

CACTUS CORNER NEWS

Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society

<http://www.fresnocss.com>

Affiliated with the Cactus & Succulent Society of America

Vol. 42 No. 6

June 2023

IN-PERSON MEETING: THURSDAY, JUNE 1st, 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: 810 0661 4904

Passcode: 140802

THE EXOTIC CACTI OF CHILE

Presented by Steven Frieze

My wife and I decided to visit Chile after we were exposed to the marvels of this country in a presentation made by Paul Klaassen. Paul has visited this country many times, previously and subsequent to our trip.

This excursion left an indelible impression on us. We had the extraordinary opportunity to spend almost a month in Chile traveling from Santiago to Taltal, a mining town in the heart of the Atacama Desert.

Along the way we located and photographed many of the cacti that are endemic to Chile. We were especially gratified to explore such a large portion of the country and find such a wide variety of Copiapoas and Eriosyces. This fact made our adventure even more rewarding.

A rather trying hike into the San Ramon and Botija valleys provided us with an enriching experience that we will never forget. We also took an assortment of side trips that included a visit to an island that is inhabited by penguins and sea lions.

We look forward to sharing our odyssey with you that included a stay in a mansion that is owned by one of the wealthiest men in Chile.



Eriosyce crispina



Copiapoa coquimbana



Euphorbia latiflua

(Continued on following page.)

Steve Frieze is a past president of the LACSS and has served the club in numerous other capacities during the past 30 years since he initiated his membership. He is a retired university administrator and is currently teaching psychology courses at California State University, Dominguez Hills. Steven is currently involved in another plant venture having started Distinctive Flora with his wife Phyllis. The Friezes have traveled to numerous locations throughout the world that house exotic plants including Costa Rica, Chile, East Africa, South Africa, Namibia, Brazil, and Oaxaca Mexico.



Copiapoa solaris



Copiapoa marginata



Copiapoa krainziana

*** Steve will be bringing plants for sale. ***



CLUB DINNER FOR JUNE 1ST - TIME: 4:45

BLAST AND BREW

799 W. PALMDON DR.

FRESNO

PLEASE TEXT, CALL, OR EMAIL ROSANNA AT 999-0017

WITH YOUR RESERVATION.

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FROM THE PREZ:**Hi Members,****F.C.S.S Annual Show & Sale**

Our Annual Show & Sale is just around the corner on June 10 & 11! This is going to be our biggest year yet with 15 vendors! This year we are going to have such a wide variety of plants and pottery available that no one should miss attending this event! I've been working my rear off to pull this event together and hopefully we can get a lot of member participation. The information below was in last month's newsletter but please read through as some items have changed.

- Setup is on Friday June 9. We need people able to move tables around and place tablecloths. Setup starts at 10am and takes the most physical work.
- On June 10 & 11 we need people to help with checkout. This would be scanning barcodes and taking payment, as well as packaging purchased plants. It's not hard work and it's really fun, we just need the people to do it. Without people helping with checkout, the lines get long, and people leave.
- If you would like to help but checkout isn't for you, we need help in our show area monitoring the plants during the event. We have a task for everyone!
- The end of the event is on June 11, starting at 4pm. We need help with cleanup as well, mainly folding tablecloths.

If you would like to volunteer, please message me or Karen, or fill out the volunteer form that will be with this newsletter. **Please volunteer as much as possible.** You will also receive Club Bucks (cash vouchers to use on purchases) for your time. We also provide lunch and snacks!

Plant Show

We encourage our members to enter plants, collections, dish gardens, etc. in the upcoming show. You can also enter artwork, photography, or educational exhibits. You could win ribbons and bask in the glow of showing off your plants! Don't worry if your plant is common or you think it's not special. This is showing off the hard work you put into them to make them special. Please make sure your plants are pest free and cleaned up. You can show them in almost any kind of pot, make sure the pots are as clean as possible. Show plant entry time is Friday, June 9 from 11am to 4pm. You will be able to drive right up to the building for drop off. We ask that show plants be picked up on Sunday starting at 4pm. Please ask Karen or Robert any questions about showing.

Member's Early Sale

Current members will be able to participate in an early sale on Friday evening from 5pm- 6:30pm. This is a perk for being a member, to be able to go shopping before the doors open to the public on Saturday morning. This year there is **one requirement** for any member wanting to shop early to bring **5 boxes** with them. We go through a lot of boxes and if you want to shop, you need to bring the boxes to help. **Don't forget your own box!** Doors close at 6:30pm so come early to have a longer time to look.

(Continued on following page.)

Boxes!!!

