



# ON THE DRY SIDE

CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

NOVEMBER 2017

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH — DON'T MISS IT!**

## THANK YOU FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN, BARBARA BROOKS



On behalf of the Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Society, we would like to take this opportunity to give a sincere **thank you** to all our members who have recently renewed their memberships. Our last membership drive was enormously successful, thanks to you. Your continued support of CCCSS allows your club to continue what we do best: conduct comprehensive meetings and provide wonderful events for cactus and succulent enthusiasts every month throughout the year. Plus this upcoming year promises to be our best yet. Stay tuned for upcoming attractions!

## CALL FOR AUCTION PLANTS FOR THE HOLIDAY POTLUCK

We will be having a LIVE auction during our holiday potluck on December 10th. If you have a nice show worthy specimen, a cacti and succulent related item, a pot or other appropriate items that have a minimum retail value of \$40 or more and would like to sell it at the auction, please send an email to Bill Findley at [coolcactuskid805@gmail.com](mailto:coolcactuskid805@gmail.com). In the email, **include at least two photos** (one that includes something to show size, maybe a soda can, or a pencil), the plant name (if you don't know we will find out), and a reserve price (the lowest you would be willing to sell it). The sale will be Sunday afternoon and 25% of the sale price is donated to the club and 75% is yours to keep. Our auctioneer will be none other than the entertaining Nick Wilkinson! Please send your submissions in by December 3rd for consideration. The auction committee will contact you by December 7th to let you know if your plants are accepted for the auction. If you have any questions, please email Bill at [coolcactuskid805@gmail.com](mailto:coolcactuskid805@gmail.com).

**In addition to the amazing potluck and live auction**, we will hold a **SILENT** auction. This is your opportunity to give back to your club, sort of like a Christmas present for the club. Items should be desirable cacti or succulent-related items that you are willing to donate. **All proceeds will go to CCCSS.** You do not have to have pre-approval for the silent auction items, just bring them on December 10th and you will be given an auction sheet and a location to place your plant or plant-related item.

**Ask not what your club can do for you; ask what you can do for your club!**

Monthly meetings are held at Oddfellows Hall,  
520 Dana St (at Nipomo St), San Luis Obispo.



677 Facebook members! Club updates & member photos here.  
Also find us online at [www.centralcoastcactus.org](http://www.centralcoastcactus.org).

# NOVEMBER PLANT OF THE MONTH: ALOE

PLANTAE / ASPARAGALES / ASPHODELACEAE /  
ALOEAE / ALOE

**ALOE** (The origin of the genus name Aloe is uncertain, but the most popularly accepted suggestions are that it is derived from: the Arabic alloch or alloeh, a vernacular name for medicinally used members of the genus; or the Greek aloë, referring to the dried juice of aloe leaves.)

With their usually spiny leaves arranged in neat rosettes, and tall candle-like inflorescences in predominantly red and vibrant orange hues, aloes are increasingly sought after by gardeners and horticulturists, as they brighten up the dull winter landscape.

## **Description:**

Aloes come in a variety of growth forms, from small miniatures to tall single-stemmed or branched trees, while certain species even form large, tangled shrubs. The usually swollen and succulent leaves are more or less lance- or sword-shaped in outline and boat-shaped in cross-section. Leaves are arranged in terminal clusters (rosettes) and are armed along their margins with usually sharp, but sometimes soft, teeth.

Flowers are grouped in candle-like or cone-shaped inflorescences, which can be branched or simple. The most common shape of flowers found in Aloe is tubular flowers, although some species have curved or even bell-shaped flowers. Flowers are typically brightly coloured and most often in various hues of red, orange and yellow, but there are also some species with green, pink or white flowers. The vast majority of aloes flower in winter, while some groups, like the grass aloes for instance, usually flower in spring or summer.

## **Distribution:**

Aloes are prominent components of many, mainly arid, African landscapes. There are currently  $\pm 600$  different aloes recognised. Members of the genus can be found in Africa ( $\pm 405$ ), the Arabian Peninsula ( $\pm 45$ ), Socotra (4), Madagascar ( $\pm 145$ ) and the Mascarene and other Western Indian Ocean Islands ( $\pm 7$ ).

