



ON THE DRY SIDE

CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

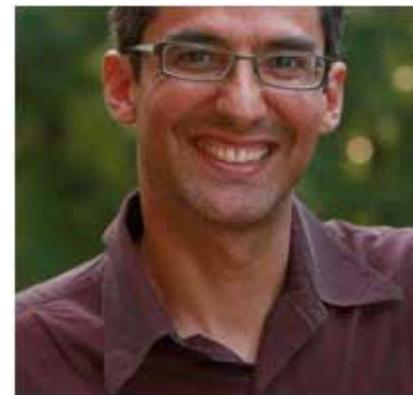
AUGUST 2017

SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

ERNESTO SANDOVAL—DIRECTOR, UC DAVIS BOTANICAL CONSERVATORY

Growing and Propagating Hardy Aloes

Ernesto would like to share his experience with growing and propagating aloes beyond some of the common species such as *A. comosa*, *melanacantha*, *peglerae*, *hereroensis* and other cool/wet tolerant species. He'll touch on the more and less available Aloes. Although his talk is focused for Northern California conditions, he'll touch on those that are less suitable for our climate and more suitable for Southern California or parts of the Bay Area. As always, he'll bring a selection of uncommon succulents, Aloes, and other plants for your collection and gardens and to help the Botanical Conservatory's programs.



Ernesto Sandoval has been wondering and seeking questions to why plants grow and look the way that they do for a long time. Now he explains and interprets the world of plants to a variety of ages and experiences from K-12 to professionals and Master Gardeners. He regularly lectures to a variety of western garden clubs throughout the year and particularly to succulent clubs throughout the state and elsewhere since that group of plants is his particular passion (within his general passion for plants). He describes himself as a "Jose of All Plants, Master of None." Ernesto thoroughly enjoys helping others, and gardeners in particular, to understand why and how plants do what they do. When he was about 13 he asked his dad why one tree was pruned a particular way and another tree another way. His dad answered bluntly "because that's the way you do it." Since then he's been learning and teaching himself the answers to those and many other questions by getting a degree at UC Davis in Botany and working from student weeder/waterer to Director over the last 25 years at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory. He's long left the "mow, blow and go" monoculture landscape gardening world and has immersed himself in the world of polyculture and biodiversity by growing several thousand types of plants at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, many of them succulents. Several of his favorite garden projects involved converting lawns and other water loving landscapes to drought tolerant and diversity-filled gardens! He likes to promote plant liberation by encouraging gardeners of all sorts to grow more plants in the ground when possible. He loves the technical language of Botany but prefers to relate information in more understandable methods of communication. By helping people to understand the workings of plants he hopes to help us better understand how and why our plants do what they do and how we can maximize their growth with less effort.

**Don't miss Ernesto at our next meeting, Sunday, August 13th!
Oddfellows Hall, 520 Dana St (Off Nipomo), San Luis Obispo**



672 FB Members! Get Club Updates & See Member Photos.
Also find us online at www.centralcoastcactuc.org.

PLANT OF THE MONTH: RHIPSALIS

PLANTAE / CARYOPHYLLALES / CACTACEAE / RHIPSALIDEAE /
RHIPSALIS

All cacti are succulents but not all succulents are cacti. Although it may not appear so at first glance, the genus Rhipsalis is both.

Virtually ALL cacti originate and remain endemic to the New World—North and South America and nearby islands. Rhipsalis is the only Cactaceae genus that is found, partially, endemic to the African continent. Rhipsalis baccifera is found growing throughout South America and up into Mexico and Florida. But, this plant can also be found naturally growing in South Africa, Madagascar and Sri Lanka! How this plant is naturally so widespread is unknown with no identified animal or geological dispersal mechanisms responsible for this being the ONLY cactus naturally growing way outside ‘normal’ range.

Rhipsalis' thirty-five or so described species are epiphytic, epilithic or very rarely grow terrestrially. They inhabit leafy tropical rain forests where most cacti would rot from too much water and too little sun. As such they are suited to shadier areas in the yard or greenhouse and will thrive in northern exposures. They grow well with higher humidity, watering and fertilizer application along with ‘richer’ soil than most succulents. Leaves are vestigial and manifest themselves as spines in some species. Stems, the only photosynthetic structures of the genus, are generally pendulous with cylindrical, flattened or multi-faceted shapes. Flowers tend to be smaller than for most cacti but are just as beautiful.

