



Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society

YOUR 2023 GUEST EDITOR:
SCOTT BURKHOLDER
AND A CAST OF HUNDREDS!

BOULDER PLANTS

Tom Lemieux will bring
our plants down from their
Greenhouse in Boulder!

[Club News!](#)

[September's
Meeting!](#)

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Banquet!](#)

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September 2023, Vol 27 No. 3

The Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society promotes education, enjoyment, cultivation, and conservation of cacti and other succulents among our members and the larger community.



At the Boulder Greenhouse
Scott Burkholder Photo

UPCOMING TOUR

Date: Tuesday, September 19, 2023

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Gates Hall - Denver Botanic Gardens
1007 N York St
Denver, CO 80206

Presentation: Mike Kintgen "The OTHER Sedums"

Details:

Mike will show all 3 species of North American *Rhodiola* in habitat, in the garden and offer some tips for cultivation. Additionally, he will highlight a few Asiatic ones he's grown!

If you requested plants from the Greenhouse tour in Boulder, last month, Tom Lemieux is bringing some to the meeting!

And if that's not enough, let's swap plants! Bring a plant, or two or three, *in a box*, to the meeting to trade with your friends!

SUCCULENT BITS

September Monthly Meeting -

We are meeting this coming Tuesday in Gates Hall.

Mike Kintgen is presenting Sediums and we all love *Rhodiolas!*

Let's trade plants! Bring a few in a box to trade. Cuttings are okay, too.

Look for details in this newsletter. See you there!

October Banquet & Meeting -

Hosted by the Mount Vernon Country Club on Sunday, October 15th! Don't forget, you need to purchase tickets in advance, \$35 in advance and \$45 after October 6th!

Save the Date!



Discocactus horstii
Scott Burkholder Photo

CCSS Outreach Committee -

Would you like to work with potential new members, helping to re-pot their plants and answer their questions?

We get several inquiries each month, and if you want to help, please contact Scott !

November Meeting!

November's meeting is currently scheduled for the 7 pm, on Wednesday the 15th, in the Strum Family Auditorium, at the Denver Botanic Gardens.

Save that Date!

August Greenhouse Tour -

Thanks Again to Tom Lemieux at the Boulder Greenhouses for the tour! He has reviewed our plant requests, and will bring as many as possible to the meeting on Tuesday. If you asked for plants, PLEASE come to the meeting!

NOTES FROM THE RE-POTTING BENCH

Thanks to everyone who made the trip to Boulder to tour the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Greenhouse at The University of Boulder. Tom Lemieux and the staff opened up the doors and let everyone poke around.

Tom and his crew offered to attempt propagating plants for everyone who visited the greenhouse. I put in a request for a Sansivaria and an Echeveria myself! *They've done their best, and will bring'em to the meeting on Tuesday.*

If you missed the tour I've included some of our photos in this newsletter.

September's monthly meeting should be a real treat on the 19th. Yes, I know that we all have sedums in our gardens, but are they *Rhodiolas*? I know mine aren't! These are "The OTHER Sedums" and Mike Kintgen will give us the inside story.

This month's meeting is in Gates Hall. We've met there many times, plus they permit us to have food, drink, and plants!

We missed the Cactus Cutup this summer, so let's take this opportunity to swap some plants at the meeting. Please bring a few of the plants, or cuttings, that you'd planned to swap and let's trade. Remember, this is indoors so put them in a box for easy transport.

Next month is October and that means it's party time! This year's banquet and business meeting will be held at the Mount Vernon Country Club. Woody will give his South Africa, Namaqualand presentation, and if you know anything about country clubs this will be a real party!

Early-bird tickets are \$35 each, tickets purchased after October 6th are \$45. Consider getting yours at September's meeting!!

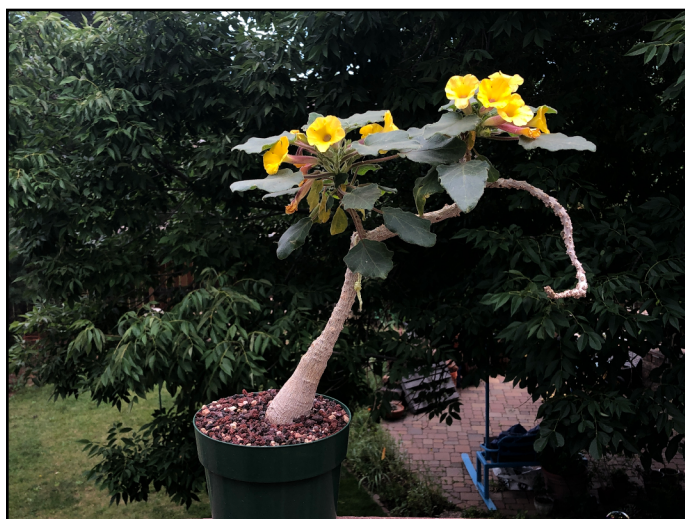
November's meeting is on the calendar, so you have another date to save! The DBG is already scheduling holiday parties, so we have been moved to Wednesday the 15th at 7 pm.

Our greenhouse is in the midst of the late-summer bloom, so I'm also including pictures of our Discocactus, photographs very late at night, and our Uncarina, snapped in the afternoon.

Enjoy!

Scott Burkholder
2023 President
seisnoir@comcast.net

My Uncarina roeoesliana >>



SEPTEMBER'S PRESENTATION: THE OTHER SEDUMS

Most of us think of sedums as those little succulents you can stuff between rocks in a wall or your rock garden, and more often or not they'll live. More often or not, they can become pesky too: every little broken piece or leaflet will root and pretty soon you're weeding them out by the bucket.

