



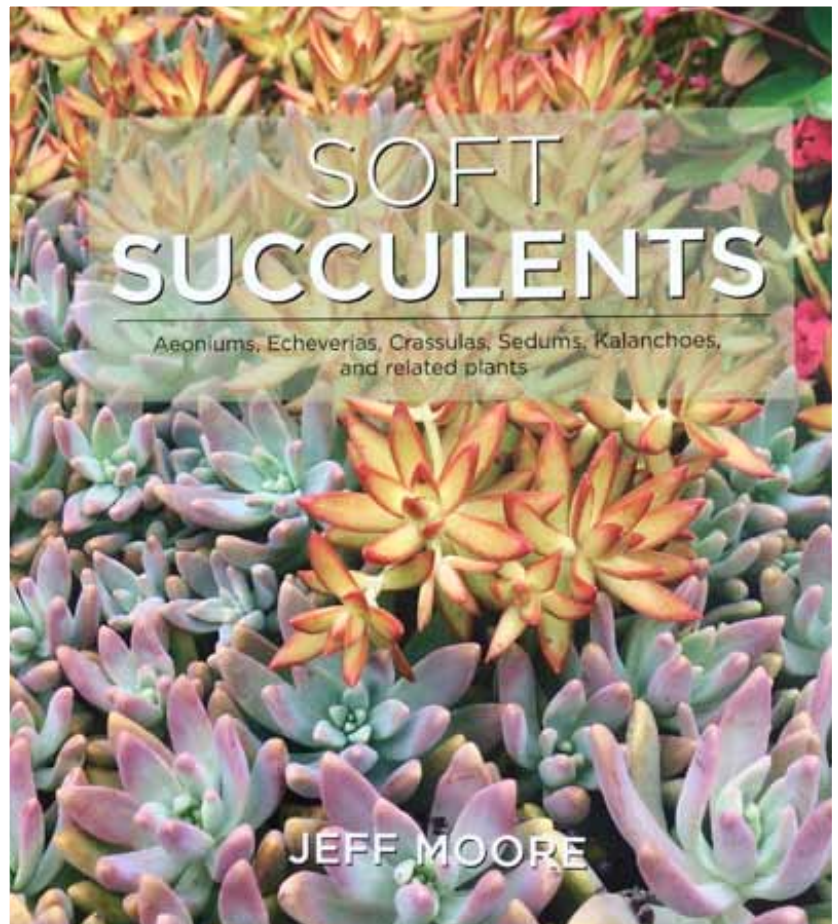
ON THE DRY SIDE

CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

MAY 2018

MAY SPEAKER OF THE MONTH: JEFF MOORE

“The Jeff” is a collector-turned-nursery owner—a succulent expert, garden designer, photographer and author who, for 26 years, has owned Solana Succulents nursery in Solana Beach, near San Diego. He is also a CalPoly alumni who hails from southern California. His new book, *Soft Succulents*, is the sequel to *Under the Spell of Succulents* and *Aloes and Agaves in Cultivation*. His presentation will highlight aeoniums, echeverias, dudleyas, sedums, crassulas, kalanchoes, etc.



Jeff will bring lots of books and plants to sell and will be equipped with Square for credit cards. And, he will also generously donate a book or plant for the raffle!

DON'T MISS OUR NEXT MEETING! SUNDAY, MAY 13TH, 2PM

Oddfellows Hall, 520 Dana St (at Nipomo St), San Luis Obispo

Parking is limited — please consider carpooling!

MAY PLANT OF THE MONTH: MELOCACTUS

Plantae • Angiosperms • Eudicots • Caryophyllales
• Cactaceae • Melocactus



M. ernestii

The genus Melocactus includes around forty cacti from Mexico, the Caribbean and South America. Many of these species are endangered but plants in cultivation are almost always grown from seed. They are mostly melon-shaped (thus the derivation from the Greek word 'melon'), and slow, generally difficult to grow plants. They are also solitary bodies except if the growing tip has been damaged, either accidentally or intentionally. When they mature, the body stops growing, literally, and produces a crown on its apex named a cephalium. This densely spined area is where the flowers and fruit are produced. The cephalium can keep on growing for many years and in some species can exceed the height of the static body itself. The striking difference between the body and the cephalium reminds some people of a cap, hence the common name 'Turk's Cap' (Fez hat from Turkey) is given to many species in this genus.