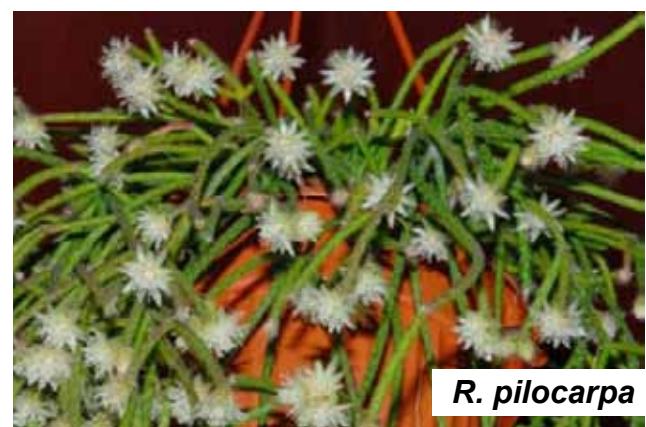
Practical uses of Rhipsalis, like most succulents, are for decorative purposes although some sources say the fruit is edible. This is not recommended, though, without further research. Some popular cultivars are Mistletoe Cactus [*R. baccifera*] and Drunkard’s Dream [*R. salicornioides*].



R. floccosa



R. baccifera



R. pilocarpa



R. crispata



R. clavata

JULY CCCSS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING RECAP

CCCSS President Loring Manley opened the meeting at 2:05pm. Members who brought refreshments were named and invited to select a gift plant. Fourteen “first time attendees” introduced themselves and selected a gift plant.

Announcements Made:

Terry Skillin announced the Volunteer Reward Bus Trip:

- It's on August 12th, to the Intercity Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale at the LA Arboretum; Cost is \$10 for members who volunteered at our Show & Sale in May, \$30 for non-volunteers, and, space permitting, \$85 for non-members. Bring your own boxes in case there is a shortage there. ***The bus pickup schedule is below, immediately following these minutes.***

Kathie Matsuyama announced the following:

- 3 “Garden Gathering” events: Mary and Harry Harlow’s site was rescheduled from last month for 7/15/17, Linda Drake is hosting one later in July, and Mary Pereca will host on August 19.
- Art for Sale as a CCCSS fundraiser: beautiful prints dedicated to CCCSS (see more info about this further down in this newsletter edition).
- Penny Pines donations status.
- Plant Sale on Via Vista Pl., off Los Osos Valley Rd.

Loring Manley:

- CCCSS Window Decals are still available for our 2017 S&S volunteers.

The “2017 CCCSS Cactus and Succulent Show” Awards were presented by Loring Manley and Rob Skillin to winners who were present.

Rob reviewed some Raffle Table Plants via Video-Projection, and then several people talked about the Brag-Plants they had brought while the items were projected for all to see.

After a refreshment Break, Vice-President Carol Mortensen introduced our Speaker, Peter Beiersdorfer, whose program was “Succulents of Puerto Rico.” The presentation was very complete and covered the three main bio-zones, which differentiate Puerto Rico’s vegetation: the wet NE; the drier Central; and the SW which is the driest zone. It was a most interesting presentation!

Raffle began at 4:27pm, followed by clean-up, and the monthly plant exchange to close out the day.

SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 12 BUS TRIP TO LA ABORETUM FOR 2017 S&S VOLUNTEERS

6:15am - Bus departs Madonna Plaza Shopping Center, 271 Madonna Rd

6:35am - Bus departs Pismo Outlets, 333 Five Cities Drive (Pick up coffee, bagged breakfasts & water)

9:30am - Arrive Los Angeles Arboretum (Terrie Leivers will purchase all the entry fees)

3:30pm - Load plants and passengers for the return trip

3:45pm - Bus departs the Arboretum and we enjoy the relaxing ride home with a glass of wine or other beverages and snacks.

6:30pm - Arrive back at the Pismo Outlets to return those passengers and select plant-raffle winners

7:00pm - Last stop to drop off the remaining passengers at Madonna Plaza.

