

CCSS Newsletter

Connecticut Cactus and Succulent Society

March 2011

From the President

JANUARY MAY HAVE BEEN TRAUMATIC, WEATHER-WISE, BUT IT WAS feeling a little like spring when we met at the Beardsley Zoo in February. **Devan Parker** provided an informative talk on growing cacti and succulents from seed under inexpensive fluorescent lights. This is a very useful technique for our gloomy New England winters. Thank you to Devan and the Zoo for making the meeting a success!

● The Connecticut Flower and Garden Show is upon us, and I believe we have enough volunteers to staff the CCSS booth. See you there, and do not forget to bring your plants to fill out the display, as we may be short on material this year.



The Twenty-eighth CCSS Annual Show and Sale is approaching rapidly. It will take place on April 9–10, with setup on Friday, April 8, starting at 2:00 PM and running until after my bedtime. Please plan on joining us at Naugatuck Valley Community College that weekend,

to help with the setup and operation of the show, to enter plants for judging, to donate auction and sale material, and of course to buy plants and books. It is always a busy but fun time for the club, and an entertaining and educational experience for the hundreds of people from the general public who attend.

● Our March 6 meeting will be held at Woodland Gardens in Manchester. The main item on the agenda will be planning for the show, but I will bring along some interesting plants for auction and discussion, too. The May meeting is tentatively scheduled for the University of Connecticut, with a slide show from **Art Scarpa** about his recent trip to South Africa.

Thank you,
Matt Opel
President

The Secretary's Report

DESPITE A CHANGE FROM THE BUILDING TO WHICH WE HAD BEEN originally assigned, and a shortage of parking, twenty-six people made it to the greenhouse at Beardsley Zoo for our February meeting.

● A colorful peacock met most of us, occasionally guarding the door. We sure lucked out on the weather. We also did very well in the food department. Everyone brought wonderful goodies and, although he could not come, Alex sent the fried chicken again, which disappeared fast. Thanks to Alex and all those who brought food.

● Two members came for the first time: **Nina Fabian** from Bridgeport and her mother, **Carol Fabian**, from Trumbull. **Chris Tuccio**, a horticulture staff member from Naugatuck Valley Community College, joined us for the second time.



● The first thing discussed at the meeting was the Connecticut Flower and Garden Show. It will be held from Thursday, February 24 through Sunday, February 27 at the Connecticut Convention Center, 100 Columbus Boulevard, Hartford. Set up is the Tuesday and Wednesday prior to that, February 22 and 23, from 3:00–7:00 PM. Needed are plants for the show, plants for the club's table,

and volunteers to set up and man the table. A sign-up sheet was passed around, with the hope that some members who could not make the meeting, would arrive at the show to bring plants or work. As usual if volunteers need to be reimbursed for parking, see our treasurer, Ken Moser.

● A motion was passed to give a grant of \$1,500 to NVCC: two scholarships of \$500 each and a gift of \$500 to be used in the greenhouse.

● A motion was made and passed to give an honorarium of \$100 to **Devan Parker**, our speaker at this meeting. After it was passed, a discussion followed about deciding

Continued on page 2, left column

The Secretary's Report, continued from page 1

to have the amount be up to the discretion of the President, and then a check cut by the Treasurer would be given to the speaker. This would eliminate any embarrassment to the speaker. The maximum amount would be \$200. The actual amount offered depending on the distance traveled and the eminence of the speaker.

● Please make your arrangements so that you can work at our Show and Sale in April. Physical difficulties have made it impossible for at least six of our members—who have been stalwart workers in the past—to help this year. We need set-up workers on Friday from 2:00–10:00 PM, and all day for many jobs during the show Saturday and Sunday.

● Start looking to see which of your plants can be ready to put in the Show. Even if you do not think you would win a ribbon or if you are a “first-timer”, your plant might be the one that influences a viewer to become a member and put their plant in next year.

● Show plants must be brought in on Friday, April 8, between 2:00–9:00 PM. Plants brought in early Saturday morning may not make it onto the show tables as judging usually starts at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Lynn
Secretary



The Connecticut Cactus and Succulent Society

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The CCSS Newsletter is published each month except January. Annual membership of \$12.00 includes subscription to the newsletter. This membership includes all members of an immediate family residing at the same residence. Payment is payable to the Treasurer, Mr. Ken Mosher, 8 Bailey Road, Andover, CT 06232.

