



The Bulletin

Epiphyllum Society of America

Founded May 5th, 1940

International Registration Authority



Hylocereae Cultivar Group



'Golden Jubilee'

Hybridizer – Fort & O'Barr 1957

ESA Reg. #07750

'Sunny Dawn' x 'William D. Monmonier'

Photo by Rosalinda Vasquez

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Spring is here!...Well almost. Blooming season will be on us before we know it and with that the cycle of weeding, pruning, fertilizing and taking 100's of photos to show off our pride and joys. With all the winter rain we have received here in California, I'm anticipating a fantastic year for our flower shows with lots of wonderful blooms to behold. I hope to see everyone come out and participate.

To close out 2025 we had our Christmas luncheon, I can't remember the last time we had so much laughter. Special thanks to Grace Abad and Janet Lai for leading the charge in the merriment. It's one of the few times as President I can just sit back and enjoy our event.

As we step into 2026 and this first publication of "The Bulletin" for this year, we are continuing our efforts in making improvements. This issue is packed with articles. There is something for everyone, from the beginner to the seasoned Epiphyllum grower. We even step away from Epiphyllum in our detailed Highlights articles, so we have something fresh and new for your reading pleasure. We hope you are enjoying the changes and the hard work that goes into producing this publication.

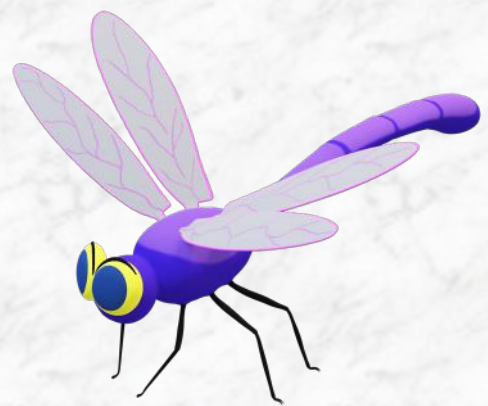
I'd like to thank Geneva Bridges, Jerry Moreau, Rosalinda Vasquez, and Sandy Masuo for their contributions in making this edition possible.

- *Chris*

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Rosalinda Vasquez
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Geneva Bridges
Jerry Moreau
Sandy Masuo
Christy Brenner
Magda Kolowska-Allgood
Pacific Epiphyllum Nursery

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Epiphyllum Society of America

FLOWER SHOW & SALE



COME JOIN THE FUN

MAY 17TH | 10AM - 3PM

LOS ANGELES ARBORETUM

WWW.EPIPHYLLUMS.ORG



From the Desk of the Editor



Spring is here! It's that time of year when the days lengthen, new branches emerge and flower buds swell. Excitement fills the warming air as we anticipate the unfurling of this season's flowers.

We have an issue for you this time that is bursting with "Good Things" as Martha Stewart would say. For those who will be starting new plants from cuttings, we have written instructions detailing how to start a plant from a cutting, accompanied by photographs.

As with every issue, we present a summary of ESA's most recent meeting programs. Horticultural expert Sandy Masuo gives us her unique perspective on Bromeliads as she explains their role in nature's rainforest ecosystem. Fascinating!

ESA's Grace Abad presents information on carnivorous plants and how to grow and care for them. Grace regards her carnivorous plants almost as her "pets." She finds they seem to take on a personality, personified by their peculiar feeding habits. Geneva Bridges provides an in-depth look at African Violets: beginning with their origins in equatorial eastern Africa, to their evolution as popular blooming houseplants, to the development of thousands of named, registered cultivars, and lastly, information about how to meet their relatively undemanding cultural requirements in your home.

Rhipsalis clavata, a truly unique and beautiful epiphytic cactus species, is featured in this issue's *Spotlight on Species*. Give this one a try, it makes a lovely addition to any collection. We have received permission from the British Cactus and Succulent Society to reprint an article from 1969 about Epiphyllum hybrids and their hybridizers. There is so much valuable history in that piece!

Our Member Profile features Rosalinda Vasquez. Rosalinda has been very active in the ESA since joining several years ago. It has been a pleasure to get to know such a lovely lady. Her help at events and sales has been invaluable and we are thrilled to share her story with you.

The big event of the year is our annual Show and Sale on Sunday May 17th. Show rules and guidelines are included in this issue. Please review them carefully. We hope to see many of you at the Show! Don't forget to bring your flowers!

Happy growing! *Geneva*

Editor@epiphyllums.org



E.S.A Member Profile

Rosalinda Vasquez

I'm Rosalinda from Southern California, a three-year member of the Epiphyllum Society of America (ESA). Here's a little about me and my experience with ESA.

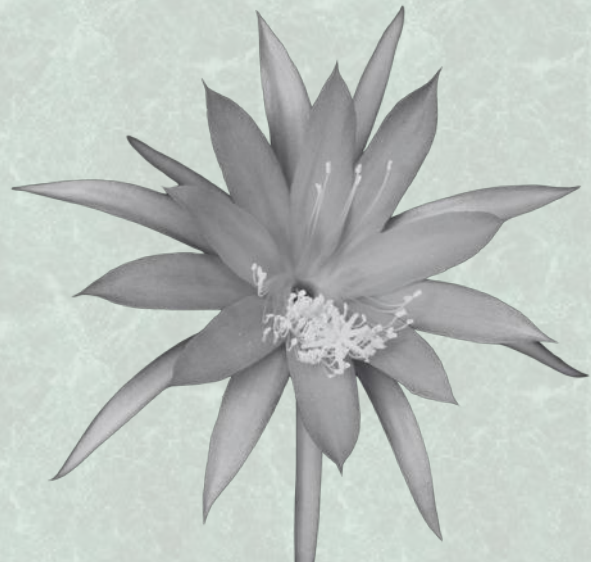
My parents immigrated from Mexico in 1955. I was born in California, one of six children. I grew up locally in Los Angeles and Monterey Park and graduated from USC with a Petroleum Engineering degree, but I left the field after six years when I decided the oil industry was not for me. I'm married and at one time we owned a comic bookstore. (You really need to read all those comic books to know how to order them.) We eventually sold the store as the market saturated.

I have two adult children: an electrical/computer engineer and a peace officer. I once was a Girl Scout leader, a Boy Scout treasurer, a school librarian, Book Fair Chairperson, and a church secretary. Now, I am retired and I volunteer for the St. Vincent de Paul Society helping out people in need. One of the most satisfying services with this group is helping out the Eaton fire victims with their essential furniture needs completely free of charge. I'm their current treasurer. I also like to volunteer for ESA at their various events. There's joy in service.



Rosalinda With her husband Mario

With help from my husband, we have been gardening mostly vegetables and fruit trees for our family for over 40 years. I also converted some of my front and backyard lawns to a California native habitat on the interest of my children when they were young and wanted Monarch butterflies in our neighborhood.



E.S.A Member Profile

Rosalinda Vasquez *continued...*

I have a Fuyu and Chocolate persimmon trees, an Anna and Pink Lady apple trees, a guava tree, a peach tree, a Satsumo mandarin, a Bearss lime, a Meyer lemon tree and an unknown mandarin tree which supply us with fruits throughout the year. I have a beautiful Italian Cork Oak tree in our parkway that provides year-round dry leaves. I also have six chickens which supply us with eggs and chicken manure for my garden.

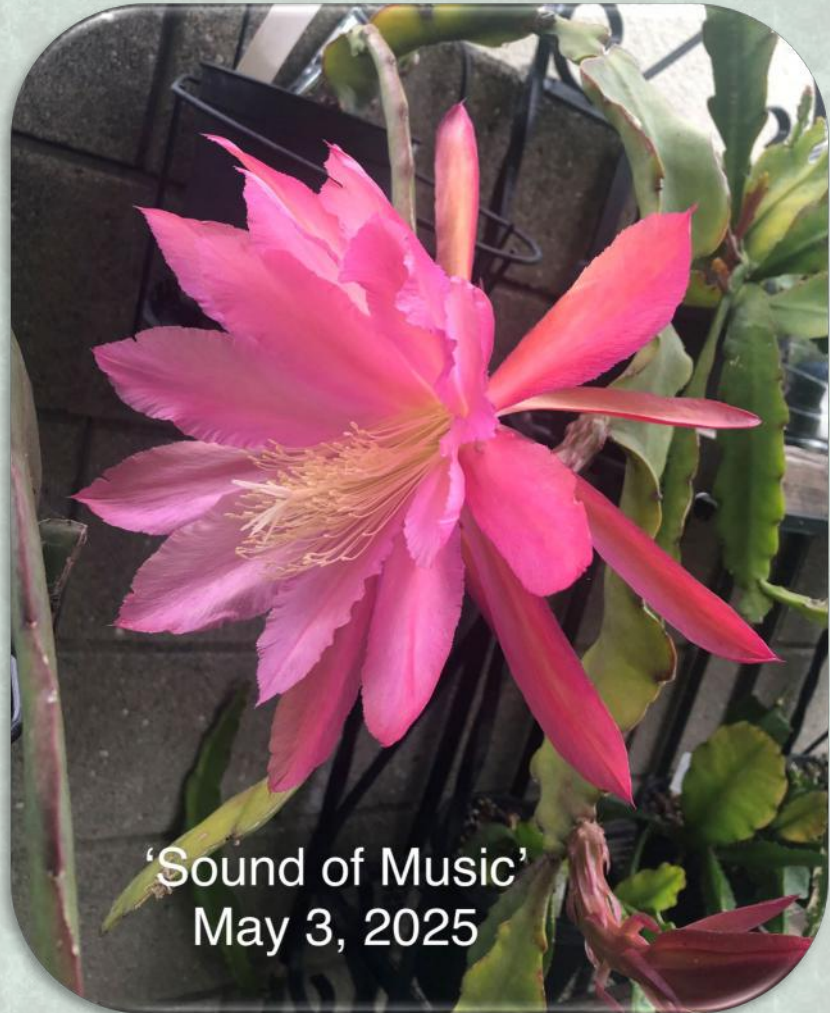


My first two Epiphyllums have a long history of bad practices over a ten year period. When I inherited them after the death of my mother-in-law, I placed them by my eastern wall on the ground by a medium size Camellia bush. They flowered the following spring but only produced a couple of flowers. One bloomed a predominantly white bloom with yellow-amber recurving petals (recurving is a word I learned at ESA); the other bloomed pink. They have no identification. Since they were absolutely gorgeous, I potted them into larger pots and I moved them to my southern front yard —two big mistakes. Not knowing any better, I kept them there for many years and the plants didn't flower again. They continued to grow but they picked up the scourge of all weeds: oxalis. I replaced the potting soil and potted them into bigger pots—continuing more mistakes. When we faced several years of drought, I moved the two Epiphyllums to my backyard under our mandarin tree. Again, I replaced the soil. Finally, the next spring, the white, yellow-amber epiphyllum became a healthier green plant and bloomed heavily. It brought great joy to me and my mother who moved in with me just before the pandemic. Epiphyllums are shade plants!

E.S.A Member Profile

Rosalinda Vasquez continued...

In June 2022 I attended a plant sale at the Los Angeles Arboretum and picked up two new stems, 'Rippo' and 'lo's Fire', because I had never seen those colors or combination of colors. And that began my collection. I started attending the ESA meetings where I finally learned the best practices for keeping healthy, blooming Epiphyllums. I learned about the required potting soil, about incorporating oak leaf mulch for acidity, about the timing of fertilizer to get them to grow from a one-stem or the timing of fertilizer to encourage blooms, about proper watering and shade requirements, about the fickleness of some Epiphyllums, and about other species in the same plant family. If you come to the ESA meetings, I'm usually the one taking notes. Also, I like to keep an Epiphyllum journal to document my mistakes and successes, to record my Epiphyllum's information (like the first bloom!), to document how weather and temperatures are affecting my Epiphyllums (a record of California atmospheric rivers will deter blooms), to log my potting dates, to keep a copy of facts, and mostly for fun.



E.S.A Member Profile

Rosalinda Vasquez *continued...*

Now I'm more selective because of lack of space, and I want to collect the reddest red epiphyllum and the darkest solid purple epiphyllum. I like occasional challenges, so I'm trying some difficult to bloom Epiphyllums in Southern California, like 'Elinor Victoria Latimer' and some Kiwi hybrids.

Funny thing, the first ESA meeting I attended was about Echinopsis, which was fine since the cacti need some shade and bloom fantastic flowers; I purchased some Echinopsis. The second meeting was a Dragon fruit tasting meeting. They were amazingly delicious, better than store bought. I was hesitant about growing a large spiny plant, so I avoided those until June 2023 when I met an older gentleman in my neighborhood who was cutting back what I thought were Epiphyllums. I was going to ask for some of his cuttings, but he corrected me and told me they were dragon fruit. He gave me some free cuttings which I couldn't refuse. I figured I had learned enough from attending ESA meetings and talking to ESA members that I felt more confident about adding these to my collection. Then on another ESA meeting, the Torch Cactus guy came and introduced me to Trichocereus, cacti with very large blooms and I added a Trichocereus 'Flying Saucer' to my growing collection. With the friends I have met at our meetings, I picked up collectible Irises (thanks, Geneva!), Plumerias (thanks, Phil!), Hoyas (thanks, Janet!), Aporocactus (thanks, Grace!) and more Epi's (thank you ESA!). There's a variety of plant lovers collecting a variety of plants in the ESA group.



'Yellow Tang'
May 27, 2025

E.S.A Member Profile

Rosalinda Vasquez continued...

So, in few years, I went from just two Epiphyllums to 80 Epiphyllums, four Dragon fruits, ten Echinopsis, eleven Trichocereus, plus more! I managed to practice good self-control when the Begonia guy came to the ESA meeting, and I didn't add begonias to my collection.

Learning about plants, gaining more confidence growing Epiphyllums, and meeting some very nice enthusiasts are the reasons I joined ESA in September 2022. And there's still more to learn, like hybridization, but I'm just not quite there yet.



'Carl Weinhausen'
May 1, 2025



'Roman Holiday'
May 20, 2025



'Aztec Treasure'
May 14, 2025



'Alchemy'

Spring Culture Calendar 2026

by Geneva Bridges



Spring is here! Begin to water on a regular schedule. Let the potting mix get fairly dry between waterings but not bone dry.



Fertilize monthly with a balanced formula. An organic fertilizer is preferable, such as fish emulsion, bone meal or blood meal. Chemical formulations also work fine. A one-time use of a low nitrogen fertilizer such as 0-10-10 is recommended in early spring to promote flowering.



Pests begin to multiply as the weather begins to warm up. Your collection can be sprayed with horticultural dormant oil to prevent scale and mealybugs from spiraling out of control. If you do notice sucking insects, an application of a systemic insecticide can also be applied.



Now is a good time to check all pots for faded or missing ID tags. You don't want to lose your plant names!



