

On the Dry Side

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society

President's Message

We are pleased to report that our 2018 Fall Show & Sale was a rousing success. Our publicity efforts worked quite well, due to a lot of participation by members, our vendors turned out with a fine selection of plants for sale, and our show was outstanding. (See the photos of People's Choices in this issue of *On the Dry Side*.) We are particularly grateful for the volunteer work that made this event work so well.

The good news of course is that the MBACSS show & sale fuels out programs throughout the year. We work together so every member benefits!

We are already thinking about the 2019 Spring Show & Sale, partly to build on the multi-faceted publicity initiatives that worked so well this time.

For that event, we need to recruit a new Sale Chair. If you're interested in helping out in this way, let any board member know. We can provide full details of the role for this important position. It's really not overwhelming, but it requires the leadership of one of our members.

We are also recruiting for a Membership Chair. Our current chairperson, Karen Valentine, will continue her great work through this calendar year, but her family responsibilities require that she hand this task to another member. Again, she can provide all you need to know for this assignment. Let her or another board member of your interest.

We are now gearing up for our Holiday Party, which will occur at the time of our regularly scheduled meeting for December. We always welcome volunteers, and will announce openings during our November meeting.

The Holiday Party, as always, will include a live auction of exceptional plants provided by members. Details to follow in the December newsletter.

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People's Choice Winner #1
Boophone dispicha
by Gardener's Home

Save the Date!

MBACSS Meets

Nov. 18, 2018

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

Board Meets

Nov. 18, 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 October Board Meeting

Reported by Jorge Quiñonez & Tom Karwin

Tom Karwin, President, called the meeting to order

Members present: Tom Karwin, Jorge Quiñonez, Karen Valentine, Sarah Martin, Sharon Lucchesi, Gary Stubblefield

Minutes of the September 16, 2018 meeting were accepted as written

Chairpersons' Reports

Treasury: Lidia Hernandez her financial report of the Fall 2018 Show & Sale. The net proceeds apparently reached a new record, pending possible minor changes in the records.

Membership: Karen Valentine reported that she has completed the update of the membership roster. Jorge Quinonez and Sarah Martin will work with Karen to post the roster on Google Drive, and assist access by board members. Karen distributed 78 of the new MBACSS welcome brochure at the Fall 2018 Show & Sale, and signed up new members who joined following the sale. She also reported attendance data at recent monthly meetings.

Sunshine: Sharon Lucchesi reported that member Manson Waters had suffered a mild stroke, and is resting at home. She will send a get-well card on behalf of MBACSS.

Program: Sarah Martin reported that our November program is a presentation by Guillermo Rivera of Plant Expeditions, Inc., on a group trip to Madagascar that he organized.

CSSA: Jorge Quiñonez indicated that the CSSA is preparing to elect its officers.

Old Business

Fall Show & Sale: Gary Stubblefield reported that this event went well, generally, and that volunteers helped to make it succeed. He noted, however, that volunteers were not available for final cleanup and consequently the City of San Juan Bautista claimed our cleaning deposit, which was substantial. The board resolved to recruit a cleanup volunteer (or crew) for following show & sale events.

Fall Show & Sale Publicity: Fall sale was a major success, a new record. The board identified the main contributor to this success was publicity/advertising, which included the following components:

- Social media listings on Next Door, Craigslist, and Facebook
- Announcement in the Monterey Bay Certified Farmers' Markets newsletter
- Public service announcements (PSAs) on local radio stations
- Emails to buyers who signed up at recent shows
- Distribution of "dollar-off" postcards by MBACSS members
- Posting of flyers at local garden centers, etc., by MBACSS members
- Tom Karwin's article in the Monterey Herald and Santa Cruz Sentinel

Having our sale date overlap with the date of the Succulent Extravaganza in Castroville seemed to be unwelcome competition, but Bay Area buyers, travelling by charter bus, stopped at the MBACSS sale in San Juan Bautista, and bought many plants. Ellen Stubblefield promoted this stopover with the San Francisco CSS. Thanks Ellen!

Sarah Martin retrieved the postcard mailing list too late for this event, but ready for future shows & sales. Other promotional actions should include sending timely press releases to nearby CSS newsletter editors, and exploring possibilities for co-promotion with events such as the Succulent Extravaganza and events in San Juan Bautista.

Projection Screen Update: VFW Commander David Anders met briefly with the board regarding the almost-complete installation of the new projection screen. This project is a good collaboration with MBACSS & VFW.

