



ON THE DRY SIDE

CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 2019

OUR FEBRUARY SPEAKER OF THE MONTH: ROB ROY MACGREGOR

ROB ROY'S BIO

I started collecting plants about 20 years ago. At first it was collecting from the local nursery in San Felipe in Baja Norte California so I could plant them on a friend's property in Puertecitos Baja California. Then 15 years ago I bought my home in Riversid and proceeded to remove the grass in my half-acre backyard and install rocks and cacti. The front yard soon followed, receiving an aloe and rock remodel. After those first couple of years I began to meet people who would change my whole outlook on cacti and succulent plants. It was at this time I ran into a person whom I would later call my mentor. He took the time to instill in me the drive to learn correct terminology and spelling of plants.

He also taught me to take a more scientific approach of gathering information. It was this approach that I call "playing with my plants" which gave me the willingness to do what I have done to plants, in the name of further education.

PLAY WITH YOUR PLANTS

The program I will be presenting is filled with graphic and violent behaviors. The plants used in my demonstrations will recover from being bisected, decapitated and hot nailed. The concept of this presentation is to demonstrate the resilience of the succulent plants we all grow and to encourage people to play with their plants.



DON'T MISS OUR NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING! SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH, 2PM

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



FEBRUARY PLANT OF THE MONTH

WINTER-GROWING BULBS

The Succulent Karoo stretches from the west coast of South Africa to the south western part of Namibia. Originally the habitat spread over 102,961 km²; yet, as of 2008, only 29,780 km² remain. The Succulent Karoo is distinguished from other hotspots by its arid or semi-arid climate, allowing for a rich diversity of succulent plants and animals. The hotspot is divided into two regions: Namaqualand which extends north from the west coast of South Africa into Southern Namibia and Southern Karoo which is inland in western South Africa. Both regions are mostly flat, with some hilly lands. Rainfall in Namaqualand occurs mainly in the winter, typically around 50-400 mm annually (2-16 in). In Southern Karoo, rainfall amounts are similar, but peak precipitation comes in the spring and autumn. The summer temperatures in both areas can reach 40° to 44°C (100° to 110°F).

An outstanding feature of the Succulent Karoo is the high diversity of geophytes or bulblike plants. Most of the 630 species of geophytes are petaloid monocots in the families Hyacinthaceae (Lachenalia, Ornithogalum), Iridaceae (Babiana, Lapeirousia, Moraea, Romulea), Amaryllidaceae (Brunsvigia, Hessea, Strumaria) and Asphodelaceae (Bulbine, Trachyandra). No other desert region has this diversity and splendor of bulbs.

Lachenalia: with jewel bright blooms and attractively spotted and dappled foliage, these South African charmers are ready to take center stage when most of the garden is deep asleep—in winter. Preferring cool temps in which to grow, they have been showcased on chilly window sills since the 1800s. Hardy only to a light frost, lachenalia will thrive in northern climes if potted in the fall, and brought indoors to a drafty spot with lots of sun, unheated greenhouse, or patio. Whether growing them indoors or out (in very mild climates) provide good feeding during active growth, and a dry summer dormancy, and lachenalia will bloom for you year after year.

(continued next page)

PLANT OF THE MONTH — CONTINUED

Ornithogalum: *Ornithogalum dubium* and *O. arabicum* are names that don't exactly roll off the tongue like, say, rose. They are, however, easier to care for than roses for those fortunate gardeners who live in warm weather areas. No thorns, black spot, mildew or insects. And as for vase potential, ornithogalum are outstanding as dazzling cut flowers, lasting 1-3 weeks in an arrangement. We aren't suggesting that you abandon your roses. Instead, that you find a spot for a few of these and see why many believe they are amazing sleeper plants just waiting to be discovered.

Boophone: a large deciduous solitary bulb from a wide range in South Africa from the drier southwest to the more tropical East Africa. The bulb can grow to about 7 inches in diameter with a thick covering of dry scales above the ground and blunt gray leaves that can reach to 20 inches tall and have wavy undulating edges. The inflorescence, which appears on older plants in late winter or spring and often when the plant is leafless, is composed of an umbel of many pink to red funnel-shaped flowers. Plant in full sun in a well-drained soil and water little to regularly while in leaf. It is best to protect this plant from frost though we did not experience damage on our plants in the January 2007 cold snap where temperatures dipped to 26 F. This plant is quite poisonous and care should be given not to let animals browse the plant. Though this plant is most often listed as *Boophane*, it is noted in "The Color Encyclopedia of Cape Bulbs" by John Manning, Peter Goldblatt and Dee Snjman (the Timber Press 2002) that the spelling of this plant's name has caused much confusion and that *Boophone* has been formally proposed as the correct form. The name comes from the Greek 'bous' meaning "ox", and 'phone' meaning "death" and is in reference to the poisonous properties of this bulb.



