

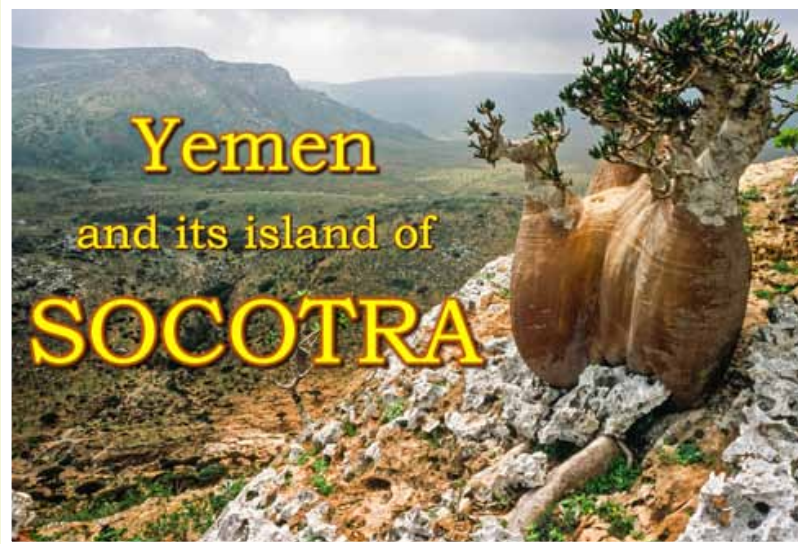


# ON THE DRY SIDE

## CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

JULY 2018

### JULY SPEAKER OF THE MONTH: **ROB SKILLIN**



Socotra is the largest island in an archipelago of small islands located in the warm Indian Ocean east of the Horn of Africa. It has been recognized for centuries as a botanical wonderland, with many endemic species, including many succulents. Several of these succulent species reach massive proportions which are unheard of in other members of their genera located elsewhere. Examples are *Dendrosicyos socotrana*, which is the only arborescent member of the cucumber family (which also curiously lacks vines) and *Dorstenia gigas*, which may have a stem several feet thick and over 10' tall.

Socotra is part of the country of Yemen, which has its own interesting succulent flora. Plants on the mainland are adapted to much more arid conditions and can often tolerate colder temperatures, as they frequently occur at very high elevations.

This month's program on Yemen and its island of Socotra will be presented by Rob Skillin, who visited the area in the fall of 2007. It will feature habitat photos of succulents on the mainland as well as the island. It will also take a look at the very interesting culture and architecture found in the cities and rural areas of the country.

**ABOUT ROB:** I have been growing cacti and succulents for 40 years, and have been involved in various local societies for most of that time. The first office I held was Show and Sale Chairman for the Santa Barbara C&SS, during the late 1980's. After moving to California's Central Valley, I became a founding member, and later, President of the Bakersfield C&SS. In 2005, after another move, I was a founder of the Central Coast C&SS and became its first President. This society now boasts 260+ enthusiastic members, and held its very successful twelfth annual show and sale in May of 2018. I have also been involved with the CSSA as a member of its Board of Directors.

My first interest, which continues today, was cacti of the Chihuahuan desert, especially those unique genera such as *Ariocarpus*, *Aztekium*, and *Strombocactus*, etc. Gradually, I diversified my collection to include Mesembs, *Haworthias*, and other succulents, particularly caudiciforms. I've spent many years studying the cacti of the US, particularly *Sclerocacti* and *Pediocacti*. I am an avid grower of plants from seed, and now have a number of seed-grown specimens in my collection dating back to 1982. As an acknowledgment of my expertise with these plants, I have been asked to judge numerous shows throughout California, including the CSSA, Intercity, NORCAL, LA, Fresno and San Diego shows.

Along with my interest in cacti and succulents, I enjoy photography and travel. These interests have come together in a wonderful way during my botanical explorations of the western US and Mexico, and portions of South America, Africa, Madagascar and the Middle East. I have several programs based on these trips, and I speak regularly to clubs in northern and southern California. Many of my photographs have been published as illustrations for articles and covers of the *Journal* and *Haseltonia*, as well as the Timber Press Book of Succulents of the World.

### **DON'T MISS OUR NEXT MEETING! SUNDAY, JULY 8TH, 2PM**

Oddfellows Hall, 520 Dana Street, San Luis Obispo  
Parking is limited — please consider carpooling!