NOTE:

Since it has been a while since the last communication regarding this trip, please call or e-mail Barbara Brooks (805.680.1389 or barbarahbrooks@sbcglobal.net) as to your current status regarding your attendance. There is still some space on the bus, and you don't want to miss this exciting Show and Sale and the beautiful grounds of the Los Angeles Arboretum.

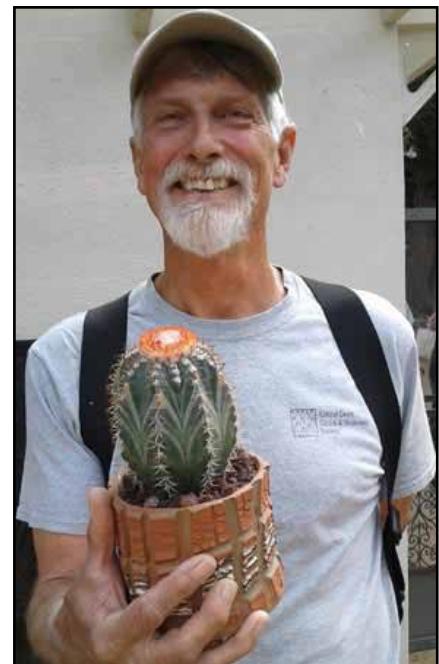
GARDEN GATHERINGS

Thank you Mary and Harry Harlow, for being supreme hosts of our last Garden Gathering! Neither rain or snow or sleet, or in this case, a car fire on the Cuesta Grade, could keep a dedicated group of CCCSS cactus and succulent lovers away from the Harlow's fantastic garden in July!! After a wonderful tour of their unique and varied hillsides, greenhouses, and outdoor artwork, a delicious social hour occupied the participants. Mary sure knows how to bake!! *Thank you, Mary and Harry!*

So, what are the “Garden Gatherings” all about?

Our club (CCCSS) has grown very large and it is sometimes a challenge to connect with other cactophiles at the monthly meetings. The “Garden Gatherings” are an opportunity for members to get to know others in the club in a casual garden setting. These gatherings sometimes will have food, displays, demonstrations, and of course, tours of the various member-gardens.

All participants must be members of the club. Sign-up sheets will be available at the monthly club meetings. The host determines the appropriate number of guests. If we have too many sign-ups the participants will be chosen via lottery and notified by email. Please indicate when signing up as a couple so we don't split you up.



The hosts will be guided through the process of setting up the event, and Kathie and/or Susan will be at the gathering to help with the details as well as meet prior to the event. If you are hosting, your garden does not have to be picture perfect—it may have a few weeds (we all have them) and an area of the garden that is not cacti or succulent-related. The only thing you must have is a desire to share what you do in your garden and willingness to host. Contact Susan Ross at susanrosscra@yahoo.com, or Kathie Matsuyama at luvbigdogs@earthlink.net if you have any questions or would like to open your home to an event.

We are taking sign-ups for the next sensational Garden Gathering! **It will be hosted by Susie Hubbard in Los Osos, on Sunday September 17, at 1 PM.** Susie can accommodate 20 people in her colorful garden. Susie has an exceptional eye for design detail. You will not believe the unique “found” items she has incorporated in stunning ways into her garden. And, to be honest, I haven’t seen a succulent garden where the plants are more optimally and perfectly grown—WOW! It may be small, but this garden is packed, packed, and more packed with wonderful things to see!! There will be a sign-up sheet at the August meeting.



ANNUAL 2017-2018 CCCSS MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW

A Note from Membership Chairperson, Barbara Brooks:

I'd like to extend a sincere *thank you* to all our loyal CCCSS club members who have already paid their annual membership dues for 2017 - 2018. We are very grateful for your continued support. You will enjoy another year of remarkable programs, out-of-the-ordinary events, and interesting presentations by fellow cactus and succulent enthusiasts. In addition to receiving our comprehensive monthly newsletter, you may borrow books from our outstanding lending library, and have the opportunity to participate in unique garden gatherings and special workshops. All our club benefits are far too numerous to mention! Please stay tuned for announcements about upcoming events.



To our members who have not yet renewed their annual membership: please renew today. Don't miss all the exciting events planned for this year. Please join us in belonging to our prestigious club. It's easy to renew. See me at monthly club meetings or send a check payable to CCCSS. Mail to: Barbara Brooks, 441 Marsh St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. Individual: \$20; Family (all under same roof): \$25; Business: \$40. We need you! Please contact me if you have any questions/concerns—thank you!