Connecticut Cactus and Succulent Society

Editorial Office

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At our February meeting at the Beardsley Zoo, **Devan Parker**, President of the Cactus and Succulent Society of Massachusetts, explained and showed how to grow succulents from seed. In this photo, Devan is demonstrating the space required between a fluorescent lamp and seedlings.

Photo by Herbert Sullivan



Devan Parker, during her explanation on how to grow succulents from seed, pauses to answer a member's question. She emphasized the importance of air movement over the seedlings to prevent molds from taking residence in her flats. Note the fan on the right.

Photo by Herbert Sullivan

Pinguicula ehlersiae

By Dr. Matt Opel

THIS NEAT LITTLE MEXICAN BUTTERWORT IS FLOWERING FOR THE FIRST time in the UConn greenhouses right now. Mexico is a hot spot of butterwort diversity, with about twenty-



five different species. *Pinguicula ehlersiae*, like the majority of Mexican species in the genus, shows strong seasonal growth. During the summer, when it tends to be rainy and humid in its habitat, it produces large, flat leaves that catch small insects in sticky secretions. In winter, *P. ehlersiae* grows the stubby, succulent leaves seen here, and can withstand a certain amount of drought. One usually thinks of carnivorous plants like the butterworts as being denizens of bogs and other wet places, but some Mexican *Pinguicula* grow right next to cacti, agaves, and other more familiar succulent plants. ○

Dr. Matt Opel, the president of the CCSS, is the Horticulturalist at the UConn EEB Plant Growth Facilities in Storrs, Connecticut.



Becky Lynn smiles for the camera looking very relaxed and pleased as she listens to *Devan Parker* discussing seedling succulents.

Photo by Herbert Sullivan

Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 6: The March meeting will be held at Woodland Gardens, 168 Woodland Street, Manchester, Connecticut. (860) 643-8474 [Directions on page 8]

The main item on the agenda will be planning for the April show. Also, Dr. Matt Opel will bring plants for auction and discussion.

1:00 PM

Do Not Bring Chairs

Entrées: H-S

Appetizers/Sides/Salads: T-Z

Desserts: A-G

Saturday April 9: At the closing of the Show and Sale at Nagatuck Valley Community College—about 5:00 PM—we will have our pizza supper followed by a business meeting.

Sunday, May 1: University of Connecticut, Storrs.

Treasurer's Report

Income	
Dues	\$12.00
Expenses:	
Pumice for Soil/Sale	\$209.86
February Newsletter	160.72
April Show Fliers	118.82
Books for Sale	103.52
Speaker Honorarium	100.00
Name Tags	52.28
Sunshine Secretary	8.26
Refreshments	7.78
Total Income (Expense)	(\$749.24)
Bank Balance	\$6,940.21

REMINDER!

The annual show is also membership renewal time. See the front table at the show to take care of this little detail.

From the Bookshelf

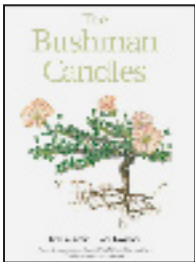
By David Schultz

THE TIMBER PRESS AND STOREY BOOKS GROUP ORDER WILL BE PLACED on the Wednesday immediately after the March meeting. We offer a 40% discount off the list price of any book in their catalogs. I have just received the Spring 2011 catalogs from them and will bring them to the March meeting.

You can order books on succulent plants which include *Hardy Succulents* by G. Kelaidis from Storey and a number from Timber Press including *The Cactus Family* by Anderson; *Agaves, Yuccas, & Related Plants* by M. & G. Irish; *Designing with Succulents* and *Succulent Container Gardens*, both by D. Baldwin; and *The Garden Succulents Primer* by Gideon Smith and Ben-Erik van Wyk.

A new offering that looks interesting is *Small Green Roofs* due out in May from Timber which would be a good companion to *Green Roof Plants* published in 2006 with an extensive list of Sedums and Sempervivums. Check www.timberpress.com and www.storey.com for their complete catalogs.

