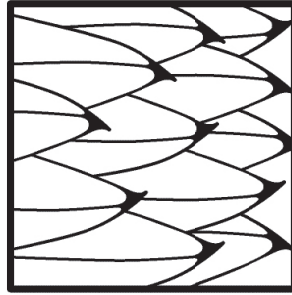


Central Coast Cactus  
& Succulent Society  
c/o Terry Excell  
1680 13th Street  
Los Osos, CA 93402



# On the Dry Side

JUNE 2012

## CCCSS May Meeting Recap

Minutes from May 13, 2012

We had a good turnout for our meeting on Mother's Day. President Gene Schroeder presided over the meeting by greeting our first-time visitors and offering them a free plant, as well as giving plants to the members who provided our snacks. Gene then introduced past-president Mary Peracca. She presented the slate of candidates for the Society's Executive Board. All were running unopposed and were elected by acclamation. The Society's incoming Executive Board will be installed at the next meeting and is as follows: President, Charles Varni; Vice-President, Markus Mumper; Secretary, Carol Moss; Treasurer, Maggie Wagner; Newsletter Editor, Terry Excell; Publicity, Wayne Mills; and Members-At-Large, Jim Harlow and Nicole DeVecchio.

Rob Skillin, who is coordinating planning for the Show & Sale, thanked his committee members and said plans were going smoothly. Volunteers were encouraged to sign up with Pat Gilson. A special category for rookies was added to the Novice class for first-time showmen in an effort to encourage people who are just getting started to participate, even though their plants may not be the most spectacular in the show. Volunteers at the show and sale will receive a discount on the trip to the CSSA Show & Sale at The Huntington Gardens parking lot on June 30 being planned by Jim Harlow. Our group will have a special tour of the desert area for which the entrance fee of \$14 to The Huntington must be paid, in addition to the cost of the bus trip. Entry materials for the CSSA Show are available from Rob Skillin.

Gene reported that the review of the Society's by-laws has been put on hold and mentioned that the July meeting will include members of the Garden Club and encouraged us to put our best faces forward. Our new tee-shirts were on sale for \$15.

Charles Spotts talked about the plant of the month, Echinocereus. There are from 30-50 species in this genus, named from the Greek echino – meaning spiny/hedgehog/sea urchin – and the Latin cereus – which means candle (for their columnar growth). They grow in the American southwest – Texas, New Mexico and California – but primarily in Mexico. They have huge, bright flowers and can bloom for weeks; they have spiny fruits. They are not hard to grow. Use standard cactus procedures including good sun, air circulation. They have adapted to diverse climates.

We had the pleasure of a presentation by Woody Minnick. After some technical difficulties delayed his program, he took us on a beautiful visual trip around the great American southwest. Besides being a world-renowned expert on Mammillaria and the location of the best plants in habitat, his photographs of plants, animals and scenery are spectacular, and his travelogue is entertaining. Don't miss him when he comes back!

~ Submitted by Carol Moss

**May Board Meeting Notes:**

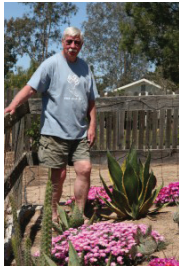
Due to the length of the regular meeting, the Board's meeting was short. The following items were briefly discussed:

- In June we will install the new board members and transition the various duties of each position.
- Contact information needs to be updated – Gene will coordinate with our Web designer.
- The June 30 tour, including how much of the cost will be subsidized by the club.
- The Sixth Annual Show & Sale.

One of our long-time members, Claire Paget, recently passed away. Claire was always willing to help, bring food & volunteer at the Show & Sale even though she was well into her nineties. Sign her guest book at <http://sanluisobispo.com/obituaries>

Someone left a jacket and another person left a broom at our recent show and sale.

If you can claim these items please e-mail Rob Skillin at: [rskillin@gmail.com](mailto:rskillin@gmail.com)



**A SUCCULENT GARDEN**  
**Saturday at the Garden - Succulents- Ideal Landscaping for Today**  
**Saturday, June 9 from 1 PM to 3 PM**

South County resident and **Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society President Gene Schroeder** will share his expertise with succulents at the San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden's Oak Glen Pavilion on Saturday, June 9 from 1 PM to 2 PM. With water conservation and fire prevention being topics of current interest to residents of the Central Coast, Gene's presentation will support the role of succulents in these critical areas, as well as providing information about how succulents grow and can be chosen to successfully enhance a landscape.