SUCCULENT PUMPKIN WORKSHOP

Use your artistic abilities to create a unique and festive Holiday Succulent Pumpkin!

When: Saturday, October 7, 2017 from 10am–2pm
Location: Rancho San Luis Mobile Home Park Clubhouse,
3395 S Higuera St, SLO 93401
Cost: Free to CCCSS members
Class Size: Total of 11 spaces – **only 5 spaces left!**



You will need to bring the following supplies: pumpkin(s) of your choice, succulent cuttings (about fifty 1"-3" plants for a 12" pumpkin), decorative moss of your choice, a hot glue gun and glue sticks or tacky glue, extension cord for hot glue gun, scissors, tweezers, and any special embellishments for your creation, such as leaves, seed pods, nuts, berries, pinecones, holiday decorations, etc., and a box to transport your finished pumpkin. More details will be emailed to those attending the workshop.

To attend, contact Barbara Brooks at 805.680.1389 or barbarahbrooks@sbcglobal.net or if any spaces are left, sign up at the CCCSS meeting August 13, 2017.

A SPECIAL 'THANK YOU'

A very big thank you to Tim Dawson for all his work setting up, organizing, coordinating and doing most of the heavy lifting at the John Kuden Estate Plant sale in the last month. Thanks Tim, for your generosity, your time and availability, and especially your good humor. I'm sure John would be very pleased to know his plants have gone to homes where they will be treasured by people who love cactus and succulents just as much as he did. Thanks Tim!

---Kathie Matsuyama



2017 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **August 12-13**
32st Annual Intercity Show & Sale
9am-5pm Daily, LA County Arboretum, 301 No. Baldwin Ave
Info: Tom Glavich 626 798-2430 or Artie Chavez 818-482-8795 | www.sgvcss.com
- **September 2**
Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium
All day at the Huntington
Info: 626-405-3504 | www.cssainc.org
- **September 3**
Long Beach Cactus Club Annual Plant Auction
12pm-5pm, Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Road, Long Beach 90615
Info: 310 922-6090 | www.lbcss.org
- **Sept or Oct (TBA)**
Monterey Bay Area Cactus and Succulent Society Show & Sale – Fall
VFW Hall, 1960 Freedom Blvd. Freedom, CA
Info: www.mbsucculent.org/
- **October 14-15**
Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday 11am-3pm
St. Paul's Church, 2216 17th Street, Bakersfield, CA 93304
Info: 661-831-8488 | www.bakersfieldcactus.org/
- **October 28-29**
Palomar Show & Sale at San Diego Botanic Gardens
Info: hciservices@gmail.com | www.palomarcactus.org
- **November 4-5**
San Gabriel Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
Saturday/Sunday 9am-4pm
LA County Arboretum 301 No. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia
Info: Manny Rivera or John Matthews 661-714-1052 | www.sgvcss.com

BEAUTIFUL ART FOR SALE!

Available at our August meeting, we will have two sizes of this gorgeous print for you to purchase. The art was done by Steve Thomas for the Just Looking Gallery at 746 Higuera Street, Suite 1, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 (805.541.6663). The amazing and wonderful folks at the Gallery have offered the art to CCCSS as a fundraiser. The profit from every piece of art sold by CCCSS goes to CCCSS!! Thank you Ken McGavin and Ralph Gorton for your kindness and generosity!

Prices including tax:

12" x 18"

Framed Print:

\$120

24" x 36"