A book entitled *The Bushman Candles* by C. Craib and J. Lavranos (ISBN: 978-0-620-4867-4) published by Penroc Publications, will be published in April. The web site has a very extensive listing of the contents of the book including many of the illustrations and photos included in the book: www.penroc.co.za. The pre-publication price is \$105.00 with surface shipping. Sarcaulons



Helen Pritchard is looking for people to be on the floor during our April show to protect the plants and to answer attendees' questions. Contact Helen early at the show and be sure to wear your name tag and T-shirt.

are a fascinating and beautiful group of plants. I will need to know if you are interested at the March meeting to get the pre-publication price. ○

Show Time

By David Schultz

OUR TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL CACTUS & SUCCULENT SHOW IS rapidly approaching. The show rules, categories and plant registration forms will be included with this newsletter. [See pages 8–10.] I will bring more forms to the March meeting. I encourage everyone to bring plants to enter in the show. If every member brought just a single entry, the show would grow each year. Of course multiple entries would be even better. Do not be intimidated if you are entering for the first time; we have a novice category to get your feet wet.

The main purpose of the show is to introduce the public to the vast varieties, beauty, and even the “weirdness” of the plants that we grow and love.

We also need educational displays. Entries can be brought in to the Naugatuck Valley Community College cafeteria on Friday, April 8, from 2:00 PM until 10:00 PM. We would prefer entries be brought on Friday, but if Saturday is all that you can manage, please be there early, between 8:00 and 8:30 AM, as we will have to rearrange the show plants to begin judging at 9:00 AM.

With several longtime members either no longer able or much limited in their ability to help, the work load will need more volunteers. To paraphrase an oft heard adage, volunteer early and often. Many hands make the work lighter.

Set-up will begin at 2:00 PM on Friday and we will probably still be there at 10:00 PM. Tasks which need help include the show and vendor set-up and arrangement, the membership/greeting table, show security, club plant and book sales tables, hospitality room, auction, and vendor relief. If you have plants which you have extras of or which have outgrown their space, bring them and donate them for the club sales and auction. See you there! ○

Plant Police Needed for April Show

We need volunteers to watch over our plants at the April show. See Helen Pritchard early at the opening of the show. She is desperate for security assistance and needs your help. ○

**Connecticut Cactus and
Succulent Society
2011 Plant Show Entry Form**

Division _____ Class _____

Genus _____

Species _____

Var., Fma., and/or Cv. _____

Seed Raised _____ Windowsill-Grown _____

Plant's age, if known, or years owned _____

Exhibitor's Comments _____

Award: 1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____ HM _____

Judges' Comments _____



Exhibitor's Name _____

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Award: 1st _____ 2nd _____ 3rd _____ HM _____

Judges' Comments _____



Exhibitor's Name _____

Connecticut
Cactus and Succulent Society
28th Annual Show & Sale
April 9–April 10, 2011
Plant Show Categories

Division I—Cacti

Cactaceae

1. Astrophytum
2. Ariocarpus
3. Obregonia, Encephalocarpus, Aztekium
4. Echinocereus, Wilcoxia
5. Ferocactus, Homalocephala
6. Stenocactus (Echinofossulocactus)
7. Echinocactus, Leuchtenbergia
8. Coryphantha, Thelocactus
9. Turbinicarpus, Strombocactus
10. Pediocactus, Pelecyphora, Sclerocactus, Epithelantha
11. Neolloydia, Echinomastus, Gymnocactus, Escobaria
12. Mammillaria—single head
13. Mammillaria—hook-spined, clusters
14. Mammillaria—clusters
15. Melocactus
16. Discocactus
17. Uebelmannia, Buiningia
18. Columnar Cacti—Carnegiea, Cephalocereus, Cleistocactus, Espostoa, Myrtillocactus, Neobuxbaumia, Pilocereus, Stetsonia, Stenocereus, Trichocereus, etc.
19. Opuntiae—Opuntia, Tephrocactus, Pterocactus
20. Parodia Group, including Notocactus
21. Rebutia, Aylosteria, Mediobivia
22. Sulcorebutia, Weingartia
23. Lobivia, Denmoza, Echinopsis, Acanthocalycium
24. Matucana, Submatucana, Oroya
25. Eriocyce Group, including Neoporteria, Neochilenia, Horridocactus
26. Copiapoa
27. Frailea, Blossfeldia
28. Epiphytic cacti—Disocactus, Epiphyllum, Hattoria, Rhipsalis, Selenicereus, etc.
29. Gymnocalycium
30. Other genera of cacti
31. Variegated cacti
32. Crested cacti

33. Monstrose cacti
34. Winter hardy cacti

Division II—Succulents Other Than Cacti

Crassulaceae

35. Crassula
36. Adromischus
37. Aeonium, Sempervivum, Orostachys, Greenovia, Aichryson
38. Cotyledon, Tylecodon, Kalanchoe
39. Echeveria
40. Pachyphytum, Graptopetalum, Tacitus
41. Dudleya
42. Sedum
43. Other genera of Crassulaceae — Monanthes, Sinocrassula, etc.