**CONTINUED NEXT PAGE >>>**

Photos of Aloe Pillansii,  
courtesy of Rob Skillin.



# NOVEMBER PLANT OF THE MONTH: ALOE – CONTINUED

## Uses:

Economic and cultural value Aloes have a very long history of medicinal, cosmetic and cultural uses. Many early civilizations were familiar with the healing properties of Aloe vera in particular. This species likely originates from the Arabian Peninsula, but is today cultivated almost world-wide and has become naturalised in many areas. Over the past decades the use of Aloe ferox, indigenous to South Africa, in the traditional pharmaceutical and cosmetic industry has increased significantly.

## Cultivation:

Although there are some species that are very difficult or even impossible to grow successfully, the vast majority of the more common aloes are easy and can readily be grown almost anywhere in the country. Aloes generally require soils with good drainage and do best in warm climates. When planted in rich soil that are regularly mulched plants will do well for many years without intervention and are thus require very low maintenance once established. Extra protection may be necessary in cold areas as very few aloes can withstand severe frost. To ensure success it is necessary to know the conditions under which a species grow in their natural habitat and to choose aloes that will naturally do well in the particular area and local climate where you live.

(Adapted from: <http://pza.sanbi.org/aloe-genus>)



On the right:  
Top: Aloe Glauca  
Center: Aloe Marlothii  
Bottom: Aloe Pluridens

On the left:  
Top: Aloe Viridiflora inflorescence  
Bottom: Aloe Distans inflorescence

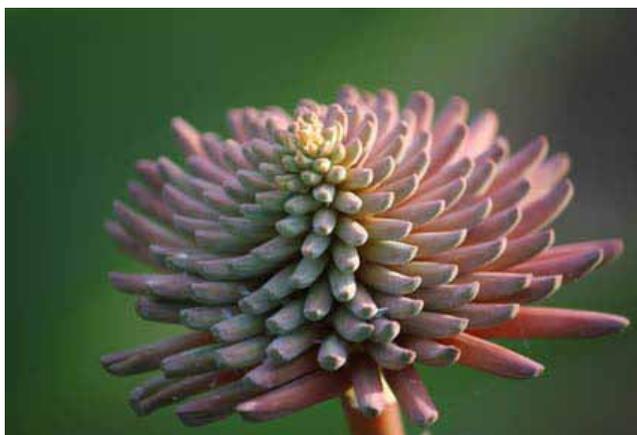


Photo credits:  
Rob Skillen,  
Bill Findley,  
Loring Manley



# OCTOBER CCCSS GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING RECAP

President Loring Manley opened the meeting on Sunday, October 8, 2017, by welcoming first-time visitors and thanking the members who contributed food for the break. All received a succulent. Don't forget to thank the people who contribute to our breaks, especially Claudette Rettig, who works hard at every meeting. We are grateful for all of our hard-working and dedicated volunteers.

## Announcements

As she does every year, Pat Gilson is organizing this year's December Feast. You can sign up with Pat at the meeting or email her to let her know how many people are in your party and what you will contribute to the potluck. At least one person in the party must be a member, and attendance is limited. Note that Pat's **correct** email address is [hupt74@yahoo.com](mailto:hupt74@yahoo.com).

Mary Peracca discussed the Open Studios Tour and CCCSS members participating, including our potters: Mary Peracca, Richard Rowe, Maggie Wagner, Charles Varni, and Alonzo Allen. Kathy Matsuyama reminded us of the importance of our contributions to Penny Pines, and noted that she and Gene Schroeder now have an "Ask Me" table, which also sells, art, books, and shirts. Carol Moss introduced a new style of name tag holders. They include lanyards and members were encouraged to trade their old for new if they were interested. There will be more at the next meeting.

Rob Skillin discussed the Plant of the Month, Ariocarpus, a cactus that comes from Texas and Mexico. Please see last month's newsletter for an excellent article about Ariocarpus. Rob invited Barbara Brooks to show examples of the wonderful succulent-decorated pumpkins made by members in her workshop the previous day. Other members discussed their Brag Plants, including Loring Manley, Susan Chandler, Ann Erb (with a senecio from John Kuden's collection) and Leisa Swanson. (Members are encouraged to bring in their plants for the Plant-of-the-Month Table and the Brag Table.) You will be given a raffle ticket in appreciation! Rob then described the raffle plants and the group broke for the break.

