

# On The Dry Side

Our October meeting was a fun pumpkin decorating activity. We had several new members and some returning members.

Our November meeting features Ernesto Sandoval and a talk on fertilizer and Ph balance.

Our December meeting will be our annual holiday party and plant auction. Please RSVP so we can make sure we have enough food for the catered meal.



# APPROVED MINUTES

**October 6, 2022**

**Call to Order: Mary Cross**

**Members present:** Mary Cross, Jorge Quiñonez, Nancy Thomsen, Tom Karwin, Stan Verkler, David Kurtz, Lyn MacDonald, Lou Falek, Peter Beiersdorfer and Meryl Abramson. Note: Lyn now has host access for Board Meeting Zoom sign-in.

**Minutes of Sept. 5, 2022: Meryl Abramson.** Minutes approved.

## **Chairpersons' Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report: Lou Falek.** Lou begins as Treasurer of the Club as of today; there will be a two month transition with Roger as he learns the job. *Lou will go to Roger Lane's house* to get all relevant information and materials. *Mary will write a letter and send it to Lou* authorizing him to sign checks for MBACSS; Lou will likely need to present this to our bank.

**Membership: Lyn MacDonald.** There have been 82 new members in 2022 so far, including 23 in Sept. Most came from the spring sale. There are a total of 167 members, 105 are single and 62 are families. Many people pay their dues at the Christmas party so they are eligible for the drawing. Lyn is looking into making an easier membership sign-up on the website, possibly via a QR scan.

***Leslie Shores has volunteered to do social media for the club.***

**Sunshine/Hospitality:** Cards were sent to Jonelle Verdugo and Naomi Bloss.

## **Program: Jorge Quiñonez**

**Oct. 16** program was discussed. Daisy will bring succulents, glue, and moss. She will lead the meeting and receive a speaker's fee. Member's fee to participate will be \$25; cash or check to Daisy for supplies. BYO 4" to 6" size pumpkins ,

**Fall Sale and Show comments and review—All.** We need to work on publicity, need better social media and hopefully Leslie Shores will help with that. Also, Doug Hawng and his wife volunteered to help with graphic design. Gross sales were \$35,000, about half of last year's show due to a combination of factors including inflation, our sale was too close to the San Jose sale, poor publicity, etc.. Should we change the date after next year (we are already locked in for 2023)? Next time we may only need food for forty; kudos on the food. We *must* mail postcards including the \$1 off coupon. Club has more vendors than we need. Due to low sales, many vendors were disappointed and some will not be back for our sales again.

**Old Business:** The screen has been sold to an arts organization that Cheryl Albert belongs to. We received a check for \$300 which was forwarded to Roger for the screen.

## **New Business: All.**

**Christmas Party:** Discussion tabled to next month's Board meeting.

**Spring Sale:** Scheduled for April 22-23-24, 2023.

**Other:** Mel Foster's wife, Teri, is selling her home and still has a lot of plants that she'd like to sell. To help her out, the Board agreed to place a notice and pictures in the next newsletter so that interested parties may contact her directly to purchase these plants.

**Adjournment: Mary Cross.**

**Respectfully submitted, Meryl Abramson, Secretary**

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# OCTOBER MEETING

**Sunday, October 16, 2022**

Here are some photos of the October meeting where we made pumpkin succulent decorations. This was a fun activity and easy to make a nice decoration. Thanks to Daisy for leading the activity.



MONTEREY BAY AREA CACTUS AND  
SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
PLEASE PRINT  
Name(s)\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

Phone:(\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail:\_\_\_\_\_

Renewing \_\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_\_

(required to receive newsletter)

Payment by: Check\_\_Cash\_\_CC\_\_

Type of Membership:

Single \$15 per year\_\_\_\_\_

Couple \$20 per year\_\_\_\_\_

Membership Dues are payable by January 1, 2023. Members paid by the Christmas Party will be entered in a special plant drawing.

Pay online - <http://mbsucculent.org>

If you are paying by mail, send check to:

Lyn MacDonald, MBACSS Membership  
Chair

76 Nunes Road

Watsonville, CA 95076

You can also pay annual dues at  
meetings.

New Members may bring dues to the first  
meeting they attend, and give them to:

Lyn MacDonald, Membership Chair

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MBACSS

Now it is time for us all to renew our MBACSS  
Memberships for 2023.

Membership Dues for 2023 are payable by January 1,  
2023.

If you joined MBACSS in September 2022 or after, you  
do not owe dues until January 2024.

We have had 82 new members join MBACSS since  
September 2022. If you know of anyone interested in  
joining, please point them to our website  
<http://mbsucculent.org/membership/> or they can come  
to a meeting and join there. Please, pickup your name  
badges at the membership table.

If you have any questions, please email me at  
[MBACSS.membership@gmail.com](mailto:MBACSS.membership@gmail.com)

Lyn MacDonald/Falek  
MBACSS Membership Chair



# NOVEMBER MEETING

## Ernesto Sandoval

### Feeding Succulents: How Fertilizer, Water pH and Soil Can and Should Be Adjusted!

Perhaps you've heard that pH is important for plants? Ernesto will summarize why you want your plants to receive slightly acidic water and various ways you can adjust it for your succulents. How is this similar and different than fertilizing "regular" plants? Ernesto will discuss all of this plus the importance of "soils"/ container media and the details of how you can maximize the root potential for your plants!



