



ON THE DRY SIDE

CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

MARCH 2019

MARCH SPEAKER OF THE MONTH: PETRA CRIST OF RARE SUCCULENTS NURSERY

HOW RARE SUCCULENTS NURSERY CAME TO BE

In early 1994 I moved from Germany to California. Back in Germany I already had a few cacti and succulents which I was growing on my window sills. I, of course, had no idea about the difference between a cactus and a succulent at the time. I was a dressage rider and heavily involved in dressage circles in Germany and beyond. And that, besides my job as a lab tech in pathology, kept me quite busy. Shortly after moving here, one of my husband's friends mentioned the upcoming Inter-City Show and Sale and we went to have a look — well, what can I say? They had to push me into the building, as I was utterly overwhelmed trying to take in all the plants and varieties that I had no idea even existed. My collection started right there with the first 10 plants. It got the proverbial ball rolling. I found plants all over the place and eventually joined the San Gabriel club, which made things worse. The plant addiction had taken hold of me! It changed my life and my interests. We also started traveling to some of the habitats and my desire to grow my plants to the potential that I saw in habitat increased as well. So I started playing around with what I could do, taking advantage of southern California weather. Besides collecting more and more plants, I also started growing from seed and that soon filled up our little back yard in Whittier. I took over some neighbors' yards as well. Eventually we started looking for property where I could grow and in 2009 we found "the farm". It felt like a dream come true, and little did I know or realize that I was becoming "the slave of my own dreams." The funniest occurrence I had after collecting for a year or two was when I proudly told a woman at one of the shows that I had about a hundred plants. She just looked at me and told me to wait 'til I had a thousand. I thought she was utterly crazy. Needless to mention, as time went on, I became the crazy one and exceeded those one thousand plants —by far. The woman at the show was Norma Lewis, aka "the Crassula Lady." I am looking forward to share some of my "craziness" — the development of the nursery (the farm we bought in early 2009 and which is now the home of Rare Succulents Nursery) — with you on Sunday, March 10th. It is called "A Dream Come True". See you there.



