

# On the Dry Side

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society

## President's Message

We will see summer's official first day on June 21<sup>st</sup>, a few days after our June meeting. Remember, your plants will do well during these warm months if you irrigate them occasionally.

Last month, our message to members was that we will need two volunteers to serve on the board as, respectively, membership chairperson and treasurer. I am very pleased to report that members have stepped forward to meet these important responsibilities. The board will consider approving these nominees during its June meeting, and we expect to announce their appointments during our general meeting.

At the same time, we will voice our appreciation for two board members that are stepping down from these positions. Ruth Pantry has been the Society's treasurer for a very long time, and has provided extraordinary commitment and expertise throughout her tenure. She will continue her valuable role as our organizational memory!

Linda McNally has been the Society's membership chairperson for a shorter period, but has both provided her skills to that task and contributed to board discussions thoughtfully and congenially. Even as she increases her work commitments, we welcome her continued engagement with the Society.

Our bylaws provide for members to elect board members in off-numbered years, and for the board to appoint members to fill any vacancies that occur between scheduled elections. Our next election will be in November of 2019, so the current appointments will be close to 1.5 years.

As always, the members ensure the Society's success!

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### Save the Date!

#### MBACSS Meets

**June 17, 2018**

- Gathering @ 12:00
- Plant Sale @ \$12:15
- Potluck @ 12:30
- Program @ 1:00

#### Board Meets

**June 17, 2018**

- Board @ 11:00
- Members always welcome to attend

#### Future meetings

**Third Sundays**

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



Aloe 'DZ' (Zimmerman)

# Minutes of the May Board Meeting

**Call to Order:** Tom Karlin called the meeting to order.

Board members present: Naomi Bloss, Tom Karwin, Sharon Lucchesi, Sarah Martin, Jorge Quinonez, Gary Stubblefield

Board members absent: Ruth Pantry, Stan Verkler

Guests: Jeff Brooks, Linda McNally

**Minutes of April 15, 2018:** The minutes for the April 15 meeting were accepted as written by Mary Cross and edited by Tom Karwin. Tom Requested that Mary include in the minutes the names of folks who volunteer to do things as a way to keep track.

**Treasurer's Report:** There was no Treasurer's report because Ruth is still in the rehab facility and no one else gets copies of the bank statements.

## Chairpersons' Reports (information)

**Program** Sarah Martin: had no additional information to report.

**Sunshine Committee:** Sharon Lucchesi reported there are no new members who are sick

**Spring Sale:** Gary Stubblefield reported that there were two mistakes with the money systems.

**CSSA:** Jorge Quiñonez has copies of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Show and Sale for the CSSA, plus exhibitor tags.

## Old Business (Reports)

**2019 CSSA Conference:** Gary Stubblefield reported there is no additional information available about this conference.

## New Business

**Board Positions to be filled.** We need at least an interim treasurer, pending Ruth Pantry's absence. We also need a new membership chairperson, since Linda McNally has resigned. Tom Karwin will call for volunteers, and will seek access to Ruth Pantry's membership and financial files. Linda McNally will describe duties of the membership chairperson.

**Reserve Fund Discussion:** Tom was not ready to provide the materials needed to plan for reserve funds, but discussion indicated some changes (e.g., to pay for a larger venue for shows) might require an increase in membership fees. Jorge will explore school venues in Salinas. Other ideas were: Soquel High School or other school facilities, the Portuguese Hall in Watsonville, having a mini-sale at the VFW Hall, members (as the Club) could participate in various farmers markets. Tom will contact Maggie Barr regarding participating in Farmers Markets.

The Board approved purchase of an electric kettle for hot water so it will not be necessary to bring a big pot each month to the meeting.

Board affirmed our intension to limit the beginning of the sale of plants by speakers who bring plants for sale to 12:15. Jeff Brooks was suggested as the sergeant at arms to administer the 12:15 deadline.

Jeff Brooks confirmed a date for club members to tour Monterey Bay Nursery, 2652 San Juan Rd., Aromas (at Carpenteria and San Juan Rd.) to see the current inventory of plants. The date is June 23, 9:00 to 11:00 am. Jeff will give a short talk during the visit.



## Direction to Monterey Bay Nursery

From points north: Take Watsonville's Main Street South to Pajaro; turn left on San Juan Road Road; continue 9.6 miles to 2652 San Juan Road (at Carpenteria).

From points south: Take Highway 101/156 north; take exit toward San Juan Road (G11); turn left on San Juan Road; continue 1.6 miles to 2652 San Juan Road (at Carpenteria).

Preview of June's Program

# Aloes On My Mind: Exploring Aloe Hybrids One Generation at a Time

by Karen Zimmerman



Bottom left: Aloe 'Gargoyle'  
Bottom right: Aloe 'DZ'  
Other plants: new hybrids under evaluation

## Summary of the Talk

I start with an overview of the genus aloe; distribution and diversity of species. I go through a short tutorial on pollinating and seed production. I talk a little about the work of hybridizers up to the present, with a special mention about Kelly Griffin, who was my inspiration to try my hand at hybridizing. I show parent plants and offspring, including some that became good enough to name and distribute, and others that became disappointments.

Then I show some promising babies and future possibilities.

For more about Karen's plants, see "Fantasy Aloe Hybrids," posted on the [Huntington blog](#).

## Biographical Notes

Karen Zimmerman has loved and grown plants from a very young age, thanks to her grandparents. Succulents became a major passion of hers in 1994, and she has never slowed down.

She has been with the Huntington Library, Art Galleries and Botanical Gardens for 18 years as Succulent Propagator, caring for the many thousands of potted plants in the Desert Collections.

Since 2002, aloe hybridizing became a "hobby" within her job. She still gets that same "Christmas morning" excitement when a batch of new aloe hybrid babies germinates. It's even better when they start to develop some character, often very early with the first true leaf.

Despite careful breeding for specific traits such as color, size or toothiness, unexpected anomalies can appear in any breeding, especially given how complicated these aloe hybrids have become with generations of species and crosses in the mix. The standouts are, of course, the ones she craves!

She has had 10 hybrids published and distributed through the Huntington's International Succulent Introductions (ISI) program, with many more on the horizon.

Photography is another passion that she brings to her work, and has had many photos published in journals, books and a photography magazine.



## MBACSS Calendar for 2018

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

### Related Events Elsewhere in California (and Beyond)

April 29	Huntington Botanical Gardens Plant Sale, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino
May 26-27	Central Coast CSS Show & Sale, Ludwick Community Ctr., 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo
June 2	San Francisco Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale, Golden Gate Park Recreation Room, 9 <sup>th</sup> & Lincoln Way, SF
June 2-3	Fresno CSS Show & Sale, Clovis Veterans Memorial Building, 808 Fourth St., Clovis
June 9-10	San Francisco CSS Show & Sale, SF County Fair Bldg., 1199 9 <sup>th</sup> Ave., SF
June 30, July 1	CSSA Annual Show & Sale, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino
August 11-12	33 <sup>rd</sup> Inter-City Cactus Show & Sale, Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden, 301 North Baldwin Ave., Arcadia — 9:00 to 5:00
Note	For more related events in southern California, see the <a href="#">San Diego CSS Newsletter</a> .

Thanks to Jorge Quiñonez for gathering information for this section of the Calendar.

# June's Mini-Show Plants

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

## Cactus

### Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Acanthocalycium

**Ariocarpus** is a genus of 8 species of succulent, subtropical plants of the Cactaceae family.

It comes from limestone hills of Rio Grande in the south of Texas (*Ariocarpus fissuratus*) and also the north and the center of Mexico (all other species including *A. fissuratus* forms known as *A. loydii* and *A. fissuratus* var. *intermedius*) with strong sunshine exposures.

Ariocarpus are endangered and quite rare in the wild



*Ariocarpus refusus*

**Acanthocalycium** is a genus of cactus consisting of several species from Argentina. The taxon name comes from Greek *akantha* (meaning prickly) and *kalyx* (meaning buds), which refers to the spines on the floral tubes.

These plants are globose to elongate, with numerous ribs on the spiny stems. Flowers range from white to pink to red and open during the day.

**Astrophytum** is a genus of six species of cacti, native to North America.

These species are sometimes referred to as living rocks, though the term is also used for other genera, particularly *Lithops* (Aizoaceae).

*Astrophytum ornatum*

*Acanthocalycium spiniflorum*

## June's Mini-Show Plants (continued)

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

### Succulents Crassula, Kalanchoe

**Crassula** is a genus of succulent plants containing about 1480 accepted species, including the popular jade plant (*Crassula ovata*). They are native to many parts of the globe, but cultivated varieties originate almost exclusively from species from the Eastern Cape of South Africa.

Crassulas are usually propagated by stem or leaf cuttings. Most cultivated forms will tolerate some small degree of frost, but extremes of cold or heat will cause them to lose foliage and die.

*Crassula capitella* (right), commonly known as the Campfire Plant or Red Pagoda, is a perennial succulent plant native to southern Africa.



**Kalanchoë**, is a genus of about 125 species of tropical, succulent flowering plants in the family Crassulaceae, mainly native to Madagascar and tropical Africa. Kalanchoe was one of the first plants to be sent into space, sent on a resupply to the Soviet Salyut 1 space station in 1971.

Most are shrubs or perennial herbaceous plants, but a few are annual or biennial. The largest, *Kalanchoe beharensis* from Madagascar, can reach 20 ft. tall, but most species are less than 3 ft. tall.

Kalanchoes are characterized by opening their flowers by growing new cells on the inner surface of the petals to force them outwards, and on the outside of the petals to close them. Kalanchoe flowers are divided into 4 sections with 8 stamens. The petals are fused into a tube, in a similar way to some related genera such as *Cotyledon*.

*Kalanchoë blossfeldiana* (right)



# June's Mini-Show Plants (continued)

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

## Speaker's Category: Hybrid Aloes

Here's a new idea! Adding an extra category to the mini-show to align with the guest speaker's topic.

The board's idea is to coordination of a meeting's mini-show with guest speaker's topic for that meeting. That's not always possible, however, because speakers have broad topics, rather than specific genera, and we sometimes confirm speakers and topics too late to announce the mini-show in a timely way.

Our June meeting provides an excellent opportunity to test this idea: our speaker, Karen Zimmerman, is an accomplished hybridizer of aloes, so we have a natural special category for the mini-show.

Mini-show Chairperson Jeff Brooks has prepared the following lists of notable aloe hybrids developed by our speaker, Kelly Griffin, and other hybridizers. If you have any of these plants, or other hybrid aloes, show them off at the June mini-show!

### Karen Zimmerman Aloe Hybrids

'Brown Betty'  
'Chameleon'  
'Dragon'  
'DZ'  
'Gargoyle'  
'Jeff Karsner'  
'Marsha Layhew'  
'OIK' (Griffin?)  
'Princess Jack'  
'Wiley Coyote'

### Kelly Griffin Aloe Hybrids

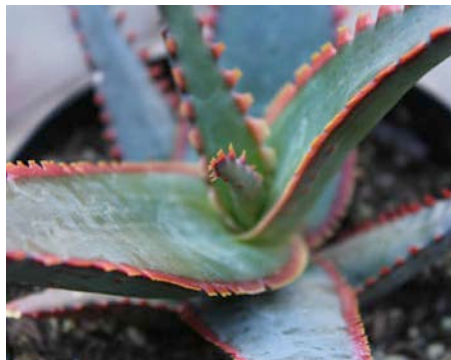
'Bright Embers'  
'Bright Star' (aka 'Donnie')  
'Chainsaw'  
'Christmas Carol'  
'Coral Edge' (aka 'Rocco')  
'Delta Dawn'  
'Fang' (aka 'Marco')  
'Freckles'  
'Green Sands' (aka 'Vito')  
'Latte'  
'Lavender Star'  
'Lime Fizz' (aka 'Franco')  
'Little Gator'  
'Orange Marmalade'  
'Peppermint'  
'Pink Blush'  
'Sal'  
'Silver Ridge'  
'Silver Star' (aka 'Guido')  
'Sparkler'  
'Sunrise'  
'Sunshine'  
'Swordfish'  
'Viper'  
'Yellow Snow'

### Other Notable Aloe Hybrids (Hybridizer)

'Brass Hats' (Bleck)  
'Chrystal' (Wright)  
'Coconut Flakes' (Wright)  
'D. Worth'  
'Doran Black' (Wright)  
'Espresso'  
'Firebird'  
'Little Snow' (Wright)  
'Lizard Lips' (Bleck)  
'Moondance'  
'Quicksilver' (Bleck)  
'Salt' (Wright)  
'Shaved Coconut' (Wright)  
'Snow White' (Wright)  
'Sugar'  
'White Beauty'  
'White 'Croc' (Wright)  
'White Fox'  
'Wunderkind' (Kemble)



Aloe 'Jeff Karsner'  
by Karen Zimmerman



Aloe 'Swordfish'  
by Kelly Griffin



Aloe 'Quicksilver'  
by John Bleck

# CSSA News

## CSSA Board Meeting Highlights April 29, 2014

The CSSA Board of Directors met on Sunday, April 29 at the Huntington Gardens. Final plans were announced for the annual CSSA Show and Sale, June 29 - July 1, also at the Huntington. All succulent enthusiasts are encouraged to attend the CSSA Auction on Saturday night, June 30. The auction will follow a Chile Buffet dinner (\$15.00 per person). Proceeds from the auction support research grants that are awarded by CSSA. Don't forget to wear your club badge for free Huntington admission.

