



CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

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JANUARY 2017

CCCSS is a member of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA), which holds a nationwide convention every other year. CSSA has proposed that CCCSS host the 2019 convention during the summer here in San Luis Obispo. Preparation for the convention would include a number of sub-committees and between 65 and 100 volunteers who, in addition to the sub-committees, would spend four or more hours of time and labor for various functions during the actual event. The only income that CCCSS would get from the event is the revenue from the sale of tee-shirts and other similar items, which would be designed and purchased by CCCSS.

Please review the attached detailed information from a meeting Board members and other volunteers attended with Gunnar Eisel, the General Manager of CSSA. At the January general membership meeting on January 8, members will be asked for a preliminary indication of their interest in hosting the 2019 convention and for an indication of their tentative interest in volunteering to prepare for and host the event. You will not be asked for any commitments, just an indication of your interest in pursuing this activity.

NOTES FROM A SPECIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS THE 2019 CSSA CONVENTION.

On Sunday, December 18, 2016, the following people met at the home of Kathie and Paul Matsuyama to meet with Gunnar Eisel, a representative of CSSA: Randy Ball, Barbara Brooks (Membership), Anne Byrne (Librarian), Ken Byrne (President), Tim Dawson, Bill Findley, Pat Gilson (Hospitality), Christy Keeling, Karen Kolba, Terrie Leivers, Loring Manley, Kathie Matsuyama (Vice President), Paul Matsuyama, Wayne Mills (Publicity), Carol Mortensen, Carol Moss (Secretary), Markus Mumper, Gene Schroeder, Terry Skillin (Member at Large), and Maggie Wagner (Treasurer).

After some fellowship and enjoyment of an elaborate luncheon, the participants assembled and Ken Byrne introduced Gunnar Eisel, who has been the General Manager of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) for seven years. The Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society (CCCSS) is a member of CSSA, which hosts a convention every other year. CCCSS has been suggested as a host for the CSSA convention in 2019. This meeting was arranged to give CCCSS members the opportunity to hear from CSSA regarding expectations of the host club so that we can decide if our club is ready, able and willing to host the convention in 2019, particularly since the suggestion resulted in some initial pushback from the Board of Directors, which will eventually vote on whether or not to agree to be a host. We have the choice of hosting it alone, or joining with the Santa Barbara and/or Monterey area succulent societies.

OUR NEXT MEETING: SUNDAY JANUARY 8, 2PM

THE ODD FELLOWS HALL 520 DANA ST. (OFF NIPOMO ST.) *mark your calendar!*

Gunnar Eisel (geisel@citruscollege.edu) introduced himself and assured us that he was not going to present a sales job, but was here to help us understand what is involved in hosting a convention. He explained that responsibilities are divided between the local host and CSSA. Financial responsibility rests with CSSA, and the local club provides volunteers who perform various functions, including choosing the facility where the event will be held. Another local responsibility is compiling the Program Book and securing local advertising.

For the 2017 convention in Tempe, Arizona, Woody Minnich is arranging for speakers and Peter Walkowiak is arranging for vendors. It was suggested that similar help will be available for the 2019 convention, which can be scheduled so that it does not interfere with our annual Show and Sale (S&S) on Memorial Day Weekend. It was determined that August might be a good time for the Central Coast convention. CSSA believes our location is good as it is central to most of California.

Following Gunnar's initial remarks, the meeting was opened to questions. Following is a summary of the topics discussed.

Budgets are established by CSSA, and apparently there is room for changes as plans progress. Any local budget overages are discouraged, but will be covered by CSSA.

