



# ON THE DRY SIDE

## APRIL 2026

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Spring! My plants love the nice weather and the rain. Every time it rains, I notice at least one plant decides to bloom. Every winter the weeds start and I ignore them until spring, then take several weeks to clear them. At least it's not raining every weekend.

I have been promoting the show and sale since the fall show and sale. You may be tired of hearing about it. The members who have been working on this event at a new venue are excited about this sale. There has been extensive promotion and publicity. Committee members have walked neighborhoods handing out postcards and encouraging people to attend. The Capitola Mall is promoting our event. This will be one of our biggest sales ever. For a sale this big, we need YOU! We need help – mostly cashiers and packers. I think these are the best positions! You get to see all the plants purchased and how excited and happy our customers are with their new plants. Please see the Show and Sale page in the newsletter to sign up for a shift.

There is no membership meeting this weekend due to the show and sale next weekend. Our next membership meeting will be Sunday, May 17.

I cannot express how grateful I am that members stepped up to help with the show and sale. Stan Verkler, Diane Salewski, Lyn MacDonald, Lou Falek, Jorge Quiñónez. Since the pandemic, I have been running this with just a couple of people to help. The committee members have revolutionized this event. Please let them know what a great job they did.

Nancy Thomsen  
President

### CONTENTS:

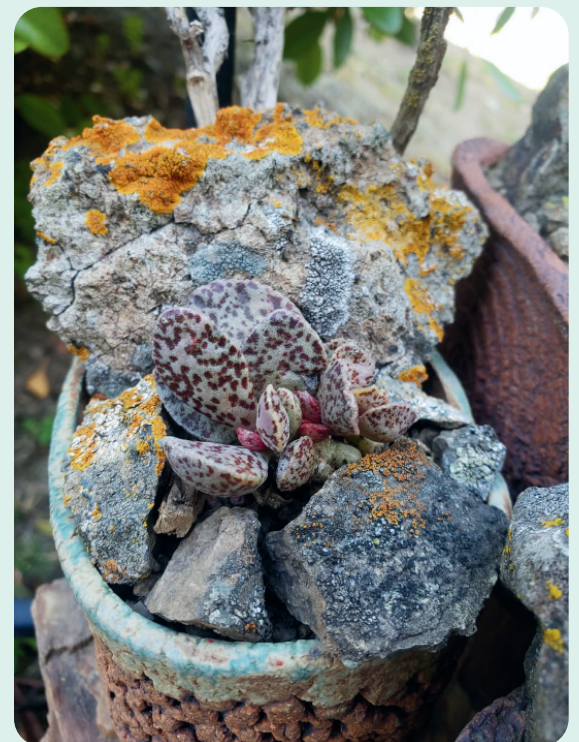
**2 - Meeting Minutes**

**3 - Spring Show & Sale**

**4 - Beginner's Guide**

**5 - Club News**

**6 - Leadership**



# MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order: Nancy Thomsen

Members present: Nancy Thomsen, Jon Lubbe, Mary Cross, Lyn MacDonald, Lou Falek, Jorge Quiñonez, Stan Verkler, Meryl Abramson.

Minutes of 2/1/2026: Approved with revision.

Treasurer's report: Lou. Accepted as presented. The Mall has validated, signed the rental agreement; Spring Show & Sale rental paid; Bonsai Club check received for half.

Membership Report: Lyn. We have 8 new members so far.

Last Meeting, comments and suggestions: All. None.

Next Meeting, Jorge. Carl Carter, the president of S.F. Bromeliad Society, will speak. Stan will supply the Raffle plants.

Spring Show & Sale: Stan, Lyn, Jorge, Nancy. Table delivery scheduled for 1:00 p.m. on Friday. Postcards approved by both Clubs, 5000 postcards were \$150. No flyers, no USPS mailing; we will place stacks in various venues and will be given out to members at the General Meeting. We purchased large outdoor banners with our logo, Club name, and website. A motion was made to lower vendor fees due to highly reduced rental costs for the Show. Board voted to reduce Club take to 20% for potters and 25% for plant vendors. This show will open to more vendors due to increased space. Lyn is ordering pizza from Village Host on Friday; volunteers will have a special lanyard, and she is donating water bottles to volunteers since there is no running water available to us. Diane has been doing a lot of promotion.

