

CENTRAL COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

July 2021

ON THE DRY SIDE

Our next meeting will be July 11.
We are resuming our regular meetings at 2:00 PM at the Odd Fellows
Hall at 520 Dana St. SLO

In This Issue:
Speakers for Meeting
C. Varni & L. Hicks
Plant of the Month
So. African Summer

So. African Summer Growing bulbs

Anouncements
Brag Plants
Leisa, Bill, Laura, Carol,
Steve & Marsha
Business Members

Business Members
Board Members

Very exciting news!

Our show and sale will be coming up on September 25th and 26th 2021. Please start thinking about what you might like to bring to the show to compete. Even if you have never shown a plant this would be a great time to start. There is a category of "rookie" for the those of us who are new to showing plants. Our speakers will be talking about how to present (stage) your show plants for the Show and Sale.

The program for our first in-person meeting since March of 2020 we will have two of our members, Charles Varni and Linda Hicks who will each demonstrate how to stage a plant for this show. The meeting will be a hybrid meeting with both Zoom and in person. We will be using cameras to show what is being demonstrated up close and personal for all to see.

If you have a plant or two that is nicely staged it would be great if you brought it to the meeting as a "brag" plant so other members can see what a staged plant looks like.



Charles Varni pots



SPEAKER OF THE MONTH —Continued

Now a little about our speakers:

Linda Hicks got interested in plants when she joined a local garden club in Paso Robles about 26 years ago with the encouragement from her aunt. As she grew the plants she found sometimes that they didn't do well unless carefully cared for. She found that after long weekends of softball and baseball tournaments with the kids, her plants would be wilted and dry. So about 13 years ago she came to our second CCCSS Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale which got her hooked. She started with Agaves and moved onto plants that can take the frost in Templeton. Although she does have a small 40foot greenhouse full of frost tender succulents such as Mammillarias, Caudiciforms and Ariocarpus as well as other frost tender plants. With her enthusiasm she has became an accredited National Gardens Clubs flower show judge.

Charles Varni is an outdoorsman and desert rat who fell in love with succulents in the Southwest and Baja California. He developed a great affection for the native Dudleyas of the central coast, from the cliffs of Big Sur to the backcountry shale ridges and sandstone walls, He delighted in the beauty, wildness, and toughness of these succulents. With time he expanded his tastes to more types of succulents--Echeverias, Haworthias, Gasterais, Aloes, and Crassulas. Frustrated with the cost and limited supply of unique planters, he took a weekend hand building pottery class. He was totally hooked. That was more than 30 years ago and, as they say, the rest is history. He was very fortunate to eventually purchase a half-acre property where he has created a succulent landscape and a pottery studio where he does his thing. He is very grateful for all the CCCSS members who have some of their plants in his pots. Fortunately, he will be bringing pots to sell at our upcoming meeting. Please bring check or cash for these sales.





Plant of the Month

In the June Newsletter, I neglected to credit Rob Skillin for his Identified field Rebutia photos in this column. . .sorry Rob.

South African Summer Growing Bulbs

While few Summer-blooming bulbs from the Cape are available in the trade, one of the favorites is *Haemanthus*. Known by the exotic name of blood lily, all *Haemanthus* species are bulbous geophytes with perennial, fleshy roots that produce dense clusters of red, pink, or white flowers. Sometimes called shaving brush flower because of the hundreds of upright stamens that resemble that old-fashioned brush,



Watsonia fourcadei

Haemanthus albiflos is a most cooperative bloomer.

Watsonia is perhaps the most recognizable Summer-blooming Cape bulb. Though they have been hybridized, you can still find outstanding and tough species. Start with the stately Watsonia fourcadei



Haemanthus albiflos



Watsonia tabularis

with red, orange, or pink flowering stems reaching an impressive six feet tall. Largely evergreen, this bulb adds color and vertical form to the summer garden. The unique *Watsonia tabularis* offers exquisite peach-colored, flared-goblet flowers.

Finally, we can't leave out *Nerine*, a showy bulb genus in the amaryllis family, which contains 30 species. Most outstanding is the vigorous *Nerine bowdenii*, grown for its spherical umbels of lily-like flowers. Notable features include the pronounced, reflexed pink, red, or white tepals with wavy margins. As with *Amaryllis*, flowers appear before the strap-shaped leaves. The plants are known to be very cold hardy and can handle the colder climates of inland areas in California.



