



Σpi News

San Diego Epiphyllum Society, Inc.

November 2014

Volume 39

'Cassis'

Size: Medium

Cross: Seedling ('Lilliput' x 'Carla') x Unknown

Hybridizer: Harold E. Watts

Photograph by Linda Sinkovic





President's Corner:

We are finally getting some seasonal weather around here after one of the hottest summers in memory (in my memory, anyway). I don't know about you, but I am welcoming Fall to no end. The cooler half of the year has arrived and that makes for much more pleasant work parties at the Safari Park. If the heat has been keeping you away, now is your chance to participate in this fun SDES activity.

We are still moving forward with our change over to an e-mail version of our newsletter, the *Epi News*. And we are still looking at cutting over after the first of the coming year. We are planning to do some test e-mailing of the November and December editions as well.

At this month's General Meeting, we will hold our annual Photo Contest. I encourage any and

all of you who have prints or can make prints of your wonderful epiphyllum photos to bring them to the meeting for judging. It's fun and the more people we get involved, the more fun it will be! Also at the November meeting, our membership will be voting on the new slate of SDES officers for the year 2015 as published in this issue on page 3.

Coming up in December will be, of course, our annual Installation Banquet where we will enjoy a great meal, relax, have a good time and install the SDES officers for 2015. Mildred Mikas has gone all out once again to organize a fantastic dinner and festivities. Please contact Mildred to let her know you would like to attend.

Happy epi growing!



Ron

Pre-Meeting Workshop:

--Velma Crain

At last month's pre-meeting work shop, we discussed how to care for epies during the fall and winter months.



November's workshop topic was still being discussed as we went to press...

Please join us in Room 104 at 7:00 pm on Wednesday, November 12th to see what Ron Crain will talk about!!!!

October Meeting Program:

In October we enjoyed Don Crain's photographs of **Epiphyllums, Roses and Orchids**. These included photos taken at the Flower Shows of our sister societies, the Epiphyllum Society of America and the South Bay Epi-

phyllum Society. Many thanks to Don for creating and presenting this program for us! Thanks also to Ron Crain for assisting with the presentation.

November Meeting Program:

For our November program we have **Master Gardener Marcia Van Loy** with a discussion on how to encourage birds and butterflies in our gardens. She will inform us on the types of

plants and habitat needed to encourage birds and butterflies and how they benefit us. Please join us in Room 101 on Wednesday, November 12th at 7:30 pm!!

Election at this month's meeting: Slate of Officers for 2015

President:	Janice Wakefield	Directors:
1st VP (Programs):	Victoria Chapman	Nominated for a 2-year term:
2nd VP (Mother's Day Show Coordinator):	Laura Johnson	Oliver LaPuebla
Recording Secretary:	Cindy Decker	Mildred Mikas
Corresponding Secretary:	Beth Jackson	To serve the 2nd year of their 2-year term:
Membership Secretary:	Humberto Contreras	Jerry Moreau
Treasurer:	Tim Paule	Bill Greene
		Marie Dempewolf



Annual Photo Contest this month! Don't forget to bring your favorite Epi Photo(s) to the November meeting!

Criteria will be the same as in years past:

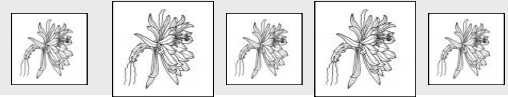
- Any size photo can be entered
- Photos should be matted (not framed), but don't let that preclude you from entering your best shot. Bring it anyway!

- Please write your name on the back (with the name, if known, of the epi hybrid in the photo)
- There will be a "People's Choice" winner as well as the judges' choices.
- Winning photos will be featured on the covers of *Epi News*



Calendar of Events

Nov 10	Holiday Marketplace
Nov 12	General Meeting
Nov 15	Safari Park Work Party
Nov 29	Safari Park Work Party
Nov TBA	Board Meeting
Dec 10	Holiday Installation Banquet



Holiday Marketplace is our next Sales Event

--Cindy Decker

Our next sales event will be the **HOLIDAY MARKETPLACE** on Nov 10, 2014. This event is sponsored by The San Diego Horticultural Society and is being held at the Surfside Race Place at the Del Mar Fairgrounds from 6-9:00pm. This would be an interesting event for all to attend and shop for the upcoming holidays. There will be lots of interesting booths with Garden craft related items and plants. We did this last year and enjoyed the experience and added some to our bank account.



Safari Park Epi Display House --Jerry Moreau

We had some productive work parties this past month. There were only a couple of blooms but the *E. oxypetalum* was getting ready to bloom again. We continue to repot, weed, fertilize, keeping the plants looking good and continued to alphabetize the workhouse. At this time there is no further news about the new display. Plans are still moving along.