Of course, there are choice and compact sedums that are even challenging to grow, but then there are those OTHER sedums: plants that are closely allied to the ones we think of first, only they have tap-roots and generally don't spread at all.

These come in two flavors: the ones that grow at higher elevations (often in very moist sites - sometimes even in water) are *Rhodiola*, a large genus found all over the Northern Hemisphere, especially in the Himalaya where there are dozens of species. One species, *Rhodiola rosea* (often called rose root for the smell of the roots), is especially widespread and has become an important herb gathered by the metric ton and used for a restorative in sports medicine (especially in Russia) and elsewhere as a sort of natural Viagra. Let's not delve into that too deeply.

Rhodiola rosea has been an important part of the European **Materia Medica** since the Middle Ages. It makes an attractive plant for the rock garden and perennial border, and doesn't demand much extra water or attention. Our Rocky Mountain King's Crown (*Rhodiola integrifolia*) is closely allied to Rose Root and has even been classed as a subspecies by some botanists. The principal difference is flower color: our plant is usually a deep bronze color, almost black, while typical Rose Root is yellow flowered. There are large parts of the Sangre De Cristo where *Rhodilla integrifolia* often is yellow flowered as well - so much for distinctions! Both species have strange variants throughout their range, one of which is considered endangered, and Mike Kintgen has been researching and monitoring this in recent years and will be sharing his findings.

Better known in gardens than *Rhodiola*, the Hylotelephium section of Sedum is increasingly separated and sold as Hylotelephium. These occur across all of Asia, usually at lower altitudes than *Rhodiola*. Only one of these, *Sedum (Hylotelephium) spectabilis* often grown. One might even say planted too often! Especially once you dip your toe see the vast array of showy species and new hybrids in this group - you may even want to replace your 'Indian Chief'!

If you've been lucky enough to see the Nexus Berm at Denver Botanic Gardens (pictured here in a photo taken last week with Laura Swain who takes care of this garden) you will quickly become a convert. The choice selections of Hylotelephium in this garden create a spectacle of showy blooms in August and September, although their foliage is often beautiful throughout much of the growing season. Like most *Rhodiola* and Hylotelephium are deciduous - their only drawback!

Mike Kintgen will guide us through some of the confusing tsunami of cultivars that have flooded the market. This is a meeting NOT to be missed!



Nexus Berm at the DBG with Sedums
Panayoti Kelaidis Photo

OCTOBER'S BANQUET & BUSINESS MEETING

The Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society Fall Banquet and Business Meeting is:

- Sunday, October 15th at 1 pm. *Please Save that Date!*
- Mount Vernon Country Club: 24933 Club House Cir, Golden, CO 80401
- The presenter will be Woody Minnich, his presentation is "South Africa, Namaqualand, Land of the Halfmens".
- Tickets cost \$35 per person before Friday, October 6th. After October 6th, tickets are \$45 per each.
- Meal choices are Beef, Salmon, or vegetarian.

The Mount Vernon Country Club is a marvelous facility in the foothills.



Mount Vernon Country Club Front Gate
Internet Photo



Pachypodium namaquanum on a rare white
quartz outcrop - Woody Minnich Photo

SCENES FROM THE BOULDER GREENHOUSE TOUR



Selfie from the greenhouse
Scott Burkholder Photo



Browsing through plants
Scott Burkholder Photo



Lots of Sansivarias
Scott Burkholder Photo



Lots of photography happening!
Scott Burkholder Photo



A wall of tropical plants
Scott Burkholder Photo



Looking into a small specialty greenhouse
Scott Burkholder Photo

SCENES FROM THE BOULDER GREENHOUSE TOUR



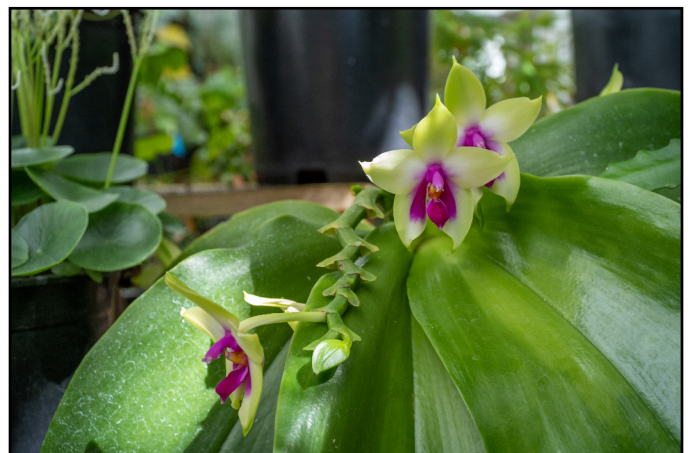
Stanhopea maculosa - an example of a genus of orchids with large pendulous flowers.
Jackson Burkholder Photo



Dracula sp. - A genus of orchids known for their exotic flowers and sinister names.
Jackson Burkholder Photo



Hydnophytum formicarum - a huge example of this classic myrmecophyte.
Jackson Burkholder Photo



Phalaenopsis bellina - An unusual relative of the moth orchids available in supermarkets.
Jackson Burkholder Photo



An enormous *Deuterocohnia brevifolia*, however even a plant of this size would be dwarfed by a specimen from the wild where it grows in



Kalanchoe delagoensis not letting itself be constrained by a pot.
Jackson Burkholder Photo

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS:

September 19th - CCSS Meeting at Denver Botanic Gardens

October 15th - CCSS Banquet & Business Meeting

November 15th - CCSS Monthly Meeting at Denver Botanic Gardens

April 27 & 28, 2024 - CCSS & RMC-NARGS Plant Show and Sale

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