Narine bowdenii

Most genera/species are sun lovers; of the bulbs mentioned here, only *Haemanthus* likes some relief from heat. South African bulbs require excellent drainage and many can deal with poor soils. Most benefit from an off-season dry period. As many of these bulbs will colonize an area over time there is an advantage to putting them in the ground.

Adapted from: www.pacifichorticulture.org by Markus Mumper

AMILL

& SUCCULENT SOCIETY

2021 SHOW &SALE

25&26



15TH ANNUAL CACTUS & SUCCULENT SHOW & SALE Free Admission

Ludwick Center 864 Santa Rosa Street San Luis Obispo, CA (corner of Mill St.)

Saturday, September 25th, 2021 — 10 am to 5 pm Sunday, September 26th, 2021 — 10 am to 4 pm

Experts will be on hand to answer your questions. Rare plants and handmade pottery for sale.

CASH, CHECK & ALL MAJOR CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

For more information log on to www.CentralCoastCactus.org

Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society

STATE AND LOCAL HEALTH GUIDELINES REQUIRED FOR OUR SHOW WILL BE OBSERVED

As you can see we are planning for our September Show & Sale. Pat is recruiting volunteers, and will have a sign up sheet at the back table starting at our July 11, meeting. A large number of volunteers are needed to make the Show & Sale a success.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Continued

CCCSS meetings summary June, 13, 2021



General Meeting:

Present: 58 screens

- Gene Schroeder agreed to help today with plant ID for the giveaway plants. Also...thank you Gene for your plant donations!
- 2021-2022 Membership dues are due July 1. (See newsletter for address of Laura Oliver, Membership Chairperson).
- Volunteers needed to give a presentation at the Mid State Fair in July. This can be a 1-4 hour presentation on succulent plants in the floraculture area of the Fair. (**Update:** Mary Harlow & Linda Hicks have volunteered to fill at 2 hour slot on July 31, 2-4pm).
- Presentation: Karen Zimmerman from the Huntington Gardens gave a terrific presentation on the History of the Desert Garden Collection at the Huntington. Beautiful macro photography!! Thank you Karen!
- Election: A motion was made & seconded to accept the slate of officers presented. A quorum of members present voted to accept the slate of officers.
 - Board members are: Harry Harlow President; Loring Manley, Past President; Bill Findley, Vice President; Kathy Goss, Treasurer; Mary Harlow, Secretary; Pat Gilson, Hospitality; Laura Oliver, Membership; Tanya Luthin, Publicity; Natasha Erickson, Mary Peracca, Karen Kolba, Members at Large.
- Live meetings: We will hold our first live meeting since the pandemic lockdown on July 11, 2021.
 - o In the July newsletter we will publish the current State & local guidelines as they pertain to gatherings. Please be prepared by bringing a mask.
 - Overflow parking will be allowed in the Reis Mortuary parking lot. The entrance to this parking lot is on Dana Street, about ½ block from the Odd Fellows Hall.
 - o On street parking is now by permit only on Dana Street
- CCCSS Show & Sale: Volunteers are needed for the S&S committee. Please contact Loring or send an email through the website if you are interested.

Board of Directors Meeting:

- We will be paying the Odd Fellows rent on a month to month basis until we are sure that we can continue in person meetings (The Odd Fellows gave us a discount on rent while we unable to hold our meetings)
- After receiving a NO from SLO parking authority & a NO from Dana Street residents regarding parking on Dana Street, Reis Mortuary said YES to using their parking lot for our meetings. Yea!! This will provide us with plenty of overflow parking for our meetings. This parking lot can be accessed from Dana Street.
- The Show & Sale committee is getting organized. The postcards will be updated to reflect the September dates.

President's Message July 2021

Finally, we will be meeting in person at the Odd Fellows Hall Sunday July 11 at 2pm. We will also be Zooming the meeting for those of you who cannot attend. We are planning on a full service meeting with the exception that there will be only a few prepackaged snacks, coffee & water available during the break. There will be spectacular plants on the opportunity table as I understand that Rob has saved some special plants for our first meeting back live. Be sure to purchase tickets from Pat at the back table when you enter the Hall (\$1/each, \$5/for 6).

