

OPEN GATES - JANUARY, 2024

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY JANUARY 3, 2024 - DOORS OPEN 6:00 PM

2024 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Jeffrey Loew

It is with great pleasure that I am able to write my first message (as your newest president) to welcome in the new year.

I want to start off with a massive thank you to ALL involved in our December Christmas party. Special thanks go to Barbara Croonquist, Jo Ann Crabtree, and Sandra Martin for the fabulous table arrangements. I am particularly impressed that these creations were able to utilize and build upon the iconic centerpieces created by Judy Horne. As always our very own Tommy Dodon did a stupendous job serenading the group and filling us with holiday magic. To all that brought their kitchen creations and purchased provisions... a big thank you.

As you will see towards the end of our newsletter, we have many exciting upcoming events for 2024. This new year brings us a large number of opportunities to not only enhance our education of cacti and succulents, but also increase our appreciation... and private collections!

I know I speak for a number of you as I am gearing up for the chance to add new specimens to my collection. Speaking of collections... as winter is upon us, please take notice of the increase in rain events and make sure your spiny (and not-so-spiny) garden children are protected from overwatering. Remember.. You can always underwater, but overwatering is certain death when it comes to root rot. I myself was busy this past weekend covering my exposed potted collection with plastic sheeting to protect against the rain. While the winter is not the opportune time to repot, when it comes to the warmer months, ensure your potted plants have adequate drainage and proper soil. Our January speaker, the renowned Peter Walkowiak, will be speaking on soil.

All my best,

Jeffrey Loew

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DECEMBER CHRISTMAS PARTY MEMORIES



MONTHLY SPEAKER FOR JANUARY - PETER WALKOWIAK



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Peter Walkowiak has been fascinated by plants his whole life, but his interest in succulent plants really began in college. By the time he graduated, he had well over 100 plants in his collection.

The succulent bug started up again when his two sons were teenagers. This is when he discovered the world of cactus and succulent clubs, after hearing there was a succulent show in Balboa Park. He joined the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society on the spot. The following year, he joined the Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society and the CSSA.

He is now a member of all the Southern California Cactus & Succulent Societies, as well as past president of the Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society and the San Diego North County Club. He served on the board of directors of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society and the CSSA.

He was the Show Chair for San Diego's two shows and Palomar's show and co-chair for the Intercity Show, the largest succulent show in the world.

His collection now numbers well over two thousand plants. About half are cacti, with the remaining consisting of Euphorbias and caudiciforms. Some of the plants he has owned for over 40 years.

Peter has graciously shared his knowledge below:

Soil and Fertilizer for Succulents

By Peter Walkowiak, B.S. Horticulture, PW Plants

There are three ingredients for my soil mix. You can substitute other materials and those will be listed below. There are three materials to avoid, peat moss, sand and kor. Both peat moss and kor (coconut husk) are not composted and when they do it turns to muck. Sand compacts and does not dry out or allow good air penetration.

Soil:

60% Perlite #3, substitute pumice; this should be completely wetted and mix, do not remove fines unless excessive.

20% Compost, substitute good potting soil, I get my compost from the green recycling at the local dump and has no manure.

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20% DG (decomposed granite); use 1/8 screen to remove gravel from fines. Gravel is for top dressing and fines for the soil mix.

Mix DG and compost together. Add this to the wet perlite and mix till blended and no white is showing from the perlite. Keep adding water till the right wetness is achieved and soil is ready to use. Always use moist soil and never water newly transplanted succulents.

Fertilizer:

10-30-20 Grow Mor water soluble fertilizer

White vinegar, 2 tablespoons per gallon, PH of 6.0 to 6.5

Results will vary so test with PH strips.

Soil and Staging Workshop

By Peter Walkowiak, B.S. Horticulture, PW Plants

The second most asked question I get after “When do I water this plant”? is “What soil do I use for my succulent plant”? This was the genesis for this talk on soil. Consider your soil as your foundation upon which you will sustain and support healthy plant growth for a long period of time. Important things a soil needs to have are good drainage and aeration, water retention, nutrient availability, proper PH and longevity. In this talk each of these topics will be covered in depth so that the unseen complexities of soil can be understood. What materials work, what does not and why they should not be used.

There will be a demonstration on mixing soil that is used in my nursery. I spent many years trying different materials to find the perfect succulent soil mix. There were many failures, most took two to three years to manifest itself and then had to answer the question “Why did this fail”? You will be shown the ingredients and how they are blended to get this soil mix.

In the second part of the program we will discuss the process of staging your plants to maximize their beauty. There are many things to consider when putting together your composition. These are form, texture, color and balance and must be thoughtfully considered when putting together your piece of art.

The final part of the program is a Q&A session where I want you to ask me questions you have about growing your succulents like pest control, disease, fungi, insects, or culture as such as... light, fertilizers, pH, and air movement.

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ODDS AND ENDS

Board Meeting Updates:

- Continued planning for the Show & Sale in May of 2024.
- Continued planning for speakers and 2024 content and events.
- Your new board (with open positions)
 - President: Jeffrey Loew
 - Vice President: Kim Uhrman
 - Secretary: Nicole Ocegura
 - Treasurer: To be filled
 - Director: Elias Aparicio
 - Director: Rene Hernandez
 - Director: To be filled
 - Director: To be filled
- As we move into the new year, we graciously welcome suggestions about what type of program or subject you would enjoy at the general meetings. Please email/ call Jeff or any other board member. Contact info is at the end of this newsletter.

STILL WANTED: Volunteer - Kitchen Duty. Contact Jeffrey Loew or Kim Urman at our next meeting. A big thank you to Ann Reynolds for her devoted service to keeping our kitchen stocked and ready for an enjoyable snack-break. Like all duties, it has come time for Ann to step-back and enjoy herself at the meetings... as we all have.

With this in mind, until we have a new Kitchen Duty volunteer, we will have a limited kitchen during our January meeting intermission.

Further open kitchen intermissions will be based on volunteer commitment at the previous month's meeting. Please see Jeff, Kim, or any board member to sign up for an upcoming month!

BTW, you can volunteer for a single meeting, too!



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Odds & Ends: If you would like to post yard sales or any other updates/information that you believe would be of interest (pictures, plant sales, yard sales that include plants, events, etc., etc., etc.) to our club members via this newsletter, please email me at czechitout82@gmail.com or call/text 303-986-6313 or see me at the General Meeting. Thank you everyone, Jeff

CALL TO ACTION! Send us your favorite personal garden photos for a chance to have your collection featured in our newsletter! Send your pictures to Gatescactusandsucculent@gmail.com



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**2024 MINI-SHOW LIST - January “Hooked Spine Mammillaria” and
“African Aloe Species”**

2024 MINI SHOW OFFICIAL LIST

2024	Cactus	Succulent
January	Hooked Spined Mammillaria	African Aloe Species
February	Chilean Cacti	Othonna, Senecio
March	Coryphantha, Escobaria	Echeveria
April	Echinocereus	Cotyledon, Tylecodon
May	Best Staged Cacti	Best Staged Succulent
June	Thelocactus, Stenocactus	Euphorbia
July	Photograph	Photograph
August	Frailea, Blossfeldia	Adromischus
September	Epiphytic Cacti	Sansevieria
October	Matucana, Oroya, Submatucana, Dead Plant	Aizoaceae, Dead Plant
November	South American Columnars	Agave

UPCOMING EVENTS

2024 CACTUS AND SUCCULENT & EPIPHYLLUM

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- FEB. 9-11 SAN GABRIEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY WINTER SHOW AND SALE**
- Sale Fri.-Sat. 8am-5pm, Sun. 8am-4pm
- Show Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-4pm
- Info. Manny Rivera 626-780-6957 or James Lemos 626-201-5519
- Arcadia Masonic Center, 50 W Duarte Rd., Arcadia, CA
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- FEB. 10 SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY WINTER SHOW AND SALE**
- Info. call 619-990-2051
- Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA
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- MAR. 1-3 FRESNO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SALE**
- Daily 10am-5pm Admission free with paid admission to the Fresno Home & Garden Show
- Fresno fairgrounds, Garden Pavilion, 1121 S. Chance Ave., Fresno, CA
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- MAR. 22-23 ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SALE**
- Fri. 12pm-6pm, Sat. 9am-4pm
- Info. call 657-549-0702
- 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA

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**APRIL 12- 14 MONTEREY BAY AREA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SALE
AND JUDGED SHOW**

Fri. 3pm-6pm members only, Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm

Info mbacsspresident@gmail.com or mbsucculent.org

ISTW Portuguese Hall, 124 Atkinson Lane, Watsonville, CA 95076

APR. 14 CONEJO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING SALE

9AM-4PM

Info. www.conejocss.com or conejocss@hotmail.com

558 N. Ventu Park Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320

APR. 13-14 SOUTH COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE

Daily 9am-4pm

Info. www.southcoastcss.org or call 310-346-6206

Palos Verdes Art Center, 5504 Crestridge Rd., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA

TBA LOS ANGELES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SALE

Info. www.lacactus.com

APR. 27-28 SAN JOSE CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE

Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm

Info. www.csss.org

Peterson Middle School, 1380 Rosalia Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA

APR. 27 PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SPRING FESTIVAL

Sat. 11am-3pm C&S sales and free workshops on growing C&S

The Park Ave. Community Center, 210 E. Park Ave., Escondido, CA

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APR. 28 HUNTINGTON SPRING PLANT SALE - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

10am-5pm

Info. Reservations- www.huntington.org, Sale call 626-405-3571

Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA

MAY 3-5 SACRAMENTO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE

Daily 9am-5pm

Info. www.sacramentocss.com

Shepard Garden and Arts Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd., Sacramento, CA

MAY 4 EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY OF AMERICA SHOW AND SALE

9am-4pm

Info. www.epiphyllums.org or call 909-438-8242

San Marino Masonic Hall, 3130 Huntington Dr., San Marino, CA

MAY 4-5 SUNSET SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE

Sat. Show noon-4pm, Sale 9am-4pm, Sun. Show & Sale 9am-4pm

Info. call 310-822-1783

Veterans Memorial Center, Teen Center, 4117 Overland Ave., Culver City, CA

MAY 5 LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB SHOW AND SALE

12pm-4pm

Info. call 714-553-6914

Women's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St., Bellflower, CA 90706

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MAY 10-11

GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SALE

Daily 9am-4pm (Sale 5/10 & 5/11; Show 5/11)

Info. www.gatescactusandsucculentsociety.com or call 330-986-6313

Redlands Church of The Nazarene, 1307 E. Citrus Ave., Redlands, CA 92374

MAY 11

SANTA BARBARA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE

10am-3pm, Members early entry 9:30am

Info. <https://sbcactus.org/show-and-sale/>

Santa Barbara Women's Club, 670 Mission Canyon Rd., Santa Barbara, CA 93105

MAY 11-12

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE

Sat. 9am-4pm Early Bird Sale Only (no show) Casa del Prado Patio

Sun. Sale 9am-4pm, Show 11am-4pm, Room 101, Casa del Prado

Info. www.sdepis.org or call 858-565-0340

Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

TBA

SAN FRANCISCO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE

MAY 18-19

CARMICHAEL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE

Sat. 9am-4pm, Sun. 9am-2:30pm

Info. lldewe@gmail.com or www.ccandss.com

Carmichael Park Clubhouse, 5750 Grant Ave., Carmichael, CA

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- MAY 25** **EPIPHYLLUM CONFERENCE XVII (EpiCon 17)**
SAT. 8:30AM-5PM
Cost is \$65 per person and includes lunch
Register online at <https://sdepis.org/>. Deadline for registration is May 11.
Conference Contacts: Mildred Mikas, mvmikas@cox.net or Pat Neal,
pneal@san.rr.com
California Center for the Arts (<https://artcenter.org/>) 340 N. Escondido Blvd.,
Escondido, CA
- MAY 25-26** **CENTRAL COAST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**
Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm
Info. rskillin@gmail.com or www.centralcoastcactus.org
Nipomo High School, 525 N. Thompson Ave., Nipomo, CA
- JUNE 8-9** **SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SHOW AND SALE**
Times TBD
Info. call 619-990-2051
Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego, CA
- JUNE 8-9** **FRESNO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE**
Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm
Info: rob_scott85@yahoo.com
Fresno Fairgrounds Commerce Bldg, 1121 S. Chance Ave., Fresno, CA

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- JUNE 14-16 SAN FRANCISCO SUCCULENT AND CACTUS SOCIETY SHOW AND SALE**
Fri. member-only preview; Times: TBD
Info. schedule & details at www.sfsucculent.org
San Francisco County Fair Building, 1199 9th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94122
- JUNE 28-30 CSSA ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE – RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**
FRI./SAT./SUN.
Daily 10am-5pm
Info. Reservations- www.huntington.org, Show/Sale- call Nick Renteria
323-428-2215
Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA
- JULY 19-20 ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SALE**
Fri. 12pm-6pm, Sat. 9am-4pm
Info. call 657-549-0702
1000 S. State College Bl.,(Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim, CA
- AUG. 2-4 INTER-CITY SHOW AND SALE - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**
Fri Aug. 2 Sale only (no Show) 9am-6:30 pm; Sat & Sun Aug. 3-4 Show & Sale
9am-5pm
Info. www.intercityshow.com or call 805-264-6262
LA County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA
- AUG. 30-SEP. 1 MONTEREY BAY AREA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY FALL SALE**
AND SHOW
Fri. 3pm-6pm (members only); Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm
Info mbacsspresident@gmail.com or mbsucculent.org
ISTW Portuguese Hall, 124 Atkinson Lane, Watsonville, CA 95076

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AUG. 31 HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM

9am-3pm RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Info. Reservations- www.huntington.org, Symposium-call 626-405-3571

Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA

OCT. 6 LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB ANNUAL AUCTION

1pm-3:30pm

Info. call 714-553-6914

Women's Club of Bellflower, 9402 Oak St., Bellflower, CA

OCT. 13 CONEJO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY FALL SALE

9AM-4PM

Info. www.conejocss.com or conejocss@hotmail.com

558 N. Ventu Park Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320

OCT. 26-27 PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY FALL SHOW AND SALE

San Diego Botanic Garden admission required

Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm

Info. rwkopfstein@gmail.com

San Diego Botanic Garden, Conservatory, 230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas, CA

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NOV. 1-3 HUNTINGTON FALL PLANT SALE - RESERVATIONS REQUIRED
FRI./SAT./SUN.

10am-5pm

Info. Reservations- www.huntington.org, Sale call 626-405-3571

Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA

GATES CSS CONTACT LIST - 2024

We welcome your comments, suggestions, or questions. You can reach out to any of the following board members by phone or send an email to gatescactusandsucculent@gmail.com

President	Jeff Loew	330 986 6313
Vice President	Kim Urman	909 222 3326
Secretary/Librarian	Nicole Ocegueda	909 935 6218
Treasurer/Newsletter	OPEN	N/A
Board Member	Rene Hernandez	909 875 3607
Board Member	Elias Aparicio	909 747 5874
Board Member	OPEN	N/A
Board Member/ Rescue Chair	OPEN	N/A
Mini Show Chair/Judge	Barry Urman	909 328 0901
Greeter	Judy Horne	
Email	Gatescactusandsucculent@gmail.com	
Web	https://gatescactusandsucculentsociety.com	

Gates Cactus and Succulent Society 2023/ 2024 is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization