



# ON THE DRY SIDE

CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

DECEMBER 2019

## *It's Time For Our Annual Holiday Potluck!*

We're looking forward to seeing all of you — it's always so much fun! We still have space available. If you plan on attending, please contact **Pat Gilson**, at 805-710-4957 — or email: [hupt74@yahoo.com](mailto:hupt74@yahoo.com).

### Some important requests:

- Please note any special information regarding the dish you are bringing to share (ie, vegan/vegetarian, gluten free, contains nuts, seafood, etc), and please label prominently.
- If you can carpool, it would help with the overcrowded parking.
- *We need extra help with setting up & clean up. Set up starts at 12:30pm.*
- Please bring an extension cord if needed.
- Please don't bring anything you can't bear to lose—some losses have occurred. Also mark any dishes and serving utensils so they can be returned to their owners.
- Don't forget to check out the live & silent auctions. Bring cash or checks (no credit cards) and don't miss out on the opportunity to purchase some wonderful items! Plants purchased at the live auction are usually show-quality or unusual plants that you will be fortunate to own. The money raised by the auctions helps support our club.

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### AUCTION PLANTS NEEDED FOR HOLIDAY POTLUCK

We will be having a LIVE auction during our holiday potluck on December 8th. If you have a nice show-worthy specimen, a cacti- or succulent-related item, a pot or other appropriate item(s) that have a minimum retail value of \$40 or more, and you would like to sell it at the auction, please send an email to **Bill Findley** at [coolcactuskid805@gmail.com](mailto:coolcactuskid805@gmail.com). In your email, please 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 can help), and a reserve price (the lowest you would be willing to sell it for). The sale will be Sunday afternoon and 25% of the sale price is donated to the club and 75% is yours to keep. 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, contact Bill at [coolcactuskid805@gmail.com](mailto:coolcactuskid805@gmail.com)!

The other part of our December meeting, besides the amazing potluck, and live auction is the SILENT auction. This is your opportunity to give back to CCCSS — sort of like a Christmas present for the club. Items should be desirable cacti- or succulent-related items that you are willing to donate to the club. All the proceeds go to CCCSS. You do not have to have pre-approval for the silent auction items, just bring them on December 8th 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!

- Only cash or check will be accepted for all auction purchases.
- Silent auction prices must be rounded to nearest dollar.

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS THE HOLIDAY POTLUCK: SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH AT 2PM**

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

## CLUB BULLETIN BOARD

### CCCSS MEMBERS' PLANT WISH LIST

If you have plants to share, or are looking for something yourself, you can sign up at the next meeting. The Wish List signup sheet is at the back table at monthly meetings.

- **Denise Wharton** is looking for **Oxalis**, and can be reached at [whartonde@att.net](mailto:whartonde@att.net).
- **Tim Dawson** wants an **Aloe castanea** (plant or seed), and can be reached at **805-610-9533**.
- **Margaret Moreno** would like a **Tephrocactus geometricus** (plant), and can be reached at **805-710-0213**.

### SLO BOTANICAL GARDEN PRESENTS:

#### A Book Release Celebration of *128 of Our Best: Drought-Minded Landscaping Guide*

Join us at the SLO Botanical Garden on Saturday, December 14th at 1pm at the Garden's education Pavilion as we celebrate the release of the 5th Edition of *128 of Our Best* gardening book for drought-minded landscaping on the central coast. This book release party will include refreshments provided by California Fresh Market, a visual presentation of some of our favorite, hardy and beautiful plants at the Garden by Ron Kindig, the book's editor, followed by a docent-led tour through the Garden at 2pm. The Book Release Celebration is suggested donation of \$5 for Garden members / \$10 non-members, discount applied to purchased book. For more information visit [www.slobg.org](http://www.slobg.org).



*128 of Our Best* is a full color reference guide, featuring 128 water-thrifty plants suited to the warm and dry mediterranean climate of San Luis Obispo County. The information listed with each plant includes photos, a botanical name, common name, suggested uses (i.e. border, ground cover, wall plant), and the plants' sun and soil preference. *128 of Our Best* is being sold at the SLO Botanical Garden Shop; open Monday–Friday, 9-5. Before you rejuvenate your landscape, pick-up a copy of *128 of Our Best*. This guide for the home or professional gardener will help you create a landscape that is colorful, easy to maintain, and saves money on your water bill. So, help yourself while supporting a local non-profit when making this purchase.

Friends of SLO Botanical Garden thank Ron Kindig for the use of his photos, plant information, and for compiling and editing *128 of Our Best*. They also thank California Fresh Market for providing the funds to print and publish the book.

#### Saturday at the Garden: “Winter Garden Chores” With Kim McCue, UC Master Gardener



You may not consider winter to be a great time to get out and garden, but here on the central coast, it IS! Join us at the SLO Botanical Garden on Saturday, December 7 from 1pm to 2pm to learn more about keeping your garden in excellent shape this winter season. There are many winter chores that you can do now to make spring gardening a wonderful and easy treat. From pruning, mulching, seed starting, and tool maintenance, you'll find there are many ways to stay busy in the garden over winter. Presentation is followed at 2pm by a free docent-led tour of the SLO Botanical Garden.

This presentation is a part of the UC Master Gardeners' Advice to Grow By SLO County Home Gardeners Series at the San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden. Visit [www.slobg.org](http://www.slobg.org), or email [education@slobg.org](mailto:education@slobg.org) for information. Suggested donation is \$5 for members/\$10 non-members.

SLO Botanical Garden is celebrating its 30th year of sowing seeds and growing together. The Garden is located at 3450 Dairy Creek Rd. It is spread out on 150 acres in El Chorro Regional Park off Highway 1 between Morro Bay and San Luis Obispo. When the master plan is complete, the Garden will be the only garden of its kind in the United States exclusively devoted to the ecosystems and plants of the five Mediterranean climate regions of the world. Through its programs and facilities, the Garden fosters an appreciation and understanding of the relationship between people and nature and encourages a sense of stewardship for the natural environment. To learn more visit [www.slobg.org](http://www.slobg.org), or the SLO Botanical Garden Facebook page.

# GARDEN GATHERING NEWS

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND BEST WISHES FOR A PROSPEROUS AND HEALTHY 2020!

Thank you to all the hosts and hostesses who participated in the Garden Gathering program this year. And thanks to all of you who attended the Garden Gathering events, for helping make this program so much fun!

- **What:** “Garden Gatherings” are a chance to meet club members in a fun, casual garden setting. Conversation, food, and a tour of the member’s garden are the focus of the events.
- **Why:** CCCSS club is large and growing; it’s hard to connect with other cactophiles at our huge meetings!
- **Where:** Gatherings are held in a CCCSS member’s garden.
- **Who:** Participants must be CCCSS members. The host decides the number of guests.
- **When:** Hosts pick the date and time for the event, which generally lasts 1 to 1½ hours.
- **Help:** Event planning, organization, sign-up, and email coordination with your guests is capably managed by Susan and Kathie!

## We are looking for Garden hosts for 2020!

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



Here are some additional photos from Harry & Mary Harlow’s recent Garden Gathering, courtesy of club member Sarah Warisi.



## NOVEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Past President Ken Byrne called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm on November 10, 2019 and welcomed over 100 members and guests to the meeting.

### Announcements:

- Club Contact Information: Ken Byrne explained that the Club's contact email address is [info@centralcoastcactus.org](mailto:info@centralcoastcactus.org). Barbara Brooks is responsible for distributing those e-mails to the appropriate person.
- Plant Exchange: Ken Byrne reminded members that the plants on the Plant Exchange table are not free. You must bring a plant to exchange and obtain a ticket in order to select another plant from the table.
- CSSA Convention Bags: Ken also announced that there are CSSA Convention bags available for \$5.00.
- Carol Mortensen announced that if members are interested in selling plants at the monthly meetings they should sign-up at the back of the room. She also explained that they would only be eligible to sell their plants if they have a resale license and if the monthly speaker isn't selling anything.
- Garden Gatherings: Kathie Matsuyama reported that she is recruiting 8-10 hosts for Garden Gatherings next year.
- Live and Silent Auction: Bill Findley announced that he is still accepting Live Auction Plants. So far, he has received only 4 plants and he needs at approximately 20 plants for the auction. If interested, submission requirements and auction terms are noted on the front page of this newsletter. Terry Skillin announced that she needs donations for the Silent Auction, which can include plants or plant-related items. Donations can be brought the day of the auction.
- Holiday Centerpiece Workshop: Barbara Brooks and her volunteers were able to create 32 succulent dish gardens for the Holiday Potluck, which will be raffled at the event.

**Plant of the Month – Haworthias:** Gene Schroeder briefly discussed this genus...many cultivars available.

**Brag Plant and Raffle Tables:** Terry Skillin invited everyone who brought a brag plant to come up to discuss their plants. Terry then described some of the extra special plants on the raffle table.

### Program:

Jeff Moore, owner of Solana Succulents presented a very informative program covering his new book called "Spiny Succulents".

After that came the plant raffle. The meeting adjourned around 4:30 pm, followed by cleanup and plant exchange.

Submitted by: Ann Byrne, CCCSS Secretary

## NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Past President, Ken Byrne at 4:45 pm, with the following quorum of Board members and guests present: Barbara Brooks, Ann Byrne, Ken Byrne, Natasha Erickson, Pat Gilson, Kathy Goss, Terrie Leivers, and Terry Skillin. Absent were Loring Manley and Carol Mortensen.

### Old Business:

- Approval of August and October Minutes
- Treasurer's Report
- BOD Calendar Agenda Items
- Club Inventory File

### New/Other Business:

- Club items needed (camera)
- Holiday Potluck decorations

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Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Submitted by Ann Byrne, CCCSS Secretary

# CCCSS BOARD & OFFICER OPPORTUNITIES – WE NEED YOU!

The Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society would not be possible without the people who volunteer at our meetings, events, and on our Board. If you enjoy our club, community, and shared passion for cacti and succulents, it is because of those people behind the scenes making it happen. If you have thought about doing more to support the club, or to contribute your particular talents, or if you just want more involvement with our community, then you are in luck!

Our fiscal year will begin on July 1st, and with that, we will need several Officer positions filled. Yes it is only December, but it's not too early to begin thinking about increasing your involvement, or perhaps trying out a different role, if you are already serving CCCSS in some capacity. The following is a list of positions and their requisite duties. Please give some serious thought to raising your hand for one of these positions. The eligibility requirement to serve as an officer is 6 months membership with CCCSS. Thorough training will be provided for all positions.

## CLUB PRESIDENT

The President shall be the principal executive officer of the organization and shall, in general, supervise and control all of the Society's affairs, preside at monthly membership meetings and chair the Board of Directors meetings.

## VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President shall, in the absence of the President, perform all duties incidental to the office of President. They are also responsible for arranging programs for the Monthly Membership Meetings. Programs may consist of a speaker, a demonstration, or a discussion on any topic that promotes the objectives of the club. A list of 50 previous and potential speakers with their contact information is available which makes this position so much easier.

## MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

The Membership Officer shall maintain a list of the Society's current members, including membership date, type and status. Also, from this, to produce a roster of member contact information that can be distributed monthly to the Board for distribution of the club newsletter, and as needed.

## PUBLICITY CHAIR

As the Publicity Officer you would be responsible for assuring that Society events, including Monthly Membership Meetings and the Show and Sale, are publicized to the public in such generally available forums as newspapers, magazines, social media, and radio as agreed upon by the Board.

## NEWSLETTER EDITOR

The editor will collect submissions and content from members for inclusion in the monthly newsletter. This position includes considerable leeway and editorial freedom. Graphic design experience is helpful but not necessary. However, fluency with computers and basic software navigation is a must. This is a fun and important position for someone who would enjoy being a creative ambassador for the Club.

Questions or interest? See any of the current Board members and they'll be happy to provide more information. Or you can email us at [info@centralcoastcactus.org](mailto:info@centralcoastcactus.org).

## CCCSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

President: **Loring Manley**

Vice President: **Carol Mortensen**

Secretary: **Ann Byrne**

Treasurer: **Kathy Goss**

Membership: **Barbara Brooks**

Hospitality: **Pat Gilson**

Librarian: **Ken Byrne**

Publicity: **Terrie Leivers**

Newsletter Editor: **Mark Woods**

Past President: **Ken Byrne**

CSSA Affiliate: **Rob Skillin**

Member At Large: **Terry Skillin**

Member At Large: **Natasha Erickson**

Member At Large: **Bill Findley**

General Club Email Address:  
[info@centralcoastcactus.org](mailto:info@centralcoastcactus.org)

Newsletter submissions:  
[markslo@gmail.com](mailto:markslo@gmail.com)  
**Deadline for submissions  
is 2 weeks before the next  
monthly meeting.**



800+ Facebook members! View club updates & member photos.  
Also find us online at [www.centralcoastcactus.org](http://www.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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