Karen Kolba will be on hand to inform us regarding local Covid restrictions/recommendations for mask wearing. Currently indoor mask wearing is recommended for unvaccinated individuals. Vaccinated individuals who feel more comfortable wearing a mask are encouraged to do so. **Everyone, please bring a mask to the meeting.**

Wayne Mills will conduct the Exchange Table event at the conclusion of the meeting.

Since our Show & Sale is coming up soon, the featured program will concentrate on staging and preparing your plants for the Show. Charles Varni, Linda Hicks and possibly another presenter will demonstrate how they do it. Charles will also have his custom cactus & succulent pottery for sale.

Pat Gilson will be organizing the Volunteers to staff the S&S, so please see her to sign up.

Due to parking restrictions on Dana St, able bodied members who don't have a lot to bring into the meeting are encouraged to park at the Reis Mortuary parking lot. We will have a table in front of the Odd Fellows if you want to drop something off and then go park. Enter the Reis parking lot via the gate on Dana Street. We thank the Reis family for allowing us to use their parking lot for our meetings.

See you July 11th.....Harry

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Continued

From Mary Peracca:

hanks to the CCCSS Garden Crew, the Aloe area of the San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden is looking good! We have added new *Aloes, Aeoniums, Crassulas, Dudlyeas,* and *Cotelydons.* They are all doing well. I hope you get a chance to visit the Garden and enjoy all of the plants there!

he CCCSS Garden Crew: Ann Erb, Harry and Mary Harlow, Tim Dawson, Maggie Wagnew, Bill Findley, Loring Manley, and new recruit, Sue Shields.





MEMBERSHIP DUES NEWS

The only members needing to send in a payment now are those whose membership was shown to have expired on 6/31/2020.

- If you have sent in your payment, thank you.
- If your expiration date was shown as 6/31/2021 and you sent a payment, you have been credited for the 2021/2022 year, and will not need to pay this coming June.
- Another update on membership status will be sent in June, so everyone will know their status before the end of this membership year.

Any membership dues should now be paid to:

CCCSS Dues are:

c/o Laura Oliver Individual \$20 1585 Saratoga Ave Family \$25 Grover Beach, CA 93433 Business \$40

ph 310-951-0591

Happy Days, we are able to get together in person. The restrictions have been removed. For our first in person meeting CCCSS will supply coffee and water. If you need a snack please bring something for yourself. I will be asking for volunteers to bring refreshments for the August meeting. See you there.

At our next meeting, Loring has the following seeds available for people that are interested:

Adenium arabicum, Pachypodium saundersii, Agave geminiflora



Ariocarpus Astrophytum Turbinicarpus Adenia Adenium Pterodiscus Zygosicyos Euphorbia Fockea Crassula Cissus



Rob & Terry invite you to the Skillin ranch for

OPEN GREENHOUSE DAY

A day of fun, food, friends and PLANTS, on <u>July 24</u>
Greenhouse opens for tours starting at 9:00
Plant sales at 10:00
Raffle at 12:30

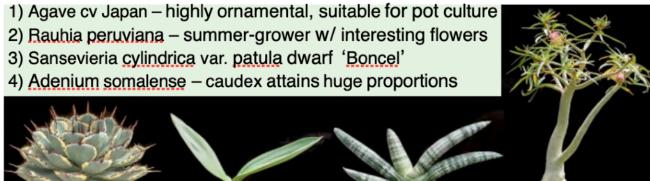
- Free Raffle Plants!
- "Terry's Famous" <u>Complimentary Taco Bar and Free Refreshments!</u>
 <u>Silent Auction</u> of larger specimen plants (I need to make room for the new!)
 wide variety of <u>Sales Plants</u> everything from smaller to very large all interesting, rare, well-grown and affordable!
- And of course Greenhouse & Botanical Garden Tours!

A great chance to meet up with friends, have an enjoyable day and go home with something new!

