

# On the Dry Side

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society

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*Echinocereus dasyacanthus*  
 From *The Cactus Explorer*

## President's Message

Now is the time for the Society's great Holiday Party!

Among other special occasions you might have planned during this holiday season, traditionally the MBACSS Party will be an outstanding experience. I encourage you to attend and enjoy this event as well.

Page three of this newsletter includes essential information about the party. As you plan your participation, consider bringing up to three exceptional plants for the Holiday Auction. This is a fine opportunity for you to share good plants that you have enjoyed long enough and now want to free space for new acquisitions. This is also a way to support the Society's good works!

Also plan to bring a favorite side dish or dessert for the potluck luncheon. "Potluck" doesn't really capture the festive quality of this event, which thrives with the creative and flavorful foods brought by our members.

This meeting also will include the brief formality of officially "seating" our board members for the 2018-2019 term, and wishing them well. We will again recognize those who are leaving the board after years of dedicated and effective service. We expect to have them stay active as active members.

We appreciate our reappointed board members, and congratulate them for their leadership and commitment to the Society. At the same time, the board encourages other members to offer their time, experience and skills as members of the board or chairpersons for specific roles. If you feel ready to contribute in these ways, talk to any board member and attend board meetings to learn more about how you could participate.

## Save the Date!

### MBACSS Meets

**Dec. 17, 2017**

Set-up @ 10:00

Potluck @ 12:30

Party @ 1:00

### Board Meets

No Board meeting this month. Every one is encouraged to help with party set-up.

### Future Meetings

**Third Sundays**

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

# Minutes of the November 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, Linda McNally, Ruth Pantry, Stan Verkler.

**Board Members Absent:** Gary Stubblefield

**Guests:** Ellen Stubblefield,

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

**Treasurer's Report:** Ruth Pantry presented the current financial report, dated November 19, 2017. Financial reports are available to members upon request. The financial report for the fall show & sale is pending receipt of final charges. Ruth Pantry advised that she has paid the City of San Juan Bautista for rent of the community hall for the 2018 spring show & sale.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

• **CSSA Report:** Jeff Brooks reported no new information from CSSA.

• **Program:** Sarah Martin confirmed that Ernesto Sandoval is the guest speaker for November. December will focus on the Holiday Party; no speaker or mini-show. Other plans are in development for the early months of 2018.

Sarah Martin also reported that CSS San Jose has discontinued planning for a trip to the Huntington Gardens. She will conduct an informal poll during today's general meeting to assess members' interest in our own field trip possibilities.

• **Sunshine Committee:** Sharon Luchessi reported that Member Carol Chiles passed away. Sharon will make inquiries for next of kin contact information. Sharon has sent a "get well soon: card to Member Elton Roberts, who is recovering from surgery.

## OLD BUSINESS

• **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 MBACSS's role as co-host of the event. Tom Karwin will contact Central Coast CSS for an update on the role of the Society.

## NEW BUSINESS

• **2018 Spring Show & Sale.** Ellen Stubblefield reported on behalf of Gary Stubblefield that he had reserved San Juan Bautista's Community Hall for March 23, 24, and 25, which were the available dates closest to our traditional schedule for this event. Ruth Pantry has paid the facilities rental fee for these dates. The board discussed the need to plan for alternate sites.

• **Board Election for 2019–2019.** The board reviewed the nominations reported by Nominating Committee Chair Stan Verkler and included in the November issue of *On the Dry Side*. Jeff Brooks withdraw himself from slate, indicating that his work responsibilities limit his time for board participation. He will continue as Mini-Show Chairperson. The board will recruit Jorge Quiñonez to serve on the board as CSSA Affiliate Representative. Jeff Brooks agreed to orient him (or another person) to the responsibilities of that role. The board also discussed the desirability to recruit other members to serve on the board, and mentioned possible candidates.

• **Allocation of Tables for Sales.** The board discussed Linda McNally's proposal to clarify the practice of allocating tables to vendors for the spring and fall sales. The board agreed in concept that the Society should (1) establish a maximum number of tables to be allocated initially upon each vendor's request and (2) conduct a lottery to allocate tables that are available after (a) all vendors have received their requests (up to the maximum) or (b) a vendor does not attend the sale or has a reduced need for tables due to sales or other reasons. Tom Karwin and Linda McNally will draft this approach for board approval.

• **Holiday Party Arrangements.** The board discussed the need for volunteers to support aspects of the Holiday Party:

- bring two cooked & sliced turkeys and 2 cooked & sliced hams (with reimbursement by the Society);
- purchase and bring gift items to be raffled during the program (with reimbursement by the Society)
- bring up to three plants for the Holiday Auction (plant owners may donate plants or retain 75% of the sale price)
- bring potluck side dishes and/or desserts
- help with the set-up, starting at 10:00 a.m.

Linda McNally will contact Lynda Waters to chair the gift team, as she has for previous Holiday Parties.

