

On The Dry Side

Greetings from the President

Dear fellow MBACSS members,

Happy Spring! I'm so glad that spring is finally here. We have been blessed and cursed with lots of rain this winter but I'm glad we can now look forward to spring flowers and sunshine. Did you know that Sunshine is good for your body and soul? When the sun hits your skin, your brain is triggered to release serotonin which will boost your mood and help you feel calm and focused. So I wish you sunshine and lots of good feelings.

At our March 19 membership meeting the members enjoyed an interesting talk by Alan Beverly, from Ecoscape Nursery in Santa Cruz. We learned much about cultivation, propagation, and problems of growing Spiral Aloe (*Aloe polyphylla*), as well as where they come from and some things about the history of this unique Aloe.

I'm really looking forward to our Spring Sale and Show this year. I have several plants I intend to enter in the show to be judged by the folks who really know succulents and cacti. I hope you will bring several of your own favorite plants to be shown and judged. I'm always fascinated with the variety, strangeness and beauty of the plants I see at the shows. I keep learning and my collection keeps growing!

If any of the members would like to attend the Board meetings (which are open to all members) feel free to contact me for the zoom ID. We meet on the first Wednesday evening of the month at 7:00pm on zoom. It would offer you an opportunity to learn more about how our society works and participate in making the meetings more inclusive and interesting. If you have a topic you would like to learn more about at a membership meeting, please let me know and we will try to find ways to present it.

Mary Louise Cross,
MBACSS



APPROVED MINUTES

March 1, 2023

Call to Order: Mary Cross.

Members present: Mary Cross, Lyn MacDonald, Lou Falek, Arnie Figueroa, Jonelle Verdugo, Nancy Thomsen, Stan Verkler, David Kurtz, Thomas Karwin, Peter Beiersdorfer, Meryl Abramson.

Minutes of February 6, 2022: Mary Cross. Approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Lou Falek. Report approved as presented. We have purchased the Certificate of Deposit. Income tax will be due next month on all income.

Chairpersons' Reports:

Membership: Lyn MacDonald. Some members have paid again and so have made extra payment into a donation. We have 121 paid members. People become members in order to attend the show for free. Vendors must be members in order to sell at shows. People seem to be proud of their new, green badges. Lyn tracks the information on all former members so that we can send/email to them regarding shows or events of interest.

The printed roster master is ready. The Board agreed to print the following information on each member: name, original join date, city, phone # and email. Everyone's name will go in alphabetically, to make sure that couples/partners with different last names are presented. Nancy will make best efforts to get these printed by month's end.

Sunshine Committee: Mary Cross. No updates.

Program: Jorge Quiñonez not present, report skipped. A notice about our monthly meeting was in the Sentinel last month!

Spring Sale: Mary Cross/Nancy Thomsen/Peter Beiersdorfer. Mary was contacted by the Post Office to renew our mailing permit. She has investigated working with ETJ Enterprises in Watsonville. We can use their permit as well as print our postcards. Board voted to let ETJ do all the printing and mailing. Nancy will provide layout, 5.5" x 8.5". We will offer \$1 off entrance for bringing the postcard; it encourages people to save the card, and attend. Mary, Nancy to speak with Joe Johnson of ETJ.

Publicity: David placed a copy of the poster on Facebook. Leslie recorded entire last general meeting, and posted that on Facebook. Peter will send David a list of vendors to promote them. Mary will try again to get print resources to announce the sale. Tom will include an article about the sale in his column.

Volunteers: In next week or so, Nancy will purchase ivolunteer again so that people can sign up to help. David will assist as needed.

Food: pizza, tamales from Tamale Factory in Watsonville and the new Chef Store in Aptos were suggested. Mary and Meryl will handle the food for 35-45 volunteers per session.

Vendors: Peter contacts and invites all past vendors. He noted that vendors are each required to bring 10 plants for the show.

Miscellaneous: Other clubs provide free food for members during shows. Nancy noted how difficult it is to keep volunteers in position. Each shift is only 2 hours yet people wander off. Stan noted that SF has a Volunteer Coordinator. This person tracks people at start of shift and tracks them down if needed. This position will be added to ivolunteer. Members are encouraged to bring plants for the show, no number specified.