Mesembryanthemaceae

Aizoaceae

44. Lithops, Dinteranthus
45. Stone mimics: Argyroderma, Fenestraria, Gibbaeum, Lapidaria, Pleiospilos, etc.
46. Conophytum.
47. Other mesembs:
 - a. Shrubby types—Ruschia, Delosperma, etc.
 - b. Rough/tooth-leaved types—Aloinopsi, Titanopsis, Faucaria, etc.
 - c. Others—Monilaria, Cheiridopsis, Mitrophyllum, Glottiphyllum, etc.

Euphorbiaceae

Euphorbia species endemic to Madagascar

48. Millii type—beharensis, delphinensis, duranii, horombensis, millii, etc.
49. Stem type—leuconeura, lophogona, pachypodioides, perrieri, stenoclada, viguieri, etc.
50. Thickened root or caudex type—decaryi, capsaintmariensis, francoisii, cylindrifolia, etc.

Euphorbia species NOT endemic to Madagascar

51. Medusae-head type—caput-medusae, gorgonis, decepta, esculenta, pugniformis, flanaganii, etc.
52. Caudiciform type—stellata, micrantha, tortirama, squarrosa, knuthii, groenwaldii, tuberosa, etc.
53. Stem type (solitary or clustering)—polygona, fasciculata, obesa, suzannae, mammillaris, abdelkuri, columnaris, stellaspina, etc.
54. Shrub type—cooperii, cactus, grandicornis, pseudocactus, poisonii, weberbaueri, etc.

Other Genera of Euphorbiaceae

- 55. Monadenium, Synadenium
- 56. Pedilanthus, Jatropha, etc.

Aloaceae

- 57. Aloe
- 58. Haworthia—single plant
- 59. Haworthia—clumps of plants
- 60. Haworthia—columnar
- 61. Haworthia—hybrids
- 62. Gasteria
- 63. Other Genera of Aloaceae

Asclepiadaceae

- 64. Stapelia, Orbea, Caralluma, Huernia, Stapelianthus, Piaranthus, Echidnopsis, etc.
- 65. Hoodia, Trichocaulon, Pseudolithos, Whitesloanea
- 66. Fockea, Brachystelma, Raphionacme, Petopentia
- 67. Other Asclepiadaceae genera—Hoya, Ceropegia, Dischidia, etc.

Asphodelaceae

- 68. Bulbine

Hyacinthaceae

- 69. Albuca, Bowiea, Massonia, etc.

Agavaceae

- 70. Agave
- 71. Furcraea, Hesperaloe, Yucca, etc.

Nolinaceae

- 72. Beaucarnea
- 73. Calibanus
- 74. Other genera of Nolinaceae—Nolina, Dasyliirion

Dracaenaceae

- 75. Sansevieria, Dracaena

Apocynaceae

- 76. Pachypodium
- 77. Adenium

Bromeliaceae

- 78. Abromeitiella, Deuterocohnia, Dyckia, Hechtia, Tillandsia, etc.

Compositae

- 79. Senecio, Othonna, etc.

Convolvulaceae

- 80. Ipomoea, Turbinia

Cucurbitaceae

- 81. Ibervillea, Kedrostis, Gerrardanthus, etc.

Dioscoreaceae

- 82. Dioscorea, Testudinaria

Didieraceae

- 83. Alluaudia, Didierea, Decarya, etc.

Fouquieriaceae

- 84. Fouquieria, Idria

Geraniaceae

- 85. Sarcocaulon, Pelargonium

Passifloraceae

- 86. Adenia

Portulacaceae

- 87. Anacampseros, Portulacaria, Portulaca, Ceraria, etc.

Vitaceae

- 88. Cissus, Cyphostemma

Miscellany

- 89. Succulent shrubs and trees not in other categories—Bursera, Operculicarya, Pachycormus, Ficus, Bombax, Commiphora, etc.
- 90. Herbaceous succulents not in other classes—Begonia, Peperomia, Brighamia, Myrmecodia, Plectranthus, Dorstenia, Hydnophytum, Gonolobus, etc.
- 91. All other genera of succulents
- 92. Variegated
- 93. Crested
- 94. Monstrose
- 95. Winter-Hardy Succulents

Division III—Special Exhibits

- 96. Bonsai
- 97. Collections—5 to 15 plants of one genus or common characteristic (All plants must be properly named/numbered. Key card is required.)
- 98. Miniature—a mature plant—inside pot diameter less than 3 inches
- 99. Dish Gardens or Troughs (All plants must be properly named/numbered. Key card is required.)