Boophone haemanthoides



Lachenalia sp.



Boophone disticha

PLANT OF THE MONTH — MORE IMAGES



Massonia sp



Ferraria divaricata



Brunsvigia marginata



Brunsvigia namaquensis



Haemanthus coccineus



Ornithoglossum vulgare

BULLETIN BOARD

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR THE PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR THE 2019 CCCSS SHOW & SALE

Any members interested in volunteering for the CCCSS Show and Sale planning committee should attend the first meeting on Sunday, February 24 at 5:30pm at the **DUNA Vista Mobile Home Park clubhouse at 2400 Cienaga St in Oceano.**

If you intend to come please call **Pat Gilson at 805-710-4957** to tell her so she knows how many people to plan for.

HUNTINGTON DESERT FORUM BUS TRIP RECAP

We couldn't have asked for a more perfect day! Sunny and CLEAR, all the way to the ski resorts on Mt. Baldy. Beautiful. I'd like to take this time to thank all the members who attended, for their patience with this Tour Organizer. And a shout out to Barbara Brooks for the fine-tuning of the "Chance Drawing" and the loading manifest. I had a fantastic day, as I hope you did, too.

Please let me know if there are any improvements to be made.

Now for the news: Several items were left behind but their owners were able to pick them up...except for a black, floral-printed purse. See Terry Skillin for details.

Hope everyone is enjoying their bought treasures. The only hiccup that we encountered was the closed conservatory, apparently due to a rush of succulent enthusiasts which Huntington security couldn't handle. Not too much to complain about, with the wealth of other areas to explore.

It is great to see people meeting each other and enjoying the opportunities our club makes available to its members. That is the benefit of being a CCCSS member!

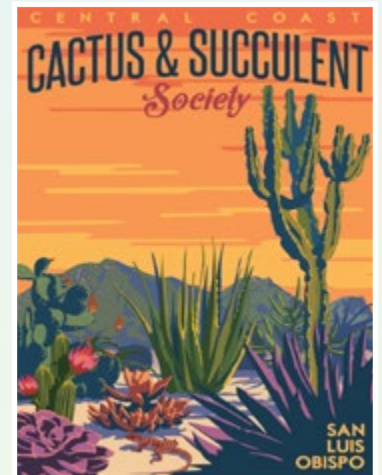
BEAUTIFUL ART FOR SALE AT OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS

This art was commissioned by Just Looking Gallery in San Luis Obispo. The artist of this wonderful work is **Steve Thomas**. He has a long history as a commercial artist, working with organizations such as America's National Park Service, Clif Bar and Disney. For the past five years, working with Just Looking Gallery in San Luis Obispo, he has developed an extraordinary series of vintage style travel posters capturing the beauty of California's Central Coast. We certainly LOVE the art he created especially for the our club!

The profit from every piece sold by CCCSS goes to CCCSS! Thank you, Ken McGavin and Ralph Gorton of **Just Looking Gallery**, for your generosity! Just Looking Gallery is located in downtown SLO.

Prices including tax: 12"x18" framed print = \$120; 24"x36" print on canvas = \$420. Orders are taken at monthly meetings (cash/checks only), and your print will be delivered to you at the next club meeting.

For more information, see Kathie Matsuyama at our meetings, or contact her at luvbigdogs@earthlink.net.



ANNUAL SHOW & SALE T-SHIRT CONTEST – OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS!

Would you like to see your design on the tee-shirts for this years show and sale? Can you come up with an original design that would include a succulent or cactus or more? The contest is coming up and soon! Artwork must be emailed to Bill Findley by March 23rd in order to qualify. Voting on the design will happen at the April 14th meeting and we will have the shirts for sale at the May 12th meeting.

For inspiration:

IMPORTANT: All contest entries must be emailed to Bill Findley by March 23rd and printed copies must be brought to the April 14th meeting, where they will be voted on by attendees at that meeting.