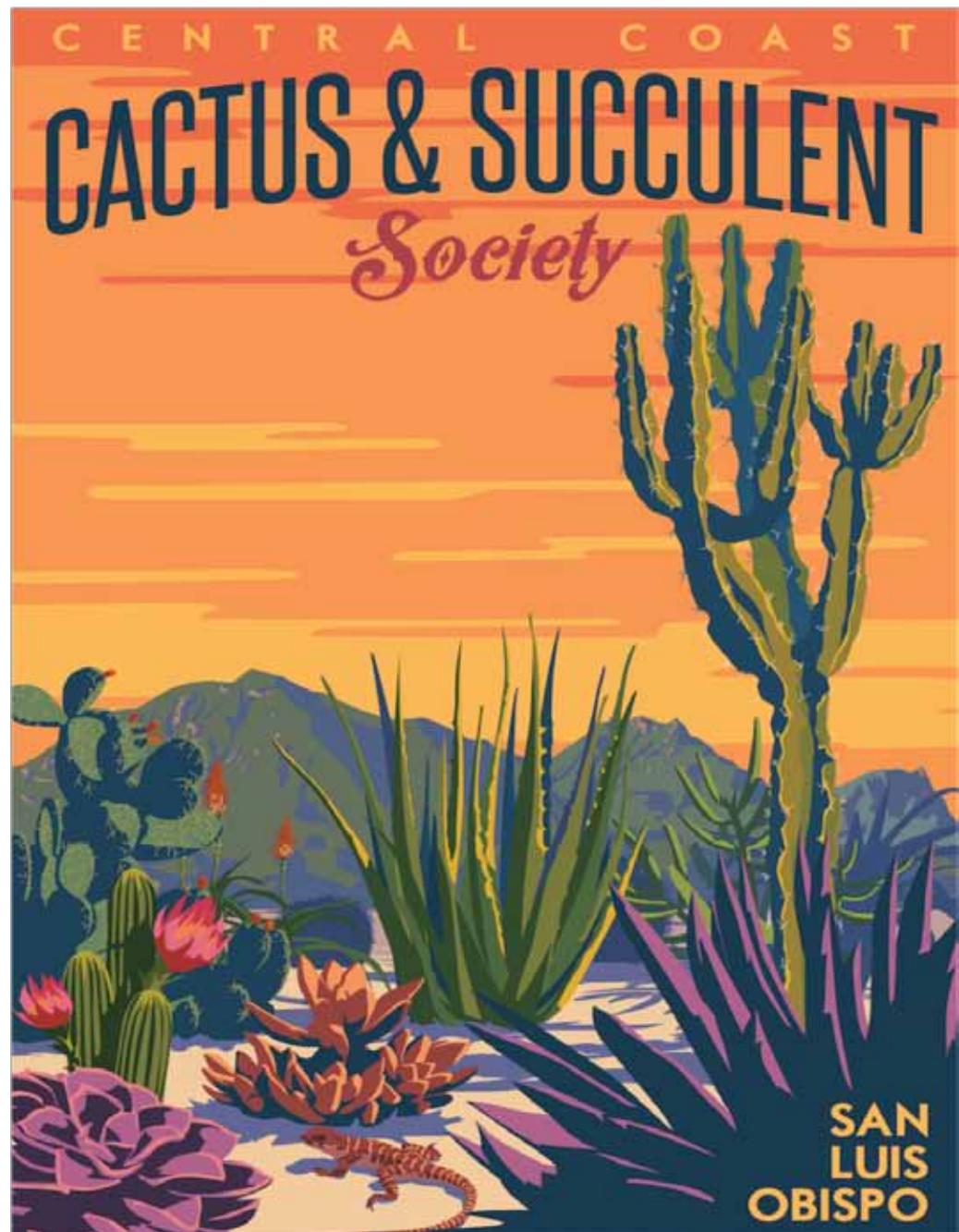
Print on Canvas:

\$420

Orders will be taken at the club meetings; cash and checks only please.

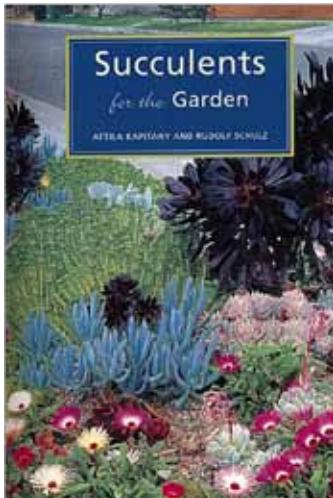
Your print will be ordered from Just Looking Gallery and delivered to you at the following club meeting.

For more information, contact Kathie Matsuyama at luvbigdogs@earthlink.net.