- All profits derived from the convention are the property of CSSA, with the exception of any income that CCCSS gets from the sale of tee-shirts, bags, posters and other items (aside from pots and plants) that CCCSS must first purchase for resale.
- A major consideration is the number of volunteers and man-hours that are required from the host organization. Volunteers should expect to spend four hours or more of time and labor for various functions during the actual event.
- There are numerous sub-committees required, including Booklet, Cashier, Registration, Sales, Security, Logo/Tee-Shirt, Badges, Gift Bags, Ribbons, Publicity, and others. All committees are filled by volunteers from the host club.
- Host members do not receive free passes to the events, although discounts will be offered to volunteers who contribute significant time; free or discounted fees will be proportional, depending on time spent.
- Any volunteers or members who wish to attend any or all events must belong to CSSA and, except for possible exemptions mentioned above, will pay the full fee.
- Volunteers are needed for all four days of the event, including staffing the registration tables and providing security.
- The host selects a suitable facility, but the final decision is made by CSSA, which will send representatives to decide on the final venue. Considerations include the number of rooms available (keeping the total to 90 – 110 rooms), room rates, location, type of meeting rooms, etc.
- The major expense is paying for the speakers; CSSA negotiates with each speaker, and rates vary depending on factors such as distance travelled and housing. Speakers can stay at the homes of host members.
- Average paid attendance at conventions is between 185 and 250, with speakers and volunteers making the total about 300 participants. The registration fee is approximately \$200.
- Considerations for holding the event on the Central Coast include our location, which, although central to California, is expensive and/or time-consuming to reach. This could affect attendance.
- Attendees can choose to sign up for the entire program, or can sign up for individual events.
- It was noted that our S&S is successful, in part, because it is scheduled on a holiday weekend, and many other events are available in the area on that weekend.
- The host club is responsible for the Program Book (a glossy, professional publication); templates are available.

- The host club is expected to prepare a presentation outlining details of its participation. Apparently it is already late for a presentation for the 2019 convention, but if we decide to host the event, our presentation would be scheduled for April with CSSA.
- No sample presentation is available. At this time, only a commitment is required for the April meeting.
- The convention offers field trips for an additional fee, which are not a part of the official events. All occur on the same day on one of the four days of the convention. They can be all-day tours and are not necessarily succulent-related (e.g., Hearst Castle).
- Arrangements for audio/video equipment are the responsibility of the local host, although the equipment is often available as part of the venue's package.
- There is an opening banquet, but not a closing one.
- Peter Walkowiak chooses the vendors, and local vendors do not get preference.
- There is no "show"; just sales and an auction, which was described as "a big deal." The auction is run by CSSA with a 30/70 split (CSSA/provider).
- Publicity for the event is in the CSSA Journal, and they also send out a mailer. Local publicity is done by the host.
- It was suggested that CCCSS committee members could attend the 2017 convention in Tempe to experience an actual event.
- Tee-shirts will be sold, with a logo possibly designed by the local club.
- The local host chooses the dates.
- CSSA supplies cash registers for sales; we provide our own for the items we sell. Funds are kept separate.
- A hand vote by the general membership will be taken at the January 2017 CCCSS meeting to measure membership interest in volunteering.
- Volunteers do not have to be members of CSSA, but attendees must be members of CSSA.
- It was reported that the Santa Barbara club may be interesting in helping, but no other clubs have expressed an interest.
- Apparently there are eleven subcommittees associated with planning.
- CSSA has about 1,000 members in California and Arizona.
- Although dates are selected by the host, dates should be chosen so as to not interfere with other cactus and succulent events throughout the state.
- The host club is responsible for hospitality and security.
- Host clubs have always been asked to do a write-up after their participation, but none has ever done so.
- There is a written agreement with CSSA.
- Guidelines are to be provided to Gunnar.
- The local club has a budget.
- The most important consideration is selection of the hotel/venue.
- Reservations at the hotel cannot be taken until speakers and other participants have committed.
- Sign-up for the Tempe convention is in February for the Tempe event in July 2017.
- No advertisement is to be done prior to the Tempe event so that potential attendees don't skip Tempe in summer to come to San Luis Obispo.

Special thanks to the Matsuyamas and others who contributed to this meeting. It was a valuable and enjoyable experience.

Notes by Carol Harlow Moss

HOLIDAY POTLUCK

I hope everyone who attended the potluck enjoyed themselves. I'd also like to say thank you to all those who were kind enough to cover for me. If anyone has any comments or suggestions for next year's Potluck, please let me know.

Happy New Year,

Pat

JANUARY SPEAKER OF THE MONTH: ALAN BEVERLY

Biology and Cultivation of Aloe polyphylla

Alan has a B.A. in Environmental Biology from UCSB, 1973 Plant Ecology and a MSc. from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, 1979 Agricultural Plant Sciences.

His career has included:

- Peace Corps Lesotho 1973-77 High School Science Teacher and Research Associate at the Sehlabathebe National Park in Lesotho, Africa, studying Aloe polyphylla
- 1980 Commercial Grower of Cactus & Succulents for Robin Stockwell's Nursery, Succulent Gardens
- 1982-2016 Landscape Contractor
- 1992 Introduction of the Spiral Aloe to the nursery industry
- 1996-present Certified and Consulting Arborist

Alan will be bringing some 1 gal plants for sale at a bargain price for our members!!