Tom Karwin will include the auction guidelines and all Holiday Party plans in *On the Dry Side's* December issue.

**Adjournment.** The board meeting was adjourned at 12:00 or shortly thereafter.

## Holiday Party, December 17, 2017



The Holiday Party set-up will begin at 10:00 a.m. Members are invited to lend a hand in setting up tables and chairs and accomplishing the several small tasks needed to convert our meeting space into a festive setting.

We are all grateful for the members who help to make this event happen. Many hands make light work!

The Society will provide turkey and ham for the feast. All members are asked to bring a favorite holiday side dish or dessert, with servings for 8-to-10 guests.

Remember that we will convene formally at 11:00, and plan to enjoy a festive potluck at 11:30. This will be followed by our holiday raffle and live auction.

The Society will provide plants for the raffle and the ever-popular table favors. Remember that those who have paid their 2018 dues by the date of the

holiday party will be included in the raffle of an exceptional plant. This is a nice incentive —on top of membership's many benefits—to pay your dues on time.

For the live auction, we invite each member to bring up to three plants. These should be special plants, something you are proud to pass on to another cactus or succulent collector. Perhaps you have long enjoyed some plants and now want to make room for new treasures. Your well-grown plant might inspire another member to create a new record for the live auction.

Providers of plants and the Society will share the proceeds of the live auction on a 75%–25% basis. If they choose to do so, providers are invited to donate their plant to the Society, and not require a share of the auction proceeds. No pressure!

## Look at a Book

Acquisition reported by Suzie Brooks, with Puffery from Amazon.com

The latest addition to the Society's lending library is the very recently released book, *Success with Succulents: Choosing, Growing, and Caring for Cactuses and Other Succulents* (Cool Springs Press, 2017), by John Bagnasco and Bob Reidmuller

### Amazon.com

Loved the world over for their unique beauty and lower maintenance requirements, *Success with Succulents* shows you how to get the most out of your desert dwellers.

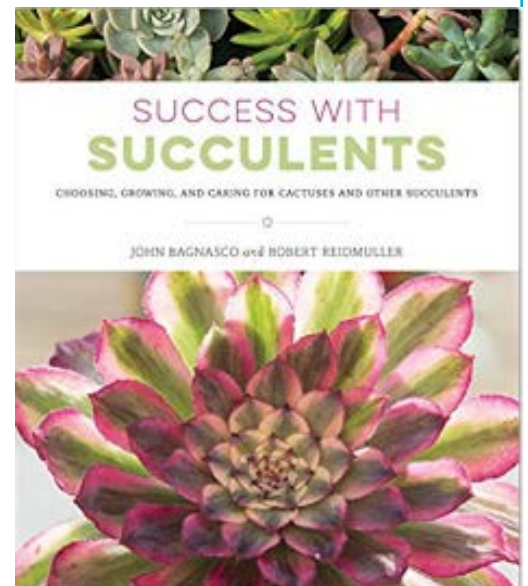
Cactuses and other succulents are wildly popular in homes the world over, regardless of climate. They're resilient, beautiful, and easy to care for as long as you know what you're doing. Whether you live in a warm, dry climate and want to grow a whole cactus garden outdoors or you'd like to add one of these alluring species to your indoor windowsill, this book has what you need to pick the perfect plants for you and make them thrive.

*Success with Succulents* is filled with both well-known and unusual species of cacti and succulents, as well as tips and techniques for caring for these water-sipping species indoors and out.

Learn everything you need to know about growing succulents! *Success with Succulents* also includes more than 100 plant profiles, with details that will help you succeed in gardening prickly and waxy varieties of all kinds.

With this all-inclusive guide, you'll get all the information you'll need on:

- Color combinations
- Sizes and shapes
- Placement and ideal soil selection
- Container growing
- Watering
- Fertilizing
- Grooming
- Propagation





# November's Mini-Show Winners

Reported by Jeff Brooks, Photographs by Fred Valentine



## Cactus - Opuntia

Adv. — *Opuntia pycnantha margarethae* — Ellen Stubblefield (r)

Int. — *Opuntia argentina* — Ellen Stubblefield (above left)

Int. — *Opuntia* sp, crest — Pat Boylan (above right)

## Succulent - Gasteria

Adv. — *Gasteria* (variegated) — Ellen Stubblefield (below left)

Int. — *Gasteria* — Pat Boylan (below (below right)

Nov. — *Gasteria*— Shirley Amadon (below center)



# October's Mini-Show Winners

Reported by Jeff Brooks

## Dish Garden

- 1) Lila Rampone
- 2) Jeannie Echenique

## Novice Cactus

- 1) Yolanda Borges—Echinocereus rigidissimus var. rubrispinus

## Intermediate Cactus

- 1) Pat Boylan—Parodia leninghausii
- 2) Pat Boylan—Parodia magnificus

## Advanced Cactus

No Entries

## Novice Succulent

- 1) Yolanda Borges—Echeveria agavoides hybrid
- 2) Yolanda Borges—Echeveria agavoides Tie
- 2) Mary Cross—Echeveria sp. ruffled form Tie