I volunteer: Lyn is finishing jobs and times this week. David noted the program is up for renewal and Lou will renew. No demonstrations are planned.

New Business: All. An ice cream social paired with a Succulent Bingo was discussed as an alternative to Country Store (in August) or in October. David shared that there is a good CSAA webinar on YouTube. Meryl was approved to donate a Bonsai Basics book to the library.

Old Business: All. The sound system seems to be working and will be kept in the Membership Box. Member perks not discussed (noted here as a place holder).

Adjournment: Nancy. Respectfully submitted by Meryl Abramson

# SPRING SHOW AND SALE

## WHEN:

**Saturday, April 25 - 10am to 5pm**  
**Sunday, April 26 - 10am to 4pm**

## WHERE:

**41st Ave, Capitola Mall, Capitola**

## VOLUNTEERS:

We still need volunteers for the Spring Show and Sale next weekend. This is your opportunity to help the club in this important event. The sales are where the club make the funds to pay our speakers, buy raffle plants, put on the Winter Buffet and Auction, pay for the grange hall, etc.

**Please sign up for a shift, just one shift. You will receive a MBACSS branded water bottle and lunch.**

[https://mbcss.ivolunteer.com/volunteer\\_spring\\_2026](https://mbcss.ivolunteer.com/volunteer_spring_2026)

There is plenty of parking near the entrance to the mall. Park near the old Sears building. When you enter, find the Volunteer/ Membership table near checkout to receive your "Volunteer" badge and water bottle. You will be guided to your work area and given instructions. We ask that you come early to shop and visit. The shifts are arranged around lunch time so please complete your shift before heading to the lunch tent.



## PUBLICITY:

Please pass out your postcards and forward the sale information to friends and family. We are attempting to promote by posting photos of our members' plants on our Facebook and Instagram pages. Please send your garden or plant photos to Diane so she can post them.  
[dianesalewski16@gmail.com](mailto:dianesalewski16@gmail.com)

## SHOW:

Every member is encouraged to bring a plant on Friday afternoon to put in the show. This is a People's Choice show judged by the public, so bring plants with the biggest WOW factor! The plants can be picked up Sunday afternoon.

# BEGINNER'S GUIDE

## BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO EPIPHYLLUMS OR ORCHID CACTI

By R.W. Kelly "Cacti and Succulents," 1941

Deservedly taking the spotlight with all the dramatic appeal of a lovely leading lady, we find our "orchid cacti" getting more and more applause as its distinctive, breath-taking beauty becomes known to more lovers of flowers.

The orchid cactus can truly be described as a composite of many beautiful blossoms. It has the patrician loveliness of the rose the brilliant coloring of the dahlia, the waxlike, dewy freshness of the orchid and the camellia.

In colors, these skillfully hybridized Epiphyllum blossom range from purest white to flashy shades of carmine, cerise and purple, through a wide range of intermediate blended shades of creamy yellow, soft pinks and cool violets, and stunning reds. In size they vary from the three inch clustering blossoms of the dainty Empress types to the giant ten inch flowers of many larger varieties.

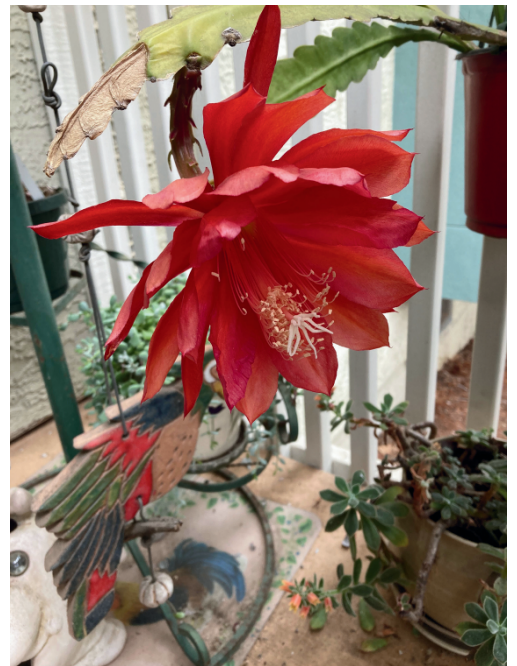
In habitat, orchid cactus follow the exotic tropical flowers for which they are named, for they are not desert cactus. Their parents originated in luxuriant tropical forests, growing in rich humus on the ground or epiphytic in the crotches of trees. So these flowering cacti make ideal potted plants, some taking naturally to hanging baskets, while others grow more satisfactorily in containers suited to upright growth. They are at home in the house, in the conservatory, the lathhouse, the shaded patio or beneath a cherished shade tree.