PLANT OF THE MONTH: CORYPHANTHA & ESCOBARIA

by Kyle Williams

Coryphantha and *Escobaria* are two moderate sized genera (57 and 23 species respectively) of small North American cacti similar in appearance to *Mammillaria* and were originally included in that genus. They share in common a small, mostly globular, stature and an incredible level of cold tolerance, at least in some species.

Escobaria vivipara and *E. missouriensis* are particularly widespread species covering most of western and midwestern North America. In fact, the native range of *E. vivipara* extends all the way into Canada, a feat matched only by a few species of *Opuntia*. This cold tolerance allows people in even the coldest climates to grow these species outdoors.

While all plants in this group are relatively small, many can form good sized clumps in time (much like *Mammillaria*). Some of the variation between species includes having globular plants and more cylindrical, upright plants. Flowers vary from yellow to pink. Some species are covered in dense white spines while others are more sparsely covered, allowing the green body of the plant to shine through. A large number of species produce tap roots.

Cultivation is similar to *Mammillaria* and other small cacti. While some members of these genera are renowned for their cold tolerance, keep in mind many species come from warm climates. Of course that isn't much of an issue for us in California, but anyone growing them in cold climates should insure they pick the cold tolerant species.

Coryphantha and *Escobaria* are two closely related genera that are in turn closely related to *Mammillaria*. In fact many botanists feel that *Escobaria* should not be recognized as a genus, instead lumping all the species in *Coryphantha* itself. This is what the authors of "The Flora of North America", the field guide to all the plants of the USA and Canada, chose to do.

To make it even more complicated, there is evidence to suggest that *Coryphantha* shouldn't be a genus either and should all be considered species of *Mammillaria*! *Coryphantha* and *Escobaria* differ from *Mammillaria* largely in flowering on new growth while *Mammillaria* blooms primarily on previous year's growth. *Coryphantha* and *Escobaria* differ from each other only by details of the seeds.

Confused yet? Unless you are a botanist it doesn't really matter. The important thing is to learn about these plants and just call them a name you are comfortable with until the botanists sort out the relationship issues. Don't be shocked, however, if one day we are calling all of them *Mammillaria* once again.

Reprinted from the Los Angeles Cactus and Succulent Society Cactus Chronicle July 2014



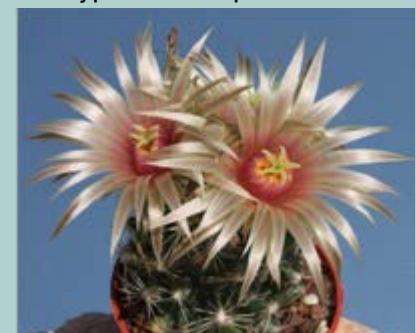
Coryphantha nelliæ



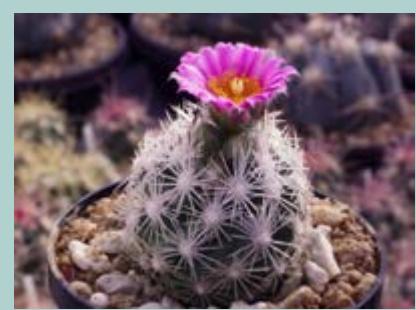
Coryphantha sulcata



Coryphantha elephantidens



Escobaria missouriensis



Escobaria hesteri



Escobaria laredoi

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 8: CCCSS Meeting

BIG EVENT IN JANUARY: Huntington Desert Forum, Saturday, January 14th; Huntington Botanic Gardens, 1150 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA. Info on last page of newsletter.

February 11 San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society – Winter Show and Sale Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego http://sdcss.net/sdcss_004.htm

February 12: CCCSS Meeting

March TBA Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society—Spring Show and Sale, 1000 S. State College Boulevard (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim. INFO: 562-587-3357

http://occss.org/wp_occss_new/

April 8-9 South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society—Show and Sale South Coast Botanical Gardens, 26300 Crenshaw Boulevard INFO 310-578-1953 INFO: <http://www.southcoastcss.org>

April 23 Huntington Plant Sale 10am-4:30pm 626-405-3504 Huntington Botanical Gardens 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino. INFO: <http://www.huntington.org>

May 5-6 Sunset Cactus & Succulent Show and Sale INFO 310-822-1783 Veterans Memorial Center, Garden Room, 4117 Overland Avenue, Culver City. INFO: <http://www.sunsetsucculentsociety.org>

