

# On The Dry Side

Dear Succulent Lovers and Fellow MBACSS Members,

As many of you know, our **Holiday Party-Auction** was a big success. Almost 60 members and their guests attended and participated in the gift/plant exchange, Auction, and free Holiday meal. There were many auction plants offered by our members. One plant went for almost \$600! Almost everyone brought a plant or gardening related item to exchange in the gift/plant exchange. Such variety and interesting items! Volunteers for every aspect of the event were terrific: set-up and clean-up, auctioneers, auction clerks, decorators, servers, membership sign-ups, participants who bid on plants, promotions prior to the day, and EVERYONE WORE A MASK to prevent transmission of Covid! Thank you all so very much.

The January membership in-person meeting is this Sunday, January 16, 2022 at 11:30 in the Corralitos Grange Hall. Once again, all participants will be required to wear masks, and the doors will be open and the fans on to provide good ventilations (that means it probably will be cold in the hall so wear warm clothes!)

--Our speaker will be Rob Skillen, who is a well-traveled and well-known speaker and photographer. After his presentation, he will be selling plants from his collection. I've been told he has excellent plants.

--The Mini-Show for members will feature in the cactus category – Stenocactus and in the succulent category – Conophytums. Bring your favorites to be judged by the other members and win raffle tickets.

--Members will be asked to think of things they would like to learn or know about other than through speakers. Are there some issues you would like to learn about, such as: propagation, dealing with insects, pots, summer vs winter growers, identifying the different categories, etc.?

--The Spring Sale and Show will be April 22,23,24, 2022 at the Portuguese Hall, in Watsonville. Planning has begun, and members are asked to consider how they can participate and support this event.

I look forward to seeing you at this meeting. Be sure to wear your mask and bring your name badge. If you don't have a name tag, check with Lyn MacDonald to see if one has been created for you at some time earlier. (New name tags are created whenever a person signs up to be a member.)

Sincerely,  
Mary Louise Cross  
President, MBACSS



# APPROVED MINUTES

Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society  
Board of Directors DRAFT Zoom Meeting Minutes  
December 5, 2021, 11:00 – 12:00  
APPROVED MINUTES

## Call to Order

Mary Cross

There were 9 Board members and 3 committee or general members present. The meeting was called to order at about 11:05am.

## Minutes of November 7, 2021

John Cuzik – edited by Mary Cross

Minutes were approved with spelling corrections suggested by Roger Lane. Mary indicated that the Board is tasked with editing the draft minutes sent out with the agendas prior to the Board Meeting.

## Chairpersons' Reports

### Treasury

Roger Lane

Income: dues \$235, raffle tickets: \$70. Expenses: November Speaker \$150, plant purchased from speaker \$80, December rent \$150, raffle plants \$144, catered meal for December membership meeting \$2,994.20. It was determined to table a new price for raffle plants until the next meeting. We need 30 plants per raffle. (This speaker's plants will be used at the December meeting.)

Tom Karwin committed to sending information to a committee (Tom Karwin, Roger Lane, Lou Falek, Naomi Bloss) concerning exploring the possibilities of changing our bank and for investing a portion of our money in an income earning account recommendation to the board. They will report to the Board at the next meeting.

### Membership

Lyn MacDonald

38 people attended November meeting. There are now 127 MBACSS members, of whom 37 have paid their dues for 2022 so far. Two people quit, due to other over-involvements. She will send the members an email and put a reminder to pay dues at the Holiday party in the newsletter and asked all board members who send out emails to put MBACSS in the subject line, so it won't go into spam or be ignored. A new printed member roster will be available in February.

### Sunshine Committee

Cheryl Albert

Cheryl reported she sent a card to member/co-librarian Mel Foster who had a hip replacement.

### Program

Annie Wolf

Annie was not present. There was a discuss about reimbursements for speakers. It was decided that the reimbursement will be at the rate of \$150 for speakers from within 100 miles and \$250 for speakers over 100 miles. There will be no additional consideration for mileage. It was reported that some members want more practical/hands on workshops not just speakers. It was suggested that a sheet be passed around at the membership meetings asking for ideas of what members want for some meetings next year. Annie will continue to get speakers for us also.

### CSSA

Jorge Quiñonez

It was suggested that Jorge write an article telling our members that MBCASS is an affiliate member and about what CSSA is and what the benefits are to our members. CSSA continues to do a webinar every other Saturday with world renown speakers and experts on Succulent/Cactus. Jorge indicated we could just forward the CSSA newsletter to the members or put a link in the newsletter.

## Old Business

### Election

Mary Cross

There was some membership confusion about the election but in the end, it was an uncontested election with no problems.: President: Mary Cross, Vice-President: Nancy Thomsen, Secretary: John Guzik, Treasurer: Roger Lane, Membership: Lyn MacDonald, Immediate Past-President: Tom Karwin, Directors at large: Figueroa Arnulfo, Mel Foster, David Kurtz, Affiliate Representative: Jorge Quiñonez. Welcome All and thanks for being willing to serve our society

# APPROVED MINUTES

## Continued

Library Jonelle

Verdugo/Mel Foster

Mel reported that they have discovered there are a number of books out that have been out for a long time. He will start contacting them soon to get the books back. Since there are quite a few duplicate copies of the CSSA Journal, it was decided that some of the duplicates will be given to the members each month at the in-person meetings until they are all gone.

VFW Screen

Mary Cross

No progress has been made due to the holidays, covid, etc.