We will have boxes available, but thanks if you can bring your own Cash and Checks only – sorry – no credit cards

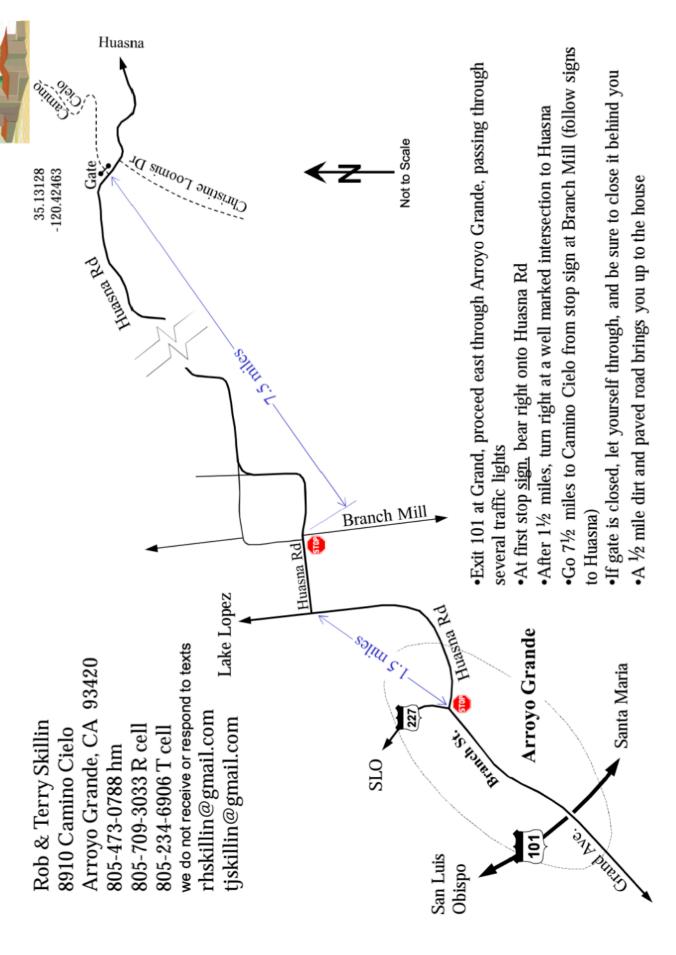
Contact: (805)709-3033 (no texts, please) rhskillin@gmail.com

Raffle Plants - free ticket for everyone in attendance, no purchase necessary



Cheiridopsis Conophytum Othonna Cyphostemma Haworthia Gasteria Aloe Kedrostis Ledebouria Sesamothamnus Sansevieria Bowiea Raphionac meetc. etc. etc

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Continued



'Around the state' taken from:

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY invites you and your club members to join our Zoom presentation on Saturday July 10th at 12:30pm.

There will be a caudiciform presentation at 12:45 and Dr. Stephen McCabe will begin at 1pm.

"Our speaker: Dr. Stephen McCabe is an experienced climber and researcher with UC Santa Cruz's Environmental Studies Department, and part of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service project to ensure the survival of Verity's Dudleya. McCabe is also emeritus director of research at the UCSC's Arboretum and Botanic Garden.

This following is a link from UCSC with more information about our speaker https://news.ucsc.edu/2019/04/stephen-mccabe-succulent-savior-feature.html
It is our intention to have a live meeting in Balboa park the second Saturday in August. Stay tuned. Please check our website at the end of July. www.sdcss.net

ZOOM LINK

Topic: Dr. Stephen McCabe ~ Dudleyas: conservation, cultivation and adventure

Time: Jul 10, 2021 12:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88462506435?pwd=NDRlaEdPZzdvYkVQZVNhbC9MeWs5UT09

Meeting ID: 884 6250 6435

Passcode: 841926 One tap mobile

+16699006833,,88462506435#,,,,*841926# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,88462506435#,,,,*841926# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
 - +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington

DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 884 6250 6435

Passcode: 841926 Find your local number:

https://us02web.zoom.us/u/keA4xscfBB

Stephen McCabe surveying Dudleya sites following the Springs Fire.



'Around the state' taken from this month's issue of:

CACTUS CORNER NEWS Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society fresnocss.com

Affiliated with the Cactus & Succulent Society of America
Vol. 40, No.7
July 2021

ISI PLANTS

The latest issue of Cactus and Succulent Journal(Summer 2021) presents the ISI plants for this year. The aim of the ISI (International Succulent Introductions) is to propagate and distribute new or rare succulents to collectors, nurseries and institutions. Proceeds from the sale of the plants go entirely to support the program, which is run out of the Huntington Botanical Gardens.