As the days lengthen and warm, make sure your plants aren't sitting in direct hot midday sun.



Keep on top of chores such as weeding and pruning out dead or diseased branches.



With a little attention in early spring, you'll have plenty of flowers to enjoy in late spring. We hope to see you at our annual show on Sunday May 17th! Bring your blooms to add to the show displays. Even flowers without ID are valuable for use in the floral arrangements division.



Growing Epiphyllum 101

Starting a Plant from a Cutting

By Geneva Bridges

As spring gets into full swing and the weather warms, we begin the season of renewal dreaming about starting new plants to add to our collections.

However, starting a plant from a cutting can be tricky! Most of the time you will experience success, but not always. With that thought in mind we offer you these helpful hints and tips for getting those cuttings to root and grow into beautiful plants!

First, make a cutting that is about 6-8" long. If it's too long it will fall over in the pot and have a hard time rooting, if it's too short it won't have enough "energy" to produce new growth. The cutting should have a firm, prominent midrib. Do not use soft fresh new growth, or very old growth. Instead select a branch that has matured for at least one season but is not too many years old. Since each areole will only produce a flower or new growth once, you should look for a cutting that has some areoles that are not scarred from a former bud or damaged.



Too young to cut



Too old & damaged

Starting a plant from a cutting

Continued...

Let the cut end dry and callus over in a cool, shady place for a few days. If the cutting is very thick, it may require a week or two for the cut end to callus. Allowing the cut end to dry helps to prevent rot when the cutting is placed in soil.

Close up of properly callused cutting



You can dip the cutting in rooting powder if you like. In addition to rooting hormone which induces root formation, these powders also include agents to prevent bacterial and fungal rot.

Starting a plant from a cutting

Continued...

Pot size is important when starting new cuttings. Select a relatively small pot about 3" or so in diameter (depending on the size of the cutting). In a pinch you can even use a Solo cup just be sure to put plenty of holes in the bottom for drainage. Starting cuttings in a pot too large will cause the soil to stay wet constantly and rot your cuttings before they have a chance to root. It's a good idea to pot up two or three cuttings together (of the SAME cultivar); the hormones produced by the rooting action of one cutting helps stimulate the other cutting(s) into growing new roots.



Starting a plant from a cutting

Continued...



Your regular potting mix should be fine to use to root cuttings. ESA recommends a mix that is 1/3 “shade” mix (acid mix for azaleas/camellias), 1/3 medium bark and 1/3 coarse perlite. A small amount of fertilizer can be added to your mix following manufacturer recommendations.

I like to add a half teaspoon of Bonide systemic insecticide to the soil to prevent scale, but that is totally optional.

Insert the cut end into your potting mix an inch or two, so that 2 or 3 areoles are buried. Place the pot in a cool shady location, and do not water for a few weeks.

Roots will emerge from the cut end and the areoles. You’ll know your cutting has formed roots if you give the cutting a GENTLE tug and it resists your pull. Ideally new branches will emerge from below the soil line, but often new growth will come from areoles along the stem or even at the end of the cutting.

When your plant outgrows the small pot in a season or two, move it up to the next size, preferably a hanging pot or basket. It generally takes at least a couple of seasons before you begin to get flowers; some cultivars are more prolific bloomers than others.

Enjoy your beautiful plants and flowers!



Highlights of Recent Meetings

September 2, 2025

ESA's Annual Auction and Potluck Dinner

A good time was had by all who attended the ESA's annual auction and potluck dinner. Participants donated a wide variety of garden-related items including epiphyllum plants, cuttings, books, décor, pots, plumeria, and other cacti and succulents. Attendees were able to bid on items at great prices, while the Society was able to boost the treasury. Thanks to all who participated.



Highlights of Recent Meetings

October 7, 2025

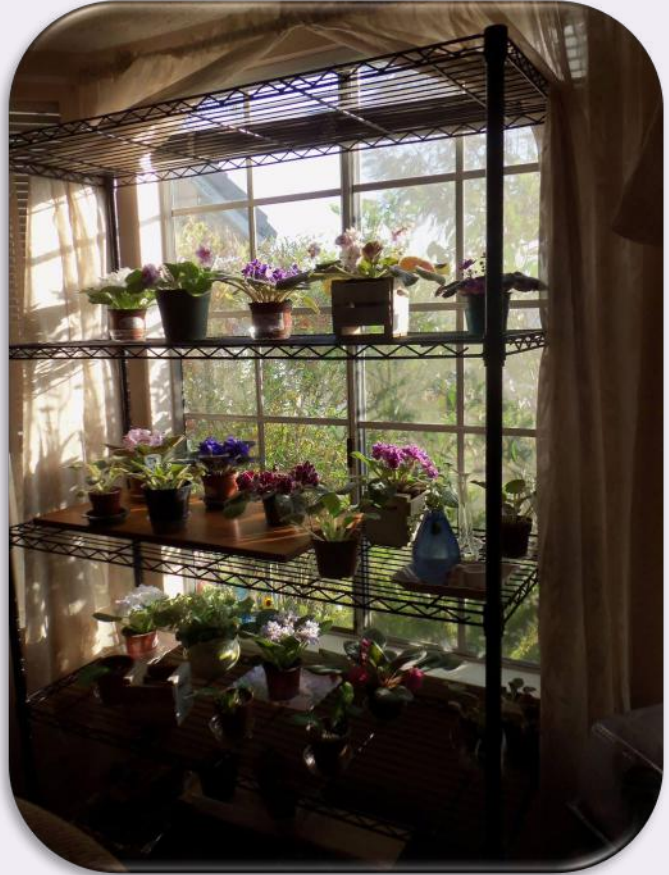
All About African Violets

Presented by Geneva Bridges

African Violets are the world's most popular blooming houseplant! They are easy to grow and bloom under normal household conditions. Under favorable conditions they can bloom periodically all year long. The plants encompass a variety of flower and foliage types. There are literally thousands of registered hybrids, with many new introductions each year.

As the name suggests, these plants are native to equatorial Eastern Africa.

Their natural habitat is the forest understory, where they generally grow as lithophytes in a low-light, humid environment, with moderate temperatures and even light levels year-round.



Highlights of Recent Meetings

All About African Violets Continued...

The genus was named 'Saintpaulia' for the discoverer, Walter von Saint Paul-Illaire, the district commissioner of what is now known as Tanzania. He collected the plants and sent samples to Germany. They were called "violets" due to the appearance of their flowers, although African Violets are totally unrelated to true Violets. There were formerly over 20 species recognized, which has now been reduced to 10 species.

List of Saintpaulia (now Streptocarpus) Species (2020)

- S. afroviola*
- S. albus*
- S. brevipilosus*
- S. goetzeanus*
- S. inconspicuus*
- S. ionanthus*
- S. nitidus*
- S. shumensis*
- S. teitensis*
- S. ulugurensis*



Highlights of Recent Meetings

All About African Violets Continued...

Recent phylogenetic studies support the reclassification of Saintpaulia to Streptocarpus, the progenitor genus. This officially occurred in 2020. African Violets are now classified as Streptocarpus sect. Saintpaulia. The African Violet Society of America never embraced the scientific name as a societal moniker, so luckily they won't need to change their name to the Streptocarpus Society!



The plants grow in a rosette style from a central crown. As new growth emerges from the center, the older leaves die back. There are also clumping varieties, known as "trailers." Species can be single or trailers, with a variety of leaf shapes. The cultivars vary in size, from miniatures less than 6" in diameter, to semiminiatures which mature at 6-9" diameter, to "standards" from 9-12" diameter, to large standards over 12". The leaves can vary in color from dark to light shades of green; some varieties have a red background color. Some cultivars have light to white variegation on the leaf edges or in the crown or in a random "mosaic" pattern. Leaves can be rounded, pointed, heart-shaped, elongated (longifolia), holly-shaped, watermelon-striped, scalloped or fluted, in varying combinations.



Highlights of Recent Meetings

All About African Violets Continued...



The original flowers were pansy shaped, and flower petals tended to drop quickly. Thanks to modern hybridizing efforts, we now have “sticktite” flowers that last on the plant for weeks. The phenotypic plasticity found within the genus is amazing! Flowers can be single, semidouble or double: star, pansy, bell shaped or even “wasp” shaped. Some modern hybrid flowers have frilly ruffled edges. Colors range from the original blue to pink, white, yellow, red, purple and even green. (Green flowers are actually modified leaves and can last on the plant for months.) Further, the flowers may be speckled (“fantasy”), striped (chimeras), bicolor, edged in another color or any combinations of these. It’s impossible to be bored with all the variation that occurs!

African Violet hobbyists place as much emphasis on the plant itself as they do the flowers. Plants grown for exhibition should have a single crown (except trailing varieties) and be free of suckers and blemishes. The plant should radiate out from the central crown in a neat symmetrical circle. Gaps in the foliage are undesirable.

Highlights of Recent Meetings

All About African Violets Continued...



Shape - Wasp



Highlights of Recent Meetings

All About African Violets Continued...

WATERING

Overwatering is the most frequent cause of death. AVs enjoy being slightly moist, but never soggy. When the soil begins to dry out below the surface, you will need to water. The timing will vary depending on the temperature and the soil mix in use. In warm weather you may need to water every day or two, in cooler weather you may find once a week may suffice. Check your plant every day to assess the status of the soil and the need for water.

Use tepid never cold water. The water should ideally not have a lot of dissolved solids. You may benefit from using filtered water.

You can water from the top of the pot, taking care not to leave water standing in the crown, which can cause crown rot. Or you can place the plant in a saucer of water for about 15 minutes, then remove it. Don't leave your pot in standing water to avoid root rot. Use of wicks and capillary matting help promote even, regular water supply to the roots, which the plants enjoy.

There are various potting methods discussed under "potting" that help automate the watering process to make it easier for you.

SOIL

Violets have a fibrous root system which is somewhat shallow. You will need a light porous potting mix. All commercial mixes are very heavy on peat moss which retains a lot of water, risking rot. To these commercial mixes you can add an equal amount perlite to get a better consistency. Or you can make your own mix.

Consider your climate. If you live in a dry climate, you may want to use a higher percentage of moisture-retentive commercial potting soil, vermiculite or peat moss. If you live in a humid climate, use a relatively higher percentage of perlite. If you wick-water or use some sort of self-watering pot, you need a mix that is at least 50% perlite. A general mix may be 50-50 peat moss-perlite, or you can use equal parts perlite-vermiculite-peat moss. I find the three-part mix to work well for me, as I mat-water and my climate is dry. Adjust for your conditions.

While we call these "soil" mixes, they are not actually "soil" at all and contain no nutrients. In reality our AVs are being cultivated under a form of hydroponic gardening. This mimics their natural growth habit as lithophytes.

Highlights of Recent Meetings

All About African Violets Continued...



POTTING

African Violets have a limited root system and do not like to be in a large pot. A general rule of thumb is to use a pot 1/3 the size of the foliage diameter. For a standard violet that measures 9-12" across you only need a 3-4" pot. For smaller or immature plants, a 2" pot is usually best. Many growers start their plants in 2" plastic cups after poking holes in the bottom for drainage. These can be bought at a drugstore for just a couple dollars per hundred. Most use plastic pots, but clay pots can also be used. A self-watering clay pot, which is a porous clay pot that sits within a glazed interior pot, can be found at big box stores, but is generally too large to be useful as they are often 7-8" diameter and very deep. This large size pot can be conducive to root rot, unless you have a very large plant with a huge root system. Many growers like to use a wick-watering system. A wick is placed in the pot that dangles several inches down into a separate water reservoir on which the potted plant sits. Pieces of acrylic yarn, cut up nylon stockings or fine nylon twine can be used as wicking material. Don't use an organic material like cotton or wool because it will rot. The water reservoir is refilled as needed.

There are variations on self-watering pots such as Dandy Pots and Oyama planters that can be used. Again, a light soil mix is essential here. Experienced growers usually place a thick layer of perlite at the bottom of these self-watering pots to increase aeration and prevent root rot.

I like to use Optimara's "Water Maid" which is an individual round flat plastic water reservoir with a wicking mat on top. The pot sits on top of the mat in direct contact, and the potting mix absorbs water from the mat as the roots use it. I find I only need to add water to my Water Maid about every 10-14 days.

Another method used by many is to place a layer of pure perlite on the bottom of the pot. The perlite provides aeration while drawing water up as needed when sitting on a shallow reservoir. Whatever style of potting you use, the potting mix should always be extra light. Self-watering and reservoir systems take a bit of thought to establish, but save time in the long run. Additionally, the plants thrive with the steady even supply of water (and fertilizer).

You will need to repot your African Violet AT LEAST once a year, preferably twice a year. Over time, the potting mix degrades and becomes oversaturated with fertilizer salts, which can kill your violet. Remove the plant from its pot, take off the outer row or two of leaves, gently shake or wash off the used potting mix and repot using fresh mix. The lower row of leaves should sit at soil level. Your plant will thank you for the fresh start! You'll notice improved vigor and larger leaves.

Highlights of Recent Meetings

All About African Violets Continued...

FERTILIZER

African violets prefer a liquid fertilizer. Choose something with balanced N-P-K numbers (N=Nitrogen, P=Phosphorus and K is potassium) and with trace minerals. Avoid granular or time-release formulas. AVs also do better with slightly less nitrogen (the first number in the NPK ratio numbers on the label) and they prefer urea-free formulas. Many fertilizers intended for orchids are urea-free and work well. It's generally advisable to fertilize with a weak solution at half or one-fourth the recommended concentration at each watering. For wick-watered plants, use ¼ strength fertilizer in the reservoir.

Too little fertilizer results in stunted weak pale growth and lack of blooms. Signs of too much fertilizer include tight, distorted growth at the crown and brown crusty grains on the new growth. Flush the soil and repot using fresh mix at the earliest opportunity.



LIGHT

Happy plants grow in a flat rosette and bloom often. Bright, indirect light is ideal. If the leaves are reaching upward and blooming is infrequent, the plant needs more light. If the leaves curve downward from the edge of the pot, the light is too strong. Too much light can cause the leaves to fade or the center growth to distort into a tight ball.

A windowsill may provide adequate light. An eastern exposure with morning sun is optimal. Use a sheer curtain if necessary to protect from direct sun which can burn the leaves. Since the plant will grow toward the source of light, rotate the plant every week or so to prevent lopsided growth. Being too close to the window may expose your plant to heat or cold radiating in from outdoors, so be careful about that during extreme weather.

If your natural lighting is inadequate, you can add supplemental lighting in the form of fluorescent or LED light strips over your plants. Lights are typically on for about 10 hours daily. Use of a timer is recommended. Plants are generally placed about 12-15 inches below the lights. Miniature varieties like to be a bit closer to the light source. I generally elevate the minis on an upside-down pot or some sort of stand to get them a bit closer to the lights.

