

On The Dry Side

Greetings from the President

Dear fellow MBACSS members,

As I write this the temperature is very hot and getting hotter! I don't do very well in hot! But mostly my succulents and cactus are very happy. Our seasons are not as spectacular as in Minnesota where I grew up, but provide lots of lovely things to look at and appreciate regardless.

Our Fall Sale and Show is now a part of our history. It was fun and interesting as usual, and once again a number of attendees signed up to become new members – Welcome! The Board is currently discussing ways to more effectively promote our sales and make our experiences even better for attendees and volunteers. Do you have some ideas? Please contact me or any Board member to share your ideas and even volunteer to be on the promotions committee to develop new ideas. We will discuss this at the next Membership meeting, October 15 at the Corralitos Grange Hall.

The most important thing to consider at this time is the election of new Board Members which will occur at the November Membership meeting. You all received the email which included the list of Board members from the By-Laws. Some of the current members are willing to serve another 2 year term. But we especially need a new Membership Chair Person. This job requires some knowledge of Excel to maintain and update the membership roster. While we do have a couple of people willing to help out in our library, we do need at least one more person to be a librarian. The easiest positions are the three Director at Large positions which require attendance at the monthly zoom Board meeting and willingness to share information from the general membership about the topics discussed at the meetings.

Our Society cannot survive without new input and new members on our Board of Directors. Please step up to help.

Mary Louise Cross, President,
MBACSS



Photos By Paolo Albert

APPROVED MINUTES

September 6, 2023

Call to Order: Mary Cross.

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

Minutes of August 2, 2023: Meryl Abramson. Action items from the minutes reviewed. Minutes accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Lou Falek. Report accepted as presented. The balance has been paid to Portuguese Hall. Two checks are still outstanding; vendors have verified receipt. Raffle from August meeting brought in \$170 (no expenses. Thanks to all who brought plants and items.)

Chairpersons' Reports:

Membership: Lyn MacDonald. We have 42 new members, including 27 from the Spring Sale, and a total of 161 members. Some members are asking Lyn about bringing plants for the show, and Lyn needs information.

Programs: Jorge Quiñonez. Regarding payment for attending CSSA Affiliate's meeting, neither an article nor a subsidy will be forthcoming. CSSA update: We need to vote for the Board of Directors. Candidates were discussed, Jorge will vote on behalf of the Club.

One concern about the August meeting, the Country Store: People did not come early enough to help and the responsibility for table set-up fell on too few people.

Our **October** speaker has cancelled; Daisy will lead the wreath-making workshop instead. There will be no mini-show or raffle that month. Daisy will provide the wreaths, and participants will pay \$40 to Daisy for materials. The **November** speaker is TBA.

Sunshine Committee: No updates.

Field Trips: David, Stan and Arnie need to decide on two Saturday dates to give to the Arboretum, and then present a date to the Club.

New Business: Fall Sale and Show: Lyn updated status of banners and signs. Food was discussed. Tom Karwin mentioned the sale in his column twice in the Sentinel and someone placed information in the Register's Pajaronian. Jorge completed and submitted the Facebook ad and showed it to the Board. We will be renting 6 tables, due to availability, (now 36) and these should be delivered around 10:15. vendors may need to be signed up on the spot. As COVID appears an increasing concern,

Election Committee. We have three volunteers for the Committee, and Mary will work with them.

Adjournment: Mary Cross

Respectfully submitted by Meryl Abramson

CLUB NEWS

FIELD TRIP

Our Field Trip Committee has arranged a field trip for the club to the

University of Santa Cruz Arboretum for Saturday, November 4, 2023 @ 12:15pm

Arboretum Rd, Santa Cruz, CA

We will be seeing the collection of Cactus and Succulents in the Growing Area, plus the newly planted Rock Garden area by the entrance to the Arboretum. Members can take note of the slope drainage, and substrate, and sun exposure for certain kinds of succulents.

Meet in the parking lot of the Arboretum, straight back of entrance road, at 12:15 PM. Will be about 1 -1/2 hours.

Lunch at Farmer's Market afterward, for those who wish to join.

Jonelle Verdugo

Our head librarian, Jonelle, passed away last month after a long illness. Jonelle was an inspiration and a trooper. We saw her last at our August membership meeting at the home of one of our members and she seemed to enjoy being with us and sharing. It was clear that she was very much sicker than earlier but she was there!

