

On the Dry Side

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society

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Presidents Message

We are now into the season of spring, when plants –and weeds– grow vigorously and the weather inspires our gardening urges.

The schedule for our Spring Show & Sale was earlier than usual this year, but the timing apparently was right relative to seasonal interest in new plants: the turnout was good, and sales seemed satisfying to our many customers and rewarding for MBACSS’s propagating members. We’ll learn more about the results as the financial dust settles.

Many thanks to vendors and other members who supported the success of this event. We will thank each one during our meeting, but we appreciate in particular Naomi Bloss, Gary Stubblefield and Sarah Martin.

Our speaker for the April meeting, Ernesto Sandoval, has a timely topic for this spring season: “Succulent Propagation from Seeds” will provide technical information and horticultural inspiration for members who are already engaged in seed propagation, or would be interested in giving a try to real gardening.

Left: Customers at the Spring Show & Sale examining a possible new addition to their garden. Photo by Paul Albert.



Save the Date!

MBACSS Meets

April 15, 2018

Potluck @ 12:30

Gathering @ 12:00

Program @ 1:00

Board Meets

April 15, 2018

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 March Board Meeting

recorded by Mary Cross, edited by Tom Karwin

Call to Order: Tom Karwin, President, opened and chaired the meeting

Board members in Attendance: Tom Karwin, Naomi Bloss, Sarah Martin, Mary Cross, Jorge Quinonez, Gary Stubblefield, Linda McNally, Sharon Lucchesi

Board Members Absent: Ruth Pantry.

There were no guests at this meeting

Minutes of February 18, 2018. There was a discussion about the information in the minutes about the table assignments at the show and sale. It was decided after a discussion that what is in the minutes will stand.

Treasurer's Report Since Ruth Pantry is still in the hospital there was no Treasurer's Report

Chairpersons' Reports

Program Sarah Martin reported that Martin Quigly will be the speaker at the May meeting. Speakers have been obtained through August. Discussion of encouraging members to bring Mini Show Plants coordinated with speakers and their topics. Suggestions for future speakers: John Matthews, Hawarthia expert, John Martinez

Sunshine Committee Sharon Lucchesi reported sending flowers to Ruth Pantry in the hospital. There have been no additional members sick.

Spring Show & Sale. Gary Stubblefield reported he could use help picking up the signs in San Juan. Jorge Quinonez will bring donuts to the show for volunteers on Saturday and Mary on Sunday.

Cash register sales – we will rent registers and use the Square service for the cards with chips for this show.

CSSA. Jorge Quiñonez reported he is still waiting for them to give him more information

OLD BUSINESS

2019 CSSA Conference/ Gary Stubblefield indicated he would ask Rob Skillen our speaker for today if he has updated information.

Educational Contribution (deferred since 8/2017) There was no additional information at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Spring Show & Sale

Naomi Bloss reported the show will be the same as usual. We have Steve McCabe, Roger Lane, and Tom Vincze as judges.

Sarah Martin will work on getting volunteers, who will manage the cash registers and boxes for customers.

Garry will manage the sale receipts, following Ruth's instructions.

We are not making any financial commitments for the volunteer BBQ sales food or music.

Vendors, volunteers get free lunches.

2018 MBACSS Budget

Tom Karwin handed out copies of the budget for 2018, which is based on Ruth Pantry record of 2017 expenses. The proposed budget includes an anticipated surplus beyond expenses. Rather than allocating the surplus at this time the board decided to hold the surplus in case of an issue in the future. The board approved the proposed budget.

The board agreed to discuss during a future meeting the appropriate amount of funds to be held in reserve.

ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Cross, Secretary

MBACSS Spring Sale

Photo by Paul Albert



Panoramic view of MBACSS's 2018 Spring Sale
by Paul Alvert



Preview of April's Program

Succulent Propagation from Seeds

by Ernesto Sandoval



Ernesto Sandoval, Director of the Botanical Conservatory at the University of California, Davis, will speak on seed propagation of succulent plant, drawing on his own experiences and the work of his students.

If you are already into propagation by seed, bring your questions for Ernesto. If you're just toying with the idea, be prepared to be inspired and encouraged!

On previous occasions, Ernesto has brought expertise in the cultivation of succulent plants, lively and entertaining talks, and a fine selection of plants to purchase.

His most recent presentation at the MBACSS was in November 2017, when he spoke on "Growing and Propagating Hardy Aloes in Northern California."

Note: You might recognize the photos on this page from our newsletter announcing that talk! We're recycling!



MBACSS Calendar for 2018

Month	Program	Cactus Mini-Show	Succulent Mini-Show
Jan. 21 st	Joseph Hidalgo: Starting a Collection: Geophytes & Caudiciforms	Any cactus in 6-inch or smaller container	Aloe
Feb. 18 th	Jeff Moore: Soft Succulents	Carnegeia, Ferocactus, Echinocactus	Dudleya
Mar. 18 th	Rob Skillin: Kenya, Land of Tropical Succulents	Copiapoa, Eriocyce	Haworthia, Gasteria, Ruschia, Delasperma
Mar. 24, 25	MBACSS Spring Show & Sale, San Juan Bautista		
Apr. 15 th ➔	Ernesto Sandoval: Succulent Propagation from Seeds	Rebutia, Sulcorebutia	Aeonium
May 20 th	Martin Quigley: Succulents of South Africa	Echinopsis, Sclerocactus, Azetkium	Echeveria
June 17 th	Karen Zimmerman: Aloes	Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Acanthocalycium	Crassula, Kalanchoe
July 15 th	Keith Taylor: (topic?)	Optunia	Agave, Dykia, Puya
Aug. 19 th	Country Store	No Mini-show	
Sep. 16 th	TBA	Melocactus	Sempervivium, Sedum
TBA	MBACSS Fall Show & Sale, San Juan Bautista		
Oct. 21 st	TBA	Parodia (Notocactus), Gymnocalycium	Pachyforms (Caudiciforms, Pachycauls)
Nov. 18 th	TBA	Mammillaria	Lithops, Aloinopsis, Conophytum, Faucaria, Pleiospilos
Dec. 23 rd	Christmas Party	No Mini-show	