# JULY PLANT OF THE MONTH: COPIAPOA



## Cactaceae: Capiapoa

The genre Capiapoa consists of globular cactus that, stretching with growth, assumes tubular shape. With time, also, the new stems grow next to each other forming characteristic tufts. The plants are almost never high: they usually reach a length that can range from 30 cm to 1 m in height.

The stem has got a color of gray-green, with a peak covered by gray and thickly thorny felt. The flowers are yellow or yellow-pink, they only appear on adult plants and allow to distinguish Capiapoa among the other cacti in Chile.

Most of the special features of this plant come from the special environment where it is developed such as the Atacama Desert, considered to be the driest area in the world (it is also characterized by extremely poor soils). It is a very homogeneous area from the climatic point of view located near the coastal strip and this proximity to the sea can give the right humidity to the plant.

The copiacoa is considered a genre in itself since 1922, while previously it was part of the Echinocactus family. According to the standard classification system, there are 20 to 40 different species of Capiapoa.

The best known species is certainly the Capiapoa cinerea. This species, on its stem, produces a white cuticular wax layer which waterproofs the surface and protects it from dangerous sunburn.

Among the other species is the Capiapoa lauii, the smallest species that is known in this genre, with stems that remain of globular form and produce beautiful yellow blooms.

In Capiapoa solaris the ribs of the stem is much more noticeable than in other species and the form recalls the one of other cacti. It is very difficult to find it on the market and it has slow growth time.

The cultivation of plants of the genre Capiapoa is not easy and the growth is very slow, so they are usually difficult to find on the market.

In fact, it needs slightly different care than other cacti—even less water, especially in summer, and a soil with a mineral substrate.



Pictured:

Above: *C. cinerea*

Right: *C. cinerea* var. *gigantea*, aka *haseltoniana*

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE

## PLANT OF THE MONTH: COPIAPOA – CONTINUED



Pictured:

Top left: *C. serpentisulcata*

Top right: *C. humilis* var. *varispinata*

Bottom left: *C. cinerea* var. *krainziana*

Bottom right: *C. cinerea* var. *dealbata* crest

Beautiful Plant-of-the-Month photos provided by Rob Skillin.

# BULLETIN BOARD

## CCCSS MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW

Please make a note to submit your annual CCCSS Membership renewal dues at the next club meeting on July 8, 2018. Please fill out a membership application, available at the meeting, making sure all members sign the Hold Harmless Clause found on the application.

You can also mail your dues: c/o Barbara Brooks, 441 Marsh St, San Luis Obispo, 93401. Membership applications are on the CCCSS website, [centralcoastcactus.org](http://centralcoastcactus.org). All checks are payable to CCCSS. Thank you for supporting our wonderful club!

### Dues are as follows:

Individual: **\$20**  
Family, under same roof: **\$25**  
Business: **\$40**

## PENNY PINES

Although Penny Pines is a meaningful and practical conservation project in replanting replacement trees to a particular damaged area, the board has decided to search for a more local project to support with our donations.



## 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 aswell.) 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!**

## FROM TERRY SKILLIN

Several people reminded me they wanted the recipe for slowcooked mushrooms I supplied for our open house in April. Here it is: **Slow-Cooked Mushroom Asada** -- enjoy!

- 2-24 oz. containers sliced mushrooms
- 1 c. water
- 2/3 c. soy sauce
- 4 green onion, finely chopped
- the juice of one lemon or 2 limes
- 1 tsp ground cumin
- 1-2 tsps red pepper flakes

Place all ingredients in a crock pot or slow roaster, stir, and cook on HIGH for 5-7 hours. Serve with a slotted spoon for the liquid to drain out.

# GARDEN GATHERING NEWS



## We are looking for Garden Gathering Hosts through the End of the Year — Please Volunteer!

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

**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 our CCCSS members' gardens.

**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.

**Why:** CCCSS club is large; it's hard to connect with other cactophiles at our huge meetings.

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 point of Garden Gatherings is to get to know other members of CCCSS and this is a great way to do 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 to the end of the year are underway.

Please contact us if you are interested:

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

## Thank you, Carol Moss!

July's meeting will be our last meeting with Carol!

After almost seven years as our CCCSS Secretary, Carol is moving east to join her adult children and their families...in New York. Well, that's hardly cactus and succulent country, but family trumps even loved hobbies; and she will still have her jewelry & beading...even in the snow.

Carol started as our Secretary in January of 2012—that was quite a while back! And she stayed on to help these last several years when we were unable to recruit a replacement for her Board position. She always did a great job keeping us all informed with minutes for membership meetings, BoD meetings, and the Show-and-Sale Committee. She was always there to help.

We will miss you, Carol, and we wish you the very, Very, **VERY BEST!**



# JUNE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

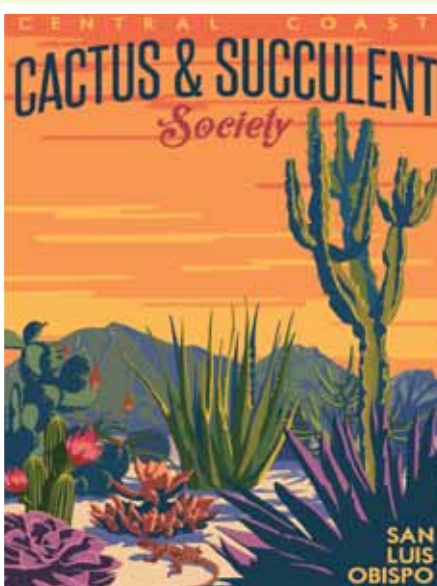
Vice President Carol Mortensen called the meeting to order at 2pm. on June 10, 2018. She thanked members for bringing refreshments and welcomed first-time visitors (18) and invited them to introduce themselves to the group and offered free plants. She explained the different club tables, i.e. Membership, Raffle Plants, Brag Plants, Plant of the month, Library, Sales-Art/Books, Greeters, etc., set-up around the meeting room.

## Announcements:

- By-Law Changes and vote: Rob Skillen reviewed the changes to the By-Laws that were summarized in the June Newsletter. He told the group that the attending membership needed to vote on the changes to make them official. The 75 attending members voted unanimously to approve the By-Law changes as written.
- Show and Sale: Rob Skillen thanked all the volunteers who helped make the Show and Sale this year the best ever, especially the improvement to the plant hotel at checkout! He reminded everyone that volunteered that they would be receiving thank you “Raffle Tickets” that they can use for the monthly raffles. He also thanked everyone that entered plants in the show (556 total entries) and told the group that the big winners would be receiving their awards at the July meeting. The sale this year grossed over \$90,000— a new record. He told us that the club’s share of the proceeds is used to buy Raffle plants, bus trips, etc.
- CSSA Show and Sale: Rob told the group that the CSSA Show and Sale will be at the Huntington Library and Gardens: Sale on June 29 through July 1; Show 30th & 1st. Anyone that is interested in entering the show can get entry information from Rob and free passes to the Huntington.
- Barbara Brooks reminded us that the fiscal year begins in July and it’s time to renew our membership dues (everyone needs to complete a new membership application). She also reminded us to silence our cell phones and refrain from chatting during the meeting.
- Possible future Succulent Arrangement Workshop. More information to come. – Teri Skillen
- Brag Table: Rob invited members who brought brag plants to come forward to talk about their plants.
- Plant of the Month: Caudiciform Euphorbias — Rob thanked Markus for his excellent write-up on Caudiciform Euphorbias (Stem succulents) in the Newsletter. Rob also thanked everyone who brought in samples of the POM. Rob then described some of the extra special plants on the raffle table.

A short break was followed by our program: Cactus & Succulents 101, presented by Kathie Matsuyama, followed by a panel discussion of experienced club members: Harry Harlow, Markus Mumper and Rob Skillen. After that came the raffle and plant exchange.

Respectfully submitted by: Ann L. Byrne, Secretary



## BEAUTIFUL ART FOR SALE

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 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](mailto:luvbigdogs@earthlink.net).

# 2018 REGIONAL SHOW AND SALE CALENDAR

- **JUNE 29-30, July 1:** CSSA Annual Show & Sale  
Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino | [www.cssainc.org](http://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](http://www.sgvcss.com)
- **SEPTEMBER 1:** Huntington Botanical Gardens Succulent Symposium  
Huntington Botanical Gardens, 1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino | [www.huntington.org](http://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](http://www.longbeachcactusclub.org) | 310.922.6090
- **SEPTEMBER 28-29:** Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society Fall Show & Sale  
Location TBD | [www.mbsucculent.org](http://www.mbsucculent.org)
- **OCTOBER 13-14:** Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale  
St. Paul's Church, 2216 17th St, Bakersfield | [www.bakersfieldcactus.org](http://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](http://www.palomarcactus.org) | 858.776.7216 | [britamiller1@gmail.com](mailto:britamiller1@gmail.com)
- **NOVEMBER 3-4:** San Gabriel Valley Cactus & Succulent Society Winter Show & Sale  
LA County Arboretum, 301 N Baldwin Ave, Arcadia | [www.sgvcss.com](http://www.sgvcss.com)

## Cactus & Succulent Society of America (CSSA) Board Meeting Highlights April 29, 2018

The CSSA Board of Directors met on April 29 at the Huntington Gardens. Final plans were announced for the annual CSSA Show & Sale, June 29 – July 1, at the Huntington. All succulent enthusiasts are encouraged to attend the CSSA Auction on Saturday night, June 30. The auction will follow a Chile Buffet dinner (\$15 per person). Proceeds from the auction support research grants awarded by CSSA. Be sure to wear your club badge for free Huntington admission.

CSSA will honor individuals at the biennial convention in the following categories:

Fellow (for scholarly contributions)

Superior Service Award (for exceptional service to CSSA)

Myron Kimmach Lifetime Achievement Award (service and scholarship)

Conservation Award

Friend Award (Community members not active in CSSA who make significant contributions to the hobby)

Affiliates are invited to nominate candidates for board consideration. Please contact Woody Minnich, Chair, at [cactusdata@msn.com](mailto:cactusdata@msn.com). for specific award criteria and to make nominations.

Long-time CSSA member Chuck Staples has created a database of Journal articles since 1980 which is available on the CSSA website under "Archives." There's a great deal of information here and we encourage to check it out.

Tim Harvey has compiled all of the Journal articles about Aloes and has published them in a new CSSA book that will be available at the CSSA show.

Plans are proceeding for the biennial convention, to be held July 16-21, 2019 in San Luis Obispo with all speakers and official functions on Thursday, July 18 through Saturday, July 20. The convention theme will aptly be "Succulents: Conserving Our Treasures." Local field trips will be coordinated before and after the speaker days.

The next CSSA Board meeting is open to all members. It will be held at the Huntington Gardens at 5:00 on June 30, just prior to the Chile Buffet dinner. Please consider joining us!



**Cactus & Succulent Society of America**

**JOIN THE CSSA**

# 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 28<sup>th</sup>, 9am-1pm

Enter Plants: Thurs., June 28<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](mailto:lbcjhall@aol.com) Phone: 818-368-6914



## CCCSS JUNE BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

The CCCSS Board of Directors met on Sunday June 10, 2018, following the General Membership meeting. Please note, due to absences, there was no quorum at the meeting.

Topics discussed:

- Show and Sale Committee feedback
- Treasurer's Report
- Membership Report
- Membership badges feedback
- CSSA 2019 Convention support update
- By-Laws – feedback after vote by membership
- Standing Rules – postponed to July BOD meeting
- Hand-held microphone update
- New/other business



## CCCSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

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

**Vice President:** [Carol Mortensen](mailto:carolmortensen0@gmail.com) carolmortensen0@gmail.com

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

**Treasurer:** [Kathy Goss](#)

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

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

**Librarian:** [Ken Byrne](mailto:agaveken@msn.com) agaveken@msn.com

**Publicity:** [Terrie Leivers](mailto:terrieleivers@gmail.com) terrieleivers@gmail.com

**Newsletter Editor:** [Mark Woods](mailto:marknslo@gmail.com) marknslo@gmail.com

**General Club Email Address:** [cencalcactus@gmail.com](mailto:cencalcactus@gmail.com)

**Past President:**

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

**CSSA Affiliate:**

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

**Members At Large:**

[Terry Skillin](mailto:tjskillin@gmail.com)

tjskillin@gmail.com

[Natasha Erickson](mailto:ayin1331@gmail.com)

ayin1331@gmail.com

[Bill Findley](mailto:coolcactuskid805@gmail.com)

coolcactuskid805@gmail.com




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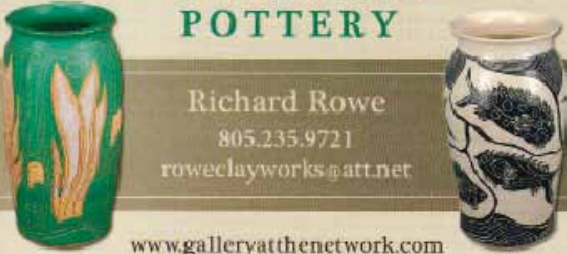



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