

Volume 33 Issue 11
November 2019

On the Dry Side

Newsletter of the Monterey Bay Area
Cactus & Succulent Society

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Euphorbia millii x
(Crown of Thorns)
by Naomi Bloss

President's Message

Our November meeting has evolved into a busy time!

We will have the familiar activities: potluck lunch, plant raffle, and mini-show, plus voting for a slate of nominees for 2020 officers, and development of a panel discussion that invites interactions among members, and planning for the ever-popular Christmas Party, and opportunities for members to participate in the Society by becoming chairpersons or chairperson assistants.

Please review the information about electing 2020 officers (p. 8) and about serving as a chairperson (p. 3).

Other reminders:

1. Bring your questions about cultivating and propagating cacti & succulents for responses by our panel of experts, and
2. Bring your plants for the mini-show, noting that the cactus category is wide open for "the best from your collection" (6" or smaller) and the succulent category is any plant in the extensive Aizoaceae Family.

For many gardeners, we are in a quiet time of the year, but our Society has a full agenda for this month and next.

The December newsletter will provide up-to-date news about the Christmas Party. We can expect it will include all the traditional activities that members have enjoyed in previous years, particularly the auctions of special plants for your gardens.

I'll see you at the November meeting!

Save the Date

MBACSS Meets

November 17, 2019
Gathering @ 12:00
Potluck @ 12:30
Program: 1:00

Board Meets

November 17, 2019
Board @ 11:00
Members welcome

Future Meetings

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

Minutes—October Board Meeting

Board Members Present: Tom Karwin, Jorge Quinonez, Lidia Hernandez, Mary Cross, Sharon Lucchesi, Naomi Bloss, Gary Stubblefield. **absent:** Stan Verkler, Sarah Martin-Segal

Guest: Lois Nieuwstad

Meeting called to order by Tom Karwin

Minutes, as written in September 2019 newsletter unanimously approved

Chairpersons' Reports

Treasury: Lidia Hernandez reported that numbers for our Fall Show & Sale not yet finalized. CD investment idea tabled, pending more information about signature requirements.

Membership: Mary Cross reported three new members joined during show and sale, there may be more paid memberships with plant purchases. Also, memberships added in October will apply to the following year.

Sunshine Committee: Sharon Lucchesi had Nothing to report

Program: Sarah Martin messaged we do not have a guest speaker for November and suggested a "how to" panel of members for this meeting. The board agreed and will invite members to submit questions to the panel. A future joint excursion with the San Jose Society was discussed, perhaps a trip to U.C. Davis Botanical Conservatory. Jorge Q. will look into this possibility and report back.

CSSA: Jorge Quiñonez reported no new information from CSAA at this time.

Old Business

Bulk mailing Permit: Tom Karwin indicated this permit application will be submitted soon.

New Business

Show & Sale

- **Location:** Mary Cross spoke with Paul Pimentel of the Portuguese Hall in Watsonville. This venue is bigger than San Juan Bautista's Community Hall and could fit more vendors. Large parking lot, closer to many members and customers. The venue is quite active, so we must decide on show/sale dates work out scheduling details.
- **Planning:** We need to recruit a lunch/food prep committee for the show & sale and develop a check list of items required for our show & sale.
- **Show Plant Tags:** Jorge Q. moved that we add "Plant Country of Origin" on plant ID tags to help educate the public further. Sharon L. second the motion, and the board approved it unanimously.
- **Volunteers at 2019 Fall Show & Sale** We are thankful for many members who volunteered to make the show and sale a success, here are some of many standouts: Larry Livermont, Janet Sparks, Jonelle Verdugo, Lois Nieuwstad, Elton Roberts, Sadie & Jerry Heitman. There are more members who helped in many ways—thanks!
- **Volunteer Travel Reimbursement:** Lidia Hernandez requested reimbursement for miles she drove supporting the show & sale. The board approved a one-time reimbursement at the non-profit rate of 14¢/mile, and planned to develop a policy for related reimbursements, given prior approval.

Election of 2020 Officers

Tom Karwin appointed Sharon Lucchesi as Nominating Committee chairperson. Tom Karwin will continue ex officio as Past President. The remaining nine officers will need to be filled for 2020. The following current board members agreed to be considered for reelection: Mary Cross, Naomi Bloss, Gary Stubblefield, and Jorge Quinonez. Lidia Hernandez said she would not continue as Treasurer for 2020.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned by Tom Karwin at 12:15pm

Minutes by Sharon Lucchesi

November's Program

Cultivating, & Propagating Cacti & Succulents

"How-To" Panel of MBACSS's Skilled & Knowledgeable Growers

The formal purposes of the Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society begin with this broad statement:

***Promote a friendly exchange of ideas and information about
the study, collection, culture and propagation of cacti and succulents.***

We pursue this in many ways, and in many of our activities. One of the most frequent pursuits takes the form of illustrated presentations by our visiting speakers. They typically share experiences from their plant hunting expeditions, cultivating and hybridizing, and research & writing about cacti and succulents. The "friendly exchange" often takes the form of extended Q & A sessions following the main talk.

Our guest speaker program will continue in future meetings, but we should develop another important form of friendly exchanges." This approach involves drawing on the expertise of selected members of our Society, and inviting dialogues initiated by questions from our members.

The program for our November meeting will follow this model, with a panel of members who have much knowledge to share, and thoughtful questions of members who seek to improve their skills related to the cultivation and propagation of cacti and succulents.

With this program in mind, take a few minutes to recall concerns about your own gardening of cacti and succulents, and make notes of questions you would like to have addressed by our panel of experts. As always, there are no dumb questions, and we will most value issues of general interest to our members.

November's panel will not be first time we have taken this approach to the Society's first purpose, but with your active participation it could become a frequent interactive feature our monthly meetings.

Call for New Committee Chairpersons

The primary focus of our general meeting in November will be on voting on the slate of nominees for 2020 officers. Very soon after that important activity, the Society should fill vacancies within the list of committee chairpersons. These positions are filled by members who contribute their energies to particular tasks that are essential to the operation of the Society and its activities.

The last page of this newsletter lists the current committee chairpersons. We are hopeful that most of these valuable members will continue to provide their time and energy to their assignments, but we know that at least two of these slots will be open for 2020. Consider if you could enjoy supporting the Society in these positions:

Program Chairperson

Newsletter Editor

The incumbent chairpersons will gladly share their files and their approach to these responsibilities, but new leaders surely will bring their own skills and styles to the tasks. Indeed, we welcome new ideas and perspectives.

In addition, consider whether you would be interested in assisting an existing chairperson. Many hands make light work! Serving as a co-chair or chairperson's assistant helps the organization and provides the experience and confidence for taking on the chairpersonship in the future.

Lastly, there are always possibilities for new chairperson positions, beyond those already listed in this newsletter. The board has already identified a need for a chairperson of the lunch prep committee for the show & sale. You could help in this role, or you could identify new functions for which you could provide leadership. This is your Society, and you can make it work!

MBACSS Calendar for 2019

Month	Program	Cactus Mini-Show	Succulent Mini-Show
January 20	Stephen McCabe: Succulents under threat: Poaching, fires, disease, and climate affecting Dudleyas	Espostoa, Cereus, Pilosocereus, Cleistocactus, Polaskia	Dudleya
February 17	J.D. Wilkert: Amazing Adromischus	Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Aztekium, Discocactus	Aloe
March 17	Brian Kemble – Puyas: Bromeliad Royalty	Ferocactus, Echinocactus, Carnegiea.	Aeonium
April 13–14	MBACSS Spring Show & Sale 10 San Jose Street, San Juan Bautista, CA		
April 21	Stan Verkler – Visit to Namibia	Rebutia, Sulcorebutia, Sclerocactus	Echeveria, Pachyphytum. Pachyveria, Graptoveria, Graptophytum
May 19	Peter Beiersdorfer— Journey to Europe's Hawaiian Islands: Volcanos, Aeoniums, and Super-Sized Daisies off the Coast of Northern Africa	Mammillaria, Melocactus	Gasteria, Haworthia
June 16	Sarah Martin & Suzy Brooks —Hypertufa Pots	No Mini-Show	Epiphyllum, Rhipsalis, Ceropegia, Sedum morganianum, Hattoria
July 21	Woody Minnich—Mexico, The Hidden Treasures of Coahuila and 20 Years in the Atacama, The Land of the Copiapoa	Opuntia, Tacinga, Miqueliopuntia, Cyllindropuntia, Micropuntia	Euphorbia, Monadenium, Jatropha, Pedilanthus
August 18	Country Store		
September 15	Russel Wagner with Sarah Segal—Adventures in Microscopy	Paordia, (Notocactus), Gymnocalycium, Blossfeldia	Crassula, Kalanchoe
October 5–6	MBACSS Fall Show & Sale 10 San Jose Street, San Juan Bautista, CA		
October 20	Ernesto Sandoval—Forms and Functions of Cacti and succulents Inside and Out along with other Desert Dwellers	Copiapoa, Erioseye, Escobaria. Pereskia	Pachyforms (Caudiforms, Pachycaulis)
November 17	Panel of MBACSS Experts —Dialogs based on members' "How-To" Questions	Best of your collection! Must be in a 6" pot or smaller!	Aizoaceae Family: See SucculentGuide.com for qualifying genera.
December 15	Christmas Party		

Plant Raffle Provider Schedule for 2019

JAN Peter Beiersdorfer (42)

FEB Gary Stubblefield (20); Sarah Martin (10)

MAR Jeff Brooks (30)

APR Naomi Bloss(30)

MAY Jorge Quiñónez (15); Stan Verkler (20)

JUN David Kurtz (24-30) epi

JUL Stan Verkler (30)

AUG Stan Verkler (30)

SEP Mary Cross (20)

OCT Sharon Lucchesi (10)

NOV Jorge Quiñónez (15)

DEC- No plant raffle due to Christmas Party

Plant Raffle Provider Schedule for 2020

JAN- Peter Beiersdorfer (35)

FEB- Jorge Quiñónez (35)

MAR- Stan Verkler (35)

APR- Annie Wolf (35)

MAY- Naomi Bloss (35)

JUL- Stan Verkler (35)

AUG- No plant raffle.

SEP- Mary Cross (30)

OCT- Joseph Hidalgo (35)

NOV- David Calibo (35)

October's Mini-Show Winners

Recorded by Jeff Brooks, Photos by Paulk Albert

Dish Garden

1. Sheryl Albert

Novice Succulent

1. Pachypodium lealii Lila Rampone
2. Pelargonium carnosum – Fred Valentine

Intermediate Succulent

1. Senecio kleiniiformis - Suzy Brooks
2. Dioscorea – David Kurtz
3. Trichodiaderma – David Kurtz

Advanced Succulent

1. Pelargonium fergusoniae – Joseph Hidalgo
2. Pelargonium radicum – Joseph Hidalgo
3. Uncarina sp. – Jeff Brooks

Novice Cactus

1. Copiapoa– Fred Valentine

Intermediate Cactus

(no entry)

Advanced Cactus

(no entry)

Novice Succulents

- #1 Pachypodium lealii
Lila Rampone



Novice Succulent

- #2 Pelargonium carnosum
Fred Valentine



Intermediate Succulent

1. Senecio kleiniiformis
by Suzy Brooks



Intermediate Cactus
No Entry

Advanced Cactus
No Entry

Novice Cactus
#1 Copiapoa
Fred Valentine



Dish Garden
#1 "By the Sea"
Cheryl Albert



November Mini-Show

Selections by Jeff Brooks, Images from Wikipedia

Cactus

Best of your Collection!
Must be in 6" pot or smaller



Lithops bromfieldii (Aizoaceae family)



Fenestraria rhopalophylla (Aizoaceae family)



Drosanthemum speciosum (Aizoaceae family)

Succulent

Aizoaceae Family

The Aizoaceae (fig-marigold family) is a large family of dicotyledonous flowering plants containing 135 genera and about 1800 species. They are commonly known as ice plants or carpet weeds. They are often called vygies in South Africa and New Zealand. Highly succulent species that resemble stones are sometimes called mesembs.

The family Aizoaceae is widely recognised by taxonomists. It once went by the botanical name "Ficoidaceae", now disallowed. The APG II system of 2003 (unchanged from the APG system of 1998) also recognizes the family, and assigns it to the order Caryophyllales in the clade core eudicots. The APG II system also classes the former families Mesembryanthemaceae Fenzl, Sesuviaceae Horan, and Tetragoniaceae Link under the family Aizoaceae.