MBACSS Participation in 2019 CSSA Convention: Tom Karwin indicated that the Central Coast CSS has inquired again about volunteers and advertisers for this event. He will mention these interests during the general meeting and include related information in the November newsletter.

New Business

Board Resignation: Karen Valentine resigned as membership chair due to family issues. She provided a letter of resignation indicating an effective January 1, 2019 or earlier, if a new chair is appointed. She also provided a list of the duties of this board position, for reference by applicants. Board members expressed appreciation for her accomplishments as membership chair, and discussed writing and adopting duties for all chair positions.

Spring show: The Spring Show will be April 13 & 14, 2019, again at the San Juan Bautista location. Gary Stubblefield will serve again as floor manager, and Naomi Bloss will serve again as show chair. We will need a sales chair!

Adjournment: Tom Karwin adjourned the meeting at 12:10pm.

November's Program

Expedition to Madagascar

By Guillermo Rivera

Biographical Notes

Guillermo Rivera is originally from Cordoba, Argentina, and currently lives in Sarasota, Florida. He earned his PhD. in botany at the Universidad Nacional de Cordoba.

While working for Cordoba Botanical Gardens, he created Plant Expeditions, a company that specializes in botanical, birding, and natural history tours, mainly in the Southern Hemisphere (Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador, South Africa, Madagascar, and Namibia, but also in the U.S. A., Mexico and Baja California. He is the owner of the company, and its botanical guide. For the last 15 years, he has been dedicated to the organization of tours throughout South America, Mexico, and Africa with emphasis on plants (succulents, bromeliads, orchids), birding, and nature.

About His Presentation

Rivera will describe his recent expedition to Madagascar. He commented about this island as follows:

The island of the big trees.

After two trips to the island I am ready to go back! Journey to the western and southern part of the Island of Madagascar. The island is not only rich in plant endemisms (plants that are only found in this place), but also unusual animals: lemurs and chameleons are almost exclusively found in Madagascar. Among the plants, the genus *Adansonia* is



Adansonia grandidieri (Grandidier's baobab, giant baobab)
Source: <https://www.facebook.com/guillermo.rivera.560>



Didierea madagascariensis (Octopus Tree)
Morombe, Madagascar (Source: Wikimedia Commons)

November's Mini-Show Plants

Selections by Jeff Brooks, Information from Wikipedia

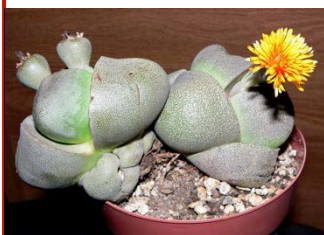
Cactus Mammillaria

The genus Mammillaria is one of the largest in the cactus family (Cactaceae), with currently 200 known species and varieties recognized. Most of the mammillarias are native to Mexico, but some come from the southwest United States, the Caribbean, Colombia, Venezuela, Guatemala and Honduras. The common name "pincushion cactus" refers to this and the closely related genus Escobaria.

The first species was described by Carl Linnaeus as Cactus mammillaris in 1753, deriving its name from Latin mammilla, "nipple", referring to the tubercles that are among the distinctive features of the genus. Numerous species are commonly known as globe cactus, nipple cactus, fishhook cactus or pincushion cactus though such terms may also be used for related taxa, particularly Escobaria.



Mammillaria spinosissima



Pleiospilos is a [genus](#) of the [Aizoaceae family](#), [native](#) to South Africa. The name is from the Greek *pleios* "many" and *spilos* "spot".

Pleiospilos species have two or four opposite, very fleshy, grey-green leaves growing from a short stem that may be underground.

Photo: P. nelii

Succulent

Lithops, Aloinopsis, Conophytum, Faucaria, Pleiospilos



Lithops is a genus in the ice plant family, Aizoaceae, and native to southern Africa. The name is from the Ancient Greek words λίθος (lithos), meaning "stone," and ὄψ (ops), meaning "face."

Photo: [Lithops hookeri](#).



Aloinopsis species have a rather large tuberous root system, and they tend to grow more "heads" when they are raised. Most are winter growers and react badly to too much water at the wrong time.

Photo: A. setifera



Conophytum is a [genus](#) of South African and Namibian [succulent](#) plants that belong to the [Aizoaceae family](#). The name is from the Latin *conus* (cone) and Greek *phytum* (plant).

Photo: C. calculus



Faucaria is a genus of around 33 species of succulent subtropical flowering plants of the family Aizoaceae. The name comes from the Latin word *fauces* ("animal mouth") because of the appearance of leaves.