- Try to keep it simple; details get lost in the printing process. Keep the color pallet simple for best printing.
- Your design must include the plant name(s), and the words “Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society, 2019, 13th Annual Show and Sale.”
- All artwork must be printed (on paper) large enough for us to see them for voting at the April 14th meeting. All voting must be done at the meeting and in person; **no votes will be counted that are emailed or called in.**
- Hand drawn designs are allowed, but a scan needs to be sent to Bill. If the design wins, the original art must be provided right away for a high-res scan.
- All designs must be entered in PDF format. Other formats do not work as well and will not be accepted. If you are having issues with putting your design into PDF format, **contact Bill BEFORE the March 23rd deadline.**
- Design entries will be previewed in the April newsletter and then displayed at the April meeting, where they will be voted on. Shirt color will be picked by the board members after the winner has been determined.

Please don't wait until the last minute to e-mail Bill Findley if you have questions: coolcactuskid805@gmail.com



2018 Winning Design



2017 Winning Design (artwork only)

GARDEN GATHERING NEWS



Thank you Ed & Susan Chandler! They hosted a lovely Garden Gathering on a very warm Saturday January 26th in their garden in Los Osos. The crowd of Garden Gatherers reveled in the unusually hot Los Osos weather. Susan began her tour for the participants with the story of the development of their garden. It has certainly changed over the years, including having to withstand the installation of the infamous Los Osos sewer project, which involved digging a wide swath through the middle of their front yard for their personal sewer connection. You would never know it today—the garden has fully recovered! A tour of the unusual backyard with art studio and gazebo followed. Susan has an interesting collection of potted cacti and succulents growing on tables and racks in the warm south-facing front wall in the front yard. These garnered a lot of attention from the Garden Gatherers with a lot of discussion ensuing. The crowd enjoyed a delicious spread of great food while getting to know each other better and talking about their favorite topic: cacti and succulents!

Garden Gatherings are currently planned for Carl & Stephanie Kleinman's garden in San Luis Obispo on Saturday February 23, 2019, and for Josè Toll's Garden on April 6, 2019. See the Ask Me Table at the next meeting for sign up information or you can email Susan Ross or Kathie Matsuyama for more information (see below).

We are recruiting Garden Gathering Hosts for 2019! Volunteer early, and choose your favorite month to host a gathering in your garden. This is a great way to meet other club members and share your passion!

Susan Ross: susanrosscra@yahoo.com or Kathie Matsuyama: luvbigdogs@earthlink.net.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 17 (SUNDAY) 10-4

YOU'RE INVITED!
POTTERY, PLANTS AND PAINTINGS



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Held at Richard Rowe Clayworks:
[387 Quintana 'B' in Morro Bay](#)

A portion of our proceeds will benefit
[RISE of San Luis Obispo County.](#)



You are invited!

South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society

47th Annual Show & Sale

April 6-7, 2019 9 AM - 4 PM

South Coast Botanic Garden
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
Palos Verdes Peninsula 90274

- Thousands of cacti and succulents for sale
- Hard-to-find plants
- Kids potting table
- Beautiful displays by expert growers
- Expert advice for beginners and advanced
- Visit garden at same time

Garden admission required for entrance: adult \$9;
senior/student w/ID \$6; age 5-12 \$4; under 5 free.
Garden members free.

Information: Southcoastcss.org or 310/346-6206



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Landscapers
And anyone who
loves the
beautiful and the
unusual

REGIONAL SHOW & SALE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The 2019 Calendar of California Cactus & Succulent Shows & Sales is available in the "files" section of our Club's Facebook page: Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society. We will also be posting it shortly to our website as well: www.centralcoastcactus.org.



JANUARY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Club President Loring Manley called the meeting to order at 2pm on January 13, 2019 and welcomed 121 members and guests to the meeting.

Loring thanked 9 club members for bringing refreshments to the meeting and invited them to choose a free plant as a thank you. He also mentioned to the group that additional refreshment volunteers are needed for February's meeting and that members could sign-up at the back of the room with Pat Gilson. He also thanked those who volunteer at each meeting and reminded everyone to check out the different club tables around the room, such as the Raffle plants, Plant of the Month, Library, Art/Book Sales, etc.

12 First-time visitors were invited to come up, introduce themselves to the group and select a free plant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Desert Forum Field Trip: Terry Skillin reiterated the itinerary and bus schedule for all those who were scheduled for the Huntington bus trip the following weekend.

Garden Gatherings (Kathie M./Susan R.) — upcoming Garden Gatherings include:

- Susan Chandler – January 26, 2019 – Attendee list is full
- Carl and Stefanie Kleinman – February 23, 2019 – There were 3 slots available at the time of the meeting.

Kathie and Susan also invited members to sign-up to become Garden Gathering Hosts for 2019. For those unfamiliar with the CCCSS Garden Gatherings, there is more information in each Newsletter.

Ruth Bancroft Gardens Bus Trip: Terrie Leivers announced that another garden club is planning a bus trip to Ruth Bancroft Gardens on February 20, 2019. Anyone interested in going on this trip must sign-up by January 18th.

Membership Dues and Renewals: Barbara Brooks reminded everyone that membership dues are not due until July. In case you forget, reminders will be posted in the newsletter.

Volunteer for Sound Equipment: Bill Findley is looking for a volunteer to take over the Sound Equipment set-up for the meetings. He will train whoever is willing to take over this very important job.

Cal Coast Succulents Sale: Mike Bush, Mike's wife and Richard Rowe (owners of Cal Coast) are having a sale on February 17th from 10am to 4pm in Morro Bay.

CSSA Convention: We are still looking for volunteers for the CSSA Convention in July. Please see Terrie Leivers if you are interested and you will be notified to sign up online when all the positions/dates/times are confirmed.

Plant of the Month – Conophytum: Rob Skillin explained to the group that the POTM, "Conophytum" are native to the west coast of South Africa and Namibia and are winter growing. Climate is similar to ours and they grow best in a shady cool place. Rob and several other members brought samples of the genera.

Brag Table: Rob Skillin thanked those who brought specimens and invited them up front to talk about their plants.

Raffle Table Review: Rob then described some of the extra special plants on the raffle table.

PROGRAM

After a short break, John Trager, Curator of the Desert Collections at the Huntington Botanical Gardens presented a very informative program called "South African Winter Growing Succulents." John also brought some of the Huntington's very special cactus and succulents for the members to buy.

The program was followed the plant-opportunity/raffle, plant exchange, and cleanup.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Submitted by: Ann L. Byrne, CCCSS Secretary

JANUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Loring Manley at 5:15pm, with the following Board members and guests present: Barbara Brooks, Ken Byrne, Ann Byrne, Natasha Erickson, Bill Findley, Pat Gilson, Terrie Leivers, Loring Manley, Carol Mortensen, Rob and Terry Skillen. A quorum of Board members was present.

Business Discussed:

- CSSA Convention update from Ken Byrne & Terrie Leivers
- Funding approved for Huntington Desert Forum bus trip
- Volunteer sought to replace Bill Findley for sound equipment set-up at monthly meetings
- CCCSS 2019 Show & Sale committee: first meeting scheduled for Sunday, 2/24/19 at 5:30pm
- CCCSS 2019 S&S T-Shirt Contest
- Membership Chair temporary replacement will be Susan Ross
- CCCSS Club logo hats for local use and CSSA Convention sales
- Mini Show: Natasha Erickson & Ken Byrne to be on the committee. First show tentatively scheduled for September 2019

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Ann L. Byrne, CCCSS Secretary



CCCSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

President: **Loring Manley** loring.manley@icloud.com

Vice President: **Carol Mortensen** carolmortensen0@gmail.com

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

Treasurer: **Kathy Goss**

Membership: **Susan Ross** susanrosscra@yahoo.com

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

Librarian: **Ken Byrne** agaveken@msn.com

Publicity: **Terrie Leivers** terrieleivers@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: **Mark Woods** marknslo@gmail.com

General Club Email Address: info@centralcoastcactus.org

Past President:

Ken Byrne agaveken@msn.com

CSSA Affiliate:

Rob Skillin rhskillin@gmail.com

Members At Large:

Terry Skillin

tjskillin@gmail.com

Natasha Erickson

ayin1331@gmail.com

Bill Findley

coolcactuskid805@gmail.com



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

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS!

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

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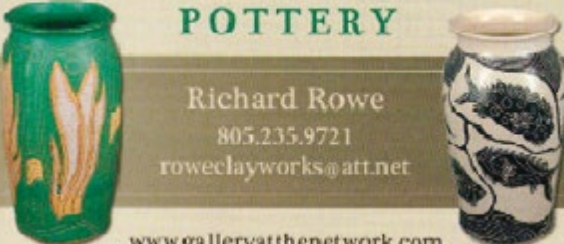
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