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Petra Crist

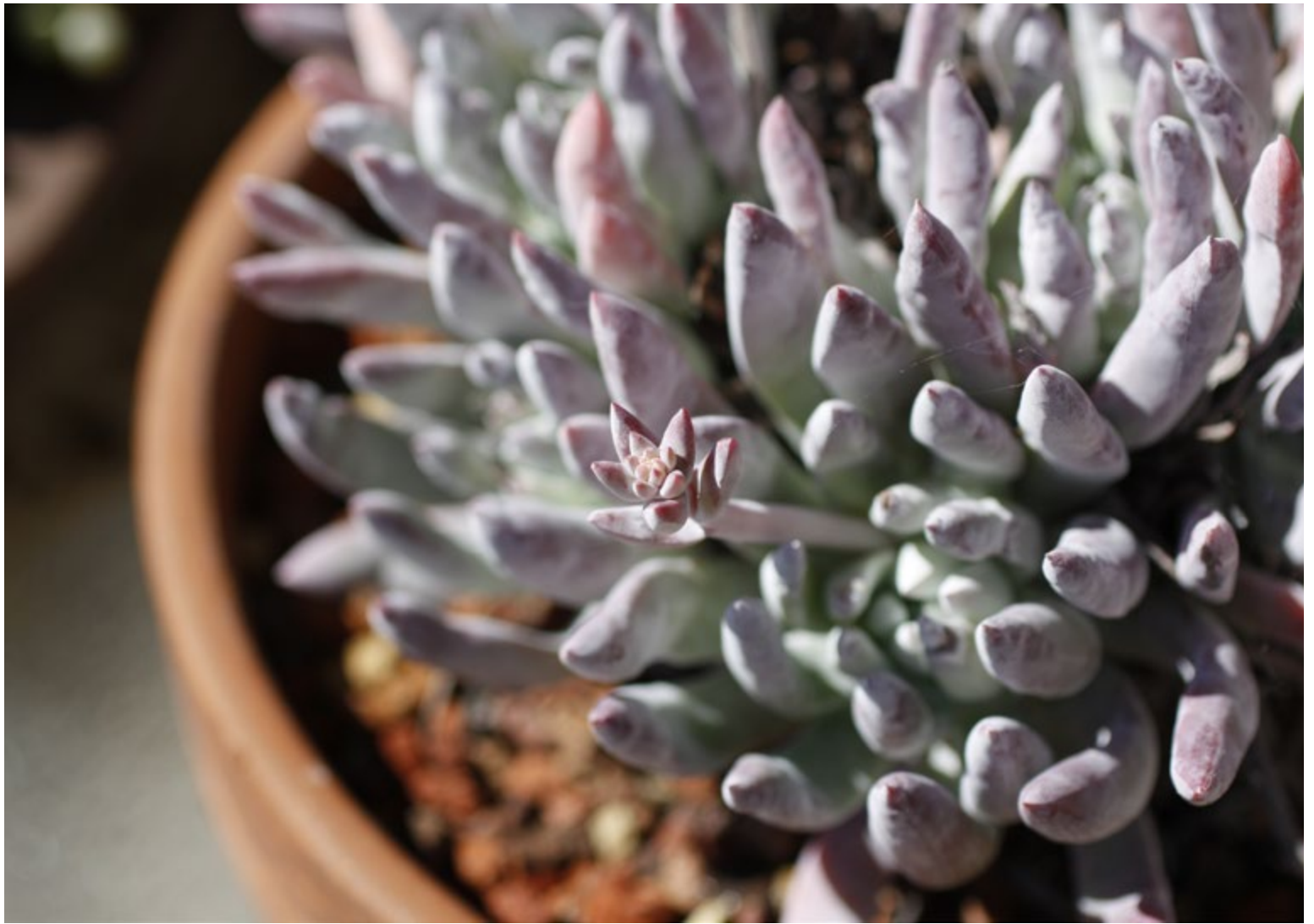
Photos:

Upper right: Cyphostemma currorii at the nursery

Left: Cyphostemma uter in Namibia

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

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



MARCH PLANT OF THE MONTH DUDLEYA

Dudleya is a large genus of about 40 species many of which are native to California and northern Mexico. Only a handful are common in cultivation and many are on the endangered species list. A few can only be found on some of the islands off the California or Baja Mexico coast.

At one time Dudleyas were included in the Echeveria genus as some species are a bit hard to tell from Echeverias. All Dudleyas are rosette-forming succulents (like the Echeverias) and many are similarly colored. Most Dudleyas are silvery grey, have very delicate leaves that are either flattened or tubular and tend to form stems over time. Most of the flat, thick-leaved forms grow as solitary rosettes, while the tubular-leaved species form dense, suckering colonies.

(continued next page)

Pictured above: D. greenii
Pictured right: D. palmeri

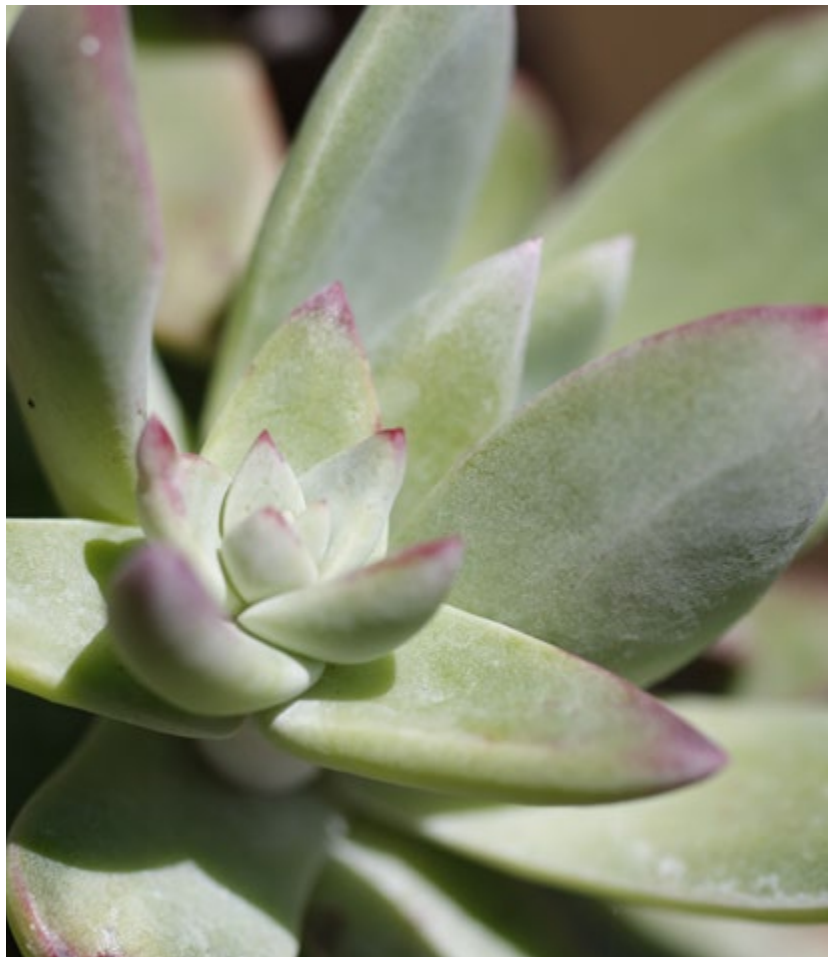


DUDLEYA — CONTINUED



The flowers differ somewhat from Echeveria flowers and that is probably the primary reason they are in their own genus now. Dudleya flowers generally arise from somewhere near the bottom of the rosettes [rarely from the rosette center as most Echeveria flowers do]. Also, Dudleya flowers are characteristically covered with leaves that are spread out along the peduncle up to the flower, another non-Echeveria-like trait. Most Dudleyas flower in late winter to early spring, and flower colors range from white to yellow to bright red.

Dudleya can be found locally in Price Canyon and Lopez Lake [*D. pulverulenta*], Big Sur [*D. cymosa*] and an unidentified species to me on the Bob Jones Trail. They are pretty shriveled up during the Summer but once the rains come they soak up the water. Once you get an eye looking for them you will notice them popping up in all sorts of areas and climates.



Pictured above: D. brittonii

Pictured right: D. palmeri

Plant of the Month provided by Markus Mumper
Photos courtesy of Bill Findley

CCCSS ANNUAL SHOW & SALE UPDATES

It's That Time Again! Our Show & Sale Is Just A Few Months Away: Memorial Day Weekend, May 24-26.

Volunteers are needed! All of our volunteers are what make our Show & Sale the best. Pat Gilson will have a sign-up sheet at the back table during our membership meetings. Please note:

- 2-hour increments at least, more time is always welcome.
- Remember, all volunteers receive 10 raffle tickets for each hour worked! This is an increase from last year.
- In addition to the raffle tickets, all volunteers are invited to come in, pre-sale, on Friday evening to shop ahead of the crowd. Pre-shopping runs from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. You must have a wristband to shop (handed out when you arrive), and you must pay for and take any purchases on Friday so the plant hotel doesn't become congested.
- While volunteering, please wear your name badge and a club T shirt. This year's shirts will be available for sale at the May meeting, and if you've lost your name badge, now is a good time to request a new one.
- Please pick up postcards to pass out and post around town, they are our best advertising besides word of mouth.

Thank you!

Pat Gilson

Who Wants To Sponsor An Award At Our Cccss 2019 Show And Sale?

If you do please contact Jan Moon at mahinamoon4@gmail.com or come see her at March meeting with sign up sheet at library table. The cost is \$25. Your name/business will be in our show schedule and also on the trophy table next to your chosen winner.

Here are the "Best Of" categories:

- Baja Native
- Caudiciform
- Collection
- Miniature
- Madagascan plant
- Agavaceae
- Dish Garden
- Crested Entry
- Euphorbiaceae
- Mesemb
- Crassulaceae
- Aloeaceae
- Chihuahuan Desert Cactus
- Rookie Entry -- Cactus
- Rookie Entry -- Succulent
- Staged Entry -- Novice
- Staged Entry -- Advanced
- Staged Entry -- Open
- Rarest Plant in Show

A Call For Auction Plants

Once again this year we will have be having an auction during the Memorial Day weekend show and sale. Some of these plants will be provided by our vendors 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, please include the following:

- 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 can help)
- A reserve price (the lowest price you are willing to sell)

The auction will be Sunday afternoon at 1pm and the club retains 25% of the sale price. Please send your submissions in by May 20th. The auction committee will contact you by May 22nd to let you know if your plants are accepted for the auction. If you would like a photo of your plant for sale in the May Newsletter please send your submissions by April 24th. If you have any questions, contact Bill!

SHOW & SALE T-SHIRT DESIGN 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/cactus or more? The contest is coming up and soon! **Artwork must be emailed to Bill Findley at coolcactuskid805@gmail.com by March 23rd in order to qualify.** Voting on the design will happen at the April 14th meeting and shirts will be for sale at the May 12th meeting.

For inspiration:



2018 Winning Design



2017 Winning Design (artwork only)

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.

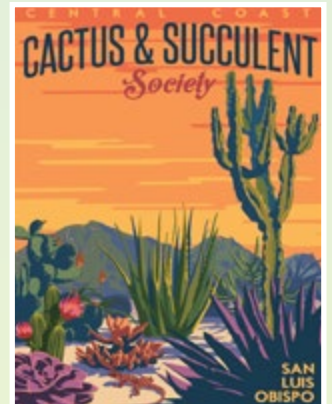
- Try to keep it simple; details get lost in the printing process. Keep the color pallet simple for best printing.
- Your design must include the plant name(s), and the words “Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society, 2019, 13th Annual Show and Sale.”
- All artwork must be printed (on paper) large enough 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.

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 lubbigdogs@earthlink.net.



GARDEN GATHERING NEWS



Retaining wall in the Kleinmans' garden

Thank you, Carl and Stephanie Kleinman, CCCSS Members of less than a year who hosted our latest Garden Gathering!

Carl & Stephanie Kleinman hosted a lovely Garden Gathering on a gorgeous, warm Saturday February 23th in their garden in San Luis Obispo. After what seemed like days of soaking rain and even some snow-like hail, the beautiful sunny Kleinman backyard was heavenly!! Carl was an effusive and affable host. Stephanie pulled out all the stops with an elegant smorgasbord of treats including hot apple cider and cold Arnold Palmer drinks for everyone to enjoy.

The morning started with the endearing story of why Carl spent so much time at the San Luis Obispo Sunset Drive-In Swap Meet collecting recycled goodies. Carl should be the poster child for the green industry's triangle symbol for "Reuse Reduce Recycle"! He makes super great use of all kinds of unusual receptacles, furniture, and vessels you would not otherwise consider as cactus and succulent planters. A comment heard over and over at this event was "Oh, I have one of those at home; now I know how to plant it with succulents!"

Carl brought home the unusual containers, but it was Stephanie who first started planting them with what she calls her "Fairy Gardens". The results were the coordinated teamwork of a couple who fell in love with succulent plants and whimsical containers and the fun of putting the two together in unusual ways. Thank you, Carl and Stephanie, for sharing your truly unique Garden with our Club members, they thoroughly enjoyed themselves!

We have several Garden Gatherings coming up, including:

- April 28th at CCCSS Club President Loring Manley's Garden in Santa Maria (see photo below)
- May (date TBD) at Maggie Wagner and Markus Mumper's Garden in Pismo Beach
- June (date TBD) at Susan Fishman's Garden in Cayucos

Please Note: Josè Toll's Garden Gathering originally scheduled for April has been cancelled! Josè is moving and we will schedule another date for her Garden Gathering.

See the **Ask Me Table** at the March meeting for sign up information for all these Garden Gathering events or you can email Susan Ross or Kathie Matsuyama (see below) for more information.

We are recruiting Garden Gathering Hosts for July through November of 2019! You don't want to miss out on the fun of hosting an event!

The process of pre-planning, event organization, sign-ups, emailing your guests, etc. will be capably coordinated by Susan and Kathie! Please don't hesitate to sign up because you have weeds, especially this year with all the rain. We will all sympathize — and maybe pull a weed or two! 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 perfect way to do exactly that!

Please let us know if you are interested!

Susan Ross: susanrosscra@yahoo.com

Kathie Matsuyama: luvbigdogs@earthlink.net



Aerial view of Loring Manley's greenhouse

UPCOMING EVENTS

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY CHAPTER MEETING MARCH 7, 2019

Atascadero Lake Park - Kiwanis Hall (adjacent to clubhouse)
Mixer and Browse Sales Table 7pm

Program 7:30pm:

“The Evolution And Diversity Of Cacti”

The native cacti of California are wonderful, but they are new-comers ...

Cacti originated in South America and evolved there for millions of years before any cactus was able to migrate to North America. In South America, there are still cacti that are ordinary leafy trees, cacti adapted to jungles, others that are at home next to snow banks high in the Andes. Argentina has giant columnar cacti that look like California's saguaros, and nearby grow dwarf cacti that are smaller than your little finger when mature and flowering. Many cacti have spines that are modified into glands that secrete nectar: the cacti have a bargain with ants, trading a bit of sugar



James Mauseth is a Professor Emeritus at the University of Texas at Austin, and a world-famous plant anatomist and cactus expert. An award-winning teacher, he has been invited to teach Plant Anatomy at Cal Poly this quarter. Jim's specialty is plant anatomy, studying the cells and tissues of cacti and comparing them to the equivalent parts of plants that have more ordinary structures typical of non-succulent plants. He has traveled extensively in South America, and is a Fellow of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. He will present a talk entitled The Evolution and Diversity of Cacti.

PLANT SALE IN MORRO BAY

Saturday, March 16, 10am - 2pm

Tim Dawson and Richard Rowe are having a plant sale! Hundreds of plants: Aloes, Agaves, Euphorbias, Echeverias, Caudiciforms, some cacti and more. Small and large succulents and used pots.

462 Main Street
Morro Bay CA 93442



South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society 47th Annual Show & Sale

April 6 - 7, 2019

9 AM - 4 PM



Aeonium sunburst

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

REGIONAL SHOW & SALE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The 2019 Calendar of California Cactus & Succulent Show & Sale events is available on our club's Facebook page: Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society.

We will soon be posting it to our website:
www.centralcoastcactus.org.



NEW FILM AT THE SLO FILM FEST!

Agave: The Spirit of a Nation

Don't miss the opportunity to see a unique film about a very interesting plant: the Agave tequilana. One of the 100 films at the 25th International San Luis Obispo Film Festival will be *Agave: The Spirit of a Nation*. The film explores the phenomenon of the fastest trending alcohol spirit in the world. The documentary takes us on a journey to discover the roots of Tequila and Mescal, in the world's most bio-diverse landscape. In Mexico, families have been passing down the tradition of distilling agave for generations, at times, even clandestinely. From the alluring red highlands of Jalisco to the rugged mountains of Oaxaca, the film follows three producers – Carlos, Graciela, and Aquilino – in this burgeoning renaissance. Discover how one delicate plant can carry the weight of a nation and the people trying to protect it for the future. The movie is 78 minutes long. Director/Producers: Nick Kovacic and Matt Riggieri. Website: <http://agave.film>

Showtimes:

Thursday, March 14th at 7:30pm
Downtown Centre Cinema
San Luis Obispo

Friday, March 15th at 9pm
SLO Brew's The Rock
San Luis Obispo

Sunday, March 17th at 1:30pm
The Palm Theater
San Luis Obispo

For more information and to purchase tickets:
www.slofilmfest.org



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Lepanthes fimbriata x L. telipogoniflora



Fernandezia subbiflora

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Welcome: President Loring Manley called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. on February 10, 2019 and welcomed 97 members and guests to the meeting.

Loring thanked 11 club members for bringing refreshments to the meeting and invited them to choose a free plant as a thank you. He also thanked all the club members that volunteer at each meeting and he reminded everyone to check out the different club tables situated around the room during the break. 11 first-time visitors were welcomed and Loring invited them to introduce themselves to the group and select a free plant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Garden Gatherings: Kathie Matsuyama and Susan Ross discussed recent and upcoming gatherings for February. If you are interested in hosting a Garden Gathering, please contact Kathie Matsuyama or Susan Ross.

Volunteer for Sound Equipment: Bill Findley is still looking for someone to train on operating the sound equipment at the monthly meetings. If you are interested, please contact Bill.

CCSS Show and Sale Planning Committee Volunteers: Loring Manley announced that the S&S Planning Committee is forming and we are looking for volunteers. The first meeting will be Sunday, February 24th.

Plant Exchange: Wayne Mills explained to the members that the plants on the table in the break area on the south wall are for the Plant Exchange not freebies. After the raffle, if there are any plants left members are free to take them.

PLANT OF THE MONTH – WINTER GROWING BULBS:

Rob Skillin explained to the group that “winter growing bulbs” are mostly native to South Africa. Rob brought in several samples of the genera. Rob thanked Marcus Mumper for his more detailed description of the POTM in the February Newsletter.

BRAG PLANTS AND RAFFLE TABLE:

Rob Skillin thanked everyone that brought a brag plant and invited them to come forward to talk about their plants. He also described some of the extra special plants on the raffle table.

PROGRAM:

Rob Roy MacGregor – “Play With Your Plants”: Rob Roy presented a very entertaining hands on program on how you can save a damaged plant by some very unusable methods. Rob Roy also brought some interesting cacti and succulents to sell.

The program was followed by the raffle and plant exchange. Meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by President Loring Manley at 5pm with the following board members and guests present: Ken Byrne, Ann Byrne, Natasha Erickson, Bill Findley, Pat Gilson, Terrie Leivers, and Rob Skillin. A quorum of Board members were present.

TOPICS DISCUSSED:

- Treasurer’s report
- CSSA Convention update
- Show & Sale postcard update
- Approvals for Show & Sale tables, stickers and hats
- New laptop for CCCSS
- Nominating Committee for 2019 Board positions

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Ann L. Byrne, CCCSS Secretary

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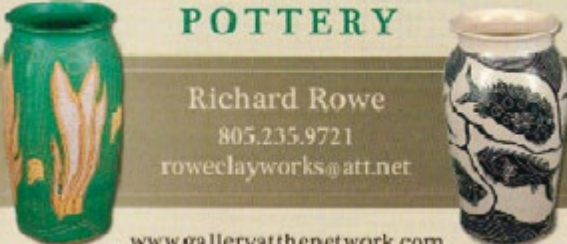
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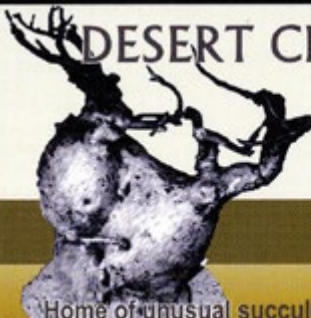


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coolcactuskid805@gmail.com



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