Highlights of Recent Meetings

All About African Violets Continued...

PESTS AND DISEASES

Prevention is the key here. Never house your African violets outdoors. Do not bring new plants into your home to add to your plant shelf without isolating and observing them for a few months to be sure they are free of pests and diseases. Remove flower stalks and buds from new plants to reduce the risk of bringing in thrips, which live on the flowers and feed on the pollen sacs. Thrips transmit Impatiens Necrotic Spot Virus (INSV), a very serious pathogen of over 400 horticultural crops. There is no cure for INSV, so infected plants must be destroyed.

The most common pests include mealybugs, thrips, and cyclamen mites. These can be hard to detect. A powdery substance at plant joints or at the roots indicate mealybugs. Pollen spilled on the flower petals is a telltale sign of thrips. If your plant develops distortion in the central crown leaves, it could be due to too much light or fertilizer, or it could be due to mites. Mites are invisible to the naked eye and very difficult to eradicate.

Pests should be treated with systemic insecticide (or a miticide in the case of cyclamen mites), and the affected plant should be isolated away from the other plants for a few months until you are sure it is once again pest-free. Sometimes it's easier to just discard an infested plant. The trash can is your friend!

Impatiens Necrotic Spot Virus causes spotted leaves and eventually plant death. This is an incurable virus transmitted by thrips or cutting tools. Infected plants must be destroyed. There is a commercially available test for this disease that can be performed at home. Some plants can be infected without showing symptoms. (similar to cactus virus!)



Highlights of Recent Meetings

All About African Violets Continued...

TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY

African Violets prefer the same temperatures that we are comfortable with in our homes, between 65-80 degrees F. If you are comfortable, so is your African Violet. At temperatures below 60 or above 85, growth stops. At temperatures below 50 the plant will die.

AVs like moderately high humidity of around 50-70%. If your humidity is low, you can increase the ambient humidity in your growing area by using capillary mats or water reservoirs under your plants and by grouping your plants together in the same area.



Highlights of Recent Meetings

November 4, 2025

The Complex Connections of Bromeliad Biota

presented by Sandy Masuo Botanical Content Creator, The Huntington

Bromeliads have a unique function in wild habitat. Bromeliaceae comprises about 75 genera in 3 subfamilies: Bromelioidae, Pitcairnioidae, and Tillandsioidae. There are over 3500 species. They are all native to the Americas except for one species, *Pitcairnia Feliciania*, which is endemic to West Africa. This is a similar situation to that of the cactus family, which is also found only in the Americas except for one species, *Rhipsalis baccifera* which is found in Africa. Interestingly, aloes are endemic to the Old World, but when transferred to the Americas hummingbirds (only found in the Americas) readily feed on them rather than Sunbirds (only found in Africa). When Bromeliads are transferred to Africa, the native Sunbirds readily recognize them as a food source.

There are terrestrial bromeliads and epiphytic bromeliads. Some examples of terrestrial bromeliads are Puya, Dyckia, Hectia, Cryptanthus, and Ananas. Puyas are huge; the flowers include beautiful colors including bright teal. When they are blooming en masse in late spring it's an incredible show. Others such as Cryptanthus and Hectia have colorful foliage.

Then there is the most famous member of the terrestrial bromeliads, the pineapple, which is native to Brazil before the Spanish distributed it to other areas as a plantation crop. *Puya raimondii* is the largest of the bromeliads and comes from very high elevation areas.



Highlights of Recent Meetings

The Complex Connections of Bromeliad Biota Continued...



Epiphytic bromeliads are easier for home gardeners because they are not spiny and they are fairly easy to grow. This group includes Tillandsia, Aechmea, Neoregelia and Guzmania. Tillandsias or “airplants” are often found in home gardens. Neoregelias are epiphytic but often potted up and found in commercial displays in shopping malls. Aechmeas and Guzmania have very colorful flower stalks.



Highlights of Recent Meetings

The Complex Connections of Bromeliad Biota Continued...

As you might expect from a plant with a tall inflorescence, about half of all bromeliads are pollinated by hummingbirds (which are native to the same regions as the bromeliads). Hummingbirds usually pollinate *Puya raimondii*, but biologists think that perches have evolved to accommodate perching birds at the 14,000-foot altitude in the Peruvian Andes. These perching birds are not thought to be attracted by nectar and acting as pollinators, but they likely eat the fruit and distribute the seed. Plants are all about attracting pollinators and attracting seed dispersal; the two bookends of reproduction.

Not surprisingly bats are also important pollinators. Other pollinators include bees, beetles, moths and butterflies which are attracted to nectar.



Highlights of Recent Meetings

The Complex Connections of Bromeliad Biota Continued...



Most Bromeliads produce berry-like fruits. Seed dispersal is facilitated by animals which eat fruit and subsequently disperse the seed, or by wind dispersal. Some bromeliad seeds have tufts which aid in dispersal by air currents.

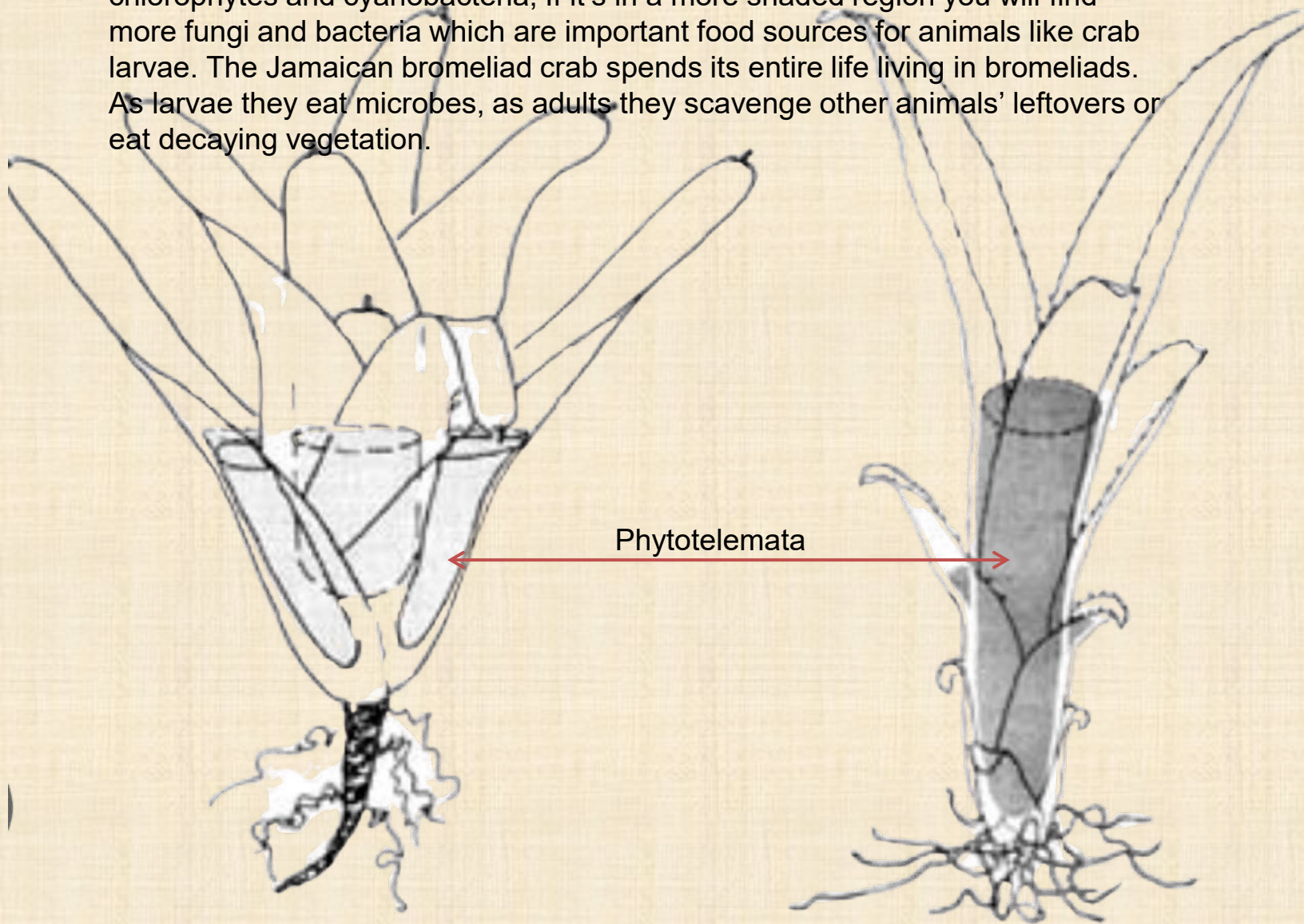


Highlights of Recent Meetings

The Complex Connections of Bromeliad Biota Continued...

What makes bromeliads unique among other plants is the feature known as “phytotelemata.” Phytotelemata are water storage adaptations developed by epiphytic plants living in the rainforest canopy designed to collect precious water, since most rainfall goes to the forest floor. Phytotelemata are characterized by pools of water forming within the plant that form in a champagne flute or punchbowl fashion. The pools of water that collect in tank bromeliads support a wide range of life.

The water that sits in those tanks is full of tiny living things. It supports a variety of microbes. With some sun exposure there are photosynthetic microbes like chlorophytes and cyanobacteria; If it’s in a more shaded region you will find more fungi and bacteria which are important food sources for animals like crab larvae. The Jamaican bromeliad crab spends its entire life living in bromeliads. As larvae they eat microbes, as adults they scavenge other animals’ leftovers or eat decaying vegetation.



Highlights of Recent Meetings

The Complex Connections of Bromeliad Biota Continued...



Tiger bromeliad spiders live in bromeliads and hunt herbivore prey from there. They can hide their egg sacs from birds by submerging them in water when they feel threatened.

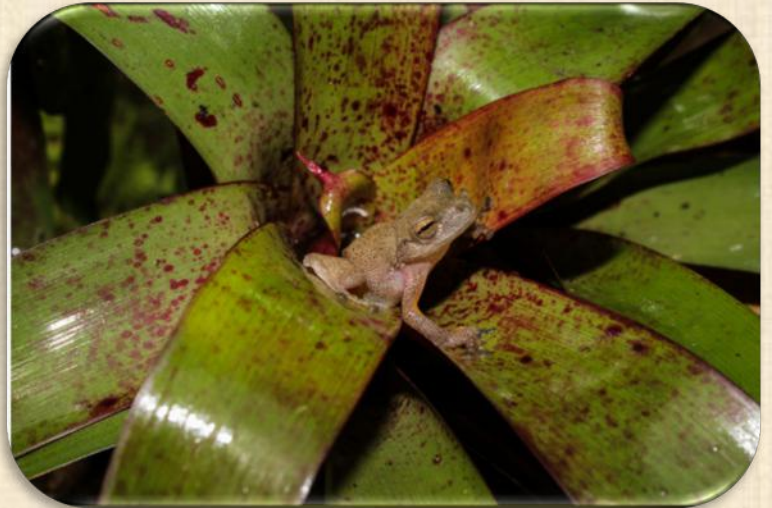
Other predators that hang out around bromeliads include dragonflies, mantids and amphibians. Sometimes spiders, insects and amphibians will alter their color to match the plant they live in close association with.



Highlights of Recent Meetings

The Complex Connections of Bromeliad Biota Continued...

The bromeliad tree frog lives its entire life within bromeliads. The Marsupial frog and poison dart frogs also use bromeliad plants for their home. There are 99 bromeligenous frog species associated with 69 bromeliad hosts. Amphibians require water to reproduce, while the plant benefits from nitrogenous waste from the frogs.



Bromeliad salamanders are a genus of 8 species endemic to high-elevation forests with high humidity in Central and South America. Salamanders are lungless, breathing through their skin and mucous membranes, and they depend on the pools of water within the phytotelemata of bromeliads for their survival.

Reptiles also live around bromeliads as predators. There have been reported a total of 69 different reptile species living around bromeliads (29 of them in Brazil). The phytotelemata provides sources of water in the canopy for reptiles and birds. There are even two species of snakes, known as 'Bromeliad boas' living in association with Bromeliads.



Highlights of Recent Meetings

December 6, 2025

Annual End-of-year Meeting and Holiday luncheon

ESA's End-of-year meeting and holiday luncheon was a great opportunity for members to relax and socialize. Friends old and new enjoyed lunch at Marie Callendar's Restaurant in Glendora, California.

Grace Abad and Janet Lai moderated an interactive Epi Trivia Challenge game. This was loosely based on Family Feud. In lieu of a buzzer we used three bells; one provided by Geneva Bridges from The Broom Closet, an occult shop in Memphis, Tennessee. The other souvenir bells were provided by Charleen Rice and included a Liberty Bell Replica from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and a red cow bell from Los Olivos, California. Two teams were formed by drawing names randomly from a pool of volunteer participants. Team Epi Hybrids consisted of Chester Olson, Geneva Bridges, Ken Hanke, Sandra Chapin, Ann Marie Rametta, Barb Landon and Lynn Olson. Team Epi Species consisted of Nina Bashoura, Beth Jackson, Ron Crain, Jerry Moreau, Jennifer Welcher, Velma Crain and Peggy Oberg. Team Epi Species won the competition with 45 points to Team Epi Hybrids 25 points. The members of the winning team each received a victory holiday necklace along with their choice of a potted succulent or two mystery epi cuttings. A good time was had by all! Door prizes and a gift exchange concluded the festivities.



Spotlights on Species – *Rhipsalis clavata*

By Geneva Bridges

Rhipsalis clavata is one of my sentimental favorites. I've grown several clones of this species for over 10 years now. I am in love with the beautiful cascading stems that branch out to form a thick mat reminiscent of something out of the musical *Hair*. Imagine the pot as someone's head with a face and the plant as tresses that spring forth from the crown of the head with abandon, increasingly thicker and more luxuriant with every passing year.



Spotlights on Species – *Rhipsalis clavata*

Continued...

Rhipsalis clavata is a species within the broader genus *Rhipsalis*, an extremely diverse section of the Cactaceae family. Genus *Rhipsalis* is further divided into three broad subgenera: *Rhipsalis*, *Calamorhipsalis* (including *phyllarthrorhipsalis* and *Epallogonium*) and *Erythrorhipsalis*. These subgenera are mainly distinguished by floral characteristics; as we learned in the most recent past issue of *The Bulletin*, the more closely related *Rhipsalis* species are to each other, the more similar is their flower morphology. Members of subgenus *Erythrorhipsalis* (where *Rhipsalis clavata* is placed) can be recognized by their bell-shaped (“campanulate”) flowers.