We need boxes! **Lots of boxes.** Please save boxes and bring them down to the Fairgrounds on Friday from 10am to 6pm. You can flatten them to save space and we can re-tape them at the event. We could also use lots of newspaper to help with packing. Please don't bring boxes to the meeting, we just don't have the room. Coming to the Fairgrounds is easy as you will be able to pull into the Fairgrounds and park right next to the building on that Friday!

Donations for Club Sale Tables

If you have extra plants, cuttings, pots, books, garden items, etc. and would like to donate to the Club now's your chance. The Club has tables at the Sale where everything that's donated is sold with 100% of the profits going back to support the club. If you have items you would like to donate, please bring them during setup on that Friday.

Please participate and volunteer as many hours as you can. Hobby Clubs like ours only survive when the members participate and want to see the club do well. **Without support, clubs fade away.**

Please continue to spread the word for the event. We will have flyers, postcards, and business cards at the meeting for you to take and pass out. It's not too late to promote this event! Give them to everyone you know and post flyers on community boards. Don't forget your social media, repost the flyer to your page so your followers can see. You can find the club on Facebook and Instagram to share posts as well. **Facebook: Fresno Cactus And Succulent Society. Instagram: fresnocactus_succulentsociety**

June Meeting

You're lucky that I won't be the presenter this month. Instead, we have the wonderful Steve and Phyllis Frieze joining us. They are both very sweet and will be coming to give us an amazing presentation on "The Exotic Cacti of Chile". They will also be selling plants and they always bring some unusual types. This is our last meeting before the Annual Show & Sale, so please don't miss. We will be giving out lots of information and will have volunteer sign-ups available. Last month we got the Zoom hybrid portion working perfectly so we will have that option available.

*Thank you,
Robert*





JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Carolyn Unruh (13th)
Russal McLachlin (17th)
Larry Homan (21st)
Sue Loucks (29th)

Welcome back: Nicki Bradford

COMING EVENTS

June 3-4, San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society
 Summer Show & Sale, Balboa Park, Room 101,
 San Diego

June 10-11, OUR SHOW AND SALE

June 16-18, San Francisco Succulent & Cactus Society
 Show & Sale, San Francisco County Fair Building,
 1199 9th Ave, San Francisco
www.sfsucculent.org

June 23-25, CSSA Annual Show & Sale,
 Huntington Botanical Garden
www.huntington.org
 (Information elsewhere in this issue)



We were sad to hear that former member Donna Jo passed away recently. Our condolences have been sent to her husband, Dr Harry Jo.



Sunshine: Get Well cards have been sent recently to Dominic Ortiz and Craig Roberts.

We hope for their speedy recoveries.

CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE: Do you ever look at our club Facebook page? You can click a button on our website to get there. It is ably curated by Karen Willoughby, who posts the Brag Table pictures right after the meetings. You can also get your own photos posted, just message them to Karen.

CLUB SALE TABLE: We have a table at the show and sale to sell items donated to the club—plants, pots, books, cuttings, supplies, etc. We will barcode the items. You can suggest prices, or we can price them for you.

Plants should be clean and in clean pots. Cuttings should also be as clean as you can get them.

We will also have a club sale table at the Member's Sale Night later this year. Some of us make a point to propagate a few plants for the club.

HYBRIDIZATION

Going through my files, I found this anonymous comment contributed to the old Cacti_etc discussion list:

Hybridization among plant species used to be considered a test, which if successful, proved relationship between the two species. This was a close relationship if the offspring were capable of reproducing.

Now we recognize that there are such things as intergeneric hybrids and that there are genetic barriers within a genus preventing hybridization among closely related forms.

In the genus *Echinocereus*, *E. rayonesensis* (Lau L1101) grows with *E. freudenbergeri* in habitat until someone noticed that the two had radically different flowers. The one was thought to be an extreme. No intermediate forms have been found among them, and apparently no one has been able to cross the two in a controlled environment. L1101 will, however, hybridize with *E. rissanthus*, specifically L1078.

Within the *E. engelmannii* complex someone recently discovered that there are no hybrids with *E. engelmannii* ssp *nicholii* and any of the other varieties of *engelmannii*.

Some very beautiful *Echinocereus* hybrids are *E. fendleri* x *E. viridiflorus* and *E. pamanesiorum* x *E. papillosus*.

Hybridization between the more distantly related forms produces high percentages of albino and variegated seedlings, which can be grafted.

(The L numbers are the collection numbers of the late Dr Alfred Lau, who spent many years botanizing in both North and South America.) **Sue**

MAY BRAG TABLE: We had a great group of plants for the Brag Table last month. We saw agaves, echeverias, blooming pachypodiums and blooming cacti. Those bringing exhibits were Dan Gale, Bill Gale, Eddie Etheridge, Nancy Jobin, Jess Hull, Fred Gaumer, Jose Soto, Jack Fleming, Roz Tampone, Bruce Hargreaves, David Madrigal, Karen Willoughby and Mark Muradian. Many thanks to them all. Many thanks to all of them. **Sue**



SOME NICE FEROCACTI

Often called the sentinels of the desert, ferocacti are formidable plants of sometimes enormous dimensions with fierce spines. The largest known plant is a specimen of *Ferocactus diguettii* on the island of Santa Catalina in the Sea of Cortez with a height of thirteen feet and a diameter of thirty-two inches.