BOOKS FOR SALE

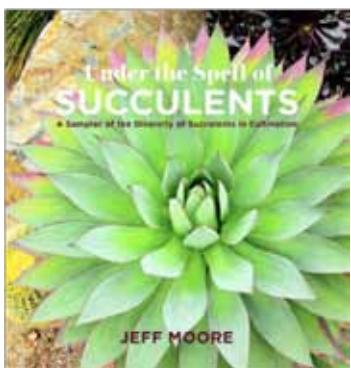
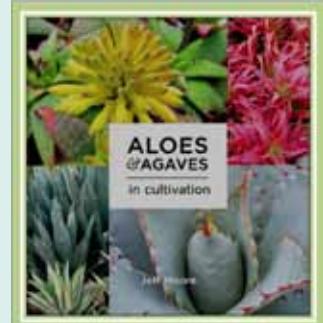
Your purchase of any of the following books supports our ability to buy other books for our CCCSS library. Thank You! The following books (some in very limited quantities) are available for purchase (Cash or Checks, no credit cards) at the June meeting. All prices include tax.



Succulents for the Garden by Attila Kapitany and Rudolf Schulz
The authors show amateur gardeners what type of succulents can be used in the most amazing different types of garden environments. Areas covered are: seaside gardens, hillside country farmlets, arid inland gardens, hillside country gardens city courtyards, suburban nature strips, nature's garden and more. Recommended plantings of different species are given, giving flower color, shade tolerance, pot suitability, indoor, plus outdoor planting in warmer climates, height, spread, more. Echeverias, sedums, crassulas, senecios, yuccas, aloes and many more are detailed. 189 color photos, 95 pages, 7-1/4" x 9-3/4", softbound, w/heavy color cover. **This book is out of print and will not be reprinted. ONLY 4 COPIES LEFT!! Price is \$26.00**

Aloes & Agaves In Cultivation By Jeff Moore

Jeff Moore's second book was released in June, 2016. Jeff takes you on a visual tour of aloes and agaves in cultivation, highlighting both the common and some of the more rare specimens, with pertinent information and growing tips gleaned from years of experience. Hundreds and hundreds of color photos (almost 1,000), with some of the best information on culture, care, history of these wonderful plants. A huge book! 335 pages, 10" x 10", softbound. **ONLY 3 COPIES LEFT!! Reasonably priced at \$40.00**

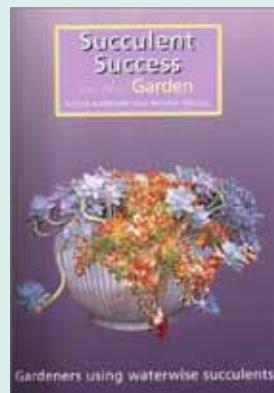


Under the Spell of Succulents by Jeff Moore

A brand new book with exquisite color photos—covering the full spectrum of cultivated succulents and how we engage with them—collectors, growers, landscapers, container gardening and more! Over 800 color photos, 230 pages, 8" x 10", softbound with a glossy color cover. A beautiful book at an extremely affordable price. **ONLY 5 COPIES LEFT!! Price is \$32.00**

Succulent Success in the Garden by Attila Kapitany and Rudolf Schulz

Authors show how succulents can be used in the most amazing ways in garden environments: seaside gardens, hillside country, farmlets, and inland gardens, plus city courtyards, suburban nature strips and more. Recommended plantings of different species are given, showing flower color, shade tolerance, pot suitability, indoor/outdoor situations, and height, spread, more. Echeverias, sedums, crassulas, senecios, yuccas, aloes and many more are detailed and described. 303 color photos, 103 pages, 7-1/4" x 9-3/4", softbound w/heavy color cover. **This book is out of print and will not be reprinted. Price is \$26.00**



JULY CCCSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING RECAP

The BoD meeting was called to order at 5:14pm by CCCSS President Loring Manley, with a quorum present.

- Treasurer's Report: Kathy Goss discussed transition work, as she is moving into the treasurer position, previously occupied by Maggie Wagner. There was also some discussion about CGC-payments coming due in the next couple months (that is an agenda item below and will be included there).
- Discussion about the Publicity position on the BoD: It was decided that for the present, Terrie Leivers will serve as a temporary publicity person (she already manages our Facebook page) and the actual BoD position (it is a Board position per our By-Laws) will be coordinated later.
- The issue of improved sound system was discussed. For August, Ken Byrne will coordinate a rental system from Grand Central Music Center in SLO, as a trial of its quality with possible purchase in the future. Barbara Brooks will assist with local pick-up and return of the trial unit.
- The CCCSS "History" project: Loring Manley will follow up with Kathie Matsuyama on this.
- One fine-art Print order was taken today, at the general membership meeting.
- Facebook posting of newsletter will continue as now, posted after the meeting date.
- CSSA Convention is in Tempe, AZ, beginning July 26th. Three members will be attending and Ken Byrne will be representing the CCCSS when it is announced that San Luis Obispo will be the site for the 2019 CSSA CONVENTION.

