



# On the Dry Side

## Club News

Welcome to the newest version of the newsletter. The biggest club news this month is we have a new editor of the newsletter. I am Nancy Thomsen and I volunteered to be the new editor. I have been a member of the club for 2 years and am very much an amateur when it comes to these plants. It was tough as a new member because I didn't know anyone and everyone seemed to be best friends. I found that working the sale was the best way to get to know other members. I have some ideas for the newsletter that may help new members. You will see these ideas in future months. The newsletter look will also change as I get going. If you have any ideas for the newsletter, please share them with me. I attend most meetings.

The other big news is that we have a new venue for our Spring Show & Sale. The Show & Sale will be May 9-10 at the Portuguese Hall right down the street from where we have our meetings - 124 Atkinson Lane, Watsonville. Posters and flyers will be available soon with a map to the new venue. This is Mothers Day weekend and a new venue so we will need many volunteers to help during the weekend. Come to the March and April meetings to sign up.

Our speaker this March is Rob Skillkin. His will talk about his trip to South Africa. Ron is also having an Open Greenhouse Day at his ranch in Arroyo Grande in San Luis Obispo County on Saturday, April 4 from 10am - 3pm. There will be three large plants raffled and a complimentary taco bar. See the flyer on the Activities page for more information.

### Inside this Newsletter

Club News	1
Speaker	2
Minutes	3
Mini-Show Winners	4
Upcoming Activities	5
Meeting Calendar	6
Upcoming Mini-Show	6
Leadership	7
Raffle Plant Providers	7



# SPEAKER

**Rob Skillkin**



## **The Succulent Flora of Limpopo, KZN and Mpumalanga**

Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga are the 3 provinces of South Africa which comprise the northeastern corner of the country. They are adjacent to the countries of Botswana, Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Swaziland.

The succulent flora there is adapted to a subtropical, summer-rainfall regime and is generally totally different than that found in the winter-rainfall areas in the western portions of the country such as Namaqualand and the Richtersveld. The diversity of succulent flora is very high, and comparable to the western areas.

Rainfall varies from lows of 4 to 8 inches in the very northern tip of the country, to highs over 40 inches in the Drakensberg Mountains, which run parallel to, and inland from the eastern coastline. Rain frequently occurs as thundershowers throughout these northeastern areas.

Temperatures are generally mild; highs ranging from 77 - 90 degree with lows of 45 – 60 degrees. Maximum highs of 113 – 117 are only occasionally felt. It rarely freezes in the winter, except in the Drakensberg Mountains, where snow is possible.

Rob Skillin visited this part of South Africa in November, 2018, and his program will feature euphorbias, aloes, stapeliads, summer-growing bulbs from various different families, adenias, pachypodiums, haworthias and other succulent plants.

# MINUTES

## February Board Meeting

**February 16, 2020 11:16am-12:10pm**

Board Members Present: Joseph Hidalgo, Tom Karwin, Jorge Quiñónez, Roger Lane, Mary Cross, Sharon Lucchesi, Naomi Bloss, Gary Stubblefield. Stan Verkler, absent: Sarah Martin-Segal, Annie Wolf. Guest: Lidia Hernandez

Meeting called to order by Joseph Hidalgo

Minutes, as written in January 2020 newsletter unanimously approved

### Chairpersons' Reports

**Treasury** Roger Lane

Receipts for purchases submitted. Discussion of need for annual budget, Tom Karwin will send necessary information to Roger Lane. Discussion of charitable donations, board will further discuss at March meeting.

**Membership** Mary Cross

Mary Cross reports that all former members (unpaid) were called as a reminder. Expecting some renewals. Also, a roster of members in booklet form to be available at March meeting. Members who do not wish their information be published in the booklet can let Mary Cross know.

**Sunshine Committee** Sharon Lucchesi

Member Katy Bannister, passed on January 29th

**Program** Annie Wolf

Our March meeting, speaker Rob Skillin, topic "Socotra". April: Speaker Rob Roy

**CSSA** Jorge Quiñónez

No new information from CSAA at this time.

**Old Business** No discussion

### New Business:

As written in Treasurer's summary, charitable contributions considerations. Tom Karwin sent a breakdown as to the San Francisco Society's donation. Board agreed to discuss further, and evaluate post Spring show and sale.