Related Events Elsewhere in California (and Beyond)

Note: The CSSA has not yet produced a calendar of related events for 2018, and has not promised to do so. We would welcome a volunteer to contact CSSA affiliates in California to compile their event information.

Additional Resources



49th Annual Carmel Valley
Garden Show
May 5th and 6th
**Cut Flowers Containers
Arrangements**

Silent Auction Live Music Plant Sales
Vendors Photography Contest
Children's Garden Garden Cafe
Saturday Evening Gala

cvgardenclub.org

10 am to 4 pm
Hidden Valley Music Seminars
Carmel Valley Village

©Will Buller

Proceeds benefit Carmel Valley Nonprofits

April's Mini-Show Plants

Selections by Jeff Brook, Information from Wikipedia and Cactus-Art.biz

Cactus

Rebutia, Sulcorebutia

Rebutia is a genus in the family Cactaceae, native to Bolivia and Argentina. They are generally small, colorful cacti, globular in form, which freely produce flowers that are relatively large in relation to the body. They have no distinctive ribs, but regularly arranged small tubercles. They are easy to grow and may produce large quantities of seeds that germinate freely around the parent plant.

The limits of the genus are uncertain as to whether it includes species formerly or currently placed in the genera *Aylostera*, *Cintia*, *Sulcorebutia* and *Weingartia*.

Sulcorebutia is a miniature, clustering species (rarely solitary) that readily forms clumps of many heads

Photo: *Rebutia minuscula* var. *wessneriana*



Photo: *Sulcorebutia rauschii*



Succulent Aeonium

Aeonium (tree houseleek) is a genus of about 35 species of succulent, subtropical plants of the family Crassulaceae. Many species are popular in horticulture. The genus name comes from the ancient Greek "aionos" (ageless). While most of them are native to the Canary Islands, some are found in Madeira, Morocco, and in East Africa (for example in the Semien Mountains of Ethiopia).

The succulent leaves are typically arranged on a basal stem, in a dense, spreading rosette. A feature that distinguishes this genus from many of its relatives is the manner in which the flowers bear free petals, and are divided into 6 or 12 sections. Each rosette produces a central inflorescence only once, and then dies back (though it will usually branch or offset to produce ensuing rosettes).

Photo: *Aeonium tabuliforme* bearing inflorescence



March's Mini-Show Winners

Reported by Jeff Brooks

Dish Garden:

- 1) Jemma Argabrite
- 2) Mary Ann Rawlings

Novice Cactus:

- 1) Jemma Argabrite- *Eriosyce occulta*
- 2) Jemma Argabrite- *Eriosyce napina*

Novice Succulent:

- 1) Mary Ann Rawlings- *Haworthia* Hybrid
- 1) Jemma Argabrite- *Haworthia truncata*
- 3) Mary Ann Rawlings- *Haworthia fasciata*
- 3) Jemma Argabrite- *Gasteria* sp.

Intermediate Cactus:

- 1) *Copiapoa hypogaea*- Suzy Brooks
- 1) *Copiapoa laui*- Linda McNally
- 3) *Copiapoa* sp.- Pat Boylan

Intermediate Succulent:

- 1) *Gasteria* Hybrid-Suzy Brooks
- 2) *Haworthia* sp.- Pat Boylan
- 3) *Haworthia* sp, variegated- Pat Boylan
- 3) *Haworthia* sp.- Suzy Brooks

Advance Cactus:

- 1) *Copiapoa dealbata*- Stan Verkler
- 2) *Copiapoa militaris*- Stan Verkler

Succulent Advance:

- 1) *Ruschia* sp.- Linda McNally
- 1) *Haworthia truncata*- Ellen Stubblefield
- 3) *Haworthia truncata*- Jeff Brooks

Note: We have fine photographs by Fred Valentine of these winners, but because of technical problems we could include these photos in this newsletter. We'll hope to include them next month!

Officers and Chairpersons, 2018

OFFICERS

- PRESIDENT — Tom Karwin
- VICE PRESIDENT — Naomi Bloss
- SECRETARY — Mary Cross
- 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 — Sarah Martin, Sharon Lucchesi
- RAFFLES — Gary Stubblefield
- ROSTER — Ruth Pantry
- SALE FLOOR MANAGER— Gary Stubblefield
- SALES LIAISON — Sarah Martin
- SHOW—Naomi Bloss & Janet Sparks
- WEBMASTER — Anita Crawley

What are They Thinking?

Innovation in the marketplace contributes to the vigor of the U.S. economy, so there's nothing wrong with this picture in that sense.

On the other hand, including plants like these in your garden might work as an April Fools prank, but IMHO they would not add to the landscaping or the gardener's reputation.

If you have thoughts about these plants, please send them in for sharing through this newsletter.

Notice that we are not reporting the garden center where these plants were encountered.



On the Dry Side

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