Signage: Lyn has the inside signs. Nancy has banners. Arnie said that we need a sign at the show to please leave all sale plants at the plant hotel before entering.

CSSA & Affiliates: No updates.

Old Business: Portuguese Hall for the 2024 sales: Lou wrote the check and Mary signed contracts. We must pay a year in advance to guarantee the dates.

CSSA Journals: Peter purchased several years of journals. If Mary chooses to sell the rest at the sale, Peter will make her a code. Congratulations to Peter and Jaan who have an article coming out in the Journal this month.

New Business: Field Trip: Stan Verkler/Arnie Figueroa/David Kurtz. Nine people have signed up so far. The trip is to Ruth Bancroft Garden in Walnut Creek. All participants must sign a waiver holding the Club and driver harmless for the trip. We will carpool north, meeting at Stan's home and have lunch out. The Board voted to offer a stipend to subsidize gas, lunch, and admission. It will be a surprise to people who show up. Drivers are needed.

Adjournment: Mary Cross

SPRING SHOW & SALE

Date: April 21, 22, 23, 2023

Volunteering: https://mbcss.ivolunteer.com/volunteer_spring_2023

There are still open slots for the weekend. Please use the link to go to the volunteer site and sign up. Please be at least 10 minutes early for your shift. If you are a cashier or packer, you will shadow for a few customers before taking over. We need you to fulfill your commitment and stay at your position for the entire shift. If you need to leave for a short time, ask someone to take over for you and come back as soon as possible. Nancy Thomsen is the chair of the event. And is usually around check out. If you need something - like a chair or a bathroom break - let her know so she can fill your job before you leave. Working the sale is a great way to meet members, talk to growers and vendors, and have a fun time.

Plant Show:

The spring plant show is judged by experts. The vendors will bring plants and the members are also encouraged to enter their favorite plants in the show. The plants need to be at the venue Friday afternoon. You need to identify each plant. Vendors and our club experts can help with that. You will fill out an entrance form and then be asked to put the plant in the appropriate area. This makes Janet's job a bit easier. She needs to get the show set up Friday because the judging begins at 8am Saturday. Your plant will be on display the entire weekend. You can pick up your plant after 3pm Sunday.

Food:

There will be food, snacks and drinks available to volunteers and vendors throughout the sale. Please clean up after yourself in the kitchen.

Members Only Sale:

Friday evening is our Members Only Sale. This is for members of any nor-cal cactus and succulent club. To enter, you need to have your name badge from your club. If you or someone in your party is not a member, you or they can join at the show. No one will be allowed in before 3pm. Please do not come in early as this interferes with set up. If you come early, we will ask you to wait outside. Please follow directions so the vendors can get set up.

Set-Up:

Set up should begin sometime around 10am. We must wait for someone from the hall to bring the key so we will need to be patient. Peter or Nancy may ask you to do a specific job, please do it and report back.

Tear Down:

Tear down begins at 3pm Sunday and takes 2 - 2.5 hours.



FROM CASS

CSSA's Special Invitation to the 2023 Colorado Springs Convention To all CSSA Affiliate Cactus and Succulent Societies

All of the members of the Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society look forward to meeting many convention attendees from the many CSSA affiliate societies on July 12-16 at the Colorado Springs CSSA Convention. The incredible view of 14,115' Pikes Peak outside the convention hotel will inspire and refresh, as will the 70-80F days and cool nights in the low 60's.

The line-up of speakers of particular interest to CSSA members includes, Ernst van Jaarsfeld, Elisabeth Sarnes from Germany, speaking for the first time at one of our conventions, Panayoti Kelaidis, and Stefan Burger. All of the speakers' biographical information and presentation topics are detailed on the CSSA website, https://cssaconvention.com/speakers_2023.html. We would also encourage CSSA affiliate societies to sponsor a speaker of their choice, acknowledging the CSSA affiliates generous contributions at previous CSSA conventions.

There is so much more: field trips, an enormous plant sale, the auction and banquet, and, not least, the opportunity to meet and have in depth conversations with the speakers and your fellow succulent enthusiasts from the other affiliate chapters. Please take a good look at the CSSA website for additional information and I look forward to meeting each of you in July.

Rod Haenni, Convention Co-Chair
President, CSSA

Succulents with Altitude

CSSA 2023 Biennial Convention

July 12-16, 2023

Colorado Springs, CO.