A retired engineer, Gene describes himself as a long time admirer of the plants that have adapted to live and thrive in dry areas of the world. Starting with a few plants in his collection, his hobby has grown to include propagation and conservation of succulents. As well as being the current President of the Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society, Gene is a member of both American and British succulent societies, as well as being a Master Gardener. He is a frequent volunteer at the Nipomo Native Gardens, and is also a member there.

Presentation is \$5 for Garden and CCCSS members/\$10 non-members. For more information contact 805.541.1400x304 or [education@slobg.org](mailto:education@slobg.org). To be followed by a free docent-led tour in the Garden.

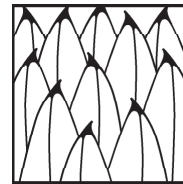
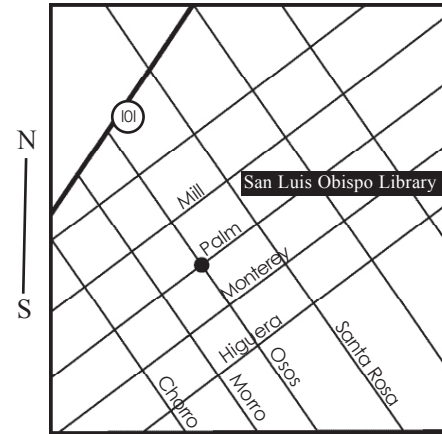
A \$3 fee is charged for parking by San Luis Obispo County Parks in El Chorro Regional Park April through September on weekends and holidays.

# NEXT meeting:

Sun. June 10 at  
2:00 pm

San Luis Obispo  
Public Library

995 Palm Street  
San Luis Obispo



Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society  
 e-mail to Terry Excell: [txraidrs@gmail.com](mailto:txraidrs@gmail.com)  
 All submissions to the CCCSS newsletter must be submitted two weeks prior to the monthly meeting.

<b>PRESIDENT</b> Gene Schroeder 929-2161	<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b> Mary Peracca 550-6977	<b>SECRETARY</b> Carol Moss 438-4906	<b>CCSS AFFILIATE</b> Rob Skillin 473-0788	<b>TREASURER</b> Edie Price 489-8491
<b>EDITOR</b> Terry Excell 528-4478	<b>ASST. EDITOR</b> Carrol Moss 438-4906	<b>PUBLICITY</b> Wayne Mills 481-3495	<b>LIBRARIANS</b> Jan Moon 927-1310 Maggie Wagner 773-1499	<b>HOSPITALITY</b> Pat Gilson 481-5596 Ann Byrne 934-0492

A one time free newsletter will be mailed out to those who sign in at the monthly meetings. After this dues must be paid in order to start a subscription.

**SPEAKER OF THE MONTH:  
Craig Fry**



Craig will present a program:

“Cultivation of Difficult Cactus and Succulents” and will consist of a 15 minute discussion/demonstration and 40 minute slide show, followed by an opportunity for questions. He will also be bringing plants and top dressing for sale. Craig has been growing cacti and succulents for over 20 years and has specialized in growing rare and difficult plants. He and his wife Denise now have a collection of over 3000 varieties of almost every type of succulent, mostly of the small and slow growing collector type species. They grow many from seed and sell plants and top dressings under the name “C and D Plants.” You can find these plants and top dressings listed on their web site: [www.canddplants.com](http://www.canddplants.com). They have also posted pictures of their plants on the Cacti Guide Forum Section: [www.cactiguide.com](http://www.cactiguide.com) which can also be accessed through their website page heading: “About Us.”

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**Upcoming Events**

**June 9-10**

Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society. LACSS Drought Tolerant Plant Festival & Sale. Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA. For Information: [lacss.com](http://lacss.com)

**June 29-July 1**

CSSA Annual Show & Sale. Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino

**June 30**

CSSA Annual Meeting, Huntington Botanical Gardens. *This will be our club bus trip; see information below.*

**July 27-28**

Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale. Sale Friday July 27: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday July 28: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Anaheim Methodist Church, 1000 S. State College Blvd., Anaheim, CA. For information call: Vince Basta 714-267-4329 or Lori Cox 562-587-3357.

**August 11 & 12**

Inter-City Show & Sale, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia, CA. 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m.

**September 1**

Huntington Symposium, Huntington Botanical Gardens.