Walk through of Portuguese Community Hall was done, still further details to discuss as far as layout.

Tom K will talk with Celeste from the hall to negotiate reduced price for 2021 shows.

Proposed dates for 2021 Show & Sale are: Spring-April 24,25 OR May 8,9. Fall dates:

Sept. 25,26 OR October 2,3

**Publicity:** We need volunteers to help spread the word about new venue. Sharon Lucchesi is working on the social media aspect of publicity, but help is needed. Please contact her [mbsucculents@gmail.com](mailto:mbsucculents@gmail.com).

A review of our Mini-show rules to be discussed at future meeting.

**Newsletter:** Happy to report that Nancy Thomsen has agreed to take on that task. Thank you to Nancy! She will also create a flier for our show and sale.

Meeting adjourned, Joseph Hidalgo-12:10pm

# MINI-SHOW

## Winners for February

### Dish Garden

Tie

1. Jonelle Verdugo
1. Cheryl Albert
- 3.

### Succulent

Novice

1. Cheryl Albert
2. Mary Cross
3. Paul Albert

Aloe Hedgehog  
Aloe Spinosissima  
Aloe Striatula

Intermediate

1. Susy Brooks
- 2.
- 3.

Aloe Haruana

Advanced

1. Roger Lane
2. Jeff Brooks
3. Gary Stubbelfield

Aloe Marshaley  
Aloe Superfoliata  
Aloe Wiley Coyote

### Cactus

Novice

1. Bill Asher
- 2.
- 3.

Ferocactus Tortulispinus

Intermediate

1. Susy Brooks
- 2.
- 3.

Echinocactus Grusonii

Advanced

1. Annie Wolf
1. Jeff Brooks
1. Gary Stubbelfield

Ferocactus Chrysalanthus  
Grusonii White Spine  
Echinocactus Grusonii

Editors Note: I had to transcribe this from quickly handwritten notes. I do not know if these are the correct plant descriptions or if the spelling is correct. Also, I don't have photos as none were taken (since no one knew we would have a newsletter this month.)

# ACTIVITIES

## Upcoming Events



At the Skillin Ranch in Arroyo Grande, San Luis Obispo Co.  
Saturday, April 4, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

- Greenhouse tours
- "Terry's Famous" complimentary taco bar
- Complimentary refreshments
- Sales Plants- everything from starters to show stoppers
- Free raffle at Noon – three plants - free ticket to each attendee

