

# On the Dry Side

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society

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## President's Message

The Society is definitely gearing up for its Fall Show & Sale! We have included a full-page flyer for this event, suitable for printing and sharing with your gardening friends, or just as a reminder for yourself.

Do plan to come to the sale to add plants to your collection. This is a fine time of the year to acquire new and different plants for your garden. You will discover both healthy specimens in familiar and unfamiliar varieties, and attractive prices. Bring your friends and help to make this a successful sale. It will fuel many of the Society's activities for the coming year.

We cannot ignore the Succulent Extravaganza, which happens on the same weekend as our sale. The two events' schedules overlap on Saturday, but they also have separate days, so it will be easy to visit both. You won't need to miss either one of these significant seasonal events.



Echeverias in a Row  
by Paul Albert



Blue Snail Pot  
by Paul Albert

## Save the Date!

### MBACSS Meets

**Sept. 17, 2017**

Gathering @ 12:00

Potluck @ 12:30

Program @ 1:00

### Board Meets

**Sept. 17, 2017**

Board @ 11:00

Members always  
welcome to attend

### Future Meetings

**Third Sundays**

Veterans of Foreign  
Wars, Post 1716  
1960 Freedom Blvd.  
Watsonville, CA

# Minutes of the August Board Meeting

Recorded by Stan Verkler and Edited by Tom Karwin

**Board Members in Attendance:** Naomi Bloss, Jeff Brooks, Tom Karwin, Sharon Luchessi, Sarah Martin, Ruth Pantry, Stan Verkler.

**Board Members Absent:** Naomi Bloss, Linda McNally, Gary Stubblefield, Manson Waters

**Guests:** Ellen Stubblefield,

**Approval of Minutes:** The board approved the minutes of the August meeting, as published.

**Treasurer's Report:** Ruth Pantry presented the current financial report, dated August 20, 2017. Financial reports are available to members upon request.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **CSSA Report:** Ruth Pantry notes that the Society could vote on nominees for the CSSA board. After discussion, the board voted for the incumbents and new nominee P. Huynh (sp?).

- **Program:** Sarah Martin reported plans for upcoming programs: September–Peter Beiersdorfer; October–Russell Wagner; November–TBA; December–Christmas Party (no Mini-Show). Other plans are being developed for the early months of 2018.

Sarah Martin also updated the prospect for the MBACSS joining the San Jose CSS for January 2018 bus trip to the Huntington Botanical Gardens. The SJCSS plans to be at the Huntington on Saturday, January 13, 2018, which is the date of the Desert Forum. Estimated expenses include \$50/person for bus transportation, plus lodging, meals and incidental personal expenses. Organizers are expected to make hotel reservations for participants. The Desert Forum begins at 9:00 a.m., so travel might be scheduled for the preceding day. This would lead to a two-day trip, and increased costs. During the general meeting, Sarah will ask members to indicate interest in participating in this trip to the Huntington.

Jeff Brooks responded to the suggestion to coordinate Mini-Show categories with speaker topics, and to broaden the categories to encourage participation. Jeff agreed with the coordination of categories and recommended adding an “open” category.

- **Sunshine Committee:** Sharon Luchessi reported no current Sunshine actions.

## OLD BUSINESS

- **Education Contribution:** The board agreed to postpone discussion of education contributions, pending results of the 2017 Fall Show & Sale. We are still awaiting Arboretum Director Martin Quigley's indication of items that the Society could donate for development of the succulent collection.

- **2019 CSSA Convention:** Ellen Stubblefield reported on behalf of Gary Stubblefield that we have no new information from the Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society (host of the 2019 CSSA Convention) on the co-hosting role for the MBACSS.

## NEW BUSINESS

- **Fall Show & Sale Publicity:** Sarah Martin provided posters and postcard announcements for the 2017 Fall Show & Sale. Board members attached address labels and stamps to the postcards and Stan Verkler (who brought the stamps) agreed to mail the postcards. Other publicity plans are proceeding as reported previously.

## Social Media

Have you visited the MBACSS website and Facebook page recently? They add to our Society's visibility in the world.