California Garden Clubs Inc:

- We will invite the current Director for the Montana de Oro District (of the CGCI), and the local CGCI Board member to speak to our BoD in August (both have accepted, per Ken Byrne).
 - Ken Byrne will gather information on the Insurance(s) offered to member clubs by the CGCI
 - Terrie Leivers and Bill Findley will research some outside insurance coverage(s) for comparison
 - Current fiscal-year (7/1/17 through 6/30/18) payments to CGCI are due in the next months.
-
- Coordination with SLO Botanical Garden is again proposed and was shelved until August BoD meeting.
 - An inventory of all CCCSS-owned materials being held by members is being taken for August recording.
 - Discussion about how crowded the rear tables have become at meetings was raised: It was decided to add a separate table near the side-row seats to handle all the new and occasional club-sales/collections (tees, books, fine-arts, penny-pines, etc.). The raffle will remain at the back table. Sign-ups for garden gatherings, bus trips, garden tours, etc, will be concentrated in one area. Natasha Erickson volunteered to make signs to clearly show the new table purpose and will also staff the table.

BoD meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.



CCCSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Loring Manley / loring.manley@icloud.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Carol Mortensen / carolmortensen0@gmail.com

SECRETARY: Carol Moss / carol.moss@gmail.com

TREASURER: Kathy Goss / kgcactus805@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP: Barbara Brooks / barbarahbrooks@sbcglobal.net

HOSPITALITY: Pat Gilson / hupt74@yahoo.com

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Mark Woods / marknslo@gmail.com

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Natasha Erickson
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Bill Findley
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PAST PRESIDENT

Ken Byrne: agaveken@msn.com

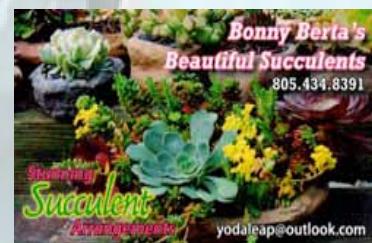
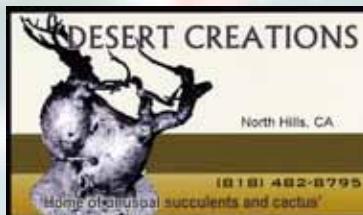
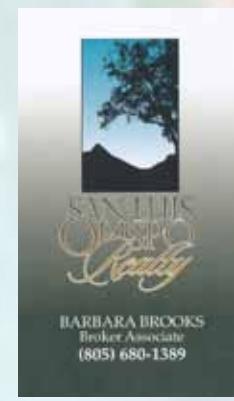
CSSA AFFILIATE

Rob Skillin: rhskillin@gmail.com

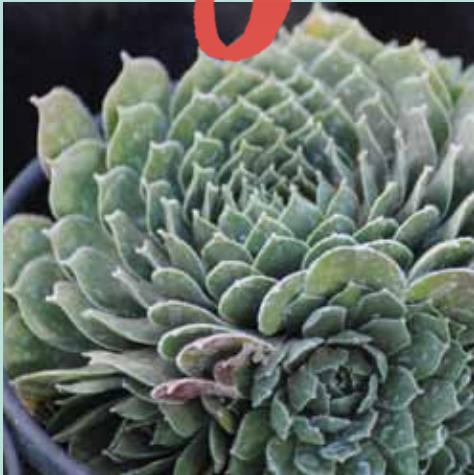
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SUMMER *Succulent* SALE



GROWING GROUNDS FARM
820 W. Foster Road, Santa Maria

Come to this annual celebration of all things succulent! Featuring an extensive selection of rare and exotic succulents in a variety of pot sizes to suit all your project and landscaping needs, as well as some houseplants!

8/19 SAT
8/20 SUN
10–3pm

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