Our featured speaker followed the break. Alan C. Beverly, an expert – possibly The Expert – on Aloe polyphylla, gave a presentation on Geography, Habitat, Biology & Cultivation of this much-loved succulent. Alan studied them in situ when he was serving in the Peace Corps in Lesotho. They are alpine plants, growing in fractured basalt on the warm side of the slope at 7,500 to 8,700 feet in altitude. There is little soil, and their moisture and nutrition come from water running down the basalt slope. A. polyphylla do not do well grown indoors, but can withstand freezing temperatures and are one of the most cold-hardy aloes. They are an endangered species due to overgrazing and degrading of the plant community and environment.

The growth orientation of A. polyphylla is not genetically determined. In fact, we saw pictures of them that started with a right spiral and later changed direction. Reproducing these aloes is very challenging, and the germination rate is only about 10 percent. New plants don't develop a spiral until the eighth year. They are spring bloomers and need ninety leaves to have the strength to flower. They may flower once, and never again. They can't self-pollinate, so must be pollinated by hand. In the wild, they are pollinated by birds.

They can get a fungus infection, fusarium, which can be treated with Medallion Fungicide (~\$200/8 oz) and Actinovate SP Biological Fungicide (~\$120/18 oz)...both Amazon.com. [Please consult an expert before trying any of these.] Their roots require oxygen. The leaves take in CO<sub>2</sub> during the day and exhale oxygen at night. A porous soil facilitates healthy roots. Soil mix is similar to hydroponic mix. If they get mealy bugs, submerge. For tip necrosis, unearth and examine the soil and roots. Thirty-five-gallon pot is a good size. To groom, remove old leaves only. "Goo"? Don't remove. Don't jet-wash roots. More info at [spiralaloe@yahoo.com](mailto:spiralaloe@yahoo.com) and [www.ecotree.net](http://www.ecotree.net).

Respectfully submitted by Carol Harlow Moss, Secretary

# OCTOBER CCCSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING RECAP

With a quorum present, the Board of Directors discussed the following issues (details available to members upon request):

- PA System
- CSSA Convention Planning
- Treasurer's Report and Expenditure Approvals
- Bylaws/Standing Rules
- Copyright Issue
- CCCSS Email Account
- Officer Confidentiality Concerns
- BOD Minutes
- Insurance
- Appointment of Terrie Leivers to Publicity Chair.

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## CCCSS ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HOLIDAYS ARE COMING! ANNUAL HOLIDAY POTLUCK IS DECEMBER 10TH

We have only 1 meeting before our annual holiday potluck. Due to room size, seating capacity is limited. We currently have **60 spots available**, and seating is on a first-come basis, so please get your signup sheet to Pat Gilson, our Hospitality Chairperson, as soon as possible.

**The signup sheet is on the following page.**

If you have any questions, Pat can be reached at [hupt74@yahoo.com](mailto:hupt74@yahoo.com) or **805-481-5596**.

### CARPOOLING TO MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Due to the general shortage of parking at Oddfellows Hall, we would like to ask all members to carpool if at all possible. We will be placing a sign-up list for those interested in carpooling at our next meeting. Carpooling will make more parking available, and might also give you a chance to socialize with people who live near you and are involved in the club!

### NEW NAME TAGS

There is a new, larger holder for the name tags. The name tags of members who have not renewed for this or the last fiscal year were removed. Barbara Brooks, Membership Chair, can help you renew your membership or answer other questions about membership benefits. The new name tag holders introduced last month were well-received, a new supply is attached to the name tag bin. Also, if you have a succulent-related photo you would like to have on your name tag, please email it to Carol Moss ([carolmoss@gmail.com](mailto:carolmoss@gmail.com)) and she will make one for you.

### ASK YOUR CACTUS & SUCCULENT QUESTIONS AT THE NEW 'ASK ME' TABLE

Bring your questions about cactus and succulents to the **Ask Me** table, conveniently located next to the Library Book table. The Ask Me table will be capably staffed by our venerable expert cactophile, Gene Schroeder. Gene has never met a cactus he didn't like (and many succulents as well)! Assisting Gene will be succulentophile Kathie Matsuyama. **Please do not bring any diseased plants to the meeting!** Instead, bring a good photo of the offending plant and/or bugs.