Here is the [link to our website](#), which provides good information about the Society (events, meetings, shows & sales, the CSSA, etc.), descriptions of selected succulent genera, and helpful cultivation recommendations. We appreciate the work of volunteer Webmaster Anita Crawley! Please let her know of additions you'd like to see on the site.

Click [here](#) to visit our Facebook page. It complements our website with topical information and interesting bits from Society members and other cactus & succulent organizations and websites. Sharon Luchessi keeps our Facebook page lively, and we appreciate her dedication and creativity!

## Preview of September's Program

## Succulent Tidbits from Around the World

By Peter Beiersdorfer

Peter will introduce succulent plants from lesser seen locations around the world.

The regions visited will include the Rhine Valley of Germany, the Swiss Alps, the Skeleton Coast of Namibia, the highest mountains of Spain, the badlands of Argentina, and the islands off the coast of North Carolina. Each region has its own specialty, such as aeonium forests, Welwitschia rivers, creeping cacti, wild flower meadows, and the world's largest quiver tree forest (Aloidendron dichotomum aka Aloe dichotoma).

The Aloe dichotoma (right photo) is from the Northern Cape Province in South Africa. The biggest forest (14,000 trees!) of these aloes is very close to their southernmost range.



South Africa's Northern Cape Province (in red)



Come to Peter's talk to learn about the other interesting tree!



# In Members' Gardens

Garden Photos contributed by Society Members

Manson & Lynda Waters have shared current images from their beautiful garden in Salinas.



# MBACSS Calendar for 2017

MONTH	PROGRAM	CACTUS MINI-SHOW	SUCCULENT MINI-SHOW
1/15	Jeff Moore's New Book <i>Aloes and Agaves in Cultivation</i>	Any columnar cactus must be 12" or taller	Aeonium
2/19	Martin Quigley: Future Fantasy: The succulent collection at the UC Santa Cruz Arboretum	Mammillaria, Escobaria	Euphorbia
3/19	Brian Kemble: North East Mexico	Rebutia (inc. Sulcorebutia), Echinopsis (Lobivia)	Aloe
4/16	Robin Stockwell New Book - <i>Succulents: The Ultimate Guide to Choosing, Designing and Growing 200 Easy-Care Plants</i>	Ariocarpus, Astrophytum	Haworthia
5/20-21	MBACSS Spring Show & Sale, San Juan Bautista		
6/18	Naomi Bloss Early Days of MBACSS	Ferocactus, Blossfeldia	Kalanchoe
7/16	Kelly Griffin: Agaves	Melocactus	Stapelia
8/20	Country Store	No Mini-Show	
→ 9/17	Peter Beiersdorfer Succulent Tidbits from Around the World	Rhipsalis	Adenium, Pachypodium
9/30 & 10/1	<b>MBACSS Fall Show &amp; Sale, San Juan Bautista</b>		
10/15	Russell Wagner	Echinocereus, Parodia	Echeveria
11/19	TBA	Opuntia, Opuntiads	Gasteria
12/17	Christmas Party	No Mini-Show	

## RELATED EVENTS ELSEWHERE IN CALIFORNIA (AND BEYOND)

This calendar lists CSS shows & sales in central & northern California, major events in southern California, and CSSA events.

101111/14	Desert Forum, Huntington Botanic Gardens, San Marino, CA
4/29-30	Show & Sale, San Jose CSS, Sunnyvale
4/29	Plant Sale, Huntington Botanic Gardens, San Marino, CA
5/6-7	Spring Show & Sale, Sacramento CSS, Sacramento
5/13	Annual Show & Sale, Santa Barbara CSS, Santa Barbara
5/20-21	Show & Sale, Carmichael CSS, Carmichael
5/27-28	Annual Plant Show & Sale, Central Coast CSS, San Luis Obispo
6/3-4	Summer Show & Sale, Fresno CSS, Clovis
6/10-11	Show & Sale, San Francisco CSS, San Francisco
6/30 - 7/2	CSSA Annual Show & Sale @ Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino
7/26-30	CSSA 37 <sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention, Tempe, AZ
8/12-13	31 <sup>st</sup> Annual Intercity Show & Sale at the LA Arboretum, Arcadia
9/2	Succulent Symposium, Huntington Botanic Gardens, San Marino, CA

# Succulent Glory

Photographic Impressions by Paul Albert



©Foto-Gra-fhia-Paul Albert

## Shopping for Cacti & Succulents

The University of California Botanical Garden at Berkeley will hold its 2017 Fall Plant Sale on Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. Members' Sale 9:00–10:30 a.m.; Public Sale 10:30– 4:00 p.m. See lists of ten categories of plants that will be offered by visiting the website for the plant sale by clicking [here](#). This is quite a big and varied sale, and worth the day trip for avid gardeners!

# Succulents on the Move

Article by Martin Quigley, Arboretum Executive Director; Photo by Tom Karwin

It's a chain reaction! The Arboretum's succulent and cactus collections are moving, improving, and coming out of hiding. We have so many beautiful specimens, quite a few rarities, and plants that have needed to be repotted for quite a while. Most of all, we want our specimens to be on view, and enjoyed by all our visitors.

The new boulder wall at Norrie's has been filled with hundreds of small and mid-sized succulents and cacti from our growing area. Linda McNally and her excellent volunteers have been cleaning, culling, propagating, and labeling for many months, including the Grimm *Echeverias* and *Graptopetalums*. *Sedums*, *Crassula*, and several valuable hybrids and cultivars of other genera have joined them on the rocky slope.

The hillside above the Aroma Garden has been undergoing renovation since spring. Old planter timbers have been replaced, and rocks moved around. (The large petrified tree trunk from the Horticulture II Building has also been moved down to the pathside, happy in the sunshine.) Weeding and re-arranging has re-opened new areas for display.

Some of our largest Cactus and Euphorbia are now contentedly in the ground. Extensive collections of Aloe and Agave are planted in generic groupings that will be spectacular in just a few years. The in-ground *Dudleyas* have been amplified with new specimens from Stephen McCabe's collections. While there is still significant work to be done, the hillside looks fresh and the plants are ecstatic.

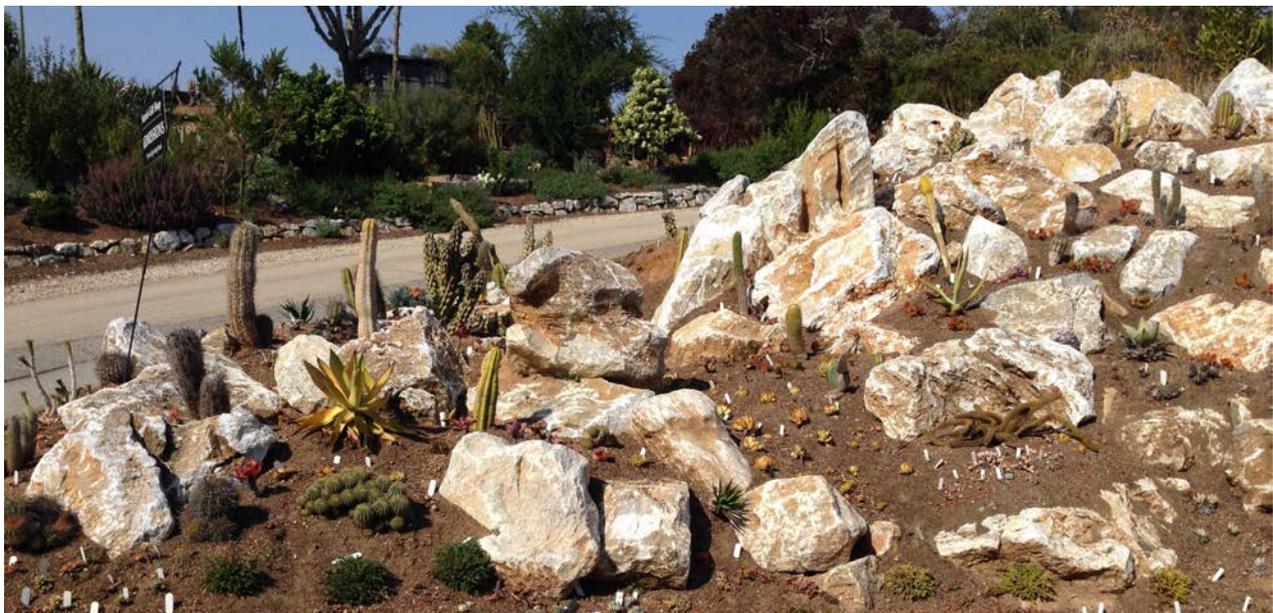
If you haven't visited lately, be aware that our largest century plant, *Agave americana*, is in full bloom on a 18 foot tall spike,

and the mother plant has begun to shut down her leaves, causing them to turn pink and red against the green and white variegation. It's like a dying soprano, singing her last aria at full volume.

Back up in the growing and propagation area, the work area has been renovated with new tables and potting benches (thanks to Leah and Jim Sandman for their wonderful support and labor!). The *Echeveria* house is sparkling, and the most beautiful and rare specimens, especially old *Cactus*, are moving to the south side of the house for a new display area. With the generous support of the Monterey Bay Cactus and Succulent Society, we are installing a viewing area, with a transparent panel protecting our tenderest and rarest plants from frost or theft. The entire length of the hoop house will be visually open.

Meanwhile, Stephen McCabe has been working heroically to inventory, organize and invigorate his years of collections of rare and endangered *Dudleyas*. It's great to bring out so many of his plants for public enjoyment.

At Horticulture II, our *Aeonium* collection has a new display along the building foundation. Along the library windows, the large glazed pots have been filled with drought-tolerant beauties. Altogether, it's been a great summer for the succulents. Please come and see old friends in their new quarters, and meet the new specimens.



This article. From the Arboretum's Bulletin, complements the report in the August issue of On the Dry Side, with more about improvements in the Arboretum's succulent collection. It's definitely worth a visit!

This photo shows about one-quarter of the newly planted boulder wall at Norrie's Gift & Garden Shop, a few steps away from the Arboretum's Aroma and Succulent Gardens. Succulent plants are on prominent display at the Arboretum!

# Officers and Chairpersons, 2017

## OFFICERS

PRESIDENT — Tom Karwin  
 VICE PRESIDENT — Naomi Bloss  
 SECRETARY — Stan Verkler  
 TREASURER — Ruth Pantry  
 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR — Linda McNally  
 AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVE — Jeff Brooks  
 DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE  
   — Gary Stubblefield  
   — Manson Waters  
   — Sharon Lucchesi  
 IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT — Stan Verkler

## CHAIRPERSONS

LIBRARIAN — Suzy Brooks  
 MINI-SHOW — Jeff Brooks  
 NEWSLETTER EDITOR— Tom Karwin  
 PROGRAMS — Sarah Martin  
 PUBLICITY — Sharon Lucchesi  
 RAFFLES — Gary Stubblefield  
 ROSTER — Ruth Pantry  
 SALE — Gary Stubblefield & Lynda Waters  
 SHOW—Naomi Bloss & Janet Sparks  
 WEBMASTER — Anita Crawley

## Members Update

Welcome to our newest member!

Jonelle Verdugo, Salinas

Here's one more of Paul Albert's photographic impressions of the world of cacti and succulents. He created the photographs featured this month during his recent visit to Succulent Gardens, in Castroville.

That nursery's annual Succulent Extravaganza occurs this year on the same weekend as our Fall Show & Sale, with an overlap of just one day. Those who appreciate cacti & succulent could attend both events! For info on the Succulent Extravaganza, click on this link: [2017 Succulent Extravaganza](#).

If you will want to join next year's trip to the Huntington Gardens (January 12 & 13, probably), mark your calendar and be ready to commit to the trip as soon as the arrangement details are finalized. You could always travel on your own but bus seats will be limited in number.

Finally, we welcome your photos of your garden. While we're not strictly limited to cacti and succulents, *On the Dry Side* always favors those plants.

### On the Dry Side

Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society

<http://mbsucculent.org>



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