred varieties of palms and many other tropical plants.



Always trying to push the boundaries of what can be grown in our climate; Gunther created a botanical wonderland, doing most of the work himself. Born in Austria during the dark days of WWII, Gunther trained as a mechanic at the Mercedes headquarters in Stuttgart. With his first wife he moved to Florida and then Hawaii before settling in Santa Barbara in 1969. He owned and operated Stuttgart Motors until his illness forced him to stop. Gunther is survived by his second wife, Jennifer, and his two sons, Andreas and Ryan. Gunther also leaves a brother and sister who still live in Austria but were able to be here at the time of his death. At Gunther's request, donations in his memory may be made to the S.B. Cactus and Succulent Society, the S.B.C. Horticultural Society, or to S. B. Visiting Nurse and Hospice, which provided much comfort in the final days.

Anyone interested in making a donation to the SBCSS in Gunther's honor may make the check payable to SBCSS, noting Gunther's name in the memo. Please mail the check to the Treasurer, Jim Foster, 375 Oak View Lane, Goleta, 93111.