Gene and Kathie look forward to seeing you at the **Ask Me** table!

HOLIDAY POT LUCK SIGN UP  
TO BE HELD—SUNDAY 12/10/2017

REQUIRED PERSONAL INFO:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF PEOPLE ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_

CLUB WILL SUPPLY-HAM & TURKEY

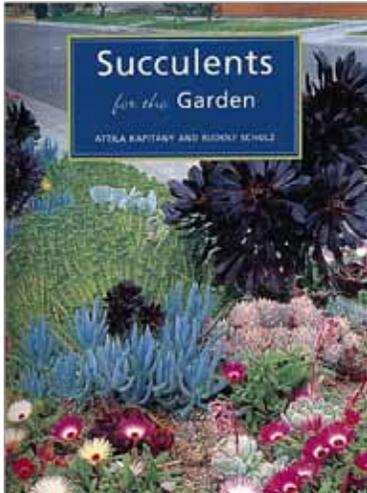
WHAT WILL YOU BRING? APPETIZER,  
SALAD, SIDE DISH, BEVERAGE, BREAD  
AND BUTTER, MAIN DISH OR  
DESSERT? \_\_\_\_\_

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER FOR  
SET UP AND/OR CLEAN  
UP? \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this completed form to Pat Gilson, at the back table of our next meeting.

# BOOKS FOR SALE AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING — GREAT GIFT IDEAS!

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 November meeting. All prices include tax. **Please plan for your holiday shopping needs. Books will not be available for sale at the December meeting!**



## ***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.

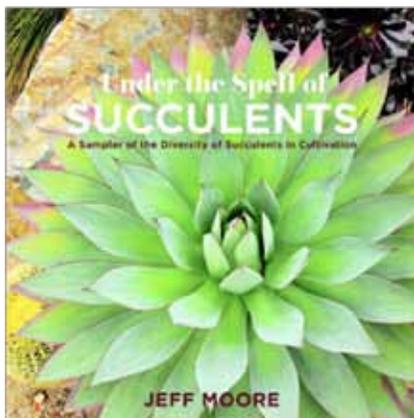
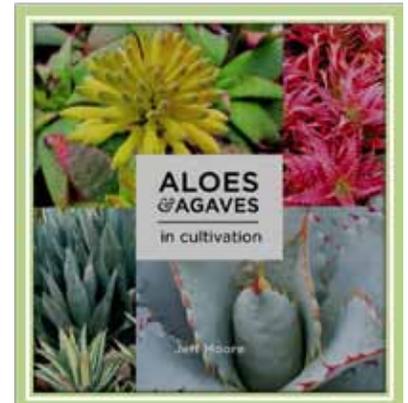
**This book is OUT OF PRINT and will not be reprinted. ONLY FOUR COPIES LEFT!! Price is \$26.00.**

## ***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. Almost a thousand color photos with some of the best information on culture, care, and history of these wonderful plants.

A huge book! 335 pages, 10" x 10", softbound.

**ONLY TWO 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! 230 pages, with over 800 color photos, 8" x 10" softbound with a glossy cover.

A beautiful book at an extremely affordable price.

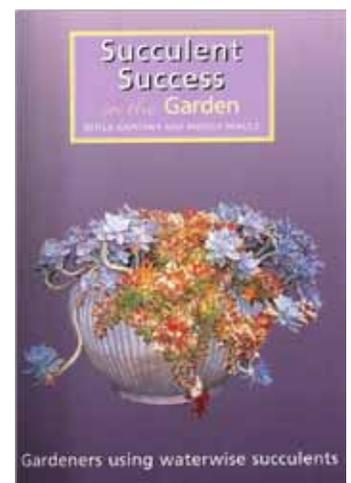
**ONLY TWO COPIES LEFT!! Price is \$32.00.**

## ***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.**



# BEAUTIFUL ART FOR SALE!

Available at our next 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, Ste 1, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 (805.541.6663). The amazing and wonderful folks there 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:

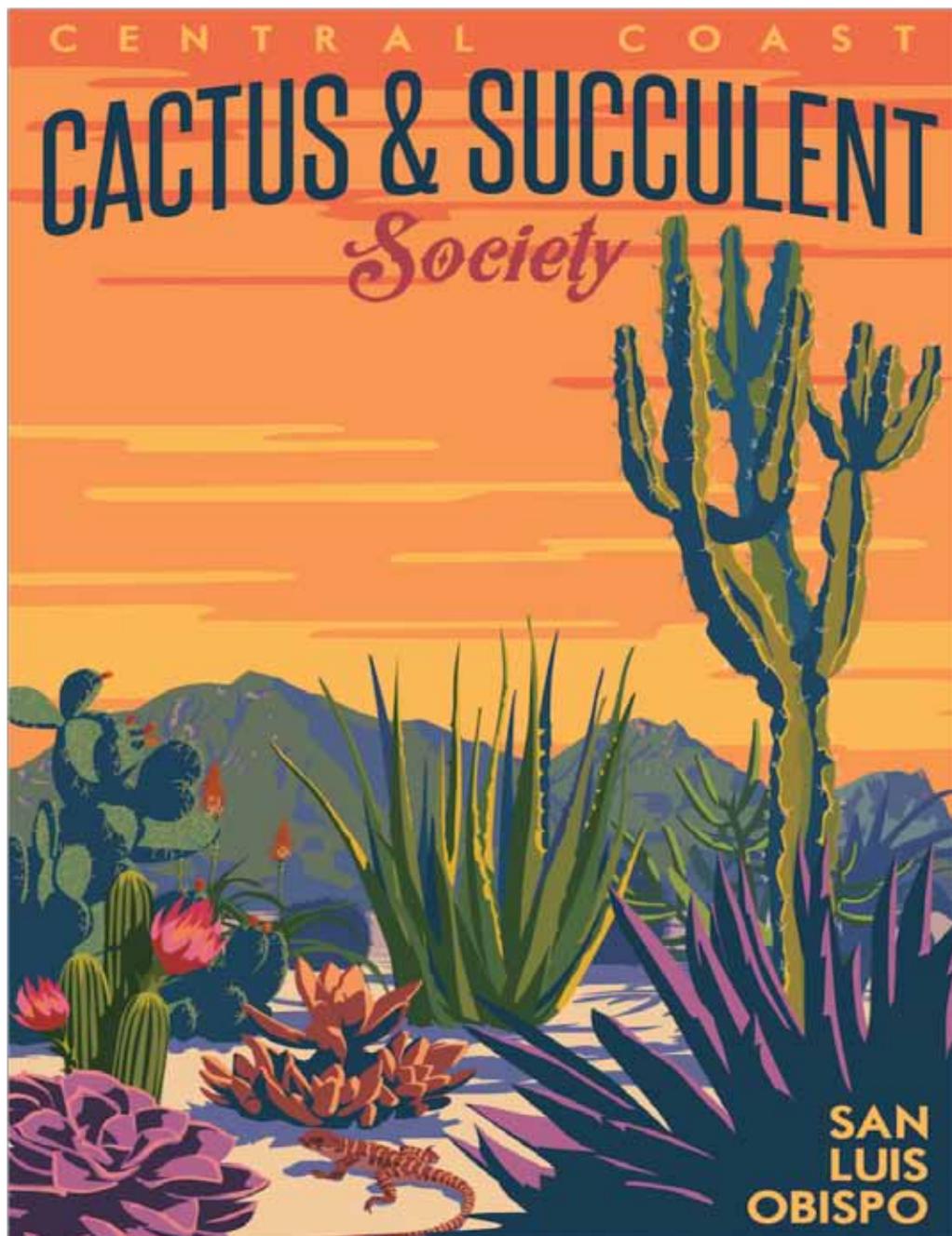
12" x 18"  
Framed Print:  
\$120

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:**  
[luvbigdogs@earthlink.net](mailto:luvbigdogs@earthlink.net)



# CCCSS GARDEN GATHERINGS

Have you attended one of our CCCSS Garden Gatherings this year? Did you enjoy the comradery of socializing with fellow CCCSS members in a gorgeous cactus and succulent garden? Thinking about hosting an upcoming event? Join the fun!