I must admit, bell-shaped flowers are my favorites! In addition to *Rhipsalis clavata*, other plants in subgenus *Erythrorhipsalis* include *Rhipsalis burchellii*, *Rhipsalis pulchra*, *Rhipsalis aurea*, *Rhipsalis campos-portoana*, *Rhipsalis cereuscula*, *Rhipsalis juengeri*, *Rhipsalis ormindoi*, and *Rhipsalis pilocarpa*. What do these genetically closely-related species have in common? Their stem segments are cylindrical; sometimes a bit club-shaped (“clavate”) and their flowers are described as “pendant, campanulate/rotate.” And of course, they are all naturally found in eastern South America.



Rhipsalis clavata
var. *delicatula*

Spotlights on Species – *Rhipsalis clavata*

By Geneva Bridges

Rhipsalis clavata was at one time considered to be related to *Hatiora* and was originally called *Hatiora clavata*. The plant from which descriptions were written was found by Dr. Rose (of Britton and Rose fame) growing on a tree at 465 M (1526 ft) in Rio de Janeiro.

Rhipsalis clavata is characterized by slender, pencil-thin club-shaped stems that arch and trail, growing up to 5 mm diameter and 2 meters in length. Growth is mostly acrotonic, but the plant is known to (rarely) shoot out a basal indeterminate branch. The plant sports white bell-shaped flowers from late spring into early summer. A lovely jasmine-like scent is detectable in the flowers. The blossoms are white, measuring about a half-inch in diameter, and are borne at the tips of the stem segments. Flowers are followed by tiny yellow or red berries.

There are two distinguishable forms of *Rhipsalis clavata*; forma *clavata* and forma *delicatula*; the latter is very widely available here in the US. Forma *delicatula* has longer, thinner, lighter colored stem segments than the prototype species. The *delicatula* form is noted to be a faster grower and more prolific bloomer than the prototype species. *Rhipsalis clavata* forma *clavata* has a bit stockier, chubbier appearance than does forma *delicatula*.



Rhipsalis campos-portoana

Spotlights on Species – *Rhipsalis clavata*

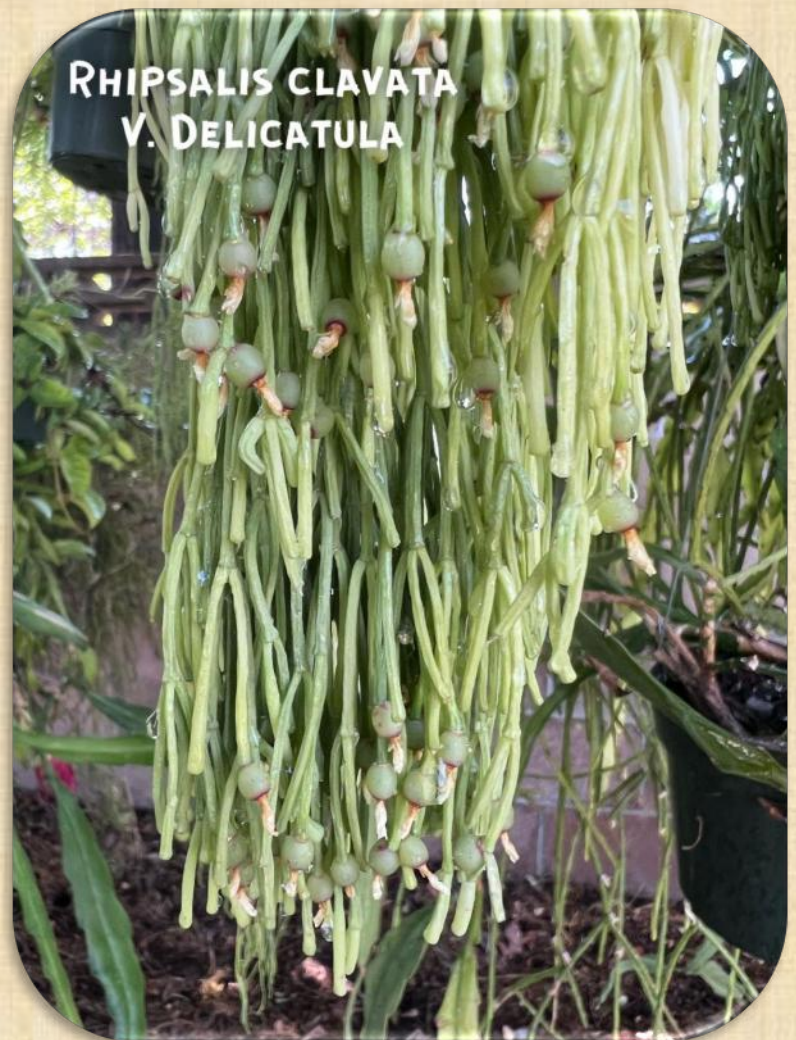
By Geneva Bridges

Like other *Rhipsalis* species, the plant prefers bright, filtered light but dislikes direct sunlight, which can burn the stem segments. Regular watering is appreciated during warmer months but do allow the soil to nearly dry out between waterings to prevent root rot. Soil mix should be light, porous and well-draining. Terrestrial orchid mix works well, as does whatever mix you successfully use for your *Epiphyllum* hybrids. A hanging planter is a must to allow for the luxuriant cascading growth.

Temperatures should be moderate; between 50F (10 C) and 68 F (26 C) as the plant would enjoy in its natural environment.

During the winter months, I had previously brought all my pots of *Rhipsalis clavata* indoors due to fear of losing these tender plants to frost. However, we had a generally mild winter here last year in the California inland valley, so I held my breath and left the plants outdoors all winter last year. They tolerated night temperatures into the low to mid 40s F quite well, and in fact all of them bloomed profusely once spring arrived!

Rhipsalis clavata has a reputation for being a bit finicky. It will drop clades to let you know it is unhappy. Usually this can be attributed to irregular watering, or exposure to temperatures outside its ideal range. With its basic needs met I have found *Rhipsalis clavata* to be an extremely easy and rewarding plant to grow. It's a beautiful plant to admire all year long!



An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Epiphyllum Hybrids and their Hybridizers

Reprinted from the Cactus and Succulent Journal of Great Britain, Vol. 31, No. 1 February 1969.

Author : F. Braun

Used by permission of the British Cactus and Succulent Society

To the majority of cactus enthusiasts, Epiphyllums and their hybrids are poor Cinderellas, relegated to dark corners of the greenhouse except when the plants bear their beautiful blooms. The very word "hybrid" is a name looked upon with distaste by some collectors of our plants; Epiphyllums are in fact very poorly served by our journals. This article is intended to redress the balance.

The first record of hybridizing Epiphyllums was in 1830 in England when Jenkinson and Smith mentioned numerous crossings. They were quickly followed in 1932 when the gardener of Lord Liverpool and Pressley also carried out some hybridizing with true species. The Germans then started hybridizing independently and further English crossings were made shortly afterwards by Sellow, by the gardener of Walter Boyd and by the two brothers called Baumann.

At this time there was considerable interest in these originations because in 1846, Forester and the well-known Chelsea firm of Veitch raised many hybrids using the best of the French varieties that had been raised after 1845 by Charles Simon, a cactus grower, and Lorenzo Courant, his client.

In 1890 Johannes Nicolai started hybridizing in Germany, but he died in 1901, before he had the chance to see the result of his many crossings. He raised nearly 300 varieties and although his brother Woldemar carried on with the work, nearly all the plants were lost during the First World War.

In 1894 George Borneman started a large horticultural business at Blankenberg and by crossing Nicolai's hybrids with the best English varieties he united the English, German and French strains.



**Drawing of Veitch
Nursery house
circa 1872**



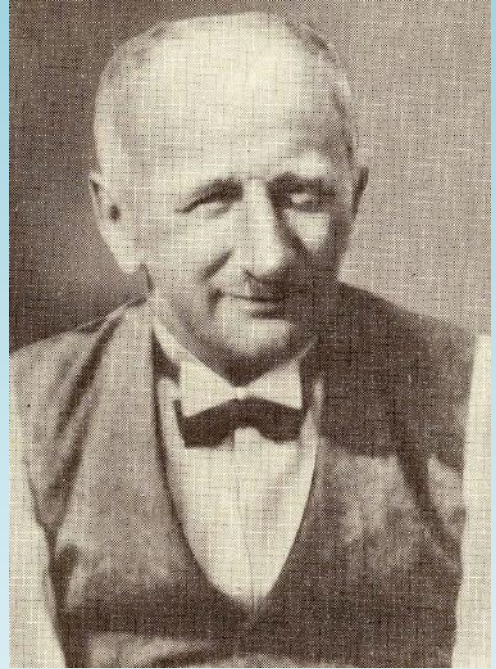
Harry James Veitch

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

Curt Knebel, the greatest German hybridizer, was born on the 16th June, 1871 and died in 1952 at aged 81 years. In 1894, after some distinguished gardening appointments, he started his own nursery at Erlau in Saxony and by acquiring a small number of Nicolai's plants and subsequently some of Borneman's and W. O. Rothers originations, he had, by the First World War, a very good collection of his own hybrids. Virtually the whole of his collection was lost as a result of the war and he painstakingly started again, evolving over 400 hybrids. During the Second World War, he again lost nearly all his plants, but many of his hybrids are still available.

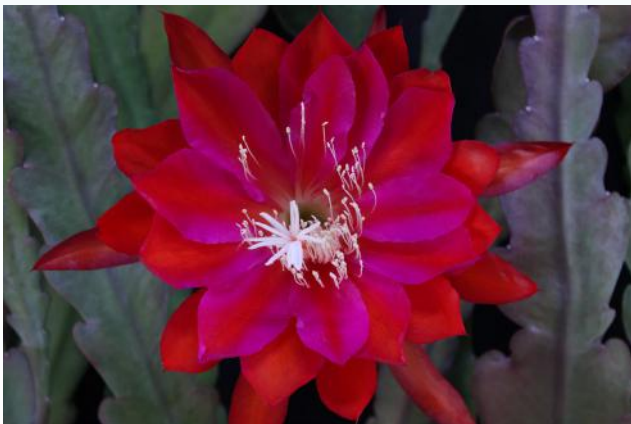
Knebel's name will long be remembered through his lovely hybrids; notably 'Professor Ebert,' 'Stern von Erlau,' 'Augusta von Szombathy,' 'Friedrich Werner Buel,' 'Adolph Hitler' (now renamed 'Sherman E. Beahm') and many others. He also managed to raise several notable F.1 and F.2 hybrids thus extending the flowering period of these plants to virtually the whole year.



Curt Knebel

Knebel's family are also remembered in his hybrids with the varieties 'Frau Selma Knebel,' his wife; 'Oswald Knebel Jr', his son; 'Andenken an Bahnmeister Knebel' ('In memory of the Stationmaster Knebel'), his father; 'Frau Martha Siepke,' his daughter and 'Frau Emilie Knebel,' his mother and many others.

He also, in his later years, distributed seeds to American hybridizers which were subsequently introduced by R. W. Poindexter and Mrs. Clarion Steele. Some of these are 'Bagdad,' 'Dolores,' 'Imp,' 'Indoxol,' 'Nellie,' 'Orchid Supreme,' 'Paradise' and 'Wonderland.'



'Stern Von Erlau'

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

So far as America was concerned, the hybrids were not well known at all and only a few dealers listed plants, notably A. Blanc & Co. of Philadelphia in 1891 (see photos on next page); in 1896 by Mrs. Theodosia Burr Shepherd of Ventura California and by Mr. E. O. Orpet of Santa Barbara, California, subsequently a founding-member of the American Epiphyllum Society.

(Editors Note: Orpet Park was planted & posthumously dedicated to Edward by the City of Santa Barbara and can still be visited today)



E. O. Orpet



An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

Illustrated · Price · List

Rare Cacti.



A PHYLLOCACTUS, TWO YEARS OLD, IN BLOOM.

A. BLANC & CO., Philadelphia, Pa.,

U. S. A.

HINTS ON CACTI AND CATALOGUE, fully illustrated with large engravings, will be sent on receipt of 10 cents.

COPYRIGHTED 1889.

herewith, bears beautiful flowers, having a leathery texture; color, buff yellow, with maroon markings; blooms when quite small. 15 cts. to \$1. Cuttings of 12 other rare sorts 15 cts. each. Some of the Stapelias bear flowers 10 inches in diameter and of wonderful construction.

OPSIS.

ve been extensively grown everywhere; have never been seen in this country. ty of sun at all times.

939. **E. Mulleri.** The most valuable Echinopsis, on account of its rapid growth, and because it blooms when only 2 years old. Flowers double, satiny rose in color and remaining on the plants for a week. Small plants, 25 cts.; larger, 60 cts. to \$5 each.

948. **E. Oxygona.** Exceedingly fine bloomer; flowers white, stained with red. 40 cts. to \$1.50.

970. **E. Triumphans fl. pl.** Flowers double, rosy-red. 40 cts. to \$1.50.

980. **E. Zuccariniana.** White flowers, as fragrant as a Jessamine. 40 cts. to \$1.50.

984. **E. Zuccariniana fl. Rosea.** Same as above. Rose-colored flowers. 40 cts. to \$1.50.

We will send by mail 10 distinct Echinopsis at reduced prices. and to include E. Mulleri for 60 cents;

EPIPHYLLUMS.



Epiphyllum, commonly called Crab Cactus, are among the best bloomers, although the flowers are not very large; still they come at a season of the year when flowers are scarce—from December until February.

Nice young plants in many varieties on their own roots, reduced to 25 cts., larger plants up to \$1.50.

Strong cuttings, which we can furnish in many varieties, 15 cts. each.

Strong grafted plants in ten or more varieties, reduced to 50 cts. to \$2.50 each.

These prices are lower than in our "Hints on Cacti."

Strong plants of Pereskia, for grafting Epiphyllums on, 20 to 50 cts. Plants of Cereus for same purpose, 20 to 50 cts.

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

Between 1892 and the late 20's Franz de Laet of Contich, Village lez Anvers, Belgium, raised a number of hybrids and listed over 100 varieties in his catalogues. 'Joseph de Laet' and 'Madame William de Laet' are two well-known examples. When he died, the business was continued by his daughter and son-in-law but was gradually dispersed until finally the remaining collection was acquired by various Dutch and Belgian growers and collectors.

In recent years, a Mr. Legrelle of La Louviere, who used to be de-Laet's foreman gardener has been located and found to have in his possession a collection of de Laet's original hybrids. Unfortunately, the names have been mislaid over the years and as de Laet listed his plants under color groupings without individual descriptions, a somewhat forbidding task lies to anyone attempting to name the varieties discovered.

In 1905 an event occurred which gradually resulted in the Americans realizing the potentialities of the plants growing on their own doorstep. In this year, Mr. H. M. Wegener of Los Angeles went to Germany for his honeymoon. Whilst there, he visited Saxony and spotted some hybrids in a peasant woman's cottage.

