



GEMS of the DESERT



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Next meeting: Thursday, September 24th 2009, 7:30 pm

Meeting at Fullerton Arboretum exit 57 N at Yorba Linda Blvd, next to CSUF stadium

CLUB OFFICERS:

President:	Vince Basta
Treasurer:	Nancy Rokkum
Vice President Programs:	Denise Fry
VP Excursions:	Craig Fry
Membership:	Kathy McNair
Website:	Daiv Freeman www.occss.org
Secretary:	Lori Coxo (562) 921-4615



Above: Prepping Aloe leaves for micropropagation; Right: Aloe plantlets growing in agar jelly; Tim Harvey's display at LACSS 2009 showed tissue culture, leaf cuttings, other propagation methods.

Hello – Members and all interested Persons – Welcome to this OCCSS Newsletter

Sept 24th Tim Harvey, "New Plants from an Old Place; Northern Summer Rainfall Areas of Namibia". Previously Tim gave a talk on containerless gardening showing his multi-color hybrid Uncarina, an exotic African tree. These desert areas are the habitat of rare bulbs, a variety of mesembs, conophytums, lithops, crassula and a wide variety of unusual plants. Tim is a real fascinating guy who propagates plants by tissue culture, hybridizes Uncarinas and exhibits plants at the LACSS & InterCity shows. Pictures in this issue are of his plants at our OCCSS show, LACSS and InterCity 2009.

Plants of the month: the last of the summer flowering plants or winter growing plants that are starting – bring in yours to share with the club!

ORANGE COUNTY CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING INFORMATION

When: The society meets on the fourth Thursday during the months January thru October. Call for November and December dates. Refreshments and camaraderie begin at 7pm. The meeting starts promptly at 7:30.

Where: The meeting room at Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton, CA 92839. Exit the 57 Freeway at Yorba Linda Blvd, several exits North of the 91 Freeway. Travel west to Cal State Fullerton Campus. That is Left if you are traveling North, or Right if you are traveling South. Turn left from Yorba Linda Blvd into the CSUF parking lot by the stadium at Associated Road. This is the light after the freeway exit. Park in the dirt parking lot in front of the arboretum. The evening entrance is 50 feet north of the regular entrance to the gardens, a concrete path that leads directly to the meeting building. We sometimes meet in Oak Hall.

What happens? The program consists of a talk or demonstration by a recognized expert on some aspect of succulent plants. Other activities include a business meeting, discussion of the member's plant table (plants that are interesting, blooming or in trouble), including answers to questions by members and guests, sale of plants and related items, plant raffle, check out & return books from the club library.

Admission: None, It's free!!! Who may come: Everyone interested in Cacti & succulents welcome.

Big "Thank You" to Joe Clements for his great talk.

Special thanks to Joe Stead for donating plants for last month's meeting. – Denise

President's Message:

As I mentioned at the August meeting, we are seeking donations for drought resistant plants and/or tree seedlings for Helen Anderson. Helen is part of the Green Task Force at the Tustin Presbyterian Church where a special event will be held on October 24th to raise awareness for the global movement, 350.org, to reduce carbon in the atmosphere to 350 parts per million. One way to move toward the goal is to reduce water usage through the use of cacti and succulent plants. People attending the public event will be given these plants we donate which will be used to raise awareness of their water reducing benefits. I hope all of you will bring plant donations to our September meeting for this special event.

We also need to form a nomination committee at the next meeting to begin selection for a slate of officers for 2010. The slate of officers will be announced by the committee at the October meeting and nominations from the floor will also be accepted. The names of the candidates will be printed in the November newsletter and at the November meeting, the election will take place.

The transition from summer to fall has begun, one week hot, the next cool initiating growth to many species of winter growers. Boophane, Othonna, Pelargonium, Sarcocaulon, and Tylecodon are just a few beginning their growth cycle in my collection. I look forward to Tim Harvey's program on Namibia as I am sure we will see some great plants! See you at the September meeting.

--- Vince Basta OCCSS President ---



These Uncarinas were sown from seeds in 2005 by Tim Harvey, our speaker. They are crosses of two species. One seedling had stripes of both colors. Uncarinas have snowflake shaped leaves and spikey grenade shaped seed pods that attach to passing animals to spread in the wild; InterCity show 2009

Upcoming Cactus 2009 events: from www.OCCSS.org

Date	Location	Detail
Sept. 27 th	Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction	18127 South Alameda St., Rancho Dominguez, CA 12:00 p.m. http://www.lbcss.org/
Nov. 7th - 8th	San Gabriel Valley Cactus And Succulent Society	Show And Sale at La County Arboretum Address Above http://www.arboretum.org/
Dec. 5th -6th	Orange County Fall Show & Sale	Fullerton Arboretum, 1900 Associated Road, Fullerton, Ca 92831; 57 Fwy exit Yorba Linda, go West, Left at 1 st light past freeway into CSUF campus / Stadium http://fullertonarboretum.org/ below: Green Scene 2009 pictures!

Full Name _____
 OCCSS Renewal Form – Renewing Members - Check box if address unchanged _____ else fill out address below:
 Street Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Telephone# (_____) _____ - _____
 Email address: _____@_____

_____ \$25 Send me PRINTED NEWSLETTER _____ \$20 EMAIL ONLY newsletter (sent as a color .PDF)
 New Address - Mail check for \$25 printed or \$20 email only to: (or bring this filled out form to meeting)
OCCSS, c/o Membership Chairperson, 13732 Flower St., Garden Grove, CA 92843

Check box _____ if you do NOT wish to be listed in roster. Members only receive a copy of roster

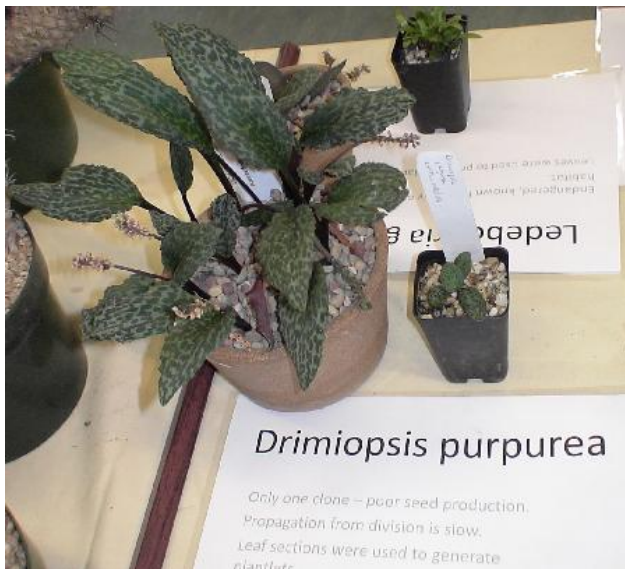
Please print your name carefully so we can update your membership.

I have a growing area and welcome visitors or group tour with an appointment. Yes _____ No _____ check one
 Would you be willing to volunteer at shows or other events? Yes _____ No _____ check one

Orange County
 Cactus And
 Succulent Society

Our Meetings are at
Fullerton Arboretum!
 First Class Mail

Below: speaker Tim Harvey's Micropropagation of Succulents display at LACSS 2009
 Left, Drimiopsis cv is slow growing, right: showing elements of tissue culture



Below: Table full of plastic containers growing rare Drimiopsis purpurea cultivar in tissue culture

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