Faucaria species are native to the Cape Province of South Africa and the Karoo Desert.
Photo: F. tigrina

MBACSS 2018 Fall Show – People’s Choices

Photos by Fred Valentine



1st Place Boophone dispicha
Gardener's Home



2nd place Tephrocactus geometricus
Peter Beiersdorfer



3rd place Adromischus 'Round Leaves'
David & Janet Sparks



4th place Euphorbia obessa-
John, Lisa & Naomi Bloss

MBACSS 2018 Fall Show – People’s Choices (cont’d.)

Photos by Fred Valentine

5th place *Trichocereus camiguensis* crest Peter Beiersdorfer



6th place Backpackers Delight Peter Beiersdorfer



5th place *Aeonium* crest- Home Oasis



6th place *Othonna cyclophylla* Peter Beiersdorfer



MBACSS 2018 Fall Show – People’s Choices

Photos by Paul Albert

7th place *Deuterocohnia brevifolia*
Peter Beiersdorfer



8th place *Ariocarpus* Peter Beiersdorfer



9th place *Haemanthus deformis* Peter Beiersdorfer



4th place *Austrocylindropuntia* ‘subulata crest’
Peter Beiersdorfer



9th place *Aeonium tabliforme* Gardener’s Home



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, Eriosyce	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, Aztekium	Echeveria
June 17 th	Karen Zimmerman: Aloes On My Mind: Exploring Aloe Hybrids, One Generation at a Time (rescheduled)	Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Acanthocalycium	Crassula, Kalanchoe Extra Category: Aloes
July 15 th	Keith Taylor: Staging Pots and Plants to Win Awards	Optunia	Agave, Dyckia, Puya
Aug. 19 th	Karen Zimmerman: Aloes On My Mind: Exploring Aloe Hybrids, One Generation at a Time	Melocactus	Sempervivium, Sedum
Sep. 16 th	Country Store	No Mini-Show	
Sep. 28 th , 29 th & 30 th	MBACSS Fall Show & Sale, San Juan Bautista		
Oct. 21 st	Elton Roberts: The ABCs of How I Grow Ariocarpus	Parodia (Notocactus), Gymnocalycium	Pachyforms (Caudiciforms, Pachycauls)
Nov. 18 th →	Guillermo Rivera Expertionto Madagascar	Mammillaria	Lithops, Aloinopsis, Conophytum, Faucaria, Pleiospilos
Dec. 23 rd	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 th & 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 th Ave., SF		
June 30, July 1	CSSA Annual Show & Sale, Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino		
August 11-12	33 rd 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 San Diego CSS Newsletter .		

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

Officers and Chairpersons, 2018

CHAIRPERSONS

LIBRARIAN — Suzy Brooks
MINI-SHOW — Jeff Brooks
NEWSLETTER EDITOR— Tom Karwin
PHOTOGRAPHY— Paul Albert, Fred Valentine
PROGRAMS — Sarah Martin
PUBLICITY — Sarah Martin, Sharon Lucchesi
RAFFLES — Gary Stubblefield
SALE FLOOR MANAGER— Gary Stubblefield
SALES LIAISON — Sarah Martin
SHOW—Naomi Bloss & Janet Sparks
WEBMASTER — Anita Crawley

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT — Tom Karwin
VICE PRESIDENT — Naomi Bloss
SECRETARY — Mary Cross
TREASURER — Lidia Hernandez
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR — Karen Valentine
AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVE — Jorge Quiñonez
DIRECTORS-AT -LARGE
— Gary Stubblefield
— Sarah Martin
— Sharon Lucchesi
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT — Stan Verkler
IMMEDIATE PAST TREASURER — Ruth Pantry

Members Update

Welcome to our new members!

- Alecia and Atticus Latta, Soquel
- Jeff Schulman, Carmel
- Ruth Aguirre, Hollister
- Eva Lanker, Salinas

It's that time again to collect the yearly dues. Lidia and Karen will be on hand at upcoming meetings to collect your 2019 dues (cash or check please) and verify your contact info, especially your email address. All who pay their 2019 dues before lunch at the December meeting will be entered for a special drawing of plants and other goodies that a gardener would love. If you sign up by mail ask when you arrive at the meeting for your raffle ticket. Send checks to: Lidia Hernandez 628 Victor Street, Salinas, CA 93906

Photo: 2nd place People's Choice Winner
Tephrocactus geometricus
by Peter Beiersdorfer



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