As noted, most Melocactus have specialized requirements that make them tricky to grow well. They are more rot-prone than most cacti if kept wet and should be grown in a very well draining soil mix. That being said, in the summer, they should be watered and fed regularly. In winter, decrease the watering, and like most plants, do not let them dry out

completely for too long. Just try not to let them stay wet for more than a few days or so. In the South County, direct sunlight is mostly necessary; in the North County, provide some afternoon shade to prevent burning during the summer, especially if grown in pots.

Melocactus flowers are generally a shade of pink or red. They come in abundance from spring to fall, depending on the species. They are followed by a pink, edible fleshy fruit that is consumed by birds and lizards. These animals help disseminate the seeds contained therein through their waste matter.



M. pachyacanthus colony

MELOCACTUS — CONTINUED



M. zehntneri, unusual form



M. azureus



M. paucispinus



M. levitestatus variegata

Thank you to Markus Mumper for the write-up and Rob Skillin for the beautiful photos.

CCCSS ANNUAL SHOW & SALE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SHOW AND SALE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

I want to encourage every member to bring at least one plant to the show. Our turnout is improving every year, and I know there are more of you with nice plants to bring. Our show is one of the most respected in California – this is your chance to be a part of it!

There will be **entry cards** at the May meeting, and at the show Friday afternoon (May 25). The **show schedule** will be available too, and it's posted on our website, along with the judging criteria and other pertinent information.

Especially, I would like to see **more novices get involved** – it seems like a big step, but actually, it's fun! There are some special rosettes which are dedicated to the Novice category, including Best Rookie Cactus and Best Rookie Succulent. **What is a rookie?** We've changed the definition this year so more people are eligible; someone who has shown a cumulative total of less than 8 plants in previous shows. **Give it a try, you'll like it!**

Remember, our Volunteer Appreciation award this year is **20 free raffle tickets** for each 3 hour time block you sign up for (maximum, 40 per day). So it's possible to receive **\$100 worth of raffle tickets** by helping out Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Tickets will be handed out at the June meeting, and can be used at any monthly membership meeting in the future. Contact Pat at the meeting to sign up, and see below for more information about volunteering.

I hope to see each and every one of you there,

Rob Skillin
Show Co-Chair
709-3033

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR THE 2018 SHOW & SALE

This is my last plea for S&S volunteers. Those wishing to sign up, please see me at the regular meeting, May 13th, or if you are unable to attend the meeting, please call **805-481-5596** or email me at **hupt74@yahoo.com**. Please remember I will not call you unless I need to check with you about what time you are scheduled to work.

A few important points:

Please come a few minutes early. Parking around the Ludwick center is slim, so try to carpool. In years past we were able to use the parking lot at the 'Art Deco' building across Santa Rosa St, but with the property now up for sale, I'm no longer sure about that. In any case, the parking lot at the Ludwick Center should be left for customers.

Thank you,
Pat Gilson

A CALL FOR AUCTION PLANTS

Once again this year we will be having an auction during the Annual Show and Sale. Our vendors will provide some of these plants and some will be provided by club members like you. If you have a nice show-worthy specimen that has a retail value of \$50 or more and would like to sell it at the auction, please send an email to Bill Findley at **coolcactuskid805@gmail.com**. In your email, include at least 2 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 help), and a reserve price (the lowest you would be willing to sell it for). The auction will be Sunday, May 27th, at 1pm. The club retains 25% of the sale price.

Please email your submissions by May 18th. The auction committee will contact you by May 20th to confirm acceptance of your plant(s) for the auction.

If you have any questions please contact Bill!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALOE PROPAGATION FROM SEED WORK GROUP

We (Bill Findley and Loring Manley) are looking for people interested in learning about starting Aloes from seed. This would be a workgroup with monthly meetings for at least six months.

Starting from seeds—brought by participants, purchased online, or provided from friends' gardens—we will learn how to plant & germinate seeds and then care for young seedlings until they are ready to transplant individually into 4 inch pots.

One possibility is that we could explore a variety of different approaches to starting seed used by CCCSS members already successful with seed propagation.

The goal would be for each participant to end up with a selection of young aloe plants, new to them, for their collection. Also, participants would have the confidence that they can grow their own Aloes at home from seed.

Anyone interested please contact Loring at loring.manley@icloud.com.