He acquired cuttings and brought them back to America, but he had little success with them until he moved to California, where the plants thrived rapidly. The plants were subsequently named by Wegener and are such well known varieties as 'Goliath,' 'Hermossissimus,' 'Flor de Sol,' 'Paul de Longpre' also known as 'Yellow Stripe' and others. (See *Photos on next page*)

Dr. Rose of Britton and Rose fame, a personal friend of Wegener's, sent him 20 plants collected from wild to experiment with.

Some time after this, Wegener was visited by the late Dr. Arthur Houghton of San Fernando, California (Author of the *Cactus Book* published by Macmillan in 1930) and on seeing the wonderful plants he became enthusiastic and subsequently formed a good collection. During the visit he conversed with Wegener in German and on seeing a vivid red-flowered plant asked if it was named. On learning that it was not, and as French names were fashionable at the time, he named the plant 'Vive Rouge.'

Wegener imported varieties from Knebel and de Laet and in 10 years raised many new varieties. In later life, he travelled extensively to Mexico and Europe and died in Germany in 1958.

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

'Hermossissimus'



'Paul De Longpre'



'H.M. Wegener'

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

Mrs. Clarion Steele of Los Angeles was also a prominent hybridizer in the 1930's who at first started with seeds imported from Europe. She raised many well-known varieties, some of which are 'Shasta,' 'Welcome' (very highly scented), 'Polar Bear,' 'Ensemble,' 'Carnation,' 'Sunburst,' 'Topsy Turvy' and 'Flamingo.' In 1934, her catalogue listed more varieties than any other dealer and she continued to increase her collection over the years until her stock was purchased by the Beahm Gardens, who continue to list many of her originations.

During this period, other Americans became aware of the developments in the hybrids; namely R. F. Kado, a Japanese nurseryman of Wilshire Rockcraft and Cactus Gardens who secured plants from Wegener and Dr. Houghton. Some of his hybrids are 'Yellow Violet,' 'California Beauty,' 'Miss Santa Monica' and 'Countess Estelle Doheny.'

Another Japanese grower prominent with these plants was Mr. C. Ito of Phyllocactus Farm, Leucadia, California. Both Kado and Ito were forced out of business when World War II commenced, when they were placed in Japanese camps out of California for the duration. They never returned to California when the War ended.

'Flamingo'



R.F. Kado

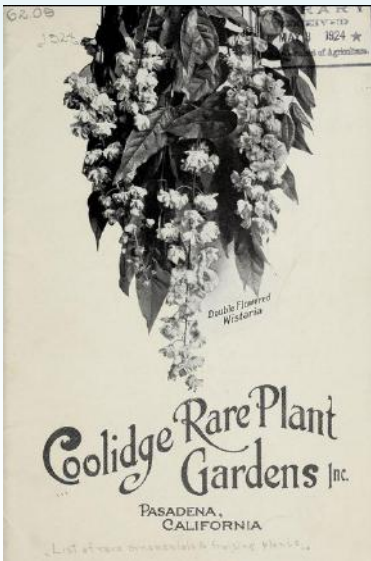
An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

D. W. Coolidge of Coolidge Rare Plant Gardens, 889 North Altadena Drive, Pasadena, was another important hybridizer, although this formed only a small part of his business which was a very high-class establishment specializing in raising Orchids, Camellias and other choice shrubs. On his death, the business was carried on by his daughter and son-in-law Mr. and Mrs. Mulvehill. On her death in 1955 the site was acquired by a Church and the entire stock sold on the site to persons fortunate to be present and with knowledge of the sale. Coolidge introduced his hybrids through commercial growers of these plants and some of the hybrids are 'Dennis Kucera,' 'Flamenco,' 'Cabochon,' 'Flaming Comet' and 'Pegasus,' one of the best modern hybrids.



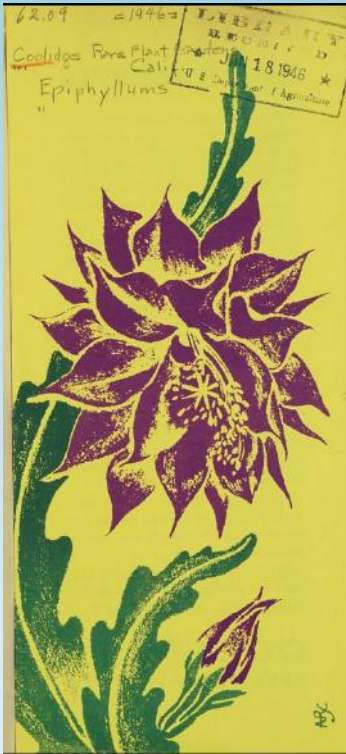
D.W. Coolidge



'Pegasus'

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...



Front & Back Covers



Inside of catalog

EPIPHYLLUMS

Of all the beautiful flowering plants imported from the four corners of the earth, none can excel in spectacular appeal the epiphyllums. Although native to the tropical countries such as Brazil, Mexico and the Argentine, the majority of these gorgeous types have in the past been hybridized in Europe. And now in our own Southern California numerous, superior kinds are being developed.

One could imagine nothing more congenial to Southern California climate and modern day architecture than these streamlined plants bearing a profusion of strikingly beautiful flowers from 6 to 10 inches in diameter, in all the colors of the rainbow. There are white kinds fringed in lime yellow and soft brown, pinks in monotone or iridescent tints, purples with flame and chartreuse, molten gold with vermillion, bronze with scarlet, blood-red with violet and others too numerous to mention.

Some types are effective in wall or hanging baskets, but the majority display their charms to best advantage when trained against a trellis or wall.

Our "Jewelled Corridor" during May and June presents a spectacle of dazzling beauty that you cannot soon forget.

COOLIDGE
RARE PLANT GARDENS

"The Jewelled Corridor"

AMBER QUEEN
ARGUS
BALLET RUSSE
BRAZIL
CASABLANCA
CELESTE
CONQUISTADOR
DENIS KUCERA
DEUTSCHE KAISERIN
EDEN
EL INDIO
FLAMENCO
FLOR DEL SOL
GLORIA
GOLDEN HALO
HERMOSSISSIMUS
JOSEPH DE LAET
KERMESISSIMUS
LATONA
LE COQ D'OR
LILLA SOLFERINO
LOTUS LANTERN
LOVE AFFAIR
MON CHERIE
MONTEZUMA
PADRE
PEACOCKII
PINK CHARM
ROMA
ROSETTA
ROYAL ROBE
SCARLET GIANT
SCHEHERAZADE
SUN GODDESS
TEHUANTEPEC
TIMOTEO
TRIOMPHE de GUBBERVILLE
TULIP
YOUNG NUN

and many others.

Amber petals margined in rich wine red.
Soft salmon with deeper tone at throat.
Pure white chiffon. Canary buds and sepals. Basket type.
Very large rose pink. Deeper shadings at throat.
Outstanding large pure white. Profuse bloomer; lasting.
Large many-petaled pink-lilac flower of great beauty.
Broad petaled flame and violet. Flame and violet tassel.
Huge orange and violet flower which opens flat.
Dainty flowers of silvery pink. Makes charming baskets.
Of purest white with bronze and sulphur sepals.
Large cup-shaped rich red with violet shadows at throat.
Large orange with pointed petals edged in violet.
A beautiful glowing orange-henna.
Soft chamois-amber. Very large and a prodigious bloomer.
Huge, slender petaled white with golden tipped and edged petals.
A very large spectacular flower in purple and vermillion.
Charming flower in scarlet and violet with white center veins.
Similar to Hermosissimus but with wider petals.
Violet and vermillion suffused with bronze.
Very large molten gold with flame and violet heart.
An heroic and beautiful rose-beige with fine fragrance.
Chamois-coral shadowed with cinnabar.
Large brilliant persimmon lightly margined in soft violet.
Two-tone carmine. Has appearance of red and yellow stripes.
Amber and faint pink. Violet center.
A very dainty flower in softest pink.
Violet and cerise with lime yellow eye. Huge.
A very beautiful shell pink. Basket type.
Molten gold and purple. Effect of brilliant iridescence.
Double bells of rose-cinnabar. Attractive hanging baskets.
Very large flower in cherry-purple and cerise-violet.
Orange tinged with scarlet. White stigma and anthers.
Rosy-lavender deepening to violet with age. Magnificent.
A glorious flower of molten-gold and violet. Vermillion throat.
Very large many-petaled orange margined in violet and flame.
Large two-toned orange with vermillion eye. Very lovely.
A flat open flower of softest silvery pink. Exquisite.
Bright red with small purple eye. Suggests tulip in form.
A very large and sparkling white with yellow and brown margin petals.

"specializing the unusual"

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

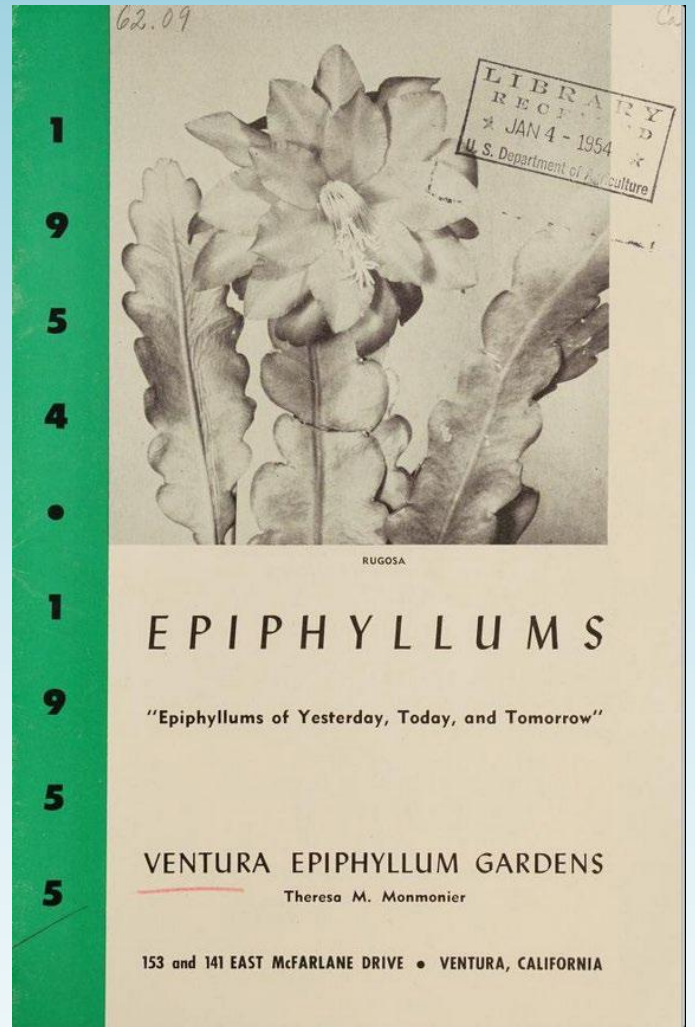
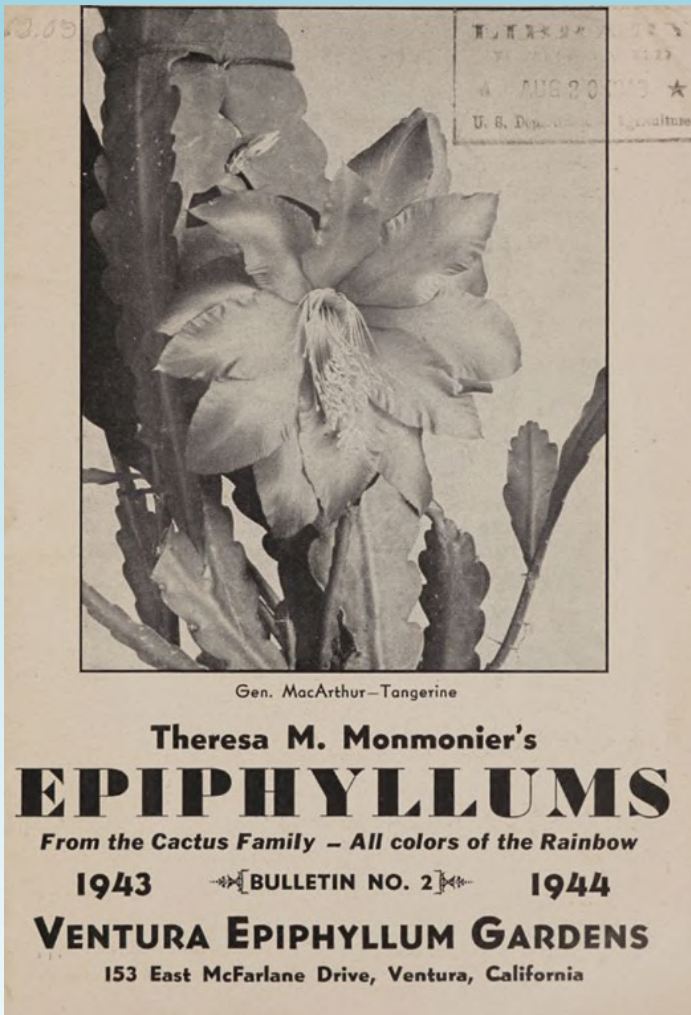
In 1936 Mrs. Theresa M. Monmonier of the Ventura Epiphyllum gardens started hybridizing. Some of her originations are 'Bambi' and 'Purple Heart.' She had a very fine collection of plants but due to prolonged illness, her plants were neglected and she sold the residue of her collection to Mr. and Mrs. John B. Cox of 90 McNeill Street, Encinitas, California 92204. I understand that Mr. and Mrs. Cox are now getting some fine results and, given time, some of Mrs. Monmonier's originations may yet be re-introduced.

**Theresa
Pictured with
her husband &
Son
Circa 1943**



An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...