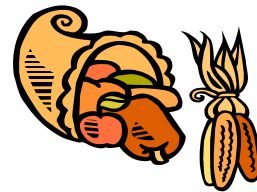
I would like to welcome a new volunteer, **Linda Sinkovic**. It's great to have some new and enthusiastic help. She will be focusing on the epiphytic species in the collection. Linda will be a great addition to the team. Helping out this month were Sandra Chapin, Ron & Velma Crain, Gina Contreras, Marie Dempewolf, Michele Finchum, Bill Greene, Bob Holzinger, Beth Jackson, Laurie Lasslo, Jerry & Betsy Markle, Gerry &

Mildred Mikas, Jerry Moreau, Tim Paule, Fred Savage, Linda Sinkovic, and Janice Wakefield. **Thank you all!** Your help is invaluable.

The next work parties will be
November 15th & 29th.

If you are interested in joining the fun and learning a lot about epis in the process, come and volunteer at the Park. Information on how to sign up can be found on the website

www.SanDiegoEpi.org - Click on the Safari Park tab or contact Jerry at jerrysdca@cox.net.



Now is the Time



- ✓ **Watch weather reports for freezing temperatures.** In areas that freeze, plants can be protected for a short period with newspaper, but plastic sheeting will provide more durable protection.
- ✓ **If epis are subjected to hail,** rinse the ice off immediately. Prolonged contact with ice can damage the plants more than the impact of the hail itself.
- ✓ **Protect against strong**

- winds.** Plants in hanging pots are subject to broken branches as they bump into other pots or are knocked to the ground.
- ✓ **Withhold fertilizers** as plants become semi-dormant.
- ✓ **Avoid over-watering.** Epis require less watering during the cool, rainy season.
- ✓ **Winter rains are good for epis.** Collect rainwater in opaque containers and cover containers to keep

debris out. Don't let pots on benches sit in puddles of water.

- ✓ **Continue to keep an eye out for snails and slugs.**
- ✓ **Keep plants and containers free of debris.**
- ✓ **Monitor plants for root fungus diseases.** Discoloration of branches just above the soil level may indicate problems below the soil.
- ✓ **Check fruit for ripeness.**

From our Librarian:

Get Your Facts First

“Get your facts first, then you can distort them as much as you please...” -Mark Twain



-- Linda Sinkovic

So let's talk about “Ric Rac Cactus”. “Ric Rac Cactus” is one of those names used for different varieties of plants, much like “Queen of the Night”.¹ This name comes from the deeply lobed branches, the lobes varying from angular to rounded – often on the same plant. Because the lobes can vary, it's a tricky proposition to identify a particular plant unless it's flowering.

There are three species commonly referred to as “Ric Rac Cactus”: *Epiphyllum anguliger*, *Selenicereus anthonyanus* and *Weberocereus imitans*. To make things more interesting, there are hybrids with *E. anguliger*² or *S. anthonyanus*³ parentage, also with deeply lobed branches. But today we'll just talk about the species and look at some pictures.

Sadly I don't have pictures of all the flowers. Instead I've included some photos of these various species (and one hybrid) which show the branch shape. I've rotated all the photos to the same orientation and blurred the background so you can see the branch shape. As you can see, it's not too easy to determine the species just by looking at the branches.



Epiphyllum anguliger

← has fragrant white flowers with back petals ranging from yellow to gold to tan. Flower size can be variable between different *E.*

anguliger plants. Width of the flower is between 2.7 inches and 5.9 inches. In

my San Diego garden, it grows in the shadier parts of the shade house and usually blooms in November. In the wild *E. anguliger* is found in some southwestern Mexican states.⁴



E.anguliger

E. anguliger branch ↑

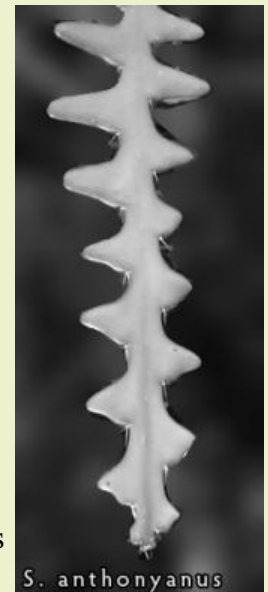
E. anguliger with small flower ←



E. anguliger, small flower

Selenicereus anthonyanus →

also occurs in Mexico.⁵ The flowers have purple back petals and yellow-white inner petals. Flower width is 4 to 5.9 inches. The flower shape is similar to other *Selenicereus* species. It is also fragrant although to me it smelled of lemon pepper. This plant gets a bit more sun than most of



S. anthonyanus

(Continued on page 6)

**Countdown to the
Annual
Installation Banquet
Wednesday,
December 10**

6:30 p.m.