### New Business

Change of By-laws/Mini-Show Rules

Board

There will be a notice in the next newsletter about changing the by-laws to create a permanent position for Naomi on the Board, and it will be voted on at the January membership meeting. Mini-Show Rules will remain the same: Novice (member up to 5 years), Intermediate (member for 5 years or more), Advanced (anyone who has sold at a CSSA event, is a grower, or wishes to be in that category)

2021 Holiday Party Plans

Board

It was decided that plans for the holiday party will continue in spite of the new Covid variant. All attendees must wear masks and volunteers from our group will serve the catered meal (including beverages) for 75 people. Lyn will email all members to ask them to RSVP, so we can get a better count. Mary will keep the RSVP list. Deadline to sign up is Sunday 12/12. Mikes will be there for the auctioneers so they can keep their masks on. Mary indicated she thinks that alcohol is allowed at the Grange Hall. Auction plants need to have a card describing the plant, person's name, minimum bid. The suggested minimum is \$15. Since we have no internet access at the Grange Hall, members are asked to pay by check or cash. Everyone who pays their membership fee at the party will be included in a special raffle for a plant. There will be no sales tax on auction plants.

2022 Schedule for Raffle Plant Providers

Jorge Quiñonez

Tabled until next month

Recruit Spring Show Chair/Committee

Board

including Publicity Chair

Tabled until next month.

### Adjournment at 12:26pm

# JANUARY MEETING

## January Guest Speaker - Robert Skillin

### Plants of Soroatra (an island near Yemin)

#### Robert Skillin Bio:

I have been growing cacti and succulents for 43 years, and have been involved in various local societies for most of that time, starting with the San Diego CSS in the 1970's, then to the Santa Barbara and Bakersfield clubs. I currently belong to the Central Coast CSS of which I was a founding member, first President and first Show and Sale Chairman. I have also been involved with the CSSA as a member of its Board of Directors, and am a CSSA certified Judge.

Along with my interest in cacti and succulents, I enjoy photography and travel. These interests have come together in a wonderful way during my botanical explorations of the western US and Mexico, and portions of South America, Africa, Madagascar and the Middle East. I have several programs based on these trips, and I speak regularly to clubs in northern and southern California, as well as at the Huntington Succulent Symposium and 2019 CSSA Convention. Many of my photographs have been published as illustrations for articles and covers of the CSSA Journal and Haseltonia, as well as the Timber Press Book of Succulents of the World. I have published several articles on a variety of topics in the CSSA Journal.

#### January Mini-Show

Stenocactus

Conophytum

#### February Mini-Show

Ferocactus

Pelargonium

Our next in person membership meeting will be **Sunday, January 16** at the **Corralitos Grange -165 Little Corral Way, Corralitos**. There is plenty of parking near the hall and the building is ADA accessible.

Bring your own lunch at 11:30  
Meeting begins at 12:30



# HOLIDAY PARTY

**Sunday, December 19, 2021**



The MBACSS  
Holiday Party was held  
on December 19th.  
Almost 60 members  
and guests attended.  
Thank you to  
everyone who helped.

Here are some  
pictures of the event.  
The two photos on the  
cover page are also  
from the party.



# HOUSEKEEPING

## Cactus and Succulent Society of America

MBACSS is an affiliate member of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. The CSSA has decided to distribute their new electronic newsletter, "To the Point," to all affiliate club members at no charge.

To get your free copy, use the link below and fill out the appropriate information. You will get information about Cactus and Succulents as well as about other events and activities in the Succulent world.

You will notice that this newsletter includes articles from local club newsletters.

Use this link to sign up for the CSSA newsletter

> <https://mailchi.mp/eef901b778cf/z8k1tpng1v>

## MBACSS Spring Show and Sale

By Nancy Thomsen

I will be the chair for this year's Spring Show and Sale which will be held April 23 & 24, 2022 at the Portuguese Hall in Watsonville. The Fall Sale went well despite most of us being new to putting on these events. I hope to go into the Spring Sale with even better organization and planning. We will be relying on every member to help in some capacity. We will need some members to volunteer for a few lead positions:

- Publicity - One or two people  
Gets the word out about the sale via various media outlets
- Plant Hotel - Leader and helpers  
Leader designs a system to organize the area  
Helpers watch over the area where customers keep their plants while continuing to shop
- Food - Leader and helpers  
Acquires breakfast and lunch for members to be available during the show. All food is paid for by the club.
- Cashiers  
No experience needed - scans bar codes and takes payments via cash, check or card
- Packers  
Packs purchased plants into boxes - great for anyone who loves to talk about plants!
- Door Watchers  
Stationed at front or back doors, checks receipts and watches for unpurchased plants leaving the building

If you'd like to volunteer for any of these positions or if you helped in an area last fall and have ideas, talk to me at the meeting or email me at [nembuno@gmail.com](mailto:nembuno@gmail.com).

# LEADERSHIP

## Officers and Chairpersons for 2020 - 2021

### Officers

President - Mary Cross  
Vice President - Nancy Thomsen  
Secretary - John Guzik  
Treasurer - Roger Lane  
Membership - Lyn MacDonald  
Affiliate Representative - Jorge Quiñónez  
Directors at Large  
    Arnulfo Figueroa  
    Mel Foster  
    David Kurtz  
Immediate Past President - Tom Karwin

### Chairpersons

Librarians - Jonelle Verdugo and Mel Foster  
Mini-Show - Stan Verkler  
Newsletter Editor - Nancy Thomsen  
Photography - Paul Albert and Fred Valentine  
Programs - Annie Wolf  
Publicity - Open  
Raffles - Arnie Figueroa  
Sale Floor Manager/Liaison - Peter Beiersdorfer  
Show Managers - Naomi Bloss & Janet Sparks  
Sunshine Committee - Cheryl Albert  
Webmaster - Anita Crawley