To view Ventura Epiphyllum Gardens entire 1943 -1944 catalog, click [HERE](#)



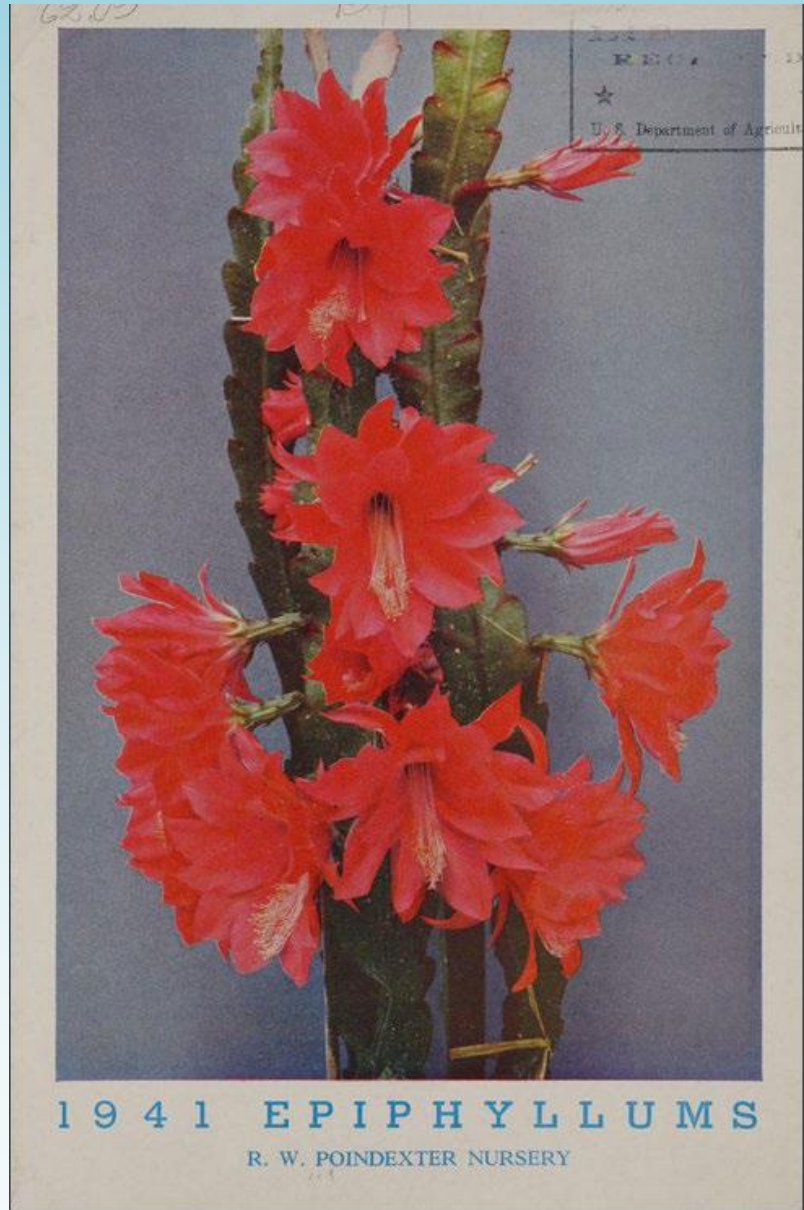
'Roman Holiday' one of Theresas hybrids that is still in circulation

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

Another prominent hybridizer was the late Dr. R. W. Poindexter of Compton, California. He became an enthusiast after seeing the collections of Wegener and Houghton. Prior to his death on the 16th of March 1943, he sold his nursery and moved to Carlsbad, California, taking with him his choicest plants and seedlings. His hybrids, with certain exceptions, are mainly giant-sized flowers such as 'Marina Special,' one of the best whites; 'Peachy,' a deep pink; 'Dolores' and 'Indoxal,' dark red varieties raised from seeds supplied by Knebel; 'Nellie,' another Knebel seedling; 'Thundercloud' and 'Blackamore' one of the best purples.

Mr. Leslie C. Parker of Lessar Nursery, Highway 101, Encinitas, California 92204, specializes in Poindexter's varieties, for those interested in impressing their neighbors.



'Blackamore' (top) & 'Marina Special' (right)

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...



'Pride of Bell'



'Chauncey'

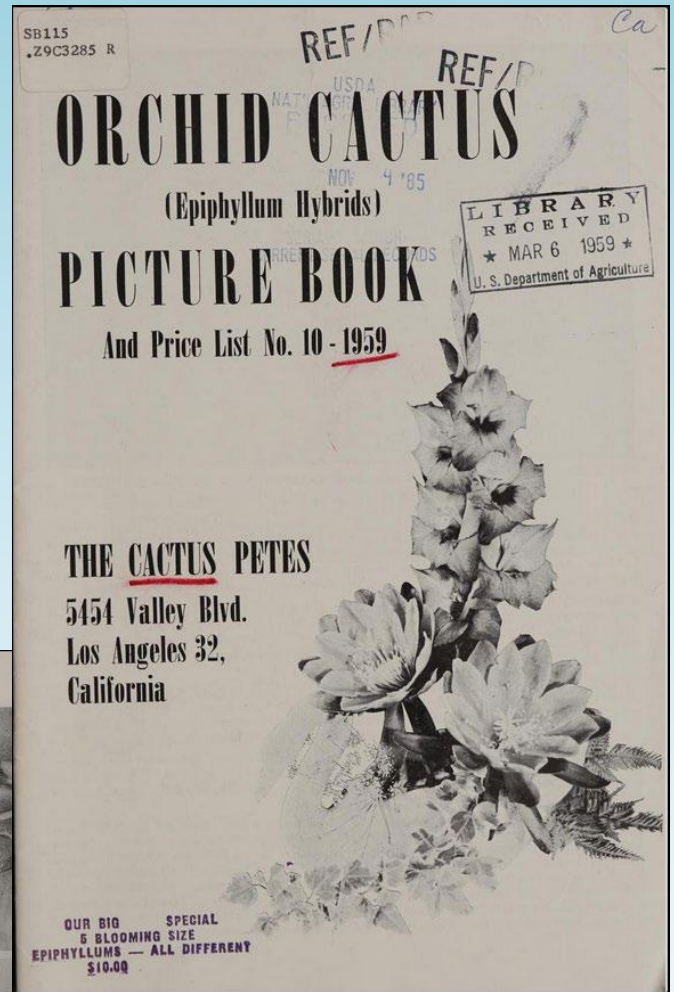
Other enthusiasts were the late Mrs. Georgina Russell of Bell, who will be remembered due to her naming an unnamed plant in her garden 'Pride of Bell'; The late C. P. Sherfy of Long Beach, California; the late Richard Diener, who carried out numerous experiments on the hybrids and who is mentioned in the *Epiphyllum Handbook*; Capt. W. W. Weston, also deceased, the former secretary of the American Epiphyllum Society and commemorated by Knebel in the hybrid named after him; Mrs. Bethel Darling who died in 1954; a Mr. Callender who raised 'Rosetta' and 'Callenders Pfau' (not to be confused with Belgian Pfau); the late Mrs. L. K. Williams (Peggy Williams) of 1314 Puterbaugh, San Diego 3, California who was a wonderful enthusiast and had many beautiful plants. On her death, no one was allowed to tend to the plants whilst her estate was probated with the result that many of her plants died. Her records, however, have been preserved and it is hoped that these may be published in the not-too-distant future.

Chauncey Stoddard, who has also died, raised the variety 'Chauncey' and many crosses of *Aporocactus* which have been introduced to the trade by Beahm Gardens. He managed to grow his plants in rock hard adobe soil, but I understand he knew how to water this type of soil and presumably did so with success. Other growers were Mr. Edlefson of Edlefsons Nursery and R. W. Kelly.

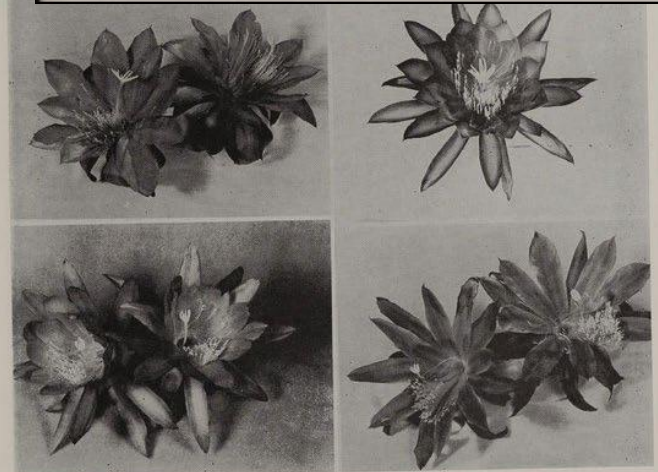
An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

The two growers who are probably the most well-known to Epiphyllum collectors are Mr. and Mrs. Peter Vinkemulder (better known as the Cactus Petes) who for 34 years raised many fine varieties in Los Angeles and whose business, on their retirement, is being continued by their son Cactus Pete Jr. at 4949 Valley Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90032.



(See opposite page)

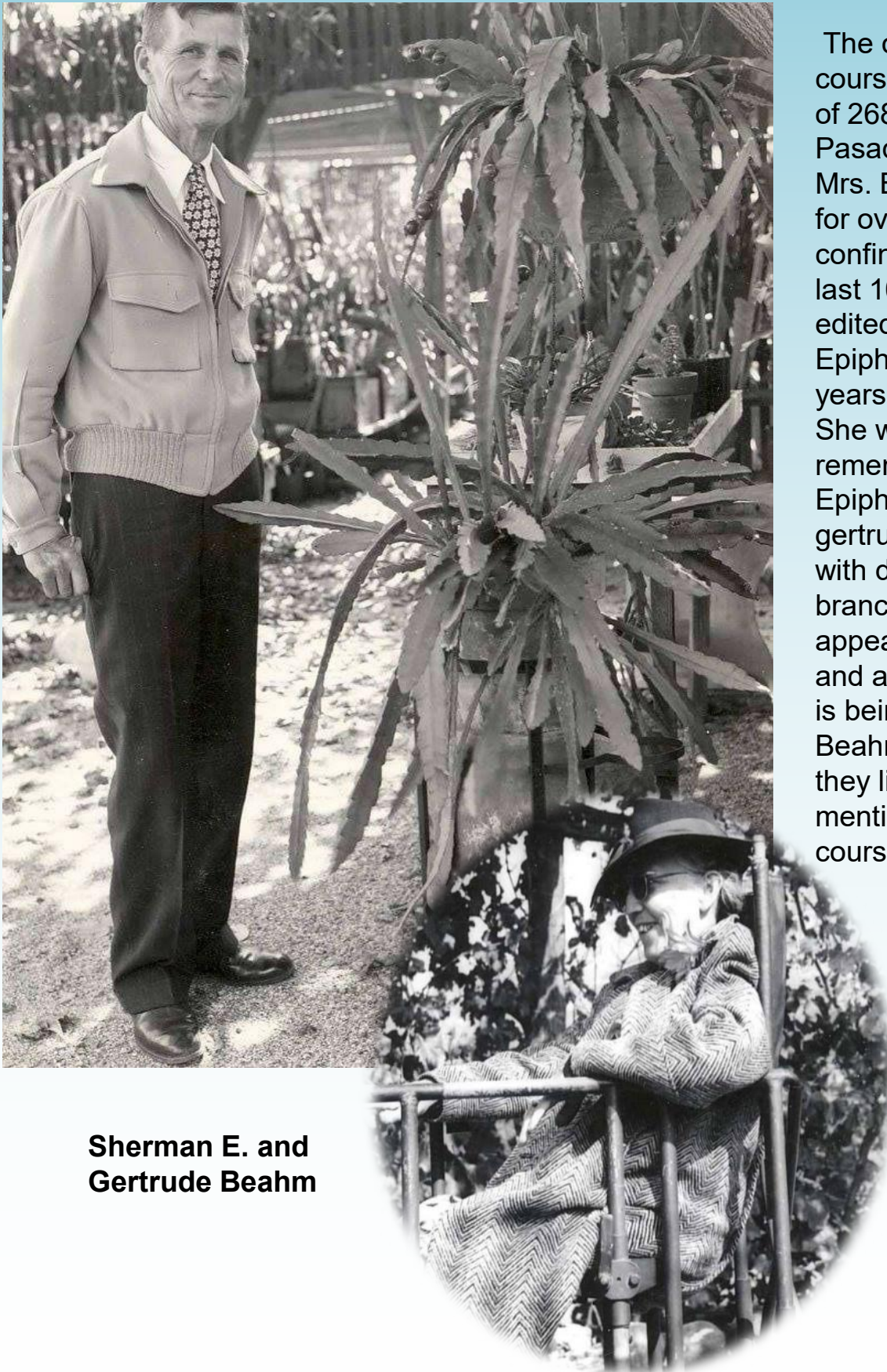


Collection No. 4 (opposite page, left to right) Southland Kado (XL) deep orange red with deeper eye—\$1.50; Dr. Houghton Dr. H 1933 (XL) real rainbow of color, red with iridescent purple edges—75¢; Strictum (Epiphyllum) Std Lem 1854 (L) white night bloomer—50¢; Bohemienne Std (M) (B) (C) 3 tone flesh pink—50¢; Sun Burst Std St (L) orange, red eye—\$1.00; Vive Rouge Std Dr. H (L) early and late, vivid red, purple eye—50¢. Value \$4.75—all six \$4.00

Collection No. 5 (above) *Pete's Cupid CP 1941 (L) pink, rose red back—\$1.00; Joseph de Laet Std (L) pink, white eye, red back—75¢; *Darrell CP 1945 (L) bright orange red—50¢; Stern von Erlau CK No. 23 (XL) one of our favorites, bright red and orange, iridescent edges—50¢; *Dark Paphne CP 1947 (XL) darkest rose—75¢; Hermosissimus Std Weg (XL) red and purple—50¢. Value \$4.00—all six for \$3.50.

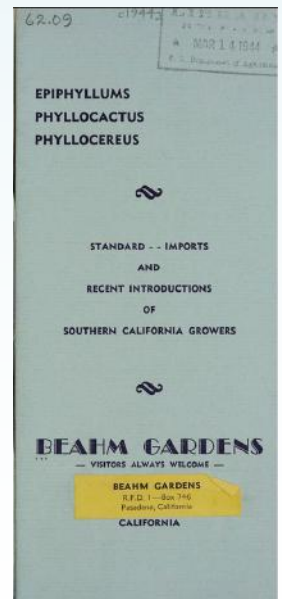
An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...



Sherman E. and Gertrude Beahm

The other growers are of course the Beahm Gardens of 2686 East Paloma Street, Pasadena, California 91107. Mrs. Beahm, who was blind for over 20 years and confined to her bed for the last 10 years of her life, edited the Journal of the Epiphyllum Society for 18 years until her death in 1962. She will always be remembered by the Epiphyllum species *gertrudianus*, a lovely plant with deeply indented branches and midway in appearance between *darrahii* and *anguliger*. The business is being carried on by Mr. Beahm and his family and they list many of the hybrids mentioned in this article, as of course do the Cactus Petes.



An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

The most prolific hybridizers of the last decades were undoubtedly Paul Fort and Garland O'Barr. They raised 984 hybrids and many un-named pans of seedlings, including the best yellow Epiphyllum so far introduced called 'Reward.' To those unacquainted with the modern hybrids, the new varieties come as a considerable surprise, as in many cases the colourings are unique and the form far superior to many of the old hybrids. Many of the flowers have ruffled petals and well defined bi and tri-coloured blooms. Their white variety 'Dolly Madison' is particularly outstanding and remains open for nearly a week. The nursery did not retail its plants but released them to commercial growers of Epiphyllums. They have disposed of their entire stock to private growers of these plants and now do not have a single epiphyllum at their new home in Laguna, California. Persons acquiring the plants were the late Clark Malcho, Ed Stephens late of the Blue Bird Nursery, Sherman E. Beahm, Dr. H. S. Irwin, the present editor of the American Journal and who also holds their records, W. J.Hathaway of 5340 Brittain Street, Long Beach, California 90808, Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Harmon of 3601 West 102nd Street, Inglewood, California 90303, and finally Holland.