May 7 South Bay Epiphyllum Society Show & Sale—9am-4pm South Coast Botanical Gardens. INFO: 310 833-6823 <http://www.mattslandscape.com/sbes/>

May 12-13 Gates Cactus & Succulent Society 34th Show & Sale Friday & Saturday 9-4:30 Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center, 7621 Granite Hill Drive Glen Avon. INFO: 951-360-8802 <http://gatescss.org>

May 20-21 Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show & Sale 10am-5pm Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bix by Hill Road, Long Beach. INFO: 310 922-6090 <http://www.lbccs.org>

May 20-21 Monterey Bay Area Cactus and Succulent Society Show & Sale – Spring. INFO: <http://www.mbsucculent.org/>

May 27 & 28 Central South Coast Cactus & Succulent Sale & Show 10am-4pm Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa, San Luis Obispo .INFO: 805-237-2054 www.centralcoastcactus.org

June 3 & 4 San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society - Summer Show & Sale Balboa Park, Room 101, San Diego. INFO: http://sdcss.net/sdcss_004.htm

June TBA San Francisco Succulent & Cactus Society Show & Sale – San Francisco County Fair Building at 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way, San Francisco. INFO: <http://sfsucculent.org/>

June 10-11 Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society Plant Show & Sale, Saturday, 11th 9am-5pm, Sunday, 12th 9am-3:30pm, Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Boulevard, Encino. INFO www.lacactus.com

June 30 – July 3 CSSA Annual Show & Sale - Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Road Sales Start July 1-July 3. Show Opens on July 1st. INFO: <http://www.cssainc.org>

Join the CSSA

<http://cssa.myshopify.com/collections/join-cssa>



Cactus & Succulent Society of America

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 20-22 Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale, 1000 S. State College Bl., (Anaheim United Methodist Church) Anaheim. INFO 949 212-8417 http://occss.org/wp_occss_new/

CSSA Convention 2017 July 26-31 Tempe, Arizona <http://www.cssainc.org>

August 12-13 32nd Annual Intercity Show & Sale LA County Arboretum, 9am-5pm Daily, 301 No. Baldwin Ave, INFO: Tom Glavich 626 798-2430 or Artie Chavez 818-482-8795 <http://www.sgvcss.com>

September 2 Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium All Day at the Huntington. INFO: 626-405-3504 <http://www.cssainc.org>

September 3 Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction -12pm-5pm Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach. INFO: 310 922-6090

Sept or Oct TBA Monterey Bay Area Cactus and Succulent Society Show & Sale – Fall VFW Hall 1960 Freedom Blvd. Freedom, CA <http://www.mbsucculent.org/>

October 7-8 Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale INFO 661-831-8488 Mall View Road, Bakersfield, Saturday 10/8 10am-5pm, Sunday 10/9 11am-4pm <http://www.bakersfieldcactus.org/>

October 28-29 Palomar Show & Sale at San Diego Botanic Gardens. INFO hciservices@gmail.com <http://www.PalomarCactus.org>



Join the CSSA

<http://cssa.myshopify.com/collections/join-cssa>



Cactus & Succulent Society of America

FIRST GARDEN GATHERING: FEBRUARY 25, 2017

CCCSS has a new program to meet once a month in a casual, social setting in a CCCSS member's garden. As CCCSS continues to grow, it's hard to get to know many members at our large meetings. This will be an opportunity to do so with fellow succulent fanatics.

The purpose of the gathering will be to bring knowledge and to gain knowledge about cactus and succulents. Examples of discussion topics may include: plant care or plant identification; in ground planting ideas; plant palettes; container gardening; or other special interests of the homeowner or attendees. At least one member of the CCCSS Board will attend to help facilitate discussions. The host will determine the appropriate number of CCCSS members to be accommodated at their home. Sign-up sheets to participate will be available at the CCCSS meetings 1-2 months in advance. This is an opportunity for CCCSS members only. No non-CCCSS members may attend.

Our first CCCSS Garden Gathering will be held on February 25, 2017 at **Bill Findley's** home in Arroyo Grande. Thanks Bill for agreeing to be the first host!! Sign-up sheets to attend the Garden Gathering will be available at the January 8th meeting. Bill can accommodate 24 guests in his garden. If more than 24 people sign up to attend, attendees will be chosen by lottery. Couples will be chosen together.