The common Afrikaans name "vygie" meaning "small fig" refers to the fruiting capsule, which resembles the true fig. Glistening epidermal bladder cells give the family its common name "ice plants."

Most species (96%, 1782 species in 132 genera) in this family are endemic to arid or semiarid parts of Southern Africa in the Succulent Karoo. Much of the Aizoaceae's diversity is found in the Greater Cape Floristic Region, which is the most plant-diverse temperate region in the world. A few species are found in Australia and the Central Pacific area.

Most fig-marigolds are herbaceous, rarely somewhat woody, with sympodial growth and stems either erect or prostrate. Leaves are simple, opposite or alternate, and more or less succulent with entire (or rarely toothed) margins. Flowers are perfect in most species (but unisexual in some), actinomorphic, and appear singularly or in few-flowered cymes developing from the leaf axils. Sepals are typically five (3-8) and more or less connate (fused) below. True petals are absent. However, some species have numerous linear petals derived from staminodes. The seed capsules have one to numerous seeds per cell and are often hygrochastic, dispersing seeds by "jet action" when wet.

(see SucculentGuide.com for genera of the Aizoaceae)

Membership Renewal - 2020

It's time to think about renewing your membership again. Memberships are for each calendar year.

You could renew your membership by completing a membership form at the monthly meeting and pay your dues (\$15 for one person: \$5 for additional persons) to the Treasurer Lidia Hernandez, or the Membership Chairperson, Mary Cross. Alternatively, you could mail your form and dues to Treasurer Lidia Hernandez, 628 Victor Street, Salinas, CA 93907.

If you renew by the December meeting your name will be entered in a drawing, at that meeting, for a very nice succulent plant.

If dues are not paid by March 1, 2020, your name will be taken off the roster (you will no longer be considered a member of the Society) and you will no longer receive the newsletter.

There are several folks who do not receive the newsletter via email have been provided a hard copy via U.S. mail. This service has added to the Membership Chairperson's volunteer activities and to the Society's costs. The Board voted to continue this practice only through 2019, and to discontinue it as of January 2020.

Members who do not have personal access to the Internet can get a copy of the newsletter from our website (mbsucculents.org), from a member who is willing to make a hard copy on their home computer, or at a public library.

Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society

Membership Application

Memberships are for the calendar year. Dues are payable by January 1st of each year.
 New memberships paid for before January 1st will be active as of the date of payment.
 Memberships paid by the Christmas Party will be included a drawing for a special plant.

Name—primary member: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email (to receive newsletter): _____

Name – additional member (optional): _____
 Email (to receive newsletter): _____

Membership Fee
 Primary Member (\$15): _____
 Primary + Additional Member (\$20): _____

Bring this completed form and your dues payment to a monthly meeting to Treasurer Lidia Hernandez or the Membership Chairperson Mary Cross, or mail the form and payment to Treasurer Lidia Hernandez, 628 Victor Street, Salinas, CA 93907.

Officers and Chairpersons, 2019

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 & SALES LIAISON
 — Peter Beiersdorfer
 SHOW—Naomi Bloss & Janet Sparks
 WEBMASTER — Anita Crawley

OFFICERS

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

Members Update

We have several nominees for the election of 2020 officers. During our November meeting, according to the Bylaws, we will invite additional nominations from the floor and elect the Society's officers for 2020.

Several of the current board members have agreed to continue to serve on the Society's board of directors. Still, as of one week before the scheduled date for this election, we still have openings for president and one at-large director.

We urge members to consider nominating themselves, or others who have agreed to be nominated, for consideration for any of these board positions. Having a complete board adds to its effectiveness and including new leaders adds valuable skills, visions, and perspectives to work. **This is your Society; you can make it succeed!**

To review our Bylaws on this election and the officers' roles, visit mbsucculent.org and click on the "About" link.

PRESIDENT — _____
 VICE PRESIDENT — Naomi Bloss
 SECRETARY — Sharon Lucchesi
 TREASURER — Roger Lane
 MEMBERSHIP CHAIR — Mary Cross
 AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVE — Jorge Quiñonez
 DIRECTORS-AT -LARGE
 — Gary Stubblefield
 — Sarah Martin
 — _____
 IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT — TOM KARWIN

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<http://mbsucculent.org>