



## Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society

### MEETINGDETAILS:

- Bring a snack to share
- Arrive early to find parking
- And prepare for fun!

### *mini plant show!*

Bring your Epiphytes and Crassulas to the meeting for our mini plant show... there will be ribbons!!

### *call for photos*

Send us your cactus photos  
[cactuscolorado@gmail.com](mailto:cactuscolorado@gmail.com)  
use the subject line  
**Newsletter Photos**

### *save the date*

#### 2019 Show and Sale

April 5 (Members Only), 6, & 7

**THIS LOCATION AND DATE  
HAS CHANGED to the  
SUMMIT EVENT CENTER**

February 2019, Vol 23 No. 2

The Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society promotes knowledge, enjoyment, cultivation and conservation of cacti and other succulent plants amongst its members, other individuals and organizations throughout Colorado.

## UPCOMING MEETING

**Speakers: Mr's Haenni, Yeatts, Tatroe, & Li**

**Topic: Our Trip to Big Bend in Pictures**

**Featured Plants For Monthly Show:**

Epiphytes and Crassulas

**Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2019**

**Time: 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm**

**Location: Denver Botanic Gardens Plant Society**

1007 York Street

Denver, CO 80206

### **Details:**

6:30 pm - Social Hour

7:00 pm - Club Business & Updates

7:30 pm - Speaker's Presentation



Ev Peevler's Sansevieria suffruticosa in bloom.  
No, I haven't seen a Sansevieria flower either!

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



## REMEMBERING DANA SUCH

It is with sadness that we announce the passing of Dana in early December 2018 following a protracted course with brain cancer. Dana was a very active member of the Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society for many years until she was no longer able to drive to our monthly meetings. She organized our annual SHOW at DBG several times.

Among us older CCSS members she was envied as the most successful "ribbon and trophy catcher" at our shows. Dana and Don Campbell quietly and amicably competed in the showroom for the most prestigious trophies with their outstanding plant collections.

You'll find her name multiple times engraved on all CCSS trophies. She is probably best remembered for her huge *Haworthia truncata* colony, almost 2 feet in diameter which became the much talked about "centerpiece" of the show.

Dana will be missed by many Colorado cactophiles.

Roswitha Moehring & Harriet Olds

## 2019 DUES ARE DUE

Remember to renew your Colorado Cactus and Succulent Membership this month! Dues can be paid on-line via our web page, or mailed to:

**Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society**

PO Box 12543

Denver, Co 80212

## 2019 BIENNIAL CSSA MEETING

The 2019 Biennial Cactus and Succulent Society of America Meeting this July in California! CSSA chairman Gunnar Eisel's invitation letter:

*"The Cactus and Succulent Society of America and the Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society invite you to the CSSA 39th Biennial Convention in beautiful downtown San Luis Obispo, California. The convention is from July 17 to July 20, 2019 with tours beginning on July 17th. This year we will feature optional field trips July 21. There will be excellent speakers, plant and pottery vendors, a live auction and silent auction, an opening reception, and a Santa Maria-style barbecue banquet.*

*With its temperate weather and cool breezes, California's Central Coast is a vacation wonderland, so you may want to extend your visit as there will be fun and educational field trips such as the Hearst Castle, Lotusland Botanical Garden, Aloes in Wonderland, Leaning Pine Arboretum, as well as a Montana de Oro Trail Hike and home garden tours, Stay tuned: there are more to come.*

*Our convention hotel, The Kinney Hotel, is located in the heart of San Luis Obispo within a short distance of many restaurants, bars, clubs, and theaters. It is a luxury hotel with pool, exercise room, and many other amenities. You will enjoy the spectacular mountains and cool breezes. Our convention venue, the Veterans Memorial Hall, is directly across the street from the hotel.*

*Online and mail-in registration, and hotel reservations and complete convention details are on the CSSA Convention website: <http://cssaconvention.com> "*

# PRESIDENT UPDATE -

It's Valentine's day month, so obviously I am accepting all forms of dark chocolates and *Aporocactus*.

We have some exciting news! Our Cactus Society is SO PROUD to announce that Rod Haenni is the FIRST Coloradan to be elected to the Cactus and Succulent Society of America Board of Directors. He will serve as a liaison for our Club and we are excited to have his growing expertise, articulate presentation skills and energy representing CCSS at the quarterly meetings.

Go to <http://cactusandsucculentsociety.org/> to find out more about the national society.