TO ALL MEMBERS REGARDING MEMBERSHIP DUES 2018 - 2019

Thank you to all our CCCSS members who continue to support our wonderful club! Your membership dues allow us to continue what we do best – bring together succulent plant lovers who share enthusiasm for our fabulous hobby. We are so fortunate to have comprehensive monthly lectures by experts, the amazing plant raffle, a plant exchange, extensive lending library, plant sales, and so much more.

Please renew your membership dues today. All members are asked to fill out a new membership application when submitting dues. Please ensure all family members acknowledge the Hold Harmless Clause on the membership application, which is on our club web site, centralcoastcactus.org. Dues are payable at monthly meetings or can be mailed to Barbara Brooks, 441 Marsh St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. Please make checks payable to CCCSS. We accept cash and checks only. Thank you!



SPEAKING OF MEMBER BENEFITS...

JD Maynard, member of CCCSS in good standing, was the lucky winner of **Rob Skillin's Open Greenhouse Day** raffle plant, **Fockea edulis**. This beautiful succulent could not have gone to a better home.

Congratulations, JD, and thank you, Rob!



OF NOTE

FREE PLANTS!

We have a couple of large cacti in our backyard that are not ideal for our children. We would like to give them away to a good home at only the expense of moving them off of the property for us. If anyone is interested please contact me! I've attached a couple of pictures. The larger of the two stands over 8' tall I believe.

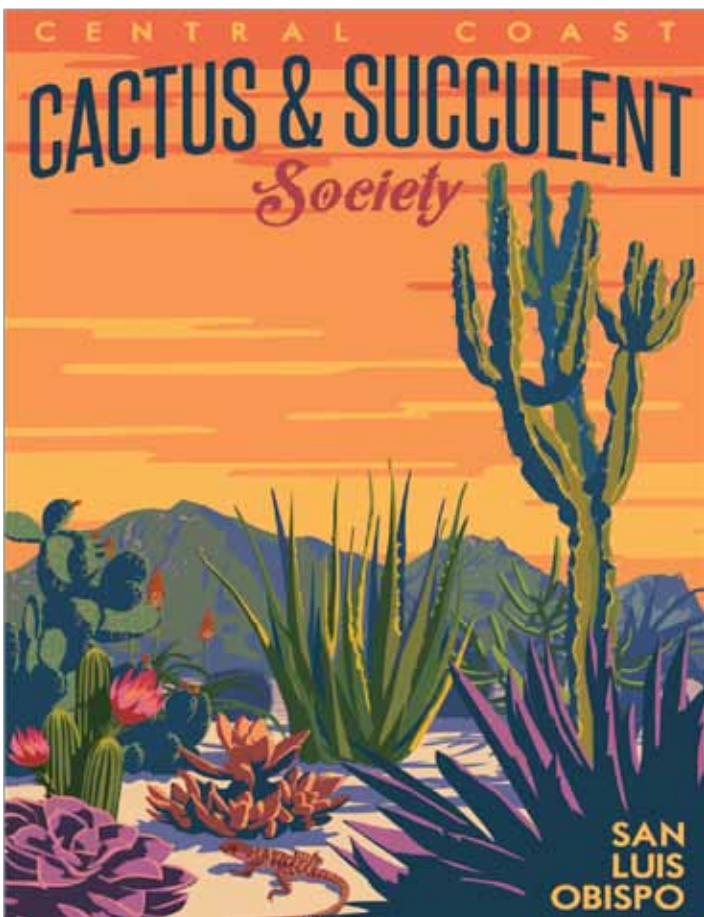
Thank you,
Casey Bassetti
805-712-1997
casey.j.bassetti@gmail.com



ASK ME TABLE FOR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT QUESTIONS

Bring your questions about cacti and succulents to the **ASK ME TABLE** conveniently located next to the library book table at our monthly meetings. 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 good photos of the plants and/or bugs. **We look forward to seeing you at the ASK ME TABLE!**

BEAUTIFUL ART FOR SALE — PROCEEDS BENEFIT OUR CLUB!



Available at every 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** in San Luis Obispo. The 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, please contact:
Kathie Matsuyama at luvbigdogs@earthlink.net

GARDEN GATHERING NEWS

Thank you Mary Peracca and Leisa Swanson for hosting the Garden Gatherers!