'Dolly Madison'

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...



Paul Fort



**Garland
O' Barr**



FOB lath house

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

Other prolific hybridizers of recent years were the late Ed Stephens of the Blue Bird Nursery and Leo M. Daly who raised over 500 varieties. Mr. Daly had a stroke a few years ago and Nelson Ross of 753 Oakwood Street, Orange, California 92667 bought Mr. Daly's collection. When Ed. Stephens had to sell his nursery, because the land was wanted for development by W. R. Effinger, a building contractor who knew nothing about Epiphyllums, Nelson Ross became the manager of the new nursery and apart from a small part of the collection being acquired by R. W. J. Stanley of 2730 E. Broadway, Long Beach, California, I understand that the bulk of Stephens collection is intact.

Some of the other hybridizers are Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Harmon, Dr. Irwin, Clarence Mendelson, Frank Stern, Louis Vasseur, Ralph C. Shuey and True Sipe who have jointly raised numerous hybrids, Howard L. Jones, Floyd Nahigan of the Village Gardens, 109 E. Lyell Street, Los Altos, California, E. J. Robertson, Mr. Drake, Martha Maxwell (who took over the secretaryship of the American Society after Capt. Weston), Mr. Howard, F. C. Pozoni of Glendora, C. L. Wright, E. C. Dittman, Ed Hummel of Inglewood, R. A. Fields who raised that lovely variety 'Pride of San Gabriel,' Mr. Dennis who raised 'Canadian Ruffles' and finally Dr. Troxell.



'Time Remembered' Daly



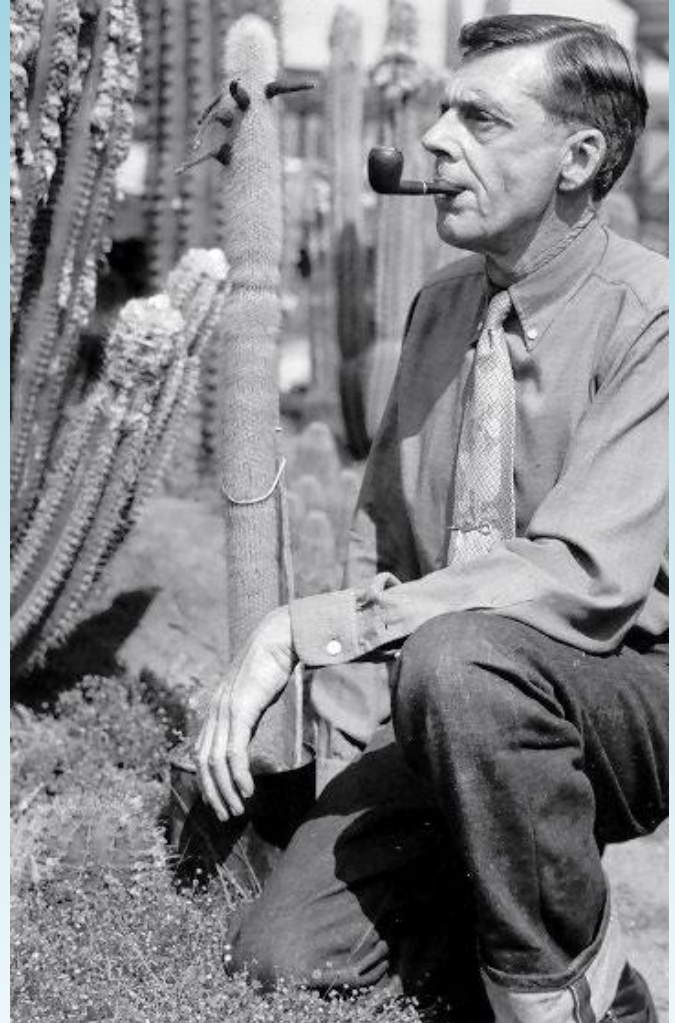
'Abu Hassan' Daly

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

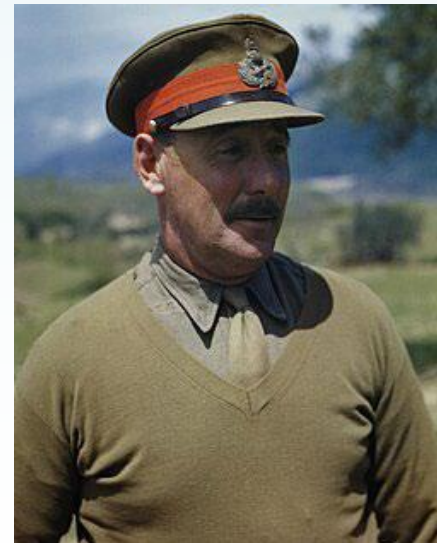
Continued...

Commercial growers are Harry Johnson's Cactus Gardens, 16613 South Garfield Avenue, Paramount, California; the Lessar Nursery (previously mentioned); Ace Nursery (Mrs. Catherine McCollum of 2393 Lincoln Avenue, Altedena, California); Terry Gardens (Mrs. Helene Terry) 2597 Crest Drive, Carlsbad, California and of course Beahms and Cactus Petes. The late Mr. Ash of 1215 North Nopal Street, Santa Barbara, California also grew plants commercially and, on his death, his widow, Mrs. Leona Ash, endeavoured to continue the business. She was, however, unable to do so and another source of supply had ceased.

In England immediately following the last war, it was virtually impossible to obtain the new varieties due to the Treasury restrictions on sending dollars out of the country. However, the situation improved when J.T. Barber of Chelford, Cheshire listed virtually the whole of Beahms catalogue and was followed shortly afterwards by Worfield Gardens of Bridgnorth, Shropshire, upon Sir Oliver and Lady Leese returning from America with some of the newer varieties.



Harry Johnson



Sir Oliver Leese

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

During this time, Mr. F. R. McQuown, the well-known Carnation and Pink expert, started hybridizing with some of his plants and introduced numerous plants prefixed with the name "London". These were subsequently introduced to the trade by Worfield Gardens and Auger Epiphyllums.

Harry Auger of Auger Epiphyllums, The flat at Wacousta, The Bishops Avenue, Hampstead, London, N. was the first commercial grower since the war to stage an Epiphyllum exhibit at the Chelsea flower show. This attracted considerable attention in the gardening press and on the easing of the Treasury restrictions he quickly built up a very large collection of the newer hybrids from America. He has raised several new varieties which are usually prefixed "Eastern".

At the same time, another commercial grower of these plants, Mr. Clive Innés of Holly Gate Nurseries, Ashington, Sussex was also increasing his collection of plants including some of the unnamed de Laet varieties.



'London Desire'



'London Sunshine'

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

Continued...

In Belgium, Gregoire Hoeckx of Manebruggestraat 257, Deurne, Antwerp has a large collection of plants including some of the unnamed de Laet varieties. German growers are somewhat difficult to locate due to the two zones, but Walther Haage of Erfurt is concentrating on producing dwarf, free-flowering varieties, having been interested in this work since 1925. For 30 years Haage worked closely with Knebel and has introduced 'Montezuma' and that beautiful clear red variety called 'Rotkaeppschen' (Red Riding Hood). Mr. Innes is in contact with Mr. Haage and it is hoped that some of Haage's newer introductions will become available in the future.

In Australia the firm of Dawson and Gill of 263 Napier Street, White Hills, Bendigo, Victoria have a very full list including one of their own introductions which might prove too violent for the greenhouse as it is described as white with a black eye. (Ed note HAHAHA!)



Walther Haage

An Epiphyllum History Lesson

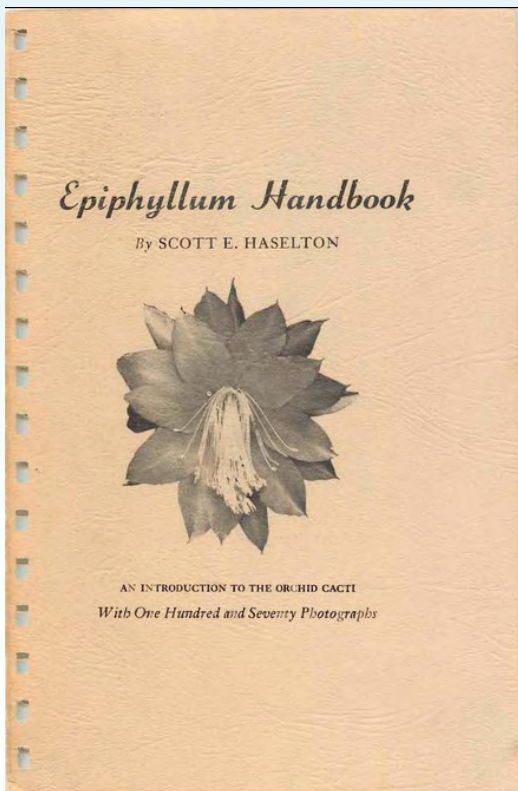
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In conclusion, I must express my gratitude to Scott Haselton of *Epiphyllum Handbook* fame and the Epiphyllum Society of America without whom this Epiphyllum article could not have been written. Much midnight oil was burned and much literature pored over to collate this article. It was for me an enjoyable task and one which I feel will be of some value to future researchers to enable this record to be amended in due course.

My personal thanks are also due to Mr. C. E. L. Gilbert of Romford, who first set me on the road; to Teddy Young, our late hardworking Treasurer, who never objected when I entered his greenhouse with a knife and who is now enjoying a well-earned retirement amongst his Epies in Sussex; to Ken Grounds for supplying true species and finally to Mr. Auger for his generous help in filling the large gaps in my collection following the bad winter of 1962-3.

Last but not least I must express thanks to Mr. H. W. Dobson, well known to our American friends, for the valuable help he has given me over the past decade.

F. Braun



Scott E. Haselton

Edited by:
Geneva Bridges
Research & Illustration
by:
Chris Welcher

Calendar of Events Spring 2026

Meeting Schedule

First-time guests and new members receive a free rooted cutting.

Tuesday February 3, 2026, 7:30-9:00 pm

ESA's Monthly Membership meeting

Program: Aporophyllums and their Hybrids

Ayres Hall, Los Angeles Arboretum

301 N Baldwin Ave

Arcadia California

Free entry, free parking

Refreshments provided

Tuesday, March 3, 2026, 7:30-9:00 pm

ESA's Monthly Membership meeting

Program: TBA

Ayres Hall, Los Angeles Arboretum

301 N Baldwin Ave

Arcadia California

Free entry, free parking

Refreshments provided

Tuesday April 7, 2026, 7:30-9:00 pm

ESA's Monthly Membership meeting

Program: TBA

Ayres Hall, Los Angeles Arboretum

301 N Baldwin Ave

Arcadia California

Free entry, free parking

Refreshments provided

Tuesday May 5, 2026, 7:30-9:00 pm

ESA's Monthly Membership meeting

Program: TBA & Flower show prep

Ayres Hall, Los Angeles Arboretum

301 N Baldwin Ave

Arcadia California

Free entry, free parking

Refreshments provided



Calendar of Events Spring 2026



Flower show Schedule

Sunday May 10, 2026

SDS Annual Mother's Day Show and Sale
Casa Del Prado
Balboa Park
San Diego, California

Sunday, May 17, 2026

ESA's Annual Show and Sale
Los Angeles Arboretum
201 N Baldwin Ave
Arcadia, California
See flyer included in this issue for details



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SUBMISSION of news items, articles, slides, photographs or illustrations pertaining to epiphytic cacti, the ESA or other epi societies and their members are welcome. Query Editorial Board for lengthy articles. The Editorial Board reserves the right to reject or edit submitted materials, solicited or unsolicited. Items will be returned if requested in advance.

SUBMISSION DEADLINES: 15 of Feb, May, Aug. and Nov.

DISPLAY ADVERTISING RATE: Contact Editor for rates
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PURPOSE STATEMENT SUMMARY: The Epiphyllum Society of America was organized to: register and establish epithets and diagnostic descriptions of epiphytic cactus hybrids of the Tribe Hylocereeae, and publish the International Register (The Registry of Hybrids and Species), and periodic updates in accordance with the International Code of Nomenclature, fulfill the duties of International Registration Authority, publish a newsletter, promote interest in epiphytic cacti hybrids, species, and related genera, conduct programs of interest to members; facilitate communication among members; and sponsor annual Flower Shows. **SUBSCRIBERS** receive for one year's dues, four issues of the quarterly Bulletin, a yearly Addendum to The Registry, and a discount of \$15 off The Registry price.

ANNUAL DUES: For electronic world-wide delivery of The Bulletin:

\$25 payable by check or money-order made out to the Epiphyllum Society of America, in US currency, drawn on a US bank. Mail payment to: ESA Membership, Geneva Bridges 12558 Telephone Avenue, Chino, CA 91710-3418, USA. All new Memberships or renewals due Jan 1. Annual Dues are applied to the following year if paid from September 1 to December 31. Members may also pay online via Square on the ESA webpage at <https://www.epiphyllums.org/join> **Renewal** receipts are not issued.

FOR INQUIRIES: Send an email to genevacoats@aol.com.

ROSTER CHANGES or other membership issues: send them to the Membership Secretary at Treasurer@epiphyllums.org.