## December Meeting

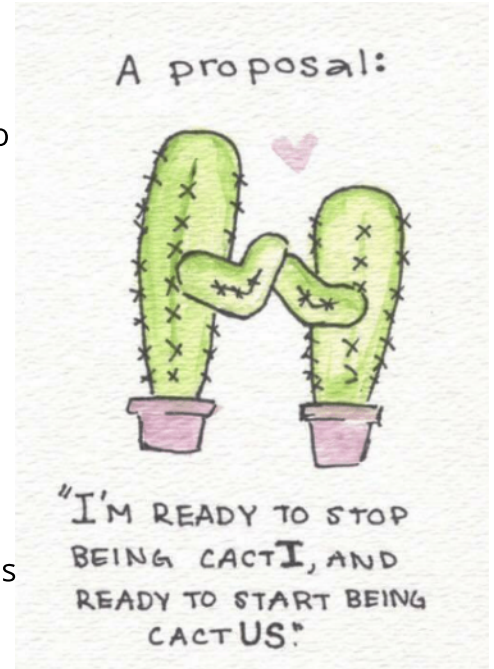
We know how important our volunteers are to the success of this club! CCSS recognized the following folks at the December meeting for their wonderful work:

Leo Chance  
Ellen Taylor  
Steve Harley

Dianne Carnahan  
Scott Carnahan  
Sharon Bolton

## Show and Sale Updates:

1. Please Sign Up to Volunteer! Cash Register Folks Needed  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B4FADAD29A5FF2-2019>
2. Prepare those show plants! Don't wait until the last minute to find the perfect pot and matching top dressing. **That trick never works.**
3. If you want to sell plants at the Show and Sale, please let me know in advance. Everyone is welcome, and encouraged, to sell plants but **you will need labels with bar codes. This is a process and Scott is a volunteer with a full-time job, wife, son, plants, home, laundry, errands and a light to medium work travel schedule. Please make this as efficient as possible.**



# CONFIRMED SHOW AND SALE VENDORS

Blazing Star Greenhouse	Prairie Storm Nursery	La Porte
Southwest Gardens	Cold Hardy Cacti	George Newman
Rio Grande Cacti	ALL ITS OWN	
Ethical Desert	Ahimals	
Emerald Leaf	Edie Marie Ceramics	

# FEBRUARY'S SPEAKERS

**Big Bend Nation Park:** Mr's Tatroe, Haenni, Li, et al, made a trip to south Texas to see all sorts of native cactus.

Join us as they take us on a photo tour of this magnificent place, and reveling in stories of their adventures.

Please leave your envy at home, they will provide plenty on Tuesday night.



This photo was stolen from the National Park Foundation website . . . The pictures shown at February's meeting will not only be better, but will be free of copyright issues.

## CACTUS OF THE MONTH: EPIPHYTES

Bring your Cactus to the February Meeting and show them off!

Examples of Epiphytic cacti: Schlumbergera, also sold as Zygocactus.

Popular names: Christmas cactus, Holiday cactus and Easter cactus due to their blooming pattern around these holidays.

Region of origin: South America, mainly Brazil.

## SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH: CRASSULAS

Bring your Succulents to the February meeting and show them off!

Crassula is a very large genus. Best known example: Crassula ovata, the popular Jade plant.

Other species: C. arborescens, C. capitella, C. elegans, C. nudicaulis, and C. perfoliata and many more.

Originally from South Africa.

# CACTUS UP-POTTING METHODS SURVEY

Katherine McCoy - 2.1.19

For most of us, growing healthy plants is a trial and error process. So the up-potting advice of seven expert cactus growers (published in the last newsletter) was very helpful because my own repotting methods have been based on a combination of observation, intuition and expediency. Here's what has worked best for me:

Before unpotting, I wait for a plant's root ball to dry. Dry roots seem a little tougher and less likely to break off. Soaking a plant is a last resort, when it's so pot-bound that it's otherwise impossible to remove from the old pot.

After removing the plant, I bare-root it by gently patting the root ball all over and teasing away most of the old soil, including little chunks of gravel held by the roots. This is a somewhat intuitive preference, but it does seem logical that bare-rooting would encourage additional root growth by loosening compacted roots and exposing roots to the new soil with fresh nutrients. Bare-rooting is especially important if the plant is going into a different soil type, so that all the roots encounter the same growing environment, thus preventing horticultural schizophrenia. Also, if all plants in the greenhouse are in similar soil, they will be more likely to dry out at a similar rate and be ready for watering at the same time. Of course, species known to dislike root disturbances, such as a mature *Melocactus*, should not be bare-rooted, as noted by Mike Crump.



After removing most of the old soil, I set the plant in a dry aluminum meatloaf pan (thrift store meatloaf pans are very useful!) in a shaded temperate location so the roots can harden off, as David Salman recommends. Even the most gentle unpotting breaks a few roots, so they need to callous over and firm up. Occasionally my schedule precludes repotting for several weeks, yet the plant almost never shows any sign of neglect afterwards. Cactus are amazingly patient!