On March 31st, Garden Gatherers met on a very warm day in **Mary Peracca's** San Luis Obispo garden. Mary provided an informative overview explaining how her garden was designed and constructed. She had "before" photos, and pictures of the installation done several years ago. It's eye-opening to see how fast cactus and succulents grow when "released" from their containers and planted in the ground! Her front yard landscape is definitely Sunset Magazine-worthy! It is colorful, intricate, in-scale with her architecture and absolutely stunning. And as if that wasn't enough, Mary also has perfectly grown show-worthy cactus and succulents in ceramic pots she has made herself. Her side yard, backyard and wonderful greenhouse are full of plants! **Thank you, Mary!** It is always delightful to visit your garden!

On April 28th a large group gathered to enjoy a wonderful tour of **Leisa Swanson's** eclectic San Luis Obispo garden of treasures. Leisa's fun garden includes a little of everything Her front garden features a great rock riverbed with spectacular (geology-tour quality) boulders and sun-loving cacti. Through her narrow side yard is a small greenhouse packed to the brim with show plants. Like many plant lovers, Leisa doesn't limit herself to just a few types of plants (like an incredible variety of succulents)—she also grows tropical plants, fruit trees and blooming roses. She definitely has a green thumb! Guests had the opportunity to feed the large, colorful koi and feast on a diverse array of delectable treats. **Thank you Leisa and sister Lindy** for hosting such a warm and inviting gathering!



Mary Peracca's greenhouse

If you're not familiar with the CCCSS Garden Gatherings, here are the FAQs:

- **Why:** CCCSS club is large; it's hard to connect with other cactophiles at our huge meetings.
- **What:** "Garden Gatherings" are 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. The host decides the number of guests. Sign-ups are taken at monthly club meetings.
- **When:** Hosts pick the date and time for the event.

The process of planning, organization, sign-up sheets, emailing your guests, etc., will be capably coordinated by Susan and Kathie! 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. The intent of Garden Gatherings is to get to know other members of CCCSS. This is a great way to do just that!

We are still looking for folks with a desire to share their passion, their garden and a willingness to host. Sign-ups for July through the end of the year are underway. Please contact us if you are interested:
Susan Ross: susanrosscra@yahoo.com or Kathie Matsuyama: luvbigdogs@earthlink.net.

See next page for more Garden Gathering photos >>>

GARDEN GATHERINGS — CONTINUED

Photos from recent Garden Gatherings:

Top right:
Mary Peracca's front garden

Center:
Aloe in Leisa Swanson's garden

Bottom right:
Leisa Swanson's Epiphyte



APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

At 2pm on April 8, 2018, Vice President Carol Mortensen called the meeting to order. Carol thanked the members who provided refreshments and asked the first-time visitors to introduce themselves.

Announcements:

- Bill Findley announced that this year's t-shirt contest designs were available for voting in the break room. (Note that Natasha Erickson's design was the winner and will appear on our 2018 S&S t-shirt.)
- Bill: S&S live auction plants should have a minimum value of \$50 and must be vetted prior to the S&S.
- Mike Bush announced that the Cal Poly Horticulture Department is having a sale on May 11 and 12.
- Wayne Mills: His mineral society is having a gem show at the Paso Robles Fairgrounds, April 21 and 22.
- Terry Skillin announced that a bus trip will be planned later this year, open to all CCCSS members.
- At the time of the meeting, there were still vacancies on the Board of Directors, including president and newsletter editor (which has since been resolved--thank you Mark).
- Loring Manley hosted a workshop in his garden. (I can report that it was an enjoyable event and we learned how to drill drainage holes in china).
- Kathie Matsuyama and Susan Ross announced future Garden Gatherings.
- Terrie Leivers is recruiting volunteers to fill key positions for the 2019 CSSA Convention.

Rob Skillin made the following announcements about the Show & Sale:

- Thanked the sponsors of the special awards
- Entry cards and the official show schedule were available at the Greeter Table.
- New definition of "rookie" entrant in the show is now anyone who has entered an aggregate of seven or fewer plants in all previous shows. ("Rookie" was previously defined as showing one's first plant ever.) The Rookie category has some special prizes.
- New classifications this year: Miniature Cactus, Miniature Succulent.
- Educational displays are encouraged and are good for educating the public.
- Volunteers are needed. Volunteers will receive 20 free raffle tickets for every 3-hour shift, with a max of 40 per day. They can be used at any future general membership meeting.
- Friday evening pre-sale from 5 to 7 pm is limited to volunteers who have previously signed up with Pat, show entrants, and vendors. To purchase plants, the purchaser must have a wristband from Bill Findley. Plants may not be left in the Plant Hotel Friday evening.
- Please collect boxes of a reasonable size (imagine it filled with plants) and bring them Friday night.