If you're not familiar with the CCCSS Garden Gatherings, here is the info:

- **Why:** CCCSS club is large; it's often hard to connect with other cactophiles at our huge meetings.
- **What:** A Garden Gathering is a chance to meet club members in a fun, casual garden setting. Food and a tour of the member's garden are included.
- **Where:** Gatherings take place in a CCCSS member's garden.
- **Who:** Garden Gathering participants must be CCCSS members. Sign-ups are taken at monthly club meetings. The host decides the number of guests.
- **When:** Hosts pick the date and time for the event. They will be guided through the process of pre-planning and event organization.

Please don't hesitate to sign up because you have a weed or two in your garden, we all do!! And don't worry if your garden is not all cacti or succulent-related. We're just looking for folks with a desire to share their passion for their plants and garden, and a willingness to host.



**Sign-ups for 2018 are underway.  
Please let us know if you are interested!**

**Contact:**

Susan Ross: [ssanrosscra@yahoo.com](mailto:ssanrosscra@yahoo.com)  
Kathie Matsuyama: [luvbigdogs@earthlink.net](mailto:luvbigdogs@earthlink.net)

# PENNY PINES REFORESTATION PROGRAM

## CCCSS PENNY PINES PROGRAM HELPS SPEED UP RESTORATION IN THE LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST

*Please note: We will no longer pass around the Penny Pines jar at our monthly meetings. The jar will now be located at the Ask Me table (next to the Library table). There are always lots of things to do before/during club meetings, so please don't forget to stop by the Ask Me table and donate your spare change to the Penny Pines Program.*

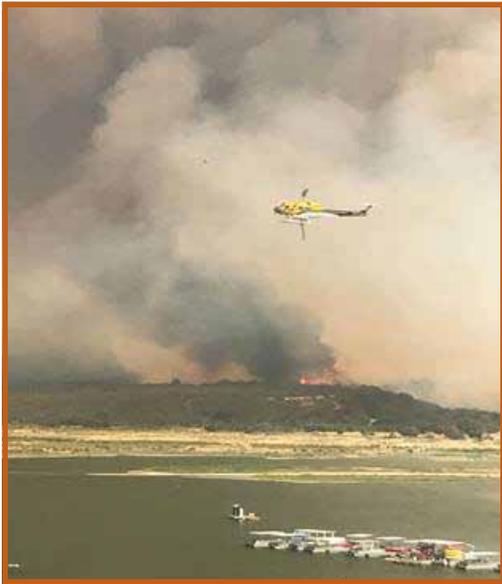
*Special Penny Pines donations can be made in memory of someone special. If you are interested in making such a donation, please let us know.*

*Thank you!*



### HOW THE PENNY PINES PROGRAM WORKS:

Thanks to your generous donations, CCCSS contributes \$68 toward the cost of planting seedlings on about one acre of Los Padres National Forest land. Using these donations, the Forest Service purchases approximately 350 California native tree seedlings such as cedar, fir, redwood, oak and pines. In the Los Padres National Forest, reforestation is primarily for watershed protection, soil stabilization and recreation areas.



### THE IMPORTANCE OF REFORESTATION:

As the result of the recent series of severe catastrophic forest fires, thousands of acres in the Los Padres National Forest have burned and are now brush covered. Trees on brush-covered acreage grow back very slowly – if at all. To accelerate reforestation, brush must be removed, the sites prepared, and seedlings planted. Over the last twenty years wildfires have burned more than 100,000 acres of National Forest land in California each year. Natural reseeding occurs on some of this burned land; but much of it must be replanted. The existing Forest Service budget for replanting recently burned areas can only provide for replanting about 14,000 acres a year. Every year new burned areas add to the amount of planting needed.

### WHY DO WE NEED FORESTS?

- Forests provide an enjoyable vacationland. They keep mountains and countryside beautiful.
- Wild animals, birds, and fish depend upon forests and streams for food and shelter.
- Forests help provide a reliable and useable water supply. They help prevent food and water shortages.
- Grasses and shrubs in the forest furnish food for wildlife and domestic animals.
- Forests hold fertile topsoil in place, keeping it from eroding and washing into lakes, streams and reservoirs.
- Forests provide timber for lumber, plywood, boxes, poles, furniture, paper, and thousands of other products. Timber products provide a livelihood for many people.