Division IV—Novice and Junior Growers

(Young people through high school)

- 100. Cacti—Novice
- 101. Cacti—Junior
- 102. Succulents other than cacti—Novice
- 103. Succulents other than cacti—Junior
- 104. Dish gardens or troughs—Novice
- 105. Dish gardens or troughs—Junior
- 106. Group exhibit by school, class, or other organization—Junior

Division V—Educational Display

107. Displays of a particular genus, family, or group of plants sharing a specifically defined character(s), and/or horticultural technique, which educate the general public. Eligible of the **Cactus and Succulent Society of America Educational Award**

Division NJ—Non-judged

Classes

Plants entered for display only.

A plant entered in this division is for display only and is **not to be judged**.

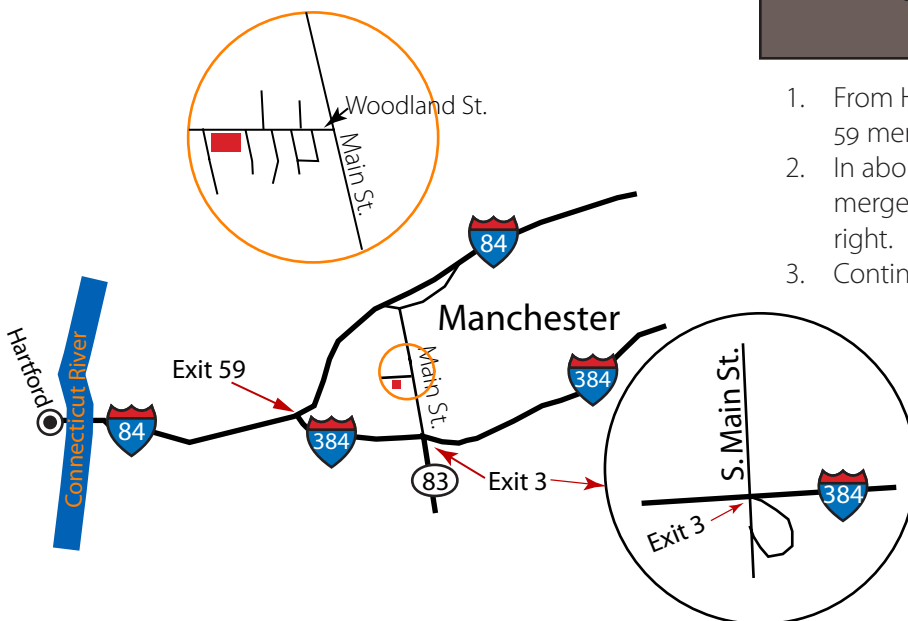
The class numbers in this division correspond to the class in which the plant would be entered in the judged show, but with the addition of NJ to the class number.

The plant may be allowed entrance and/or removal from the show—**with the prior consent of the show chair**—at times the entrant deems necessary.

The plant must have a valid entry card and be passed by the show committee.

Map to Woodland Gardens

■ = Woodland Gardens
168 Woodland St.



Annual Show Rules

1. No field collected plants permitted
2. Plants must be placed on the show benches by 9:00 AM, Saturday, April 9. No plants will be accepted for judging after that time.
3. The Connecticut Cactus and Succulent Society reserves the right to reject any plants which appear infected or infested.
4. All plants must have been in the owner's possession for six (6) months prior to the show.
5. Exhibitors must completely fill out entry cards, placing them with the appropriate plants, in such a manner that the exhibitor's name does not show. Windowsill grown plants should be clearly marked as such.
6. Exhibitors are asked not to be in the show area during judging. A judge having a plant in any class is expected to not judge in that class.
7. A novice is a person who has not exhibited before in this show.

Judging Scale of Points

Condition of	75
Staging	20
Nomenclature	5

Directions to Woodland Gardens

1. From Hartford stay on I-84 East for 5 miles taking Exit 59 merging onto I-384 East toward Providence.
2. In about 4 miles take Exit 3. The exit ramp is a loop that merges with Main Street going north. Just keep to the right.
3. Continue on Main Street for about 2 miles where you will find Woodland Street on the left.
4. Proceed onto Woodland Street. In about one-half mile you will see Woodland Gardens on the left. (See map at the left.)