Rob described the Plant of the Month, Brag Table plants, with help from their growers, and the raffle plants.

Following the break, we learned how to prepare a plant for showing at the S&S from 3 winning members. Tim Dawson discussed choosing the best plant to show. Much depends on timing. Start planning 6 months ahead, and pick a plant that will be in its prime. Clean it up, remove dead parts, and deal with blemishes. Make sure your top dressing looks its best, and make sure you can safely transport your plant. Harry Harlow then got his hands dirty demonstrating how to replant into a new pot, including choosing the correct pot and mixing your soil so that it's correct for your local environment. Ann Erb finished up by demonstrating the tools she uses and how she attaches a bonsai into a shallow pot, including drilling holes in pots. Deep pots drain faster than shallow pots, so a coarser soil is better in a shallow pot. She demonstrated how helpful a turntable is when repotting. She said a rust eraser removes the white crud from pots and said that aluminum wire is less toxic than copper. Thank you Ann, Harry and Tim!

The raffles were held, the meeting adjourned, the plant exchange was held, and the Board of Directors met.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Harlow Moss, Secretary

CCCSS APRIL BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

The Board of Directors (aka Executive Board) meeting was attended by the following: Barbara Brooks, Membership; Natasha Erickson, MAL; Bill Findley, MAL; Pat Gilson, Hospitality; Kathy Goss, Treasurer; Terrie Leivers, Publicity; Carol Mortensen, Vice President; Carol Moss, Secretary; Rob Skillin, CSSA Rep; Terry Skillin, MAL; and Mark Woods, Newsletter Editor. Absent: President Loring Manley. Also present, member Claudette Rettig.

The following topics were discussed:

- Treasurers Report
- Show & Sale
- T-shirt contest (won by Natasha!)
- Budget for t-shirts
- Budget for name tags
- Bylaws
- Election Committee
- CSSA Committees

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Harlow Moss, Secretary



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**

MEMBERSHIP: **Barbara Brooks** barbarahbrooks@sbcglobal.net

HOSPITALITY: **Pat Gilson** hupt74@yahoo.com

LIBRARIAN: **Ann Byrne** annierose1206@msn.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: **Mark Woods** marknslo@gmail.com

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Terry Skillin
tjskillin@gmail.com

Natasha Erickson
ayin1331@gmail.com

Bill Findley
coolcactuskid805@gmail.com

PAST PRESIDENT
Ken Byrne agaveken@msn.com

CSSA AFFILIATE
Rob Skillin rskillin@gmail.com

GENERAL CLUB EMAIL ADDRESS: cencalcactus@gmail.com



691 Facebook members! View club updates & member photos.
Also find us online at centralcoastcactus.org.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS!

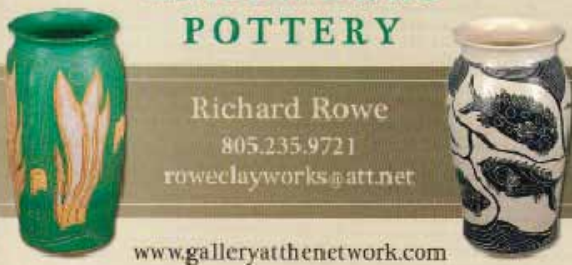

Click on images to visit the websites of these businesses or to contact them via email.

You can advertise on these pages by becoming a Business Member of CCCSS!



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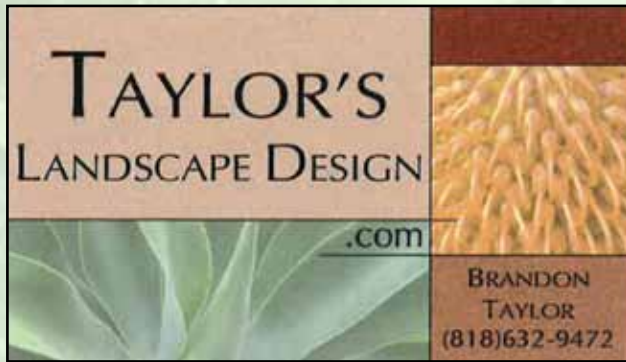
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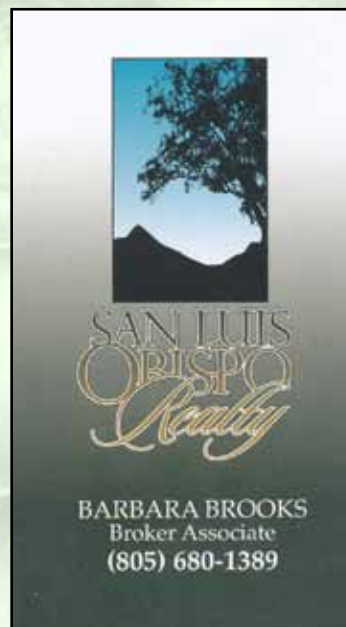
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2018 REGIONAL SHOW AND SALE CALENDAR