But what are ferocacti? Britton and Rose erected the genus in 1922 to describe large barrel-shaped plants from Mexico and Southwestern United States. They stated that these ribbed plants can have fierce straight or hooked spines, flowers that are funnel-form or bell-shaped with scales and fleshy fruits. The name comes from Latin *ferox*, "fierce." The genus comprises about 30 species and a number of subspecies.

To the collector ferocacti are prized for their spines which can exceed 12 inches (*F. emoryi* ssp *rectispinus*). Flowers are a bonus but with many species it may take several years to flower a plant, and with these it is better to grow them in a garden situation. Most barrels prefer a well-drained mix and a sunny location. Mostly they are disease free. However, in cultivation they may develop sooty mold or creeping crud at the base of the plant body.



Ferocactus latispinus is favored by many collectors for its broad and bright red or yellow hooked spines and its small body. It flowers when small with purple blossoms in late fall to early winter. It is native to a broad area of central Mexico.

Some growers have lost this plant to rot in the winter, so care should be taken with watering at that time. (Photo from Wikipedia.)



Ferocactus glaucescens is a globular plant with a bluish body that may become slightly elongate. It has eleven to fifteen ribs that bear white, woolly areoles and six to seven short yellow radial spines with one central.

Specimens are usually solitary but, planted in the ground, sometimes forms clumps, as in the photo (from Llifile). This species makes a very nice garden plant or show specimen. It is native to a wide area of Mexico.



Ferocactus chrysacanthus is a globose to cylindrical plant three feet in height to a foot in diameter, which is from Cedros Island off the west coast of Baja California. It has thirteen to twenty-two tubercled ribs with areoles that bear six slender white radial spines and four to ten curved yellow or red centrals. This arrangement makes it a show winner, with the spines resembling a gold cage that wraps around the plant. Flowers range from yellow to orange or red.

As is true of other Baja Island species, *F. chrysacanthus* is not as easy to grow as most other ferocacti, so care should be taken with watering. Keep dry in winter. (Photo from Wikipedia).

Sue

EUPHORBIA NEORUBELLA



(Illus: www.worldofsucculents.com)

Long cultivated as *Monadenium montanum ssp rubellum*, this odd caudiciform is native to Kenya. It grows very quickly underground into a gnarled mass, and above ground produces cylindrical green and burgundy blotched stems and similarly colored lance-shaped leaves. It has narrow pearly-pink bracts that seem to bloom endlessly.

It does normally have a dormant season when it drops its leaves, and so watering should be reduced. Culture is not difficult: good drainage, careful watering, good light but no direct sun in our area. Propagation is by cuttings. The long stems can be trained on a support, or the plant can be grown in a hanging pot.

Sue



To all CSSA Affiliate Cactus and Succulent Societies

CSSA's Special Invitation to the 2023 Colorado Springs Convention

All of the members of the Colorado Cactus and Succulent look forward to meeting many convention attendees from the many CSSA affiliate societies on July 12-16 at the Colorado Springs CSSA Convention. The incredible view of 14,115' Pikes Peak outside the convention hotel will inspire and refresh, as will the 70-80F days and cool nights in the low 60's.

The line-up of speakers of particular interest to CSSA members includes, Ernst van Jaarsfeld, Elizabeth Sarnes from Germany, speaking for the first time at one of our conventions, Panayoti Kelaidis, and Stefan Burger. All of the speakers' biographical information and presentation topics are detailed on the CSSA website, https://cssaconvention.com/speakers_2023.html We would also encourage CSSA affiliate societies to sponsor a speaker of their choice, acknowledging CSSA affiliates generous contributions at previous CSSA conventions.

There is so much more: field trips, an enormous plant sale, the auction and banquet, and, not least, the opportunity to meet and have in depth conversations with the speakers and your fellow succulent enthusiasts from the other affiliate chapters. Please take a good look at the CSSA website for additional and I look forward to meeting each of you in July.

Ma Bjarkman

Cactus and Succulent Society of America



FRESNO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY 2023 SHOW & SALE

Saturday, June 10th – 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday, June 11th – 10 am to 4pm

**Huge variety of cacti, succulents,
supplies and handmade pottery!**

FREE PARKING & ADMISSON

**2023
SHOW &
SALE
—
JUNE
10 & 11**

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