### Biography

Ernesto Sandoval has been wondering and seeking questions and answers to why plants grow and look the way that they do for nearly 40 years. Now he explains and interprets the world of plants to a variety of ages and from amateur to professional gardeners. He regularly lectures to a variety of western Garden Clubs throughout the year and particularly to Succulent Clubs throughout California. Desert plants are his particular passion within his general passion for plants. He describes himself as a "Jose of All Plants, Master of None" and loves learning from the experiences of others as well as his own. Ernesto thoroughly enjoys helping others, and gardeners in particular, to understand why and how plants do what they do.

When he was about 13 he asked his dad why one tree was pruned a particular way and another tree another way. His dad answered bluntly "because that's the way you do it." Since then he's been learning and teaching himself the answers to those and many other questions by getting a degree at UC Davis in Botany and working from student weeder/ waterer to Director/Manager over the last 30 years at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory. He's long left the "mow blow and go" monoculture landscape gardening world and has immersed himself in the world of horticultural biodiversity by growing several thousand types of plants at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, many of them succulents! Several of his favorite garden projects involved converting lawns and or water loving landscapes to drought tolerant and diversity filled gardens! He likes to promote plant liberation by encouraging gardeners of all sorts to grow more plants in the ground when possible. He loves the technical language of Botany but prefers to relate information in more understandable methods of communication! By helping people to understand the workings of plants he hopes to help us better understand how to and why our plants do what they do and how we can maximize their growth with less effort.



## HOLIDAY PARTY

The December meeting will be our annual holiday party. We will have a fully catered meal, a plant auction and a plant exchange. If you attended the party last year, the plan is the same.

Please RSVP to Lyn MacDonald or Mary Cross

[mbacss.membership@gmail.com](mailto:mbacss.membership@gmail.com)

[crossmarylouise@gmail.com](mailto:crossmarylouise@gmail.com)

You can also sign up at the November meeting.





## HOUSEKEEPING

Several months ago we had an auction for plants in the collection of our member Mel Foster who died earlier this year. His wife, Teri, wants to move and needs to sell the rest of the collection. Below are pictures of some of them. Please call Teri Foster directly at: (858) 353-3032 or email her at [suntan2@pacbell.com](mailto:suntan2@pacbell.com) if you are interested in any or all of these plants. Make an offer and help out our member.



## CLUB NEWS

### Upcoming meetings:

#### **Nov 20, 2022**

Speaker/Topic - Ernest Sandoval

"Feeding Succulents: How Fertilizer, Water pH and Soil Can and Should Be Adjusted!"

Mini Show Plants - Pilosocereus & Euphorbia

#### **Dec 18, 2022**

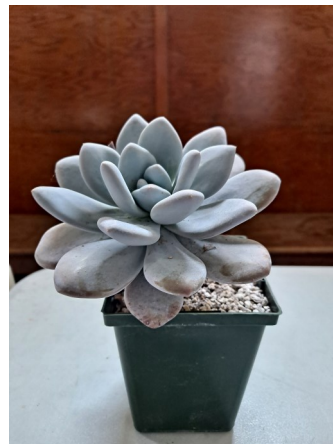
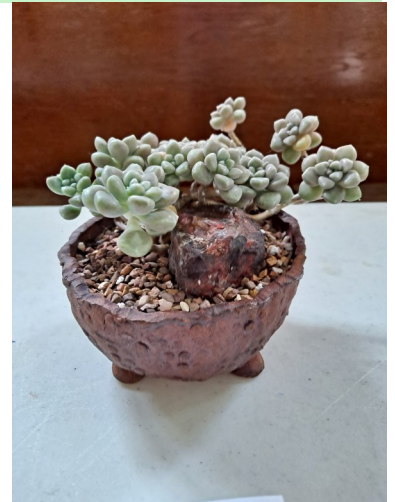
End of the Year Party

#### **Jan 15, 2023**

Speaker - J D Wilkert

Topic - Senecio

Mini Show Plants - Eriocyse & Senecio



### **Future MBACSS Sales**

#### **Save the Dates**

Here are the dates of the upcoming sales for 2023

**Spring 2023 - Apr 21, 22, 23**

**Fall 2023 - Sep 15, 16, 17**





## LEADERSHIP

### Officers and Chairpersons for 2022 - 2023

#### Officers

President - Mary Cross  
Vice President - Nancy Thomsen  
Secretary - Meryl Abramson  
Treasurer - Roger Lane  
Membership - Lyn MacDonald  
Affiliate Representative - Jorge Quiñónez  
Directors at Large  
    Arnulfo Figueroa  
    David Kurtz  
    Jonelle Verdugo  
Immediate Past President - Tom Karwin  
Founding Member - Naomi Bloss

#### Chairpersons

Librarian - Jonelle Verdugo  
Mini-Show - Stan Verkler  
Newsletter Editor - Nancy Thomsen  
Photography - Paul Albert  
Programs - Jorge Quiñónez  
Publicity -  
Raffles - Arnie Figueroa  
Sale Floor Manager - Peter Beiersdorfer  
Show Managers - Naomi Bloss & Janet Sparks  
Sunshine Committee - Cheryl Albert  
Webmaster - Anita Crawley

Our next membership meeting will be:

**Sunday, November 20, 2022**  
**Corralitos Grange**  
**165 Little Corral Way, Corralitos.**

There is plenty of parking near the hall and the building is ADA accessible.

We will meet at 12:00 noon for our lunch, but come at 11:30 to help set up the room and catch up with other members. We will have a short meeting during our lunch to keep you informed about what is happening in the club. Our program will be from 12:30 to 1:30 or so followed by the mini-show and raffle.