MAY 12: Santa Barbara Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale | Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
909 N La Cumbre Rd, Santa Barbara | www.sbcactus.org

MAY 12-13: Gates Cactus & Succulent Society 35th Annual Show & Sale
450 E Alessandro Blvd, Riverside | www.gatescss.com | 909.626.4197

May 19-20: Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show & Sale
Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Rd, Long Beach | www.longbeachcactusclub.org | 310.922.6090

MAY 26-27: Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society 12th Annual Show & Sale
Ludwick Center, 864 Santa Rosa St, San Luis Obispo | www.centralcoastcactus.org

This month!

JUNE 2-3: Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
Clovis Veterans Memorial District, 808 Fourth St, Clovis | www.fresnocss.com

JUNE 2-3: San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Show & Sale
Balboa Park, Casa del Prado, Room 101, San Diego | www.sdcss.net

JUNE 9-10: San Francisco Succulent & Cactus Society Annual Show & Sale
San Francisco County Fair Building at 9th Avenue and Lincoln Way, San Francisco | www.sfsucculent.org

JUNE 9-10: Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
Sepulveda Garden Center, 16633 Magnolia Blvd, Encino | www.lacactus.com

JUNE 29-30, July 1: CSSA Annual Show & Sale
Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino | www.cssainc.org

AUGUST 11-12: Annual Intercity Show & Sale, LA County Arboretum, 301 N Baldwin Ave, Arcadia
Info: Tom Glavich 626 798-2430 or Artie Chavez 818-482-8795 | www.sgvcss.com

SEPTEMBER 1: Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium
Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino | www.huntington.org | 626.405.3504

SEPTEMBER 15: Long Beach Cactus Club Plant Show & Sale
Rancho Los Alamitos, 6400 Bixby Hill Rd, Long Beach | www.longbeachcactusclub.org | 310.922.6090

SEPTEMBER 28-29: Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society Fall Show & Sale
Location TBD | www.mbsucculent.org

OCTOBER 13-14: Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
St. Paul's Church, 2216 17th St, Bakersfield | www.bakersfieldcactus.org | 661.831.8488

OCTOBER 27-28: Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale, San Diego Botanic Garden
230 Quail Gardens Rd, Encinitas | www.palomarcactus.org | 858.776.7216 | britamiller1@gmail.com

NOVEMBER 3-4: San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society Winter Show & Sale



FRIDAY, MAY 11, 4 – 7 P.M.

SATURDAY, MAY 12, 9 A.M. – 2 P.M.

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LOS OSOS VALLEY GARDEN CLUB Plant And Garden Art Sale

May 12, 2018 — 9am to 1pm
Trinity United Methodist Church
490 Los Osos Valley Rd, Los Osos

PROCEEDS BENEFIT WOMANADE

- 100'S Of Plants Donated By Local Growers
 - Unique Raffle Prizes
 - Craft Gallery With Exciting Items Made By Members



Succulent & Cactus Plant Sale

Saturday May 19, 2018

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Elks Lodge

**158 N. Conejo School Road
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to give you tips on growing and cultivation of cactus & succulents.

Please bring boxes or bags to carry home your purchases.

For more information email : Conejocss@hotmail.com

Our Sale is in conjunction with the Elks Lodge weekly BBQ.

53rd ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA HUNTINGTON LIBRARY & BOTANICAL GARDENS

Dates: Friday, Saturday & Sunday, June 29, 30 & July 1, 2018

Location: The Huntington: 1151 Oxford Drive, San Marino, CA
The Botanical Center. Contact 626-405-3504

Show & Sale Hours: Sale: Friday, Saturday & Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm

Show: Saturday & Sunday 10:00am-5:00pm

Show Set-up: Thurs. June 28th, 9am-1pm

Enter Plants: Thurs., June 28th 1pm-8pm & Friday, June 29, 10:00am-4:00pm.

Judging starts at 5:00pm Friday

Auction: Items need to be registered by 3pm, Saturday, June 30

There will be a Silent Auction during dinner and a Live Auction (35 items max.) after dinner. Auctioneers will decide placement of items: 2 items per person/business marked as donation or split (70/30)

Dinner: \$15.00 Menu: Chili Buffet. Mail checks, made out to CSSA, to Bonnie Ikemura – 8400 Bleriot Ave. Los Angeles, CA, 90045; Reserve spot by Phone: 213-305-1421 or email Bonnie at bikemura@hotmail.com. Reservations must be made by June 25, 2018

Teardown: Sunday, July 1, 5:00pm

Be sure to pick up a Show Schedule, Index and entry tags from your CSSA Club Affiliate at your next club meeting if you are interested in entering plants in the Show or in the Auction.

All Cactus & Succulent Club members, CSSA members, vendors, volunteers or show participants need to wear their club badges (if you have one) AND a special CSSA/HBG pass that reads “ Annual CSSA Show Participant” to enter the HBG for free. If you are a HBG member this doesn’t apply. Please obtain a pass from your CSSA Affiliate at your club meeting or contact Barbara Hall, Show Chair before the event. We are not permitted to hand out passes at the HBG entryway.

There are opportunities to participate/volunteer in this year’s show, even for a couple of hours in the showroom or sales areas, hospitality (food) area, information table, holding area, welcome table at the HBG entry & setup/teardown. All participants receive a show T-Shirt as a thank you.

See you at the Show!

Barbara Hall

CSSA Show Chair

Email: lbcjhall@aol.com Phone: 818-368-6914

CSSA JOURNAL
NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2017
Synopsis of Selected Articles

From The Mysterious Plant To The Most Common Mammillaria: The Story Of *Mammillaria Luethyi*

Zlatko Janeba recounts the discovery of this Coahuilan species in habitat in 1996 and its description by George Hinton long after it had first been brought to the United States (early 1950s) and many years of conjecture regarding its correct genus. The author also tells how *M. luethyi* eventually became available to the public.

Agaves of Arizona

In this ten-page, well-illustrated article, Ron Parker comments that there are twenty-one Agave species in Arizona and divides them into two groups, the first which tend to be large, broad-leaved plants with large inflorescences (examples given: *A. parryi*, *A. chrysantha*, *A. palmeri*, *A. deserti* var. *simplex*, *A. mckelveyana*) and the second which are smaller plants and have spicate or racemose inflorescences (*A. schottii*, *A. toumeyana*, *A. parviflora*, *A. utahensis*). Maps accompany the article.

A New Species Of Cremonophytic Aloe From The Republic Of Zambia

Author and explorer Tom A. McCoy presents *Aloe mkushiana*, a long leafed hanging species with downward-facing rosettes from a deep river gorge in the central region of Zambia. Confirmation of the new species status was made in June 2017. The epithet “mkushiana” was chosen in reference to the occurrence on the steep cliffs rising above the Mkushi River.

Cacti Conundrums

Nancy D. Riley shares her findings regarding the status of *Sclerocactus glaucus*, *Echinocereus viridiflorus*, *Pediocactus simpsonii* and *Escobaria vivipara* on her 35-acre parcel of land near Livermore (Larimer County), Colorado. She discusses her method of identifying and tracking plants and notes the depletion of plants in drought years due to rabbit predation.

Dogs Sniff Out An Elusive Cactus

Mark Fleming reveals a new ecological scent detection endeavor by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum and H.T. Harvey & Associates to rigorously train dogs to identify the highly endangered *Coryphantha scheeri* var. *robustispina* in Pima and Santa Cruz Counties, Arizona, the only American habitat for the species. Distribution is patchy and few locations have significant populations. Tracking these plants has been very time consuming in the past. “Dogs have been used with great success in finding several species of plants...and are able to detect odor originating from a target plant’s roots,” writes Mr. Fleming. The dogs are trained during a period of approximately sixteen weeks.

Additionally:

- Fred Katterman offers “Molecular analysis of the genus *Eriosyce* part II”
- Leo Chance continues his series “Pushing the Limits: Landscaping with Cacti and Succulents” with his article #27
- “*Sansevieria Rosulata*, a New Species in Uganda” is presented by Tom Forrest
- John Lavranos, in one of his last writings, reviews “The Aloes of Uganda, A Field Guide,” by Thomas Cole and Tom Forrest.

