

August 2024



Monterey Bay Area
Cactus & Succulent
Society

On The Dry Side

This year our Fall Show and Sale will be Saturday, **August 31 and September 1**. Last year the board decided to have it early and failed to realize it's Labor Day Weekend. Maybe that will help!

I sent a press release to local media contacts and our membership. You are allowed to use this to publicize the event. We also have flyers that were available at the July meeting and were sent in email to all members. I will have both sizes of flyers available at the Country Store this Sunday.

These show and sale events are put on by **volunteers**. As of Monday, most of the volunteer slots are empty. Please use the following link to sign up.

https://mbcss.ivolunteer.com/volunteer_fall_2024

These will be no Friday sales. You can shop on Friday and put your items in the plant hotel to pay for them on the weekend.

New for this event - we will have a table and chairs set up for **demonstrations and talks** which will happen every hour. We also will have an **Ask the Expert** table where visitor can talk to a vendor.

August Country Store at Naomi's

The August membership event is our annual Country Store. The full details are on page 3. This is a great event. Come early to tour the grounds and greenhouses. Bring a chair and a snack or lunch and some cash to buy tickets. We ask that you bring healthy plants as well as any related items you want to pass along and you can go home with new items. This is a fun event. We will have a bit of business first and then the fun begins.

Letter to the Editor

I have been asked to add Letter to the Editor section to the newsletter. This is where you can ask questions about the club, tell us about your collection, publish some photos, ask a technical question or share anything with your club members. You can send your submissions to mbacss.editor@gmail.com



Photos By
Paolo Albert

APPROVED MINUTES

Call to Order: Mary Cross.

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

June Minutes: Mary/Nancy. Minutes accepted.

Treasurer's Report: Lou Falek. Accepted as presented. Lou clarified that the monthly balance will rarely match up to monthly spending, as expenses are reported as they occur. Outstanding checks affect that balance. He noted that actual upcoming obligations will take the balance down to near zero, and we will need to take some funds out of the CD which will shortly come due. The balance will be re-invested in another CD

Chairpersons' Reports:

Membership: Lyn MacDonald. Two new members joined at the last general meeting. Another new member told Lyn that he felt warmly welcomed by the group.

Programs: Mary and Jorge Quiñonez. Attendance was down at the last General Meeting, which was likely due to Father's Day and several members selling at the S.F. show. Speaker was excellent and well-received. There was some mis-understanding with the speaker as he did not bring plants to sell and came early. Note: Speakers generally begin at 1:00 p.m. at Meetings, and are always welcome to bring plants to sell. Jorge made some contacts at the S.F. show who are potential speakers for us. July speaker is Peter B., and his topic is succulents in fog deserts in Chile. Peter will also discuss how fog here affects our plants. Stan will be in charge of Show & Tell/Mini-Show each month. July will be Show & Tell. Peter will bring raffle plants.

August meeting will be at the Country Store at Naomi's house. There will be no raffle and no Show & Tell

Sunshine Committee: Mary. Two cards were sent.

CSSA: Jorge and Stan. Annual show and sale next year at Huntington Gardens. The 2025 convention is in San Diego.

Old Business: All. Fall Show and Sale Promotion Meeting. Mary supplied minutes. Nine people attended the meeting. Mary has received a lot of comments and good ideas, however, few step up to execute the ideas. The promotional PDF is almost ready to go. David brought up what he has seen on social media. As a result, Sites are interested in providing content

New Business: Fall Show: All. Fall will be a People's Choice show (not professionally judged). We will not rent tables, vendors will receive a maximum of 4 table each. Peter B. provided table layout. On Friday, we will start to set up at 10:00, lunch will be provided at 1:00 p.m., and we should finish by 3 or 4. The "Ask an Expert" table will be across from the Cashier area on a table that shields the Show.

The Board agreed to send out postcards again, words only, no pictures. Instead of a coupon for \$1 off, it will offer a free plant. **Other items:** Mary, as President, sent Club information to the Secretary of State, which non-profits must do every two years.

David noted that he purchased a new book for the Library.

Adjournment: Mary Cross

Respectfully submitted by Meryl Abramson

AUGUST MEETING

August Meeting: Country Store **August 18th** **12:00pm**

Our August meeting will be the annual Country Store held at Naomi Bloss' house in Watsonville. This event is a club favorite and we encourage everyone to join in on the fun.

How it works:

- Everyone brings 4-8 items to contribute to the store. This can include healthy, strong plants (does not have to be rare or expensive), books, pots, top dressings, tools, art, or anything related.
- Items are separated onto tables by category
- Tickets are sold at 8 tickets for \$5.00
- Members put their tickets towards any or all of the tables
- Names are picked raffle style and members get their pick from the items left on the table

This event turns into a fun, loud, social event and we all get to go home with new plants and items to enjoy. The proceeds of the Country Store go to the club to fund future events.