Among this year's offerings are: *Pereskia horrida, Agave 'Switchblade', Aloe vaotsanda, Dioscorea sylvatica, Euphorbia royleana, xTaciveria 'Ruth Bancroft'* and many others.

www.media.huntington.org/ISI/ISI2021/catalogindex.html

FRESNO FAIR REPORT

The Big Fresno Fair 2021 will be an in-person event and will start on Wednesday, October 6 to Sunday, October 17. The club urges members to participate in showing their plants, even if it's only one plant. However, members wishing to participate should acquire the 2021 Exhibitor Handbook, which can be obtained at 1121 Chance Avenue, Fresno or online at www.fresnofair.com. There is a big change in the succulents division: all of the classes have different numbers. It's time to look over your collection. If you don't know the name of your plant, bring it to the club meetings and members will provide you the names.Rudy Rulloda, Fair Coordinator***

FUTURE EVENT

Southern Intercity Show & Sale
August 14-15
Los Angeles Arboretum
301 N. Baldwin Ave
Arcadia, CA

More information will be forthcoming as the time nears. This is likely the largest cactus & succulent show in the world and the sale is enormous, with vendors from all over California and a few from out of state. The Arboretum is an easy exit from the 210 freeway.



San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden Presents: Monthly Birds and Botany Walks

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – The Garden is excited to present a **monthly bird walk series** on the **4th Thursday of every month**. Upcoming walks are scheduled on July 22nd from 9 AM – 11AM and August 26th from 8 AM - 10 AM.

Explore the intersection of birds and botany with bird lover Mark Mushkat and docent Ken Levine, **studying birdlife amongst the plants of the botanical garden.** The focus will be on which avian species are drawn to certain plants, what's gained or lost in the exchange, and how this understanding can shape your own landscaping efforts to the benefit of fauna and flora. Allow for a **two-hour exploration** on mostly flat ground. Bring binoculars (if you have them), comfortable shoes, and water!

Tickets are \$10 for Garden Members, \$20 for the general public, and free for children. All tickets include admission to the Garden as well! Walks are open to all ages. Group size is limited to 12 and children must be accompanied by an adult. Ticket sales will end at 4 pm the day before each walk. Click here to get your tickets or visit slobg.org!



San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden Presents: Fire Safe Landscaping with CAL FIRE

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA – With a long and dry season ahead, now is the time to prepare your landscape to be fire safe. CAL FIRE will be presenting a talk at the San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden on Saturday July 17 from 1 PM to 2 PM about wildfires in California, creating your "defensible space," and landscaping to help slow the spread of wildfire. Get professional advice to make your Central Coast yard lean, clean, and green. Presentation is followed by a free docent-led tour of the Fire Safe Demonstration Garden.

Suggested donation for the presentation is \$5 for Garden Members / \$10 for public.

No pre-registration required, pay at the Garden. For more information, contact education@slobg.org.

About the Presenter: Jonathan Gee is the Unit Forestry Assistant for CAL FIRE. Jonathan will offer the residents of San Luis Obispo County the ability to recognize good defensible space on their property as well as fire resistant construction materials.

LEISA SWANSON

What I know about Epiphyllums I learned from Dr. Kohlschreiber

I have to preface this article with a story of "why do I have lots of epis hanging from my trees and in huge 10 gallon pots all over my place??" and why do I love them??...

Dr Richard Kohlschreiber (a veterinarian), was a single, kind, brilliant and a generous man. My family pulled him into the fold of our daily lives. At first he was just the person who cared for our animals, as years passed, he became a part of all of our family events!

I honestly don't know what started his interest of Epis, but years later, after getting thoroughly immersed in the love, growing and

hybridizing of these plants, he became the President of the Epiphyllum Society of Southern California. He published a monthly news letter of "all that you need to know, all the events and stories of all the epis.... of which he sent to my mom and grandmother .. along with a personal letter of what he was doing.

Some things I learned from DR K's Epi-Grams: Epiphyllums have small hair like thorns, they are found in crotches of trees ..thus epiphytic (lives on trees). The name Epiphyllum is a misnomer, they are

actually Epicactus.!! Epiphyllums are native to Central America and Mexico. Did you know to hang your Epis because nematodes, slugs and snails love this plant.? Did you know that there are over 13,000 registered hybrids, 1,500 are growing in the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden? Did you know that some flowers have a wonderful fragrance during the day, as they close up at night? Did you know that the brown spots many get are from a virus, ugly, but not harmful to plant? (Note spots in Emperor photo.) (It was said that powdering or spraying them with the antifungal Tinactin can help..Go figure.. I will give it a try!) Did you know that it only blooms when root bound?