The club shut down at the beginning of the pandemic. Jonelle was one of the members who helped get it stated again. We learned that our previous librarian had moved away and needed a replacement. Jonelle stepped up with another member, Mel Foster, to take over the library. With their help, the library was moved to the Grange Hall and organized. She was always there to help set up the tables at the meetings and helped at the sales.

We will miss you, Jonelle.

ELECTIONS

The club will have elections at the November membership meeting. We have an election committee who may reach out to you to ask you to run for a position. These positions do not require much of your time during the month. You will attend a board meeting Zoom and the membership meeting and spend a few more minutes completing a task. The club is always looking for new voices. Let that be your voice!

Wreaths

See page 6 for an update to the meeting format. Everyone will now be working on 1 of 2 wreaths that will be given away at the end of the meeting in a drawing. There is no charge for this activity. It will be a fun time working together learning about this craft.

ELECTION

November 19, 2023

Nominations Needed

The board has appointed a Nominating Committee for new board members. We will be electing board members near the end of the year to begin a 2 year term in January 2024. We need you because many of our current board members cannot or will not be running for re-election.

When a member of the nominating committee asks if you will run for a position, please consider saying "Yes!" It is way to meet people in the club and help steer the club. If the same people are on the board every term, there will be no new ideas, no new input. We need your ideas and your energy and your excitement. You do not need to be a plant expert to run for office.

Please say "YES." It will be a fulfilling experience. --Editor

PRESIDENT presides at all regular and special meetings of the membership and meetings of the board, and appoints special committees as required.

VICE-PRESIDENT presides at meetings in the absence of the president and undertakes the duties of president in all respects when the president is ill, has resigned or is otherwise unavailable.

SECRETARY keeps the minutes of regular and board meetings and attends to the correspondence of the Society.

TREASURER receives and keeps all the Society's funds and keeps full and adequate records of all receipts and disbursements and assists the membership chair in collecting annual dues.

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR collects all dues, compiles an annual list of current members, and distributes the membership list to all members.

AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVE maintains contact with Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) and the California Garden Clubs Inc., and reports pertinent information to the board and the general membership.

DIRECTORS-AT-LARGE (three) attend board meetings and represent the views of the general membership.

All officers serve for terms of two years.

The President of the Society may be elected to that office for no more than two consecutive terms.

FALL SHOW AND SALE

September 15, 16, 17, 2023

Volunteers Needed

We pulled off another Fall Show and Sale last month. There were some glitches, but we powered through.

The sales are not as successful as we all want so I am forming a steering committee for upcoming sales. We need ideas --lots of ideas about how to make the show and sale draw more people. We have reserved the current location through 2024, but we can move the location, change the dates, add some activities, join with other clubs. We are open to any ideas to grow the event. I will talk about this at the meeting this month and next month. I will collect ideas and then we can come together to discuss them. Please think about this and bring your ideas to me.

Nancy Thomsen
Show Chair



OCTOBER MEETING



UPDATE !!!!

Holiday Wreaths

Workshop

With Daisy Szeto

\$0 entry



For our October membership meeting, we will be learning about succulent wreath making with Daisy Szeto. There will be 2 wreaths that everyone will work on together to learn how to make a holiday succulent wreath. All the supplies will be provided by Daisy which will include 10 inch wreaths and all the cuttings. You may bring additional cuttings or holiday decorations you wish to incorporate. Everyone in attendance will be given 1 ticket to enter a drawing for the wreaths. Two people will go home with a beautiful holiday wreath.

Please join us Sunday, October 15

CLUB NEWS

Upcoming meetings:

October 22, 2023

Speaker - Daisy Szeto

Topic - Workshop - Make a Succulent Wreath

Mini Show Plants - Mamalaria & Aloe

November 4, 2023

Field Trip to UCSC Arboretum

Meet in the parking lot at 12:15

November 19, 2023

Speaker - TBA

Mini Show Plants - Grafted Cacti & Thorny Madagascar plants

December 17, 2023

End of the Year Membership Party

Corralitos Grange

Holiday meal

Live and Silent Auctions

Future MBACSS Sales

Save the Dates

Here are the dates of the upcoming sales for 2023 and 2024

Fall 2023 - Sep 15, 16, 17

Spring 2024 - Apr 12, 13, 14

Fall 2024 - Aug 30, 31 Sep 1

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

Immediate Past President - Tom Karwin
Founding Member - Naomi Bloss

Chairpersons

Librarian - David Kurtz
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, October 15, 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 bring your own lunch and a chance to 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.