## Intermediate Succulent

- 1) Suzy Brooks—Echeveria gibbiflora 'Costa Mesa'
- 2) Pat Boylan—Echeveia setosa 'Goochie'
- 3) Pat Boylan—Echeveria gibbiflora frilled form

## Advanced Succulent

- 1) Jeannie Echenique—Echeveria Perle Von Nurnberg
- 2) Jeff Brooks—Echeveria 'White Rose'
- 3) Jeff Brooks—Echeveria 'Lola'

# Online Resources - Cactus Explorer

The November 2017 issue of The Cactus Explorer (No, 20) is now on line for downloading free of charge!

This periodical is published by The Cactus Explorers Club, which is in England, and created by an editorial team organized by Graham Chapman.

The current issue includes fifty-eight pages of articles and "regular features." This issue's articles are as follows:

- The Deserts of the Southwestern United States: An easy cactus paradise
- Travel with the Cactus Expert (19<sup>th</sup> installment)
- Aeonium goodii: A succulent which never existed
- Resources of the CSSA Archives

Each issue includes the following regular features:

- Introduction
- News and Events
- In the Glasshouse
- Journal Roundup
- On-line Journals
- The Love of Books
- Succulents on a Plate
- Society Pages
- Plants and Seeds for Sale
- Books for Sale

These pages display advertisements for organizations, publications, plants, seeds, books, etc. that are offered by groups throughout the world. This information is included without charge to the vendors or other sources. *The Cactus Explorer* serves as a unique channel for contact with many often very specialized cactus & succulent resources.

To download this and earlier issues of The Cactus Explorer click [HERE](#). This publication will open your awareness to the worldwide community of cactus & succulent enthusiasts.



# 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	MBACSS Fall Show & Sale, San Juan Bautista		
10/15	Russell Wagner	Echinocereus, Parodia	Echeveria
11/19	Ernesto Sandoval: Growing and Propagating Hardy Aloes in Northern California	Opuntia, Opuntiads	Gasteria
➔ 12/17	Christmas Party	No Mini-Show	

## RELATED EVENTS ELSEWHERE IN CALIFORNIA (AND BEYOND)

1/14	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



## In Memoriam

Ruth Bancroft was not a member of our society, but we memorialize her passing as a long-time advocate for the cultivation, preservation and display of cacti and succulent plants, and as an inspiration for untold numbers of experienced and novice gardeners of these plants. In this ways, Ruth embodied the mission of the Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society, and of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America. The following tribute is from [The Ruth Bancroft Garden website](#).

### The Ruth Bancroft Garden



On behalf of The Ruth Bancroft Garden and the Bancroft family, we are saddened to announce the passing of our beloved founder, Ruth Bancroft. Ruth, who was 109 years of age, died at home surrounded by family, and by the extensive, amazing private and public gardens she created and tended over 76 years of her lifetime.

Mrs. Bancroft gained international recognition for her pioneering work in horticulture, demonstrating that a dry garden in the heart of a busy urban, inland corridor could be lush, diverse, and striking in design. Her garden was the inspiration for the founding of The Garden Conservancy in 1989, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving private gardens for public use. The Ruth Bancroft Garden was its first preservation project in 1992

An all-day celebration of Ruth's life will be held in the Garden on: Saturday, Feb. 17th, 2018. Open to the public

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in honor of Mrs. Bancroft be directed to benefit the mission of The Ruth Bancroft Garden, Inc. at [1552 Bancroft Road, Walnut Creek, 94598](#).

## Officers and Chairpersons, 2018

### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT — Tom Karwin  
 VICE PRESIDENT — Naomi Bloss  
 SECRETARY — Stan Verkler  
 TREASURER — Ruth Pantry  
 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR — Linda McNally  
 AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVE — Jorge Quiñonez  
 DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE  
 — Gary Stubblefield  
 — Sarah Martin  
 — 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 two new members who joined recently. We're glad to have them join us!

Susie Wheeler  
 Melissa Carruthers

### Field Trip Planning

As reported during the November meeting, the San Jose CSS is no longer planning a trip to the Huntington gardens. We were going to partner with them to share travel costs, etc., but we now are thinking about our own field trips to the Huntington Gardens, the Ruth Bancroft Garden, U.C. Davis's Botanical Conservatory, or other sites of interest to members.

We welcome your ideas and preferences for such outings. Talk to Program Chair Sarah Martin or any other board member.



*Echinocereus triglochidiatus* ssp. *Mojavensis*, an old flowering clump found at 1560m elevation south of Sigurd, Utah.  
 Image from *The Cactus Explorer*.

### On the Dry Side

Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society  
<http://mbsucculent.org>