CSSA Colorado Convention

Pikes Peak or Bust!

Paint your wagon and come to Colorado Springs for all of the great reasons—the renowned speakers, the camaraderie with your kindred cactus and succulent old friends and new friends, and the ambience of a 14,115' mountain nearby with the pleasant climate as a bonus.

Additionally, garden tours, habitat exploration and a train to the top of Pikes Peak await. Our first convention in four years (seems longer) is nigh and you will not want to miss this event. Be enthralled as you learn about cacti and other succulents from the four corners of the earth, from extreme hot deserts to the coldest environments where cacti grow.

Don't forget, if you are not yet a member, a \$20 membership allows you to register and attend. Please use the following address <http://www.cssaconvention.com> to access all of the information you need and answer all of your questions.

We look forward to greeting all attendees and welcoming you to Colorado Springs.

Rod Haenni

Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society Convention Chair
President, CSSA

rhaenni@comcast.net

Gunnar Eisel

CSSA Convention Chair
Executive Director, CSSA

Gunnar.eisel@gmail.com

FIELD TRIP

March 25, 2023

On March 25th 2023 a handful of members from the Monterey Bay Cactus and Succulent sSociety took a field trip to the Ruth Bancroft gardens in Walnut Creek. We met up in Santa Cruz to begin our journey. Since there were only a handful of members, Lou, Lynn, Meryl, Stan and me, we were lucky enough to carpool in one vehicle. The ride up was neat because we got to get to know each other a little better. I would have never guessed that Lou was a part time comedian! There was a quick stop in Walnut Creek at a bakery before arriving at the gardens. The gardens themselves were quite impressive as we all toured independently for about an hour. There was an array of agaves, aloes and opuntias. The coy pond offered a nice break from all the drought tolerant plants. The gift shop had a nice selection of pots, succulents, cacti and other plants. My favorite thing from the gift shop was observing the hummingbird which had made her nest in a metal basket. This was the first field trip offered by the club recently but there are many more to come. Enjoy the pictures from my trip to the Ruth Bancroft Gardens.
Arnie

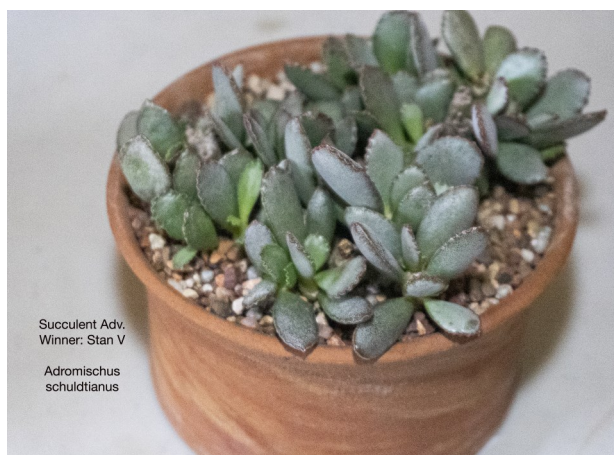


MARCH MINI SHOW

February 19, 2023



Succulent Novice
winner: Meryl
Apromischus Crystatus



Succulent Adv.
Winner: Stan V
*Adromischus
schuldianus*



Succulent Intermediate Winner: Mary Cross
Adromischus Marianae Herrei



Cactus Novice Winner- Meryl
Rhipsalis Pilcarpa



Cactus Inter. Winner:
Gary & Elen Stubblefield



MONTEREY BAY AREA CACTUS AND
SUCCULENT SOCIETY PRESENTS

SPRING SHOW AND SALE 2023

FRIDAY, APRIL 21 OPEN 3PM - 6PM
(CLUB MEMBERS ONLY ON FRIDAY)

SATURDAY, APRIL 22 OPEN 9AM - 5PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 23 OPEN 9AM - 3PM