To provide all the benefits we enjoy from the Los Padres National Forest, we must speed up the pace of reforestation. Your donations to Penny Pines help –**THANK YOU!!**

# CCCCS BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT:** Loring Manley / [loring.manley@icloud.com](mailto:loring.manley@icloud.com)

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Carol Mortensen / [carolmortensen0@gmail.com](mailto:carolmortensen0@gmail.com)

**SECRETARY:** Carol Moss / [carol.moss@gmail.com](mailto:carol.moss@gmail.com)

**TREASURER:** Kathy Goss

**MEMBERSHIP:** Barbara Brooks / [barbarahbrooks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:barbarahbrooks@sbcglobal.net)

**HOSPITALITY:** Pat Gilson / [hupt74@yahoo.com](mailto:hupt74@yahoo.com)

**LIBRARIAN:** Ann Byrne / [annierose1206@msn.com](mailto:annierose1206@msn.com)

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR:** Mark Woods / [markslo@gmail.com](mailto:markslo@gmail.com)

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Bill Findley  
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Ken Byrne: [agaveken@msn.com](mailto:agaveken@msn.com)

## CSSA AFFILIATE

Rob Skillin: [rskillin@gmail.com](mailto:rskillin@gmail.com)

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**CLAYWORKS POTTERY**



Richard Rowe  
MR. 235.9721  
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ceramic artist



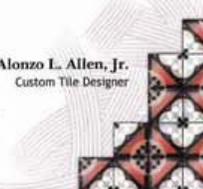
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[amyxart.com](http://amyxart.com)

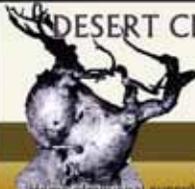
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Arroyo Grande CA 93420

From member Richard Rowe of Rowe Clayworks:  
 Info: 805.458.8506 or click here for this event's Facebook page.

**3rd Annual Holiday GIFT Studio Tour**

Sat. / Sun., Dec. 2 & 3, 10 am - 4 pm

Visit 8 creative local artists, in 4 festive studios by the bay!  
 Art • Gifts • Stocking Stuffers

Artists and their work shown:

- Jay Bonestell: A wooden mask with large ears and a wide mouth.
- Ann Bonestell: A golden, abstract sculpture.
- Anita Marie: A colorful necklace with a large, dark pendant.
- ColorVibe Designs: A vibrant, multi-colored scarf.
- Thomas Mayberry: A photograph of a sunset over water.
- Richard Rowe: A ceramic planter with a colorful, abstract design.
- Rod Baker: A man holding a large, colorful, abstract sculpture.
- Pandora Nash-Karner: A yellow ceramic vase and a necklace.

A portion of art proceeds will benefit children served by CASA

**3rd Annual Holiday GIFT Studio Tour**

Affordable hand-crafted gifts for your heart and home  
 Sat./Sun., Dec. 2 & 3, 11am-4pm

Celebrate Holiday gift-giving with unique art and fine craft gifts: ceramics, planters, art cards, photography, jewelry, art glass, textiles, paintings, ornaments, and more. Enjoy artful magic and yummy treats.

Visit 8 local artists in 4 festive studios by the bay

- #1 Bonestell Studios, mixed media & jewelry with ColorVibe Designs, silk scarves  
 2008 Ferrell, Los Osos
- #2 Pandora Nash-Karner, ceramics with Anita Marie, jewelry  
 350 Mitchell Drive, Los Osos
- #3 Rod Baker, fused & blown glass  
 1279 2nd Street, Los Osos
- #4 Rowe Clayworks, ceramics & planters with Thomas Mayberry, photographer  
 387 Quintana, Morro Bay

Map labels: Highway 1, Quintana Morro Bay, South Bay Blvd, Santa Ysabel, Santa Maria, Mitchell, Ramona, Pine Street, Ferrell, Los Osos Valley Road.

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Info: Holiday Gift Studio Tour • (805) 458-8506