Are you interested in hosting a CCCSS Garden Gatherings in 2017? Only 9 spots remain!

Contact Kathie Matsuyama at luvbigdogs@earthlink.net Don't miss out on the fun!!

PLEASE CONTACT KATHIE ASAP IF YOU'D LIKE TO HOST IN MARCH OR APRIL!!

Club T-Shirts will be available
at the January meeting!



Join the CSSA
<http://cssa.myshopify.com/collections/join-cssa>



Cactus & Succulent Society of America

IT TAKES A VILLAGE!

Kathie Matsuyama and Christy Keeling

In the Fall of 2016, culminating on October 15, 2016, dozens of friends of Gene and Dail Schroeder helped prepare for a sale at their home of a large part of Gene's fantastic specimen plants and his incredible seed grown cactus. For weeks, volunteers sorted, cleaned, trimmed, pruned, organized, labelled and talked about cactus and succulents (mostly about cactus!). We were continually amazed by Gene's knowledge of the provenance of his plants; where and when he acquired them (sometimes decades ago); who he might have acquired the plant from; where in the wild the seed was collected; and on and on! What an incredible memory Gene has about his collection! While he has this information carefully cataloged on his computer, it's also clearly indexed in his brain! (We should all be so lucky!). While we all worked very hard, sometimes on very, very hot days last fall; what we enjoyed most was spending time with Dail and learning about cactus and succulents from one of our club's most knowledgeable elder statesmen, Gene!

Our Gigantic Heartfelt Thanks to all the hard working members of our club who helped make the Gene Schroeder Cactus & Succulent Sale such a great success. Many of these volunteers are shown in the photo below. Volunteers not shown include: Paul Matsuyama (taking the photo and busy BBQing amazing pulled pork sandwiches for the volunteers on sale day!), Bill Findley, David Einung, Charles Varni, Joan Field, David Westberg, Sue Shields, Mary Peracca, Loring Manley, Jose Toll, and Linda Drake. (Our apologies to anyone we have inadvertently overlooked! Please let us know.)

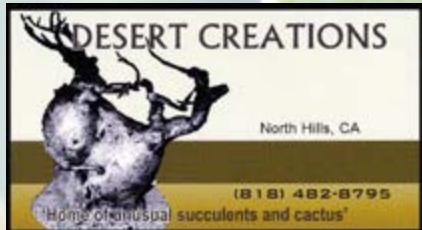


Back Row: Randy Ball, Dennis Lingo, Claudine Lingo, Ken Byrne, Barbara Scheckherd, Bill Scheckherd, Linda Hicks, Tim Dawson, Harry Harlow

Middle Row: Terry Excell, Ann Erb, Mary Harlow, Anne Byrne, Carol Moss, Donna Duerk, Kathie Matsuyama

Front Row: Dail Schroeder, Merodie Nelson, Christy Keeling

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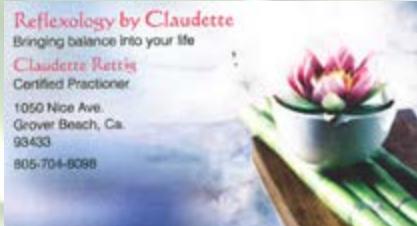
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(All submissions to the CCCSS newsletter must be submitted two weeks prior to the monthly meeting.)



THE HUNTINGTON
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1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California 91108 (626) 405-2100

BOTANICAL GARDENS

DESERT FORUM

Saturday, 14 January 2017

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

9:00 – 9:45 Registration

Please bring your CSSA or affiliated club badge or membership card for admission

In order to receive free admission, you must arrive by 9:45. Late arrivers will need to pay for Huntington admission.

9:00 – 11:00 Desert Garden

Knowledgeable staff and docents will be stationed throughout the Desert Garden and Desert Conservatory

Aloes will be flowering

11:00 – 1:00 Plant Sales – (exclusively for CSSA and club members)

Gate opens by the Teaching Greenhouse at 11:00 for plant sales -
please, no early bird shopping, and no shopping after 1:00.

Cash, checks, and credit cards accepted

1:00 – 5:00 Free Time

Attendees are welcome to tour the gardens and galleries as of 10:00 am

Lunch:

The Café in the visitor center features a variety of sandwiches, salads, and grilled items

The tea room at Liu Fang Yuan is a nice option for fresh Chinese food

The coffee shop by the bookstore offers a small selection of pre-made options