Sorry, no credit cards  
no purchase necessary  
must be present



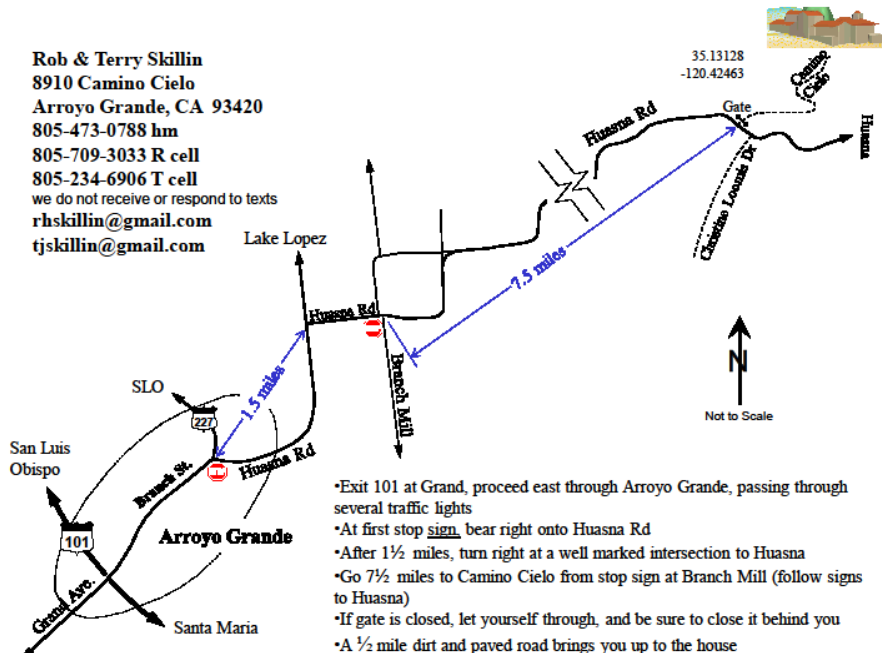
Adenium  
somalense  
23" tall

Dioscorea  
hemicypta  
2 gallon pot

Cyphostemma  
juttae  
15" tall

Call Rob or Terry at 805-709-3033 for information and directions

Rob & Terry Skillin  
8910 Camino Cielo  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420  
805-473-0788 hm  
805-709-3033 R cell  
805-234-6906 T cell  
we do not receive or respond to texts  
rhskillin@gmail.com  
tjskillin@gmail.com





# CALENDAR

## Upcoming Meetings

<b>March 15</b>	Rob Skillkin - <b>The Succulent Flora of Limpopo, KZN and Mpumalanga</b> <b>Cactus -</b> Epiphyllum, Rhipsalis, Hatiora <b>Succulents -</b> Aeonium
<b>April 19</b>	Rob Roy MacGregor – <b>The Resilience of Succulent Plants</b> <b>Cactus -</b> Rebutia, Sulcorebutia, Sclerocactus, Pediocactus <b>Succulents -</b> Echeveria, Pachyphytum. Pachyveria, Graptoveria, Graptophytum. Sedeberia
<b>May 9-10</b>	<b>MBACSS Spring Show and Sale</b> <b>Portuguese Community Hall</b> 124 Atkinson Lane, Watsonville
<b>June 17</b>	<b>Cactus -</b> Parodia (Notocactus), Melocactus, Umbelmannia <b>Succulents -</b> Crassula, Kalanchoe, Sinocrassula
<b>July 19</b>	<b>Cactus -</b> Copiapoa, Eriosyce, Escobaria, Eulychina <b>Succulents -</b> Euphorbia, Monadenium, Jatropha, Pedialanthus
<b>August 16</b>	<b>Country Store</b> <b>No Mini-Show</b>
<b>Sept 20</b>	<b>Cactus -</b> Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Azetekiium, Pelecyphora <b>Succulents -</b> Stapelia (Orbea), Hoodia
<b>October TBA</b>	<b>MBACSS Fall Show &amp; Sale</b> <b>Portuguese Community Hall</b> 124 Atkinson Lane, Watsonville
<b>Oct 18</b>	<b>Cactus -</b> Opuntia, Tacinga, Miqueliopuntia, Cylindropuntia, Micropuntia <b>Succulents -</b> Pachyforms (Caudiforms, Pachycaulis)
<b>Nov 15</b>	<b>Cactus -</b> Mammillaria, Discocactus <b>Succulents -</b> Aizoaceae Family: See SucculentGuide.com for qualifying genera.
<b>December 20</b>	<b>Christmas Party</b> <b>No Mini-Show</b>

# LEADERSHIP

## Officers and Chairpersons for 2020

### Chairpersons

Librarian - Suzy Brooks  
 Mini-Show - Jeff Brooks  
 Newsletter Editor - Nancy Thomsen  
 Photography - Paul Albert  
                                 Fred Valentine  
 Programs - Annie Wolf  
 Publicity - Sharon Lucchesi  
 Raffles - Gary Stubblefield  
 Sale Floor Manager/Liaison - Peter Beiersdorfer  
 Show - Naomi Bloss & Janet Sparks  
 Webmaster - Anita Crawley

### Officers

President - Joseph Hidalgo  
 Vice President - Naomi Bloss  
 Secretary - Sharon Lucchesi  
 Treasurer - Roger Lane  
 Membership - Mary Cross  
 Affiliate Representative - Jorge Quiñónez  
 Directors at Large  
                                 Gary Stubblefield  
                                 Sarah Martin-Segal  
                                 Sharon Luccesi  
 Immediate Past President - Tom Karwin

## Plant Raffle Providers for 2020

March	Stan Verkler (35)	August	No plant raffle
April	Annie Wolf (35)	September	Mary Cross (30)
May	Naomi Bloss (35)	October	Joseph Hidalgo (35)
June	Jorge Quiñónez (35)	November	David Calibo (35)
July	Stan Verkler (35)	December	No plant raffle