# CACTUS UP-POTTING (CON'T)

Root trimming is something I've wondered about, so David Salman's and Steve Brack's suggestions are useful. I've trimmed roots only occasionally when there were some unusually long dangly roots. In general gardening, many plants respond well to pruning by growing more densely, so it does seem that pruning cactus roots could promote more robust root growth. Root trimming would be a good research topic for a club to support!

Nearly dry potting soil with a very slight bit of moisture seems best for my growing conditions. After potting, I set the plant in a slightly shaded lower shelf to acclimate, without watering, for about a week. Following that, the plant takes its place on a greenhouse shelf with related species and gets watered in the next greenhouse watering.

I've up-potted at all times of the year and never noticed any ill effects; so it was useful to learn that Joyce Hocritt also repots year-round in her greenhouse.

I only up-pot when a plant is really crowding its pot or feels seriously pot-bound by its weight, mainly because of real estate concerns – tight potting conserves space in the greenhouse. (But also, might tight potting promote flowering or stem growth, or reduce the danger of root rot? We read and hear varying opinions, and that also might be a good research topic for club support.) However, cactus definitely look best with a generous inch or more of top dressing around their base, so I usually



up-pot before entering a promising plant in a show.

Bottom line, it is reassuring that several of our experts recommend some of the methods I've been using. And I may start trimming plant roots a bit more.

Repotting Photos Courtesy of Jackson Burkholder

# SHAMELESS RESOURCE PAGE

Ever wonder where we get much marvelous plants locally? And between Show and Sales, without traveling to Arizona? Well, here are some great places to start:



**ETHICAL  
DESERT**

**ETHICALDESERT.COM**

HARDY & NON-HARDY: AGAVE, YUCCA, ALOE, CACTUS,  
SUCCULENTS AND SOUTH AFRICAN SUCCULENTS

COLORADO BASED NURSERY    ETHICALDESERT@GMAIL.COM



ALL ITS OWN  
nature - spirit - home

9703 W. Colfax Ave.  
(720) 572-4993  
all-its-own.com  
allitsown@gmail.com  
#allitsown

**Blazing Star Greenhouse**  
Tropicals, Succulents, Herbs and Patio Planters

**Gary Davis and Joann Narverud**  
Growing and Designing in  
Bennett, Colorado



720 883 3047  
blazingstar@esrta.com  
open by appointment



**Precision**  
Cactus Growers

Seeds  
and Plants  
Buy - Sell - Trade

www.precisioncactus.us  
precisioncactus@gmail.com

**Precision Cactus Growers Ltd.**

Specialty in Gift and Favorables

We have launched a new initiative this year: Industry Partnerships. Led by board member Jerry Vaninetti, we're inviting business to financially support our Society, and provide better ways to promote local businesses and resources.

For \$100 a year businesses can join CCSS as an Industry Partner which includes the following benefits:

- Four business card-sized per year in the CCSS Newsletter
- Up to four social media promotions per year
- An enhanced listing in the CCSS' Industry Partner Directory
- Invitation to participate in monthly CCSS meetings, usually at the Denver Botanic Gardens
- An opportunity to participate in the Annual CCSS show and sale (the 46th CCSS Show and Sale is scheduled for April 6 & 7, 2019)
- Opportunities to host and/or participate in special events (workshops, field trips, parties, etc.)

Please speak with Jerry if you have any questions or know an interested business:  
vaninetti\_jerry@yahoo.com

## SARA RANDALL

President; Show & Sale Chair  
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805-218-5779

2019  
BOARD

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## JERRY VANINETTI

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## MICHAEL ROLL

Conservation and Hiking;  
MichaelJRoll@gmail.com

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

February 19 - Big Bend Trip

Mar 9 – Adam Black

Apr 7-9 – Show and Sale

Apr 16 – Jan Emming

May 19-21 – Field trip

Jun 17 – Cactus Cut Up @ Dixies

Jul 16 – TBD

Aug 20 – Marcia and Randy Tatroe

Sep 17 – Rod Haenni: Echinocereus

Oct 21 – Banquet: Jim Weedin

Nov 19 – Woody Minnich: (Chile)

December 17 - Member Holiday Celebration



Scott Burkholder's Schlumbergera "Enigma"  
See this plant (and more!) at the next meeting!

## CCSS MEMBER-GRANT RECIPIENTS:

DEVRA & MICHAEL ROLL (2017)

DONNIE BARNETT (2017)

MIKE BONE (2016)

HARRIET OLDS

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION:

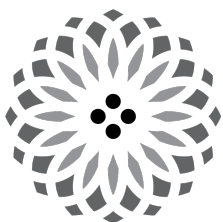


<https://www.facebook.com/CoCSS>

<https://www.instagram.com/coloradocactus/>

<http://www.coloradocactus.org/>





Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society

[ColoradoCactus.org](http://ColoradoCactus.org)

P.O. BOX 12543, Denver, CO 80212

Address Correction Requested