FREE PARKING
FREE ADMISSION

LARGE VARIETY OF
CACTI
SUCCULENTS
POTTERY
BOOKS
UTENSILS

EXPERTS ON HAND
TO ANSWER YOUR
QUESTIONS

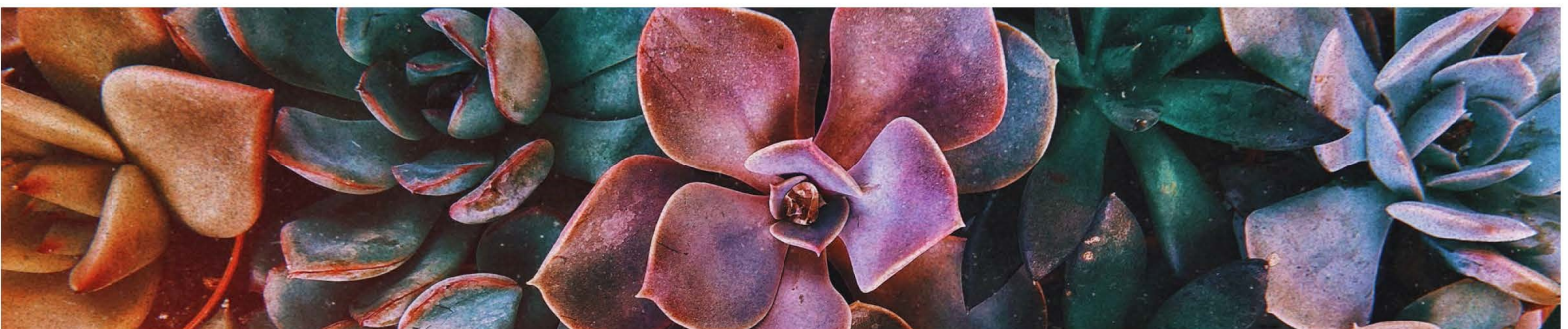
A HUGE SHOW WITH
HUNDREDS OF
BEAUTIFUL CACTUS
AND SUCCULENT
SPECIMENS

PORTUGUESE
COMMUNITY HALL

124 Atkinson Lane
Watsonville, CA

See our website for
more information

mbsucculent.org



CLUB NEWS

Upcoming meetings:

April 21 - 23 Spring Show and Sale

May 21, 2023

Speaker - Brian Kemble

Topic - Aizoaceae (mesembs) at the Ruth Bancroft Garden

Mini Show Plants - Astrophytum & Sansevieria

June 18, 2023

Speaker - TBD

Topic -

Mini Show Plants - Gymnocalycium & Mesembs

July 16, 2023

Speaker - J. D. Wikert

Topic - Succulent Senecios

Mini Show Plants - Copiopoia & Dyckia or Hechtia (any terrestrial bromeliads)

August 20, 2023

Country Store

September 15, 16, 17

Fall Show and Sale

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

CENTRAL COAST CACTUS
& SUCCULENT SOCIETY

2023 SHOW & SALE MAY 27&28



Alcalofia distachya

15TH ANNUAL SHOW & SALE

Nipomo High School, 525 N Thompson Ave

Saturday, May 27 – 10 am to 5 pm

Sunday, May 28 – 10 am to 4 pm

NEW YOUTH GROWER CATEGORY

- Free admission & parking on-site
- Experts available for questions
- Rare plants & handmade pottery sale
- Cash/check/credit cards accepted



CCCSS WEBSITE



CCCSS FACEBOOK

STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH GUIDELINES WILL BE OBSERVED OR EXCEEDED



FRESNO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY 2023 SHOW & SALE

Saturday, June 10th – 10 am to 5 pm
Sunday, June 11th – 10 am to 4pm

**Huge variety of cacti, succulents,
supplies and handmade pottery!**

FREE PARKING & ADMISSION

**2023
SHOW &
SALE
JUNE
10 & 11**

EXPERTS WILL BE ON
HAND TO ANSWER
YOUR QUESTIONS

HUNDREDS OF
IMPRESSIVE CACTUS
& SUCCULENTS
SPECIMENS ON
DISPLAY

FRESNO
FAIRGROUNDS
COMMERCE BUILDING
1121 S. Chance Ave.
Fresno, CA 93702

www.fresnocss.com

FRESNOCSS@YAHOO.COM

LEADERSHIP

Officers and Chairpersons for 2022 - 2023

Officers

President - Mary Cross
Vice President - Nancy Thomsen
Secretary - Meryl Abramson
Treasurer - Lou Falek
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 - Leslie Shores
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, May 20, 2023
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.