**The Butcher Shop
Steakhouse**
5255 Kearny Villa Road - San
Diego
(858)565-2272
(Visible from Hwy 163)

Includes
Holiday Gift Exchange

Save the date. Now is not too
soon to buy your tickets.

(Before November 30!)

Treat a friend to a delicious
dinner and incredible company!

For more details:

SanDiegoEpi.org
October *EpiNews*



****Honorary Life Members
once again invited as SDES
Guests**

Just call or e-mail Mildred with
your entrée choice.

Features of Species and the Like.. (Continued from page 5)

the other epiphytic
cactus and when it does
deign to bloom for me,
it blooms in July.

My *Weberocereus*
imitans hasn't flowered
yet as it is a new
acquisition for me. I've
got a couple of rooted
cuttings in different
locations to see what
sort of conditions it
prefers. According to
the literature, the flower
is small (about 2 inches)
with maroon back petals
and white inner petals.
This plant comes from
Costa Rica.



Weberocereus imitans ↑
'Kaguyahime' ↓
(See Note #2 below)

Have a great November
and see you next month.

Notes:

*1 For starters, *Selenicereus grandiflorus*,
Epiphyllum oxypetalum, *Cereus*
hildmannianus, *Peniocereus greggii* are all
referred to as "Queen of the Night". There
are non-cactus "Queen of the Night" plants
too but you'll have to look those up on your
own time.

*2 For example, Mitsuhashi's
'Kaguyahime'; Rudolf Heßing's 'Jalisco'
series; other hybridizers that have
registered crosses with *E. anguliger*
parentage include Helmut Paetzold,
Wolfgang Wilborn, Wressy Cocke, Fred
Boutin, Kurt Petersen, Joyce Carr.

*3 Hybridizers who have registered crosses
with *S. anthonyanus* parentage include
Helmut Paetzold, Kurt Petersen, Dr.
Werner Stauch.

*4 Nayarit, Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero,
Oaxaca.

*5 Chiapas, Oaxaca, Tabasco, Veracruz.

References:

Bauer, R., "Epiphyllum anguliger (Lemaire) Don ex Loudon, eine botanisch
interessante Art aus dem westlichen Mexiko", *EPIG*, 63:5-15, 2009
Epiphyllum Society of America, *Registry of Hybrids and Species*, 6th edition, 2014
Hunt, D., et al, *The New Cactus Lexicon*, 2006, ISBN 0 9538134 4 4
ICUN Red List of Threatened Species, <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/152753/0>,
accessed 03 October 2014
ICUN Red List of Threatened Species, <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/152179/0>,
accessed 03 October 2014





SDES Esteemed VIP's

Here is another photo from the "Volunteer Appreciation Party" in September. Pictured here left to right is our hostess for the event, Adele Wagner, our 2015 President nominee, Janice Wakefield, and VERY active long-time Board members Sandra Chapin, Mildred Mikas.

(Editor's note: I totally overlooked this photo when editing last month's issue. It is just too nice a photo to have left out completely!)



Off-Season Blooms



Beth Jackson: 'Friedrich Adolf Haage'
Robert Kuettle: 'Chanteuse', , *E. pumilum*,
 'Gold Charm', 'Primary Ignition'
Jerry Moreau: 'Harald Knebel'
Safari Park: 'Beautie Wegener', *E. hookeri*
ssp. Hookeri, *E. oxypetalum*, *E. pumilum*
Don Patterson: 'Herbert S. Irwin', 'Jalisco
 Starlight'
Allen Pellymouter: 'Eddie Huey', 'Pat Barrett',
 'Something Special'
Pentico: 'Carl Weinhausen', 'Oakleigh
 Conquest', 'Orange Icing', 'Sidney
 Hamiter'
Mark Piette: 'Wachsenburg'
Linda Sinkovic: *E. hookeri ssp. hookeri*



Membership:

Single Membership \$15.00 per year
 Dual Membership \$20.00 per year
 (Dual is for two people, same address,
 one newsletter)
 International Membership \$25.00 per year



Have You Moved?

If you have moved or recently changed your address, please let us know your new address so that you can continue to receive your newsletter without interruption. Send it to membership – USPS or email address : (PO Box 126127, San Diego, CA 92112-6127 or sdes_roster@hotmail.com)

**Details of How To Become A
 Volunteer at the Safari Park**

can be found on our website: SanDiegoEpi.org .
 Click on "Safari Park", then click on "Epi House", then
 "Volunteer".

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General membership meetings are held
on the second Wednesday of each month
at 7:30 p.m. in Room 101,
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

November 12, 2014

SDES Board Meetings are usually held
on the fourth Wednesday of each month.
Due to the holiday season, the November Board Meet-
ing will be rescheduled. The date and time will be an-
nounced at the General Meeting on November 12.