MEETINGS: In person meetings at 7:30 p.m., on the first Tuesday of each month (except January, December and US national holidays). Admission and parking are free. Refreshments are served. Members and guests attending their first meeting receive a free potted epi. Regular meetings are held in Ayres Hall, Los Angeles County Arboretum, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, CA, USA. Take the Foothill Freeway (I-210) to the Baldwin Ave. exit, south. Follow the signs to the Arboretum. The December meeting is the Holiday Banquet. Paid dinner reservations are required. **BULLETIN STAFF EDITOR:** Bulletin Staff, Editor@epiphyllums.org

SOCIETY OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President..... Chris Welcher
626-780-3003 President@epiphyllums.org
TreasurerGeneva Bridges
909-438-8242
Secretary..... Charleen Ballard Rice
secretary@epiphyllums.org
Director.....Jim Nones
818-284-1199, jan46@gmail.com
Director..... Ken Hanke
818-239-6479
Director.....Eddie Huey
eddiehuey@gmail.com

COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS

CSSA Affiliate Representative
Ken Hanke 818-239-6479
ESA Pentico Collection
Curators:: Ken Hanke 818-239-6479
Chris Welcher 626-780-3003

The International Epi Registration and Research Committee

Beth Jackson registrar@epiphyllums.org
Chris Welcher
Geneva Bridges
Eddie Huey

Volunteer Coordinator

Ken Hanke 818-239-6479

Annual Show Chairman

Geneva Bridges 909-438-8242 Events@epiphyllums.org

Librarian

Jim Nones 818-284-1199 jan46@gmail.com

Program Chairperson

Jim Nones 818-284-1199 jan46@gmail.com

Refreshments Coordinator

Ken Hanke 818-239-6479

"Bulletin" Committee

Editor@epiphyllums.org
Geneva Bridges
Chris Welcher
Charleen Ballard Rice



Epiphyllum Society of America

2026 show rules

General Rules

- Place and time as outlined in this program unless otherwise specified by the Show Chairman. The rules set forth in this schedule supersede all previous years' schedules.
- The show date and time will be **SUNDAY MAY 17, 2026 from 10 am until 3 pm**. The venue for 2026 will be the **LA ARBURETUM, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, California 91007**
- The *ESA Registry of Hybrids and Species* (6th Edition 2013) and the Addenda to the Registry through 2025 will be the published reference used for epiphytic cacti entries. Cultivars not listed in the *ESA Registry of Hybrids and Species*, 6th edition or the Addenda through 2025 are ineligible for judging. Exceptions to this rule include class entries for species and for "Unnamed Seedlings." Entries in Division Two "Floral Arrangements" need not use registered flowers.
- Exhibitors need not stage their own entries in any competition division except Division Two, "Floral Arrangements". Exhibitors need not remain on the premises after staging to compete. Families, Spouses and/or Domestic Partners may compete as a single Exhibitor. Organizations or groupings of individuals not mentioned above are ineligible to compete as a single entity. Cultivars must have been in the possession of the Exhibitor for a minimum of six months prior to the show date except in Division Two.
- Each entry must be identified with an official entry card provided by the Society. Entries with incorrect ID will be disqualified. Cards not completely and correctly filled out by the exhibitor will disqualify the exhibit. Adhesive labels and rubber stamps are permitted where applicable. Completed entry cards are to be folded to conceal Exhibitor identification during judging. Close placement of cards adjacent to entries should readily identify the Exhibitor's entry. Cards will be available at the show site and prior to the Show at the April and May ESA General Meetings.
- Entries which appear infested, battered or otherwise unfit for exhibition may be disqualified and removed from judging by show staff at the Judges' discretion.
- Exhibitors must have removed all transport equipment, water, and debris from the Exhibit Hall prior to 9:00 am the day of the Show.
- All, or portions of, the exhibit area may be closed to Exhibitors and the public beginning at 9:00 am until judging and ribbon placement is completed, on Saturday, May 6th. No entry may be added or moved, and no entry card may be modified or replaced once judging begins with the exception of Division One Class 8, People's Choice Award. Only Show staff and Judges may rearrange or move an entry. Late entries may be placed in the exhibit area after judging and/or clerking is completed, but will not be eligible for awards with the exception of Division One Class 7 People's Choice"
- Exhibitors who remove their entries, entry cards, Ribbons or Rosettes from the exhibit before the Show is officially closed will be disqualified.
- The Judging and Clerking Staff reserve the right to photograph any and all entries. Images photographed by Show Staff become the property of the ESA Photo Library and may be shown in public and/or published in Society publications without consent of the exhibitor.
- Decisions by the Judges, and Show Staff as directed by the Judges, are final.

RIBBON AND ROSETTE AWARDS AND POINTS

Awarding of any Ribbon or Rosette is done solely at the Judges' discretion.

PLACE RIBBONS: Judges are encouraged to award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place as well as Honorable Mention Ribbons in each Section. More than one Place Ribbon for each place may be awarded at the judges' discretion. Ribbons may be withheld for any place at the judges' discretion.

PLACE RIBBON POINTS

For all Classes of DIVISION ONE; the Ribbon Class count is:

1st Place - Blue Ribbon (6 points)
2nd Place - Red Ribbon (4 points)
3rd Place - Yellow Ribbon (2 points)
Honorable Mention - White Ribbon (1 point)

Note: No points will be awarded for People's Choice award winner.

For the Classes of DIVISION TWO, DIVISION THREE, DIVISION FOUR and DIVISION FIVE the Ribbon Class count is:

1st Place - Blue Ribbon (9 points)
2nd Place - Red Ribbon (6 points)
3rd Place - Yellow Ribbon (4 points)
Honorable Mention - White Ribbon (2 points)

Note: Ribbons for Class 12, Sections 34 and 35 are not allotted points.

SPECIAL AWARD ROSETTES (8 POINTS) may be awarded in addition to 1st, 2nd or 3rd Place and Honorable Mention Ribbons, for the following:

- **President's Choice** - Chosen by ESA President from DIVISION ONE entries except People's Choice
- **Best Flower over 12"** - Chosen by Judges from DIVISION ONE entries except People's Choice
- **Best Flower Under 5"** - Chosen by Judges from DIVISION ONE CLASS THREE entries except People's Choice
- **Best Seedling** - Given with Ethel Hurst Award - Chosen by Judges from DIVISION ONE, CLASS TWO entries.
- **Best Flower of Show** - Given with Galen Pittman Award. Selected from entries from DIVISION ONE. To qualify, the flower must be registered and published in the Registry of Species and Hybrids or its addenda. Unregistered seedlings and People's Choice award winners are not eligible for this award.
- **ESA Heritage Award** - The Best Flower from DIVISION ONE CLASS SIX entries.
- **Best Floral Arrangement** - Chosen by Judges from DIVISION TWO entries.
- **Best Plant** - Chosen by Judges from DIVISION THREE entries.
- **Best Photograph** - Chosen by Judges from DIVISION FOUR entries.
- **Best Display** - Chosen by Judges from DIVISION FIVE entries.

TROPHY AWARDS

Trophies are awarded according to the total Ribbon Points accumulated by an Exhibitor in each individual Division, with the exception DIVISION ONE (class 7) People's Choice which is not judged.

- **Division One - (All Classes) Cut Flowers:** Three Trophies (**First place through Third Place**)
- **Division One (Class 2): Best Epicactus Seedling:** One Trophy. (**The Ethel Hurst Award**)
- **Division One (All classes): Best Flower in Show:** One Trophy. (**The Galen Pittman Award**)
- **Division One (Class 7): People's Choice:** One Trophy
- **Division Two - Arrangements:** One Trophy
- **Division Three - Plants:** One Trophy
- **Division Four - Photography:** One Trophy
- **Division Five: Displays:** One Trophy

SWEEPSTAKES TROPHY

Awarded to the Exhibitor who meets the following three criteria:

- Wins a Trophy in any Division (except People's Choice), and
- Earns at least one Place Ribbon in any other Division, and
- Accumulates the most Ribbon points among Exhibitors meeting the first two criteria.



COMPETITION DIVISIONS, CLASSES AND SECTIONS

DIVISION ONE - CUT FLOWERS

SPECIFIC RULES

- There is no restriction on the number of entries an Exhibitor may place in any Section. However, an Exhibitor shall not receive more than one Place Award for the same cultivar in a section.
- Flowers are to be displayed in a “**right-side-up**” orientation.
- Each entry will be judged on its own merit, not compared to other entries in the same section. Judges may consider Quality, Presentation, Correct Form, Size and Color.
- **Note:** “Christmas” “Easter” “Thanksgiving” and “Holiday” cacti are not eligible to compete in Division One.

CLASS 1. SINGLE CUT FLOWERS - MEDIUM, LARGE AND EXTRA LARGE. Named and registered epiphytic cactus flowers, sizes medium (5” to 7” in diameter). large (7” to 9” in diameter), and extra-large (over 9” in diameter).
Note: **There will be no separate sections for size variations.**

Section 1. Predominantly **White** or White with Other Color(s)

Section 2. Predominantly **Yellow** or Yellow with Other Color(s)

Section 3. Predominantly **Dark Yellow/Butterscotch** or Dark Yellow with Other Color(s)

Section 4. Predominantly **Orange** or Orange with Other Color(s)

Section 5. Predominantly **Red** or Red with Other Color(s)

Section 6. Predominantly **Pink** or Pink with Other Color(s)

Section 7. Predominantly **Dark Purple** or Dark Purple with Other Color(s)

Section 8. Predominantly **Light Purple/Lavender** or Light Purple/Lavender with Other Color(s)

Section 9. Predominant colors and combinations difficult to define.

CLASS 2. UNREGISTERED SEEDLINGS. Single cut flowers of unregistered epiphytic cactus hybrid seedlings of the denomination class registered by the ESA, including the intergeneric hybrids formerly known as “aporophyllum”. When known, hybridizer, parentage and seedling numbers should appear on the entry card unless compliance discloses Exhibitor. All sizes.

Section 10. Predominantly **White** or White with Other Color(s)

Section 11. Predominantly **Yellow** or Yellow with Other Color(s)

Section 12. Predominantly **Dark Yellow/Butterscotch** or dark yellow with other color(s) ***NEW***

Section 13. Predominantly **Orange** or Orange with Other Color(s)

Section 14. Predominantly **Red** or Red with Other Color(s).

Section 15. Predominantly **Pink** or Pink with Other Color(s).

Section 16. Predominantly **Dark Purple** or Dark Purple with Other Color(s).

Section 17. Predominantly **Light Purple/Lavender** or Light Purple/Lavender with Other Color(s).

Section 18. Predominant colors and combinations difficult to define.

CLASS 3. SINGLE CUT FLOWERS - SMALL AND EXTRA SMALL. Named epiphytic cactus flowers 5” or less in diameter, including those formerly called “aporophyllum”.

Section 19. Small Flowers, from 2” to 5” in diameter, all colors, and combinations.

Section 20. Extra Small Flowers, less than 2” in diameter, all colors, and combinations.

CLASS 4. EPIPHYTIC CACTUS SPECIES

Section 21. Flowers of any non-hybrid epiphytic cactus genus, any colors or size.

CLASS 5. HERITAGE FLOWERS

Section 22. Named epiphytic cactus cultivars listed in the ESA *Registry of Hybrids and Species*, known to have existed prior to the founding of the Epiphyllum Society of America on May 5, 1940. All colors and sizes.

Note: In addition to place awards, **a *Special Rosette and 8 points will be awarded to the Best Heritage Flower in Show.***

CLASS 6. COLLECTIONS

Section 23. Multiple blooms. Group of three or more blooms of equal size of one named cultivar, any color. Flowers may be displayed on stands provided by the Society or in containers furnished by the Exhibitor.

CLASS 7. PEOPLE'S CHOICE Single cut flowers entered to compete for a popularity award. This class will not be judged by show staff except by the President or his designee to break a tie. Each attendee at the show will be given a special card to mark their choice of the best flower on the People's Choice table. Results will be tabulated after 4 pm.

Exhibitors may enter a maximum of two blooms in this class

Section 26. People's Choice. Single cut flower to compete in a popularity contest.

*** A special Trophy will be awarded to the People's Choice award winner; however, no points will be awarded. In case of a tie, the President or his designee will make the final decision.***

Note: Individual flowers entered into People's Choice are not eligible to receive Special Awards: Best Heritage, President's Choice, Best in Show, Best Seedling, Best over 12", Best Under 5".

DIVISION TWO - FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

SPECIFIC RULES

- Epiphytic cactus flower(s) must be the center of attention and must be oriented "right-side-up."
- The use of mats and bases is recommended though not required.
- Horizontal or Vertical surfaces may be used.
- Arrangements may not utilize more table width than designated by the Show Staff.
- The Exhibitor need not have grown the flowers.
- Arrangements **MUST** be staged by the exhibitor.
- **Note:** Individual flowers used in a Floral Arrangement are not eligible to receive Special Awards: Best Heritage, President's Choice, Best in Show, Best Seedling, Best over 12", Best Under 5".

CLASS 8. FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

Section 27. Entries in single or multiple **traditional containers** such as vases or baskets or non-traditional containers such as wood, driftwood, stone, glass, etc. May be used Use any plant material **fresh or dried.**

Accessories may be used, such as figurines, stones, etc. One or more epiphytic cactus flowers must be used.

DIVISION THREE - PLANTS

SPECIFIC RULES

- Plants placed in competition should be groomed and free of disease or infestation.
- If a container cannot be groomed, use of a jardiniere is recommended.

CLASS 9. EPIPHYTIC CACTUS *HYBRID* PLANTS.

Including hybrid Epiphyllums and the intergeneric formerly known as “aporophyllum.” Any color and size, in bud or bloom

Section 28. Registered cultivars in hanging containers, staked, trellised or pedestal plants.

Section 29. Unregistered seedlings in hanging containers, staked, trellised or pedestal plants.

CLASS 10. EPIPHYTIC CACTUS *SPECIES* PLANTS. Need not be in bud or bloom.

Section 30. Epiphyllum species in hanging containers, staked, trellised or pedestal plants, and **Other genera in the tribe Hylocereeae**, (Disocactus, Hylocereus, Pseudorhipsalis, Selenicereus, Weberocereus) *in hanging containers, staked, trellised, or pedestal plants.*

Section 31. Species or hybrids of the tribe Rhipsalideae: (Hatiora, Lepismium, Rhipsalis, or Schlumbergera) *in hanging containers, staked, trellised or pedestal plants.*

DIVISION FOUR - PHOTOGRAPHY

SPECIFIC RULES

- The Exhibitor must be the artist.
- Entries which received an award in previous years' competitions are ineligible.

CLASS 11. Photography. Minimum print size is 5” x 7”. Entries must be framed and/or matted and must be hung on a vertical surface provided by Show Staff. Subject must be identified on the entry card.

Section 32. Representational Style. Photographs of named **hybrid** epiphytic cacti or epiphytic cactus species.

Section 33. Artistic Effect. Photographs featuring epiphytic cacti in any non-representational effect, which may include macro, lifestyle, landscape, abstract art, etc.

DIVISION FIVE - DISPLAYS

SPECIFIC RULES

- Tabletop or freestanding displays featuring epiphytic cacti
- Entry cards require stating Theme and Section.
- Please reserve display spaces with Show Chairman no later than May 1, 2023.

CLASS 12. THEME DISPLAYS. Commercial or Societal. (Note: Ribbons awarded in Class 12 are not allotted points.)

Section 34. Societal Exhibitors (Plant and Floral Societies). Subject matter relating to horticulture.

Section 35. Commercial Exhibitors (Nurseries, garden product vendors, etc.)

CLASS 13. EDUCATIONAL DISPLAYS. Subject matter relating to horticulture.

Section 36. All Exhibitors - Limit of **one display** for competition per Exhibitor. An additional award from the Cactus and Succulent Society of America will be applied for if more than two displays are entered in this section.

CLASS 14. PHOTOGRAPHIC DISPLAYS.

Section 37. Six (6) or more photographs by one Exhibitor, organized into a **photographic display**.

**Thank you for Participating,
Let's have a great show!**