Since the Epicactus is not grown for "how it looks in a pot", and aren't showy when they aren't blooming, some don't consider them worth adding to their collection. Usually you will not find them in a nursery.

All but my Red, Curly Sue and Fishbone Epis are from Dr. K. Mine are the more simple ones he gave us before he started hybridizing them. I dont know any of their names. Though I lost track, he even named and dedicated one to my grandmother "Maidie Martin". A number of months ago our CSSA had an Epi specialist talk. With admiration he talked about Dr K's contributions to the Epi world, He said their world would miss a wonderful man.

I had no idea he was such a celebrity. A "few" years ago my sister Lindy and I returned to Palos Verdes to go to her 50th HS Reunion. We

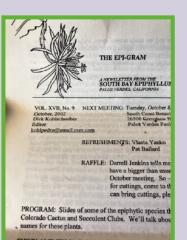
made it a point to visit Dr K. Wow, his home and yard were over abundant in Epis, Bromeliads and cactus. We weeded and watered for him while he supervised. He suggested that we visit the South Coast Botanic Gardens next. We did and wow,were we impressed with the gardens, but mostly the adulation felt about our friend, Dr K.

My Epiphyllums' produce absolutely stunning flowers. I am always photographing them and then finding new sets of blooms, as they continue to pop open down the length

of its stem. I just can't stop adding new photos to my cell phone every year.

In my yard, they usually start blooming in April and are all done as June ends. I find that each has its blooming time. My coral epi starts blooming early April, then comes my white and pink. Right about now the Emperor (I know from

Google) varieties start blooming. They are my most spectacular and obviously favorite Epicactus. The Curly Sue will start opening soon. My lush multi-named Cryptocereus or Selenicereus or Anguliger ric rac/ zig zag/ fishbone Epi is from Brazil and has not bloomed yet. I believe it is the only Epi night bloomer.





LEISA SWANSON-

Part two to the Epipyhllum letter.
The last part of Zigzag and Curly Sue Epis

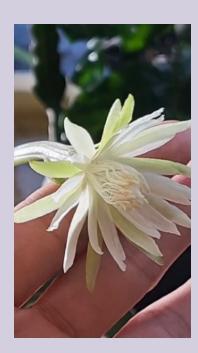
I wanted to put these two funky like Epis I have last..

Next is my Zigzag cactus and it's flower.



Next is the Curly Sue.

Actually its flowers are small tube like and not spectacular, but afterwards it looks like a Christmas tree full of burgundy balls. The small fruit looks like and tastes like dragon fruit. This Epi is the only one I know that is self fertilizing.





BRAG PLANTS—Continued

Here are a few shots of Bill Findley's blooming *Aeonium nobilis*



BRAG PLANTS—Continued

Please share your special plants with us. Send your photos to Carolmortensen0@gmail.com and I will put them in the newsletter.

Photos from Laura Oliver's yard







Carol Rauch's Sharkskin Agave getting ready to bloom.



BRAG PLANTS—Continued

These are grown outdoors at our Cambria home. Steve & Marsha Nathanson

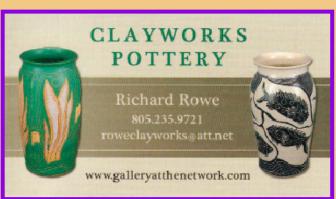




PLEASE SUPPORT OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS!



STEVE SUPER GARDENS Specializing in rare and unusual plants FOR THE WATER WISE GARDEN STEVESUPERGARDENS.COM STEVESUPERGARDENS@CHARTER.NET













Pacific Sun Ceramics & Succulents







Follow us!

Instagram: @thesuccshack Facebook: CalCoast Succulents

Jeanne Miller 805.602.7817 Mike Bush 805.452.6817

ucculents

calcoastsucculents@gmail.com

PLANTERA PRIMAL

Stoneware ceramic planters and tiles fired with solar generated electricity. See website for sales venues. Contact for private appointment.

Charles Varni, Oceano, CA Ph 805.459.6698 www.varni.org





Cal Seedling Co. Jenna Cismowski Assist. Office Mgr/Customer Service

1149 Arboles Way Arroