



GATES CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY of the INLAND EMPIRE -

Since 1959



OPEN GATES - JULY, 2026

NEXT MEETING: JULY 10, 2026 - DOORS OPEN 6:00 PM

2026 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Jeffrey Loew

Greetings Gates!

I hope you are all having an amazing summer! As hot days become more frequent and the abundant sunshine pours over our gardens, we see an increase in blooms (and growth) as our collections are really starting to pop off! I invite you to take advantage of those gorgeous moments and take pictures. We are always looking to add member content to our website, newsletter, and social medias.

Our very own Gates member, Veronica Harris, has graciously volunteered to photograph member gardens and plant collections. We then feature these photos on our website: <https://gatescactusandsucculentsociety.com/member-gardens/>. Veronica can be contacted directly via email: veroshoes@yahoo.com.

As mentioned during the June meeting, our July meeting is our annual Gates “birthday” celebration as the first meeting was in July 1959. While the club will have a cake, let’s really get this party started and have a potluck! I have made a digital sign-up sheet that can be accessed via this link:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1N4TpCn71O3RI8deZrM6UV9T2PI_siqi6kSSmttXL1qs/edit?usp=sharing. Should you wish to bring anything for the potluck, please enter your name and item under the category Dessert, Drink, Side, and/ or Entree. This will allow us all to see “who has signed up for what” in order to avoid duplicates. As this is a shared sheet, your entries will be automatically saved, so no need to email me your items or save a copy of the sheet to email to others. Please feel free to email or text me with any questions or assistance signing up! (GatesCactusandSucculent@gmail.com or 330-986-6313)

Renowned succulent explorer Kelly Griffith will be returning to Gates as our July speaker.

See you all Friday, July 10th. Doors open at 6PM.

Jeffrey Loew

President, Gates CSS



MONTHLY SPEAKER FOR JULY - Kelly Griffin

Speaker Biography: Kelly Griffin



Kelly's journey into the world of succulents began at a young age and has blossomed into a lifetime passion. As a hybridizer and propagator, he has dedicated his life to exploring and cultivating these fascinating plants. His global adventures have taken him to well over 20 countries. His focus has been on Madagascar and South Africa, where he has traveled to visit Aloes in habitat, Australia to see Cycads and Grass Trees and over 25 trips to Mexico to see so many different succulent plant species.

Professionally, Kelly served as the Curator of Succulent Plants at Rancho Soledad Nursery for 11 years before taking on the role of Succulent Plant Development Manager at Altman's Plants, where he has worked for the past 14 years. His expertise is well regarded in the succulent community, especially for the hybrids he has created, surpassing 100 unique varieties now available in the trade. Among his notable creations are various Aloe hybrids and well-known Agave hybrids such as Blue Glow, Snow Glow, Cubic, Black and Blue, Lions Mane, Dragon Toes, Spawn, Crème Brûlée and Sierra Azul.

Keen on sharing knowledge and supporting the community, Kelly has been an integral member of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society (SDCSS) since 1992. His leadership roles include serving on the board of directors for many years, with two terms as SDCSS President and two years as Vice-President. In recognition of his contributions to the hobby, he was honored to be named a Fellow of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society.



Currently, Kelly serves as a director on the board of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA), where he is also active on the conservation committee. He was the local convention chair involved in helping organize the CSSA convention in San Diego in 2025. He has acted as program chair or co-chair for four CSSA bi annual conventions including Austin, Claremont (LA) and San Diego. Kelly has authored several articles and contributed many photos to the CSSA journal over the years and hopes to continue that in the future. In his more recent endeavor, Kelly has co-authored a comprehensive book titled "Dudleyas" alongside Jeremy Spath. This beautifully illustrated volume spans 300 pages and features over a thousand photos, making it an invaluable resource about the Dudleya genus. After decades in the making, it was completed and published in 2023.

Program Description: “Tall Tales and Iconic Plants... Part Two”

Kelly will be sharing Part Two of his “Tall Tales and Iconic Plants” talk, highlighting some extraordinary plants and the true stories of the adventures, mishaps, and challenges involved in finding them.

JULY 2026 - MINI-SHOW

Cactus and Succulent: “Hybrids and Cultivars”

Article by Tom Glavich

Hybrids are the offspring of two plants of different species. Examples of hybrids are the many Madagascar Aloes currently available such as *Aloe* “Lizard Lips,” *Aloe* “” etc. Other popular hybrids are the *Dyckia* hybrids created by Bill Baker and many others. *Dyckia* “Keswick,” *Dyckia* “Brittle Star,” and *Dyckia* “Turbo” are all hybrids. Nearly all the common houseplants sold at big box nurseries are hybrids.

Generally, both plants are in the same genus, but not always. *Dyckohnia* “Conrad Martin” is a bi- generic hybrid between *Dyckia macedoi* and *Deuterocohnia meziana*. All of the “Gasteraloes” (*Gasteria* and *Aloe* hybrid) such as Gasteraloe “Royal Highness” are also intergeneric hybrids. Intergeneric hybrids are much rarer in cacti, but “Ferobergia” is a hybrid between *Ferocactus* and *Leuchtenbergia*. Recent work by several California growers is beginning to show promise with intergeneric cacti hybrids.



Cultivars are plants that are generally vegetatively propagated, and that share some unique trait that make them different from others of the same species. Cultivars include *Copiapoa hypogea* “Lizard Skin” and many of the *Haworthia* hybrids available.

Cultivars can be either a species or a hybrid. When sufficiently isolated and self-propagated for several generations, cultivars can also be propagated by seed. *Lithops* “Jackson’s Jade,” named for California propagator and Mesemb expert Tim Jackson, *Lithops optica rubra* reproduce fairly reliably from seed.

Hybrids of many species are easy to produce. Bees and hummingbirds will do all the heavy work of transferring pollen from one plant to another. You need to ensure there are only two plants in flower in their reach (harder than it sounds). When the fruit is ripe, the seeds are collected and stored until planting time. Planting in either the spring or fall will generally give best results.



***Remember: You must be up-to-date on your membership dues to be eligible to compete in the monthly mini-show. See Phuc prior to submitting your plants to ensure you are current on membership.**



2026	ψ Gates Mini-Show Categories ψ	
	Cactus	Succulent
January	Mammillaria clusters	Aloe
February	Columnar	Miniature Agave
March	Notocactus, Parodia	Dudleya
April	Echinocactus, Ferocactus	Gasteria, Haworthia
May	Cancelled - 51 th Annual Gates Show & Sale	
June	Astrophytum	Pachypodium
July	Hybrids/ Cultivars	Hybrids/ Cultivars
August	Melocactus, Discocactus	Caudiciform, Pachycaul
September	Eriosyce	Aizoaceae (No Lithops)
October	Ariocarpus, Dead Plant	Crassula, Kalanchoe, Dead Plant
November	Miniatures	Miniatures
December	Cancelled - Gates Holiday Dinner	



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TENTATIVE 2026 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

(Version# 4 - Subject to change based on updates from the below clubs)

JULY 17-18: ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER SALE

Fri. Noon-5pm, Sat. 9am-5pm
1000 S. State College Bl., Anaheim, CA 92806
(Anaheim United Methodist Church)
Info: call 657-549-0702

JULY 18-19: CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SHOW & SALE

Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm
525 N. Thompson Ave., Nipomo, CA 93444
(Nipomo High School)
Info: rhskillin@gmail.com [orwww.centralcoastcactus.org](http://www.centralcoastcactus.org)

AUG. 7-9: INTER-CITY SHOW & SALE

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Fri. (Sale only) 9am-6:30pm, Sat. & Sun. (Show & Sale) 9am-5pm
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, CA 91007
(LA County Arboretum)
Info: www.intercityshow.com or call 909-624-3227

AUG. 21-23: SAN JOSE CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY SUMMER CACTUS & SUCCULENT FAIR

Fri. 6pm-9pm, Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 9am-2pm
1380 Rosalia Ave, Sunnyvale, CA 94087
(Peterson Middle School)
Info: www.csss.org

SEP. 4: HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

9am-3pm
1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA 91108
(Huntington Botanical Gardens)
Info: Reservations- www.huntington.org, Symposium-call 626-405-3504



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**SEP. 26-27: MONTEREY BAY AREA CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
FALL SHOW & SALE**

Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 9am-3pm
124 Atkinson Lane, Watsonville, CA 95076
(ISTW Portuguese Hall)
Info: mbacsspresident@gmail.com or mbsucculent.org

**OCT. 4: LONG BEACH CACTUS CLUB
ANNUAL AUCTION**

1pm-3:30pm
9402 Oak St., Bellflower, CA 90706
(Women's Club of Bellflower)
Info: call 714-553-6914

**OCT. 4: CONEJO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
FALL SALE**

9AM-4PM
558 N. Ventu Park Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320
Info: www.conejocss.com or conejocss@hotmail.com

**OCT. 23-25: HUNTINGTON FALL PLANT SALE
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

10am-5pm
1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA 91108
(Huntington Botanical Gardens)
Info: Reservations - www.huntington.org, Sale - call 626-405-3571

**OCT. 24-25: PALOMAR CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
FALL SHOW & SALE**

San Diego Botanic Garden admission required

Sat. 9am-5pm, Sun. 10am-3pm
230 Quail Gardens Dr., Encinitas, CA 92024
(San Diego Botanic Garden, Conservatory)
Info: rwkopfstein@gmail.com



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**NOV. 13: LOS ANGELES CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
HOLIDAY SALE & AUCTION**

Sun. 10am-4pm Collectors LIVE Auction 12pm
18255 Victory Blvd., Reseda, CA 91335
(ONEGeneration Senior Center)
Info: www.lacactus.com

**TBD: NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CACTUS & SUCCULENT ASSOCIATION
SPRING SHOW & SALE**

Sat. 8am-4pm, Sun. 8am-3pm, Sat. dinner & rare /specimen size plant auction
301 N. San Carlos Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94598
(Heather Farm Community Center – Lakeside Room)
Info: norcalcsa@gmail.com or call 650-788-3188

ODDS AND ENDS

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) to our club members via this newsletter, please email me at GatesCactusandSucculent@gmail.com or call/text 303-986-6313 or see me at the General Meeting.

Should you wish your cacti and succulent garden to be featured as a "Member Garden of the Month" in our newsletter, please contact Jeff (per above)



GATES CSS CONTACT LIST - 2026

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/ Newsletter	Jeff Loew	330-986-6313
Vice President	Nicole Oceguela	909-935-6218
Secretary/ Greeter	Nicole Oceguela	909-935-6218
Treasurer	Camille Gelston	909-645-0975
Board Member	Rene Hernandez	909-875-3607
Board Member	Lyndsee Cordes	909-815-3348
Board Member	Tom Perez	951-205-5548
Board Member	Karen Roholt	951-897-2220
Past President	Phuc Huynh	909-910-9195
Mini Show Chair/Judge	Phuc Huynh	909-910-9195
Rescue Chair	Lyndsee Cordes / Phuc Huynh	909-815-3348/ 909-910-9195
Email	Gatescactusandsucculent@gmail.com	
Web	https://gatescactusandsucculentsociety.com	