

# CACTUS CORNER NEWS

Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society

<http://www.fresnocss.com>

*Affiliated with the Cactus & Succulent Society of America*

Vol. 43 No. 5

MAY 2024

**THURSDAY, MAY 2<sup>ND</sup> 7:00 P.M. (Doors open 6:30 p.m.)**  
**REDEEMER LUTHERN CHURCH**  
**1084 West Bullard, Fresno (Near NW Corner of Palm and Bullard)**

**Zoom: Meeting ID: 896 3245 4093    Passcode: 961442**

**PROGRAM:                                    “Growing In The Valley”**  
**by Robert Scott**

Living in the Central Valley has its challenges when it comes to growing plants. The Valley heat, winter cold, different soil types, and how we water can have a huge impact on our plants. Robert will go over these challenges and how they affect cacti and succulents when growing in pots and in the ground.

**Robert’s Biography:** Robert has been growing a wide variety of plants for over 30 years here in the Central Valley. His passion for plants led him to receive his Bachelor of Science in Plant Science from Fresno State where he took classes such as plant anatomy, identification, pathology, propagation, entomology, soil science, botany, herbicides, pesticides, and many more. His plant background came in handy when he was a Commodity and Pesticide Inspector for the Fresno County Agricultural Department. With his experience, Robert now works for Caltrans as an Environmental Scientist. Along with the plants, Robert has a passion for animals, especially turtles and tortoises, which he has been rescuing and raising for 25 years.

Robert has been our Society’s President for 4 years now and it’s Sale Chair for 11 years. He enjoys sharing the knowledge he’s so far built and is always working to make our Society even better.



## CLUB DINNER

**Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4:45 pm**

**DiCicco’s, 7038 N. West (West and Herndon)**

**Call, text or email Rosanna Rojas for Reservation**  
**(559) 999-0017**

**FROM THE PREZ:****Hi Members:****Annual Show & Sale – June 8 & 9**

Mark your calendars for June 8 & 9 for our Annual Show & Sale! I have been busy to make sure this year is our biggest event ever!

We will again be at the Fresno Fairgrounds but will be in a different building from previous years. We will be in the Junior Exhibits Building located at the Butler Entrance. It's the same building we are in for the Home & Garden Show. The event takes place on Saturday and Sunday, with doors opening at 10 am both mornings. There will be vendors from around the state selling their plants and homemade pottery. This is a fun event to walk around to look but I'm sure you will end up finding the perfect plant to take home. As always, our event is free admission so start telling everyone you know. We have postcards, flyers, yard signs, and social media posts to help spread the word. *Please help us advertise!* It's as easy as reposting on your social media.

**Yard Signs**

Yard Sign pick-up will be at the May meeting. Please bring cash for payment. We will have a few extra signs available, \$5 each.

**Volunteers**

We need a lot of volunteers to run an event of this size and encourage everyone to work a few hours. A signup list will be emailed out and a copy will be at the May meeting as well. We have positions for everyone, from checkout and packaging orders to monitoring show plants. Something for every type of experience level and physical requirements. Volunteers will receive "Show Bucks" for the time they work, which are coupons for money off their Sale purchases. Please contact me with any questions.

**Boxes**

**Please start saving boxes** as we need a lot of them for this event. Boxes can be dropped off at the Fairgrounds on June 7<sup>th</sup> during setup. You will be able to drive right into the Fairgrounds to drop off the boxes. This can be done from 10 am to 7 pm.

**Members Early Sale**

The early Members sale will take place after set up on June 7<sup>th</sup>. **Members who sign up to volunteer during the weekend can start shopping at 5:30 pm.** All other members can start shopping at 6 pm. The early sale ends at 7 pm. Look for a map at the end of the newsletter for driving instructions for early sale and box drop-off.

**Annual Plant Show**

We will have our judged plant show again this year and this is your time to show off the plants you have worked so hard on! We want to see all types of cactus and succulents, they don't need to be rare or expensive to show. They just need to be special to you! Bring any type of cactus and succulent you would like to show. They just need to be clean, free of pests and in a clean pot. Very simple! It's a fun experience and a great event to be a part of. Judging is done in 3 levels, Novice, Advanced, and Open. This way, plants in each level are only judged with plants from the same level. **It's fun and not scary at all, I encourage everyone to participate.** You could earn ribbons and be placed on the winner's table. Show plant drop-off is on June 7<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 6 pm. Pick-up is on Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, starting no earlier than 4 pm when the event closes. People showing will be able to drive into the Fairgrounds for drop-off and pick-up. If you have any questions about showing your plant, please contact me.