### Epiphyllum Culture

Ideal soil mixture consists of 6 parts leaf mold, 3 parts well-rotted manure, and 4 parts decomposed granite or concrete sand, or a mixture of the two if both are available. The soil must be coarse so that it will drain easily and the pot or other container should have drainage holes at the bottom as water stagnation will cause damage to the roots. The branches of hanging basket types may be allowed to hang naturally but other kinds should be staked and tied for each in handling. The slender bamboo stakes sold by nurseries are ideal for this purpose. The soil should be kept moist at all times and the plant should be kept in partial shade.

The name Epiphyllum has priority of use according to the international rules governing botanical names and has been adopted by the Epiphyllum Society of America as the standard approved name. The name Phyllocacti referring to the same plant is a synonym and should be discarded. Rooted cuttings of about 6 inches long may not be expected to flower the first year. If buds appear, they should be removed to conserve the strength of the plant for new growth. Medium size plants are those which bear one to several branches and some of them may bloom the first year. Specimen size plants, 2 feet to 3 feet high – except the dwarf types - will bloom the first year.

Edited by Mary Cross (I have an upright type of "Epi" on my deck at this time that is currently budding to produce red flowers that last year were 6 inches across (see below)! Gorgeous! And very easy to grow)

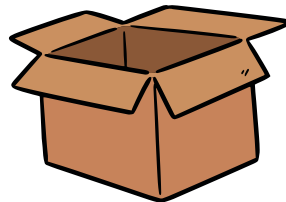


# CLUB NEWS



## BRING YOUR BOXES!

Remember to bring boxes to be used at the Spring Show and Sale April 25th & 26th!



## UPCOMING MEETINGS:

### April

No membership meeting

### May 17, 2026

Topic: Re-potting workshop

Mini Show: Show & Tell

## SHOW & SALE DATES:

Spring 2026

April 25, 26

**New venue - Capitola Mall**

Fall 2026

Sept 26, 27

# LEADERSHIP

## 2026 OFFICERS

**President:** Nancy Thomsen  
**Vice President:** Jon Lubbe  
**Secretary:** Meryl Abramson  
**Treasurer:** Lou Falek  
**Membership:** Lyn MacDonald  
**Affiliate Representative:** Jorge Quiñónez  
**Directors at Large:**  
David Kurtz  
Dave Autore  
Diane Salewski  
**Immediate Past President:** Mary Cross  
**Founding Member:**

## CHAIRPERSONS

**Librarian:** David Kurtz  
**Mini-Show:** Tyson Curtis  
**Newsletter Editor:** Nancy Thomsen  
**Newsletter Designer:** Leia Dilley  
**Photography:** Paul Albert  
**Programs:** Jorge Quiñónez  
**Raffles:** Meryl Abramson  
**Sales Floor Manager:** Peter Beiersdorfer  
**Assistant Floor Manager:** Janet Sparks  
**Sunshine Committee:** Cheryl Albert  
**Webmaster:** Diane Salewski  
**Greeter:** Dave Novarina

**See our website for  
more information!**

**[mbsucculent.org](http://mbsucculent.org)**

## MEMBERSHIP MEETING INFORMATION

There is plenty of parking near the hall and the building is ADA accessible.  
Doors open at 11:00am  
Bring your own lunch starts at 12:00pm  
Meeting starts at 12:30pm

**Location:**  
**Corralitos Grange**  
**165 Little Corral Way, Corralitos.**