**September 2**

CSSA Board Meeting, Huntington Botanical Gardens.

**September 15 & 16**

Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society Fall Show & Sale. Garden of Jardines Restaurant, 115 Third St., San Juan Bautista, CA 95045.

**Huntington Botanical Gardens Trip**

For those of you who would like to participate in the bus trip on June 30th, please bring a **CHECK** to the meeting on June 10th. There are 48 seats available. There will be snacks and plant raffles included in the cost of the bus trip. The club has arranged a discount fee of \$14 for entrance to the Gardens and Library; a special tour of the Cactus Garden is included in this price. (you do not have to purchase the entrance fee, but it is highly recommended!)

**Trip cost will be based on:**

Member and worked show.....	\$10 + \$14=	<b>\$24</b>
Member and DID NOT work show....	\$20 + \$14=	<b>\$34</b>
Non-Member.....	\$35 + \$14=	<b>\$49</b>



<b>Best in Show Awards</b>		
<b>Permanent</b>	<b>Winning Entry</b>	<b>Entrant</b>
Open Class -Best Cactus	<i>Ariocarpus retusus</i>	Rob Skillin
Open Class -Best Succulent	<i>Pachypodium namaquanum</i>	Rob Skillin
Advanced Class -Best Cactus	<i>Mammillaria pettersonii</i>	Richard Deming
Advanced Class -Best Succulent	<i>Fockea edulis</i>	Jan Moon
Novice Class -Best Cactus	<i>Copiapoa paposoensis</i>	Sheri Swall
Novice Class -Best Succulent	<i>Dyckia hybrid</i>	Ken & Ann Byrne
<b>Sponsored Awards</b>	<b>Winning Entry</b>	<b>Entrant</b>
Best Baja Native Entry	<i>Ferocactus chrysacanthus</i>	Richard Deming
Best Caudiciform Entry	<i>Cibrihiza albersiana</i>	Rob Skillin
Best Collection	<i>Haworthia Collection</i>	Markus Mumper
Best Chihuahan Desert Cacti	<i>Epilanthia micromeris ssp unispina</i>	Rob Skillin
Best Rookie Entrant	<i>Euphorbia horida v. strafia</i>	Kimberly Kaufhold
Best Staged Entry	<i>Euphorbia misera</i>	Jan Moon
Best Crested Entry	<i>Ariocarpus crest</i>	Rob Skillin
Outstanding Agavaceae	<i>Yucca endlichiana</i>	Gene Schroeder
Outstanding Aloeaceae	<i>Aloe ramosissima</i>	Nick Wilkinson
Outstanding Crassulaceae	<i>Adromischus "Madame X"</i>	Greg Dechirico
Outstanding Dish Garden		Pat Gilson
Outstanding Echeveria	<i>Echeveria cante</i>	Nick Wilkinson
Outstanding Euphorbia	<i>Euphorbia bupleurifolia</i>	Nick Wilkinson
Outstanding Gymnocalycium	<i>Gymnocalycium beyerianum</i>	Larry Stabler
Outstanding Haworthia	<i>Haworthia maughanii</i>	Markus Mumper/Maggie Wagner
Outstanding Mammillaria	<i>Mammillaria lenta</i>	Rob Skillin
Outstanding Mesemb	<i>Pleiospilos bolusuii</i>	Jan Moon
Outstanding Sansevieria	<i>Sansevieria trifaciata ' Moonglow'</i>	Mary Paracca

**Charles Spotts is on a holiday! No plant of the Month.**

For our June meeting, bring your questions for our guest speaker, Craig Fry. All of us have difficult succulents. He is the specialist to ask!!!

**2012 SHOW AND SALE**

The show and sale was a great success. There were multiple changes that made it a more satisfying experience for show participants, vendors and the public. This year the floor plan was changed to include a dedicated Sales room; the show was in totally separate rooms with one room for Cactus and the other for Succulents and the show winners.... a great improvement over prior shows.

Other changes included computer scanning at checkout and a Plant Auction. Computer scanning of the sales plants allowed for speedier checkout; although the lines were often long, the wait time was much shorter. The plant auction was run by Nick Wilkinson. It gave people the opportunity to acquire incredible plants at auction prices; the auction was open to both club members and the general public.

**GOOD JOB TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED!**



Nick taking bids!



Succulent Showroom



Sales & plant hotel



Cactus Showroom