***See you at the meeting!******Robert***

**MAY BIRTHDAYS**

*Michael Dolan (2<sup>nd</sup>)*  
*Bill Gale (2<sup>nd</sup>)*  
*Fred Gaumer (2<sup>nd</sup>)*  
*Vickie Veen (5<sup>th</sup>)*  
*Jess Hull (8<sup>th</sup>)*  
*Mary Arellanez (10<sup>th</sup>)*  
*Jose Soto (11<sup>th</sup>)*

*Patty Miller (12<sup>th</sup>); Charlie Nelson (23<sup>rd</sup>);*  
*Lynn Rayner (28<sup>th</sup>); Madeleine Mitchell (28<sup>th</sup>)*

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**NEW MEMBER**

Janice Oxford *WELCOME*

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**COMING EVENTS**

**May 3-5, Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society Show and Sale**, Shepard Garden and Arts Center,  
 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento,  
 Hours: 9 a.m. -5 p.m. daily  
[www.sacramentocss.com](http://www.sacramentocss.com)

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**May 11, Santa Barbara Cactus & Succulent Society Show and Sale**, Santa Barbara Women's Club,  
 670 Mission Canyon Rd, Santa Barbara,  
 Hours: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.,  
<https://sbactus.org/show-and-sale/>

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**May 18, Fresno Bonsai meeting**,  
 Clovis Senior Activities Center, 735 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Clovis,  
 Hours: 9 a.m. -1 p.m.  
<https://fresnobonsaisociety.com/calendar>

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**May 18-19, Carmichael Cactus & Succulent Society Show and Sale**, Carmichael Park Clubhouse,  
 5750 Grant Ave, Carmichael,  
 Hours: Sat., 9 a.m.-4; Sun, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

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**May 25-26, Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale**, Nipomo High School,  
 525 N. Thompson Road, Nipomo,  
 Hours: Sat. sale, 10 a.m -5 p.m., show, 10:30 a.m.-5 p.m.;  
 Sun., sale & show, 10 a.m. -4 p.m.  
[www.centralcoastcactus.org](http://www.centralcoastcactus.org)

**On April 18<sup>th</sup>, the California Fish and Wildlife Commission** unanimously recognized the uplifting of the Mojave Desert Tortoise from “threatened” to “endangered” under the California Endangered Species Act. This culminates a multi-year effort by the Defenders of Wildlife, Desert Tortoise Council and Desert Tortoise Preserve Committee.

<https://deserttortoise.org> ; <https://tortoise-tracks.org>

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**IS IT POSSIBLE TO LOVE A SPECIES TO DEATH?**

The Joshua Tree National Park, 800,000 acres 140 miles east of Los Angeles, now attracts twice as many visitors than it did a decade ago. Lately it's become an “in” destination. From *The New York Times* on down, lyrical stories about the desert and its iconic plant have appeared in many publications. The pandemic assisted in this, as well, as people desperate to get out of the house headed to Joshua Tree (only to find a lot of other people who had the same idea.)

Despite appearances, the desert environment is fragile. It evolved over the millennia with only a light touch by humans. The attention it's receiving now is double-edged: it's great that more people appreciate the desert and its plants, but the increased visitation can be a burden.

The western Joshua tree, *Yucca brevifolia*, is more endangered than the eastern Joshua tree, *Yucca jaegeriana*. In recent years millions of both have been lost, killed by the York Fire in 2023 and the Dome Fire in 2020. In addition, more have been lost to housing and solar farms, which are popping up across the Mohave Desert.

Joshua trees were twice considered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for listing under the Endangered Species Act, but were denied both times. In 2020 the California Fish and Game Commission accepted the western Joshua tree for listing under the state's own Endangered Species Act.

The Mohave is experiencing rapid aridification. The annual precipitation has dropped by 39% from 1895 to 2016, while the annual temperature increased by 3 degrees. Has the speed of change outpaced the ability of environmental laws to make a difference?

**JACARATIA**



If you are looking for a fast-growing caudex producing plant, you might give Jacaratia a try. This is a genus of trees or shrubs native to areas of Brazil, Paraguay, and northern Argentina, growing in loose or sandy soils, in the open or as part of the understory. These woodlands have clearly defined wet and dry seasons, hence, jacaratias have developed very large underground water storage organs.

The 5-7 species of Jacaratia are in the papaya family, so produce prominent fruit, some of which is edible, even served in restaurants. The plants are dioecious—each plant is either male or female—so one of each is required if you want fruit. In habitat the seeds are distributed endozoochory (by ingestion by mice, bats and other small mammals.)

Culture: needs a well-drained mix, plenty of water and fertilizer in the active growing season. Protect from frost. *Sue*  
 (Photo: [www.davesgarden.com](http://www.davesgarden.com) )



**KALANCHOE LUCIAE**



Kalanchoe Luciae is a deservedly popular succulent that makes a prominent statement in a pot or in the ground. The fleshy, paddle-like leaves, usually 4-6 inches long to 2-5 inches wide, are covered with gray bloom and the leaf margins take on a reddish hue when exposed to bright light and/or in response to winter temperatures.

It is native to tropical South Africa, Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Swaziland.

Sold under the moniker “Flapjacks.” It has also been widely distributed under the name *Kalanchoe thyrsiflora*, a different but similarly-appearing species. They differ in flower structure, color and fragrance, *K. thyrsiflora* being much more fragrant. Spectacular variegated hybrids have been developed.

In late winter to early spring mature *K. luciae* plants put up a stalk of pale yellow tubular flowers. The stem will elongate when blooming is immanent. The rosette is monocarpic—will die after blooming—but the plant will branch at the base.

Culture is similar to other leaf succulents: well-drained potting mix, adequate water in the active growing season, bright light. It is apparently hardy to near-freezing temperatures. Snails find the plants delicious, so keep the area around the base of the plant clear of other foliage. Propagation is by cuttings, leaves or seeds. *Sue*

(Photo from [www.worldofsucculents.com](http://www.worldofsucculents.com) )



TREASURER'S REPORT		March, 2024
<b>Income:</b>		
Home & Garden Show		10,524.81
Raffle		154.00
Memberships		140.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$10,818.81</b>	
<b>Expenses:</b>		
Room rent		-125.00
Speaker fee		-350.00
Monthly Charges (Zoom/Verizon)		-62.82
Badges		-19.44
Stamps		-27.20
Raffle Plants		-348.59
Totes		-68.10
Home & Garden Show Expenses		-283.50
Vendor Payments		-7,489.07
<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$8,773.74)</b>	

**Club Access: President,** Robert Scott, (559) 960-3665, [rob\\_scott85@yahoo.com](mailto:rob_scott85@yahoo.com);

**Vice-President,** Rosanna Rojas, [rfrojas96@gmail.com](mailto:rfrojas96@gmail.com);

**Treasurer,** Michele Roberts, (559) 645-5257, [robertshowse@comcast.net](mailto:robertshowse@comcast.net);

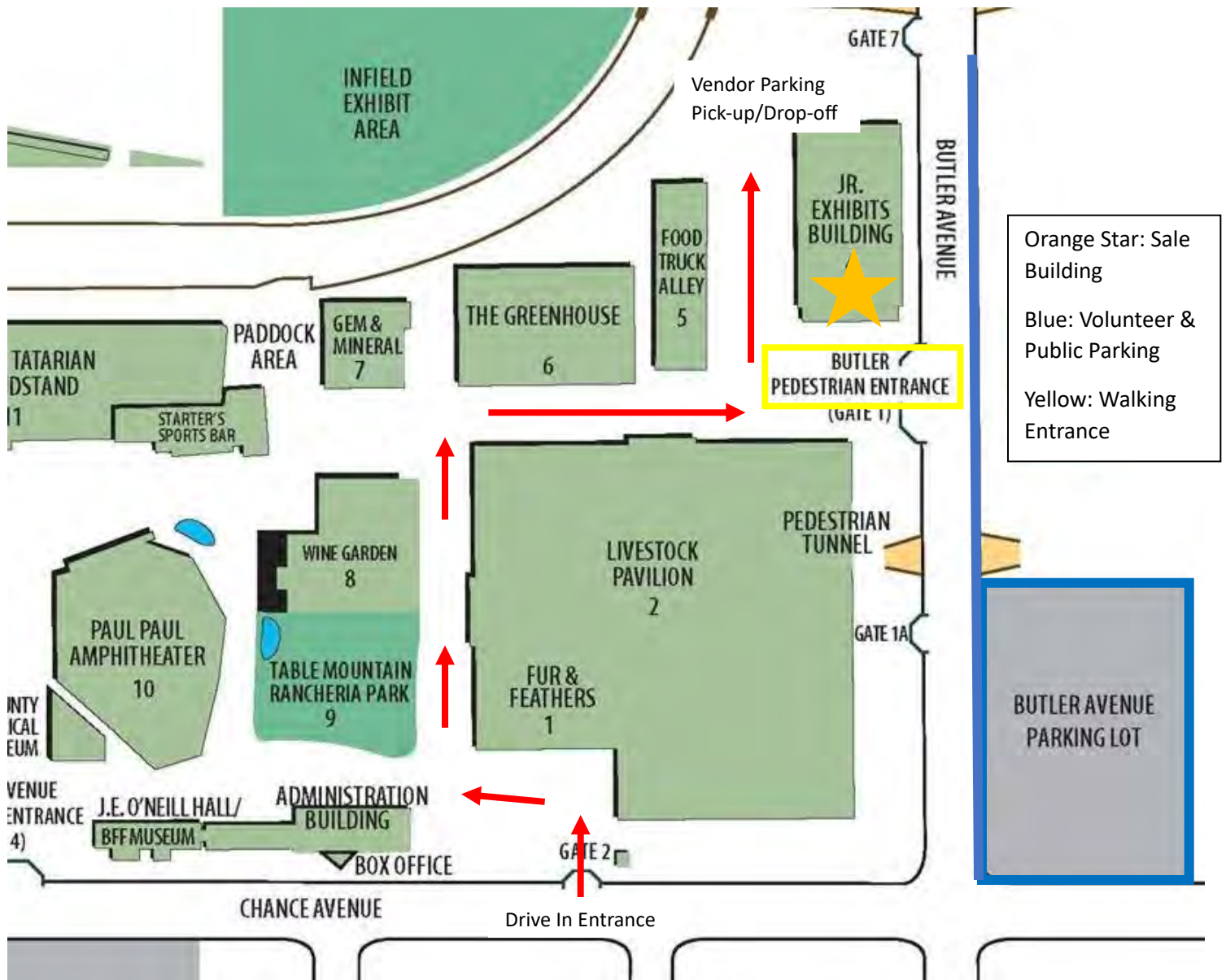
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**June 7<sup>th</sup>**

- Setup: 10 am- 7 pm
- Show Plant Drop-off: 11 am- 6 pm
- Box Drop-off: 10 am- 7 pm
- Volunteer Early Sale: 5:30 pm- 7 pm
- Member Early Sale: 6 pm- 7 pm

**June 9<sup>th</sup>**

- Show Plant Pick-up: 4 pm- 6 pm



# FRESNO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY ANNUAL SHOW & SALE

**Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Sale 10 am to 5 pm. Show 10:30 am to 5 pm**

**Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>**

**Sale & Show 10 am to 4 pm**

**Rare plants & handmade pottery  
Experts available for questions**

**FREE ADMISSION**

**See our Website & Facebook Group for updates!**

**2024  
SHOW  
& SALE**

**JUNE**

**8 & 9**

FCSS WEBSITE



FCSS FACEBOOK



**FRESNO FAIRGROUNDS  
JR. EXHIBIT BUILDING  
BUTLER ENTRANCE  
1121 S. Chance Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93702**

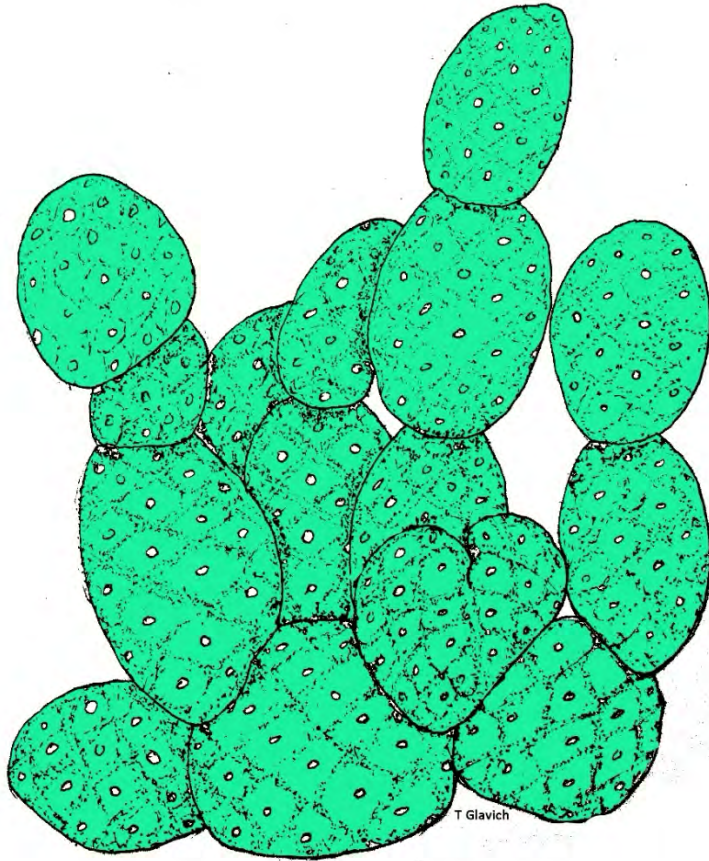
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# **Cactus and Succulent Society of America**

## **57<sup>th</sup> Annual Show and Sale**

**June 28-30 2024**



### ***Tephrocactus geometricus***

**Huntington Library, Art Museum & Botanical Gardens**

**10 AM to 5 PM**

**1151 OXFORD ROAD, SAN MARINO, CA**

**INFORMATION 626-405-3571**

Open to the public with paid admission or Huntington membership  
Advanced online timed entry reservations are now required on Fridays and weekends  
for both visitors & members. NO WALK-INS. Limited daily capacity.

Go to the [huntington.org](http://huntington.org) website for tickets.

See [www.cssashow.com](http://www.cssashow.com) for further details.