CSSA will honor individuals at the biennial convention in the following categories:

- Fellow (for scholarly contributions),
- Superior Service Award (for exceptional service to CSSA),
- Myron Kimmach Lifetime Achievement Award (service and scholarship), • Conservation Award,
- Friend Award (Community members not active in CSSA who make significant contributions to the hobby).

Affiliates are invited to nominate candidates for board consideration. Please contact Woody Minnich, chair, at [cactusdata@msn.com](mailto:cactusdata@msn.com) for specific award criteria and to make nominations.

Long-time CSSA member Chuck Staples has created a database of Journal articles since 1980 which is available on the CSSA website under "Archives." There's a great deal of information here and we encourage members to check it out.

Tim Harvey has compiled all of the Journal articles about Aloes and has published them in a new CSSA book that will be available at the CSSA show.

Plans are proceeding for the biennial convention, to be held July 16 - 21, 2019 in San Luis Obispo with all speakers and official functions on Thursday, July 18 through Saturday, July 20. The convention theme will aptly be "Succulents: Conserving our Treasures."

Local field trips will be coordinated before and after the speaker days.

The next CSSA Board meeting is open to all members. It will be held at the Huntington Gardens at 5:00 on June 30, just prior to the Chile Buffet dinner. Please consider joining us!

## Related Announcements

At the annual general meeting of the membership to be held at 5pm at the Huntington during the CSSA annual show and sale we will be nominating candidates for the position of president or other board positions. If you have anyone you would like to nominate, please let us/me know so that name can be added to the list.

We are looking also for candidates for the Honors awards that CSSA gives for superior service. If anyone in your club is deserving of such an honor, please let me/us know.

CSSA Board Member M.A. Bjarkman ([mabahp@aol.com](mailto:mabahp@aol.com))

## THE CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA

### 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Show and Sale



SALE: Friday June 29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2018  
SHOW: Saturday 10 am to 5 pm & Sunday 10 am to 5 pm

at  
**THE HUNTINGTON**  
Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA  
626.405.2100  
[www.cssashow.com](http://www.cssashow.com)

Hundreds of award-winning plants will be on view as the Cactus and Succulent Society of America presents its 53rd annual show and sale.

Rare specimens from around the world will be showcased, including plants native to Mexico, Chile, Argentina, Botswana, Madagascar, and the Middle East.

The juried competition will also include categories for photography, paintings, crafts, and dish gardens.

Plants and related items will be available for sale.





# April Mini-Show Winners

Selections by Jeff Brooks, Photos by Fred Valentine



Dish Garden (tie)  
Lila Rampon



Dish Garden (tie)  
Bill Ashen



Aeonium 'Kiwi'  
Yolanda Borges (Novice Succ. #1)



Aeonium arborescens  
Pat Boylan (Int. Succ. #1)



Rebutia heliosa  
Pat Boylan (Int. Cactus #1)



Aeonium crest  
Linda McNally (Adv. Succ. #1)



Sulcorebutia augustinii  
Jeff Brooks (Adv. Cactus #1)



Aeonium 'Blushing Beauty'  
Gary Stubblefield (Adv. Succulent #2)



# Officers and Chairpersons, 2018

## OFFICERS

PRESIDENT — Tom Karwin  
VICE PRESIDENT — Naomi Bloss  
SECRETARY — Mary Cross  
TREASURER — Ruth Pantry  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR — Karen Valentine (nominee)  
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

## Member Updates

Welcome to these new members.

Peter and Jan Shaw, Aptos  
Nancy Thomsen and Dave Novarina, Salinas  
Renee Palmer and Tom Laxton, Santa Cruz

We're pleased to have them bring their gardening experience and enjoyment of cacti and succulents to our meetings and other activities.

We can all learn together about these fascinating plants.

We can also benefit from the plant sales at each meeting, when our guest speakers bring a selection of plants. Beginning with the June meeting, we will schedule these sales to begin at 12:15, and discourage Early Birds. We are impressed by some members' eagerness to add special plants to their collections, but in the interest of fair play, please respect the sale schedule.

*Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.*



*Lobivia tegelana*

## On the Dry Side

Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society

<http://mbsucculent.org>