- Bring a chair
- Bring a snack or lunch
- Bring a box to take home your new plants

134 Trabing Road, Watsonville

Take the Buena Vista Exit off Hwy 1

From the south head away from the hwy to Trabing Road

From the north head across the hwy to Trabing Road

Turn left on Trabing and right on Azure Lane

Look for the cactus signs

CLUB STUFF

In the Library

The MBACSS lending library has a new acquisition. It is "Dudleyas: A Collector's Guide to the Genus" and is a comprehensive and beautifully illustrated reference work that delves deep into this unique genus of succulent plants. Authors Jeremy Spath, Kelly Griffin, and Jeff Moore, all respected experts in the field of succulents, have come together to create an essential guide for both novice and experienced Dudleya enthusiasts. The foreword to the book was written by Stephen McCabe, our local Dudleya authority. And you're probably familiar with contributing author Jeff Moore who has presented at our meetings in that past.

The book begins with an introduction to the Dudleya genus, covering its botanical history, taxonomy, and distribution across the west coast of North America. It then dives into detailed profiles of the various Dudleya species, subspecies, and cultivars, providing key identification details, habitat information, and cultivation requirements for each. The photography throughout the book showcases the diversity of Dudleya forms, from the rosettes of *D. pulverulenta* to the cascading clusters of *D. cymosa*.

One of the book's standout features is the attention paid to Dudleya conservation. The authors highlight the threats facing many Dudleya species, such as habitat loss and over-collection, and provide guidance on sustainable collection and propagation practices. This emphasis on conservation underscores the authors' deep commitment to preserving these unique plants for future generations. There is also a good section on cultivation.

For both the serious collector and the casual gardener, "Dudleyas" is an essential resource. The clear and concise writing, combined with the book's beautiful design, make it a pleasure to read and a good reference. Whether you're looking to expand your Dudleya collection or simply appreciate the natural beauty of these remarkable succulents, this book is sure to captivate and inform.

Overall, "Dudleyas: A Collector's Guide to the Genus" is a great addition to our library. It is a testament to the authors' expertise and a valuable contribution to the field of succulent horticulture. The book will be available for borrowing at future MBACSS meetings.

CLUB NEWS

Upcoming meetings:

August 18, 2024

Country Store @ Naomi's
No speaker
No mini show

Sept 15, 2024

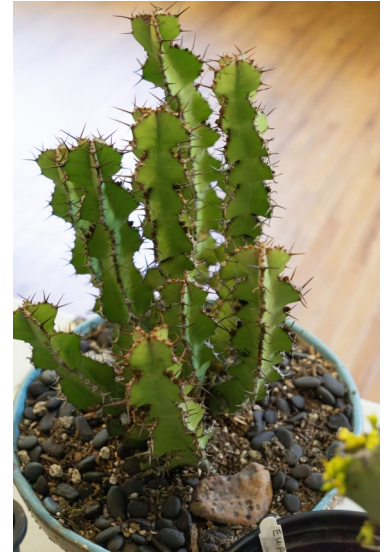
Presenter: Russel Ray
Topic: Nature's Geometry: Succulents
Mini Show: Show and Tell

Oct 20, 2024

Presenter: TBD
Topic:
Mini Show: Show and Tell

Nov 17, 2024

Presenter: J. D. Wikert
Topic: Gymnocalycium
Mini Show: Show and Tell



Future MBACSS Sales Save the Dates

Here are the dates of the
upcoming sales for 2024

Fall 2024 - Aug 31, Sep 1

Spring 2025 - Apr 19, 20



LEADERSHIP

Officers and Chairpersons for 2024 - 2025

Officers

President - Mary Cross
Vice President - Nancy Thomsen
Secretary - Meryl Abramson
Treasurer - Lou Falek
Membership - Lyn MacDonald
Affiliate Representative - Jorge Quiñónez
Directors at Large
 David Kurtz
 Peter Shaw
 Daisy Szeto
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 - Meryl Abramson
Sale Floor Manager - Peter Beiersdorfer
Show Managers - Naomi Bloss
Assistant Floor Manager - Janet Sparks
Sunshine Committee - Cheryl Albert
Webmaster - Diane Salewski
Greeter - Dave Novarina

See our website for more information

mbsucculent.org

Our next membership meeting will be:

Sunday, August 18, 2024
Naomi Bloss Residence
134 Trabing Road Watsonville

Take the Buena Vista Exit off Hwy 1
From the south head away from the hwy to Trabing Road
From the north head across the hwy to Trabing Road
Turn left on Trabing and right on Azure Lane

This event will begin at noon. Come early to drop off your items and browse the offerings.