

On The Dry Side

Dear fellow MBACSS members and fellow succulent lovers,

Our November membership meeting was very productive and fun at the same time. We started with our every two-year election for new members for the Board. While all current officers were re-elected, we changed two "Director at Large" positions, adding Daisy Szeto and Peter Shaw. David Kurtz was re-elected as a director at large. They will all be installed at the December membership meeting to begin their work in January 2024. Thank you to all who were willing to serve the club by running for a position, to all the members who came and voted (including one person who was at his very first meeting!), and to our new directors, and all who helped count and tally the votes.

The new format for the Mini-Show worked well with folks bringing in special plants that they presented and then told the group about (Show & Tell!). Our very good speaker was J. D. Wikert who helped us learn more about Aloes. Since we did indeed have a newcomer, he was invited to pick a plant for himself to take home. If you are a newcomer this year, be sure to let us know at the next meeting so we can gift you with a plant to take home.

The plans for our December End of the Year Holiday Party and Auction are coming along nicely. The catered lunch sounds delicious. Details are available in other parts of the newsletter. It is usually a very busy and somewhat noisy gathering but VERY fun. Please remember that we do not have internet access at the Grange Hall so bring cash or checks to pay for any plants you win in the silent or live auction.

I look forward to celebrating the end of another successful year for our Society together with you.

Mary Louise Cross
President, MBACSS

Photos By
Paolo Albert



APPROVED MINUTES

November 1, 2023

Call to Order: Mary Cross

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

Minutes of October 4, 2023: Meryl Abramson. Action items from the minutes reviewed.
Minutes accepted as presented

Treasurer's Report: Lou Falek. Report accepted as presented

Chairpersons' Reports:

Membership: Lyn MacDonald. We have a total of 189 members, 122 of which are singles. In 2023, we have added 70 new members.

Sunshine Committee: Mary Cross. Mary attended Jonelle's memorial at the Aquarium on Oct. 27. Over 200 people were there, and many beautiful stories were told. The Board thanked Mary for attending on the Club's behalf.

Programs: Jorge Quiñonez. The October meeting was small, fun and productive. Daisy did a great job; the meeting was "hands on" and enjoyed. We should continue occasional hands on programs. Gary Stubblefield suggested that we gift a plant to each new member when they first come to a meeting. Peter Shaw suggested that people bring a favorite plant to the mini-show, rather than plants from a specific category. Board discussed this and agreed to try a show and tell table. Anyone who brings a plant—and talks about it (why it's special, what they know about it, etc.) will get two free raffle tickets.

November meeting: J.D. Wikert will present "Aloe for Beginners", and we will have elections. Mary has been in touch with Annie Birdsall re: elections. Four new people are running for Director at Large. We will have 5 people competing for 3 spots. No one has stepped up to take Membership. Lyn will continue through February (renewals).

December is the Holiday party. We ordered for 60 last year. Peter will run the auction. January, tentatively, we will have cactus grafting again. Stan would like to present a program on "Repotting your plants"

CSSA: Jorge. Their business manager is retiring. The next national conference, in 2025, will be in L.A

Old Business: David wants to be the 'Interim' Librarian, until someone else steps up.

Field Trip: Saturday, Nov. 4, at 12:15 at the UCSC Arboretum. Linda McNally will lead the tour. Nancy will be organizing a group to discuss future shows/sales.

New Business: Mary received an email looking for someone with a large plant collection to interview for a book.

Adjournment: Mary Cross
Respectfully submitted by Meryl Abramson

DECEMBER MEETING

December 17, 2023

Holiday Party and Auction

Catered Lunch - 12:00pm

A free catered lunch will be served with traditional holiday fare.

Volunteers - 11:00 am

We will need volunteers to help decorate, to serve the meal (stand behind steam trays), to clerk for the auctions, and general help setting up and packing up.

Live Auction

Members may bring up to 3 plants for the live auction. These plants must be worth at least \$30. The proceeds will be split 75% to the seller and 25% to the club.

Silent Auction

Members may bring up to 3 plants worth \$5 - \$30 to enter into the silent auction. The proceeds will be split 75% to the seller and 25% to the club.

Plant Exchange

Members may bring an established, healthy plant in at least a 4" pot to the Plant Exchange. Every member who brings a plant will take home a different plant at the end of the party.

Cash or Check

There is very spotty cell service at the grange so we ask that you bring cash or checks to pay for the plants you win in the auctions. You may pay for each item when you win it or wait and pay for all your winning items at once.

NEW NEWS

Dues

With the end of the year approaching, it is time to renew your membership.

You have several ways to renew, but the online option is the best. You can also use the form on this page and bring a check to a meeting or send a check in the mail.

If you joined at the last sale or in September or later, your membership is good through 2024.

There will be self-serve renewal forms available at the December meeting. The Membership Director and greeter will be busy with other duties and not available to answer questions. If you have questions, email Lyn @ MBACSS.membership@gmail.com

Pay online - <https://mbacss.square.site/>



MONTEREY BAY AREA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Membership Dues are payable by
January 1, 2024

PLEASE PRINT

Name(s) _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____

E-mail: _____
(required to receive newsletter)

Renewing ____ New Member ____

Payment by: Check ____ Cash ____ CC ____

Type of Membership:
Single \$15 per year _____
Family \$20 per year _____

Members paid by the Christmas Party will be
entered in a special plant drawing.

Pay online - <https://mbacss.square.site/>

If you are paying by mail, send check to:
Lyn MacDonald
MBACSS Membership Director
76 Nunes Road
Watsonville, CA 95076

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: MBACSS

CODE OF CONDUCT

IOS CODE OF CONDUCT

To the Collector in the Field

Before collecting anything:

- ☐ **DO** acquaint yourself with **CITES** and national and state controls, and find out which species are protected.
- ☐ **DO** obtain all necessary permits, both for collecting and for export and import to other countries.
- ☐ **DO** notify interested local organizations of your intentions.

Then:

- ☐ **DO** strictly observe restrictions on what may be collected (which species, how many specimens, what kind of material). Where possible, collect seed, offsets or cuttings, **NOT** the whole plant.
- ☐ **DO** leave mature plants for seed production. They are needed to perpetuate the wild population, and are unlikely to transplant successfully.
- ☐ **DO** collect discreetly; **Don't** lead local people to believe the plants are valuable, or encourage or pay them (or their children) to collect for you.
- ☐ **DO** make careful field-notes, including precise locality, altitude, type of vegetation and soil, date of collection and your own field number. Try to assess the number of individuals and extent of the population, the amount of seed-setting and the frequency of seedlings.
- ☐ **DO** note possible threats to the habitat, e.g. through grazing, drainage or cultivation, urban spread or road widening.
- ☐ **DO** take photographs and/or preserve representative herbarium material. Submit this material, with a copy of your notes, to an appropriate institution or organization.
- ☐ **DON'T** underrate the value of your field observations: carefully recorded they will be a useful contribution to science and to conservation.
- ☐ **IF...** you plan to collect in commercial quantities, don't.
- ☐ **IF...** you plan to sell any of the plants you collect to defray the cost of your trip, don't
- ☐ **IF...** you plan to collect for research or study obtain the agreement (and preferably the collaboration) of competent scientific authorities, such as a government agency or university department, in the host country.
- ☐ **IF...** you think "two or three plants won't be missed", remember someone else may be thinking the same tomorrow, and the next day, and the next...

CSSA POLICY

The Cactus and Succulent Society of America Conservation Policy Statement

The Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) is the national organization for the study, education, and promotion of cacti and succulents. The popularity of cacti and succulents, their availability online, and their increased monetary value have critically endangered their populations in the wild. The conservation of these unique plants and their habitats is of critical concern.

Existing Policies and Guidelines

CSSA shall adhere to:

All national and international guidelines, treaties, and laws regarding the protection of cacti, other succulents, and their habitats.

The Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) treaty and the American Endangered Species Acts for both plants and animals.

The International Organization for Succulent Plant Study (IOS) Code of Conduct.

Specific conservation policies of the applicable State or other local jurisdictions.

CSSA Show and Sale Policies

CSSA will not accept field collected plants in its competitive shows; plants in question will be evaluated by a review team upon entering.

CSSA functions will not allow the sale, purchase, or promotion of habitat-collected plants.

CSSA encourages its affiliate societies to adopt or incorporate CSSA Conservation Policies in developing their own missions and show and sale policies.

Commercial Selling

CSSA endorses and promotes vendors which produce sale plants from seed, cuttings or other artificial means.

CSSA discourages the use of nurseries and online vendors that sell field collected plants.

Legal Initiatives

CSSA will work with our appropriate government agencies to modernize laws regarding the sale of plants across international borders, especially for hybrids.

CSSA will endorse and promote state laws and policies pertaining to the rescue of plants due to urban or agricultural encroachment.

CSSA will assist in the development of procedures to conserve and disseminate rescued plants.

ELECTIONS

Your Elected Officials 2024 - 2025

President

Mary Louise Cross

Vice President

Nancy Thomsen

Secretary

Meryl Abramson

Treasurer

Lou Falek

Membership

Lyn MacDonald

Directors at Large

Daisy Szeto

Peter Shaw

David Kurtz

Affiliate Representative

Jorge Quiñónez

Immediate Past President

Tom Karwin

Volunteer Positions

Sunshine Committee

Cheryl Albert

Newsletter Editor

Nancy Thomsen

Interim Librarian

David Kurtz

Min-Show Coordinator

Stan Verkler

Programs Coordinator

Jorge Quiñónez

Photographer

Paolo Albert

Sale Floor Manager

Peter Beiersdorfer

Show Manager and Assistant

Naomi Bloss & Janet Sparks

Webmaster

Anita Crawley

Raffles

Bill Ashen

Greeter

Dave Novarina

CLUB NEWS

Upcoming meetings:

December 17, 2023

End of the Year Membership Party
Corralitos Grange
Holiday Meal
Live and Silent Auctions
Plant Exchange

January 21, 2024

Presenter: Andrew Hazlett
Topic: Grafting
Mini Show - Show & Tell

February 18, 2024

Presenter: Stan Verkler
Topic: Repotting Cacti and Succulents
Mini Show: TBA

March 17, 2024

Presenter: Fred Dotort
Topic: Grit Dwellers, Quartz Fields
Mini Show: TBA



Future MBACSS Sales Save the Dates

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

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

Interim Librarian - David Kurtz
Mini-Show - Stan Verkler
Newsletter Editor - Nancy Thomsen
Photography - Paul Albert
Programs - Jorge Quiñónez
Raffles - Bill Ashen
Sale Floor Manager - Peter Beiersdorfer
Show Managers - Naomi Bloss
Assistant Floor Manager - Janet Sparks
Sunshine Committee - Cheryl Albert
Webmaster - Anita Crawley
Greeter - Dave Novarina

Our next membership meeting will be:

Sunday, December 17, 2023
Corralitos Grange
165 Little Corral Way, Corralitos.

There is plenty of parking near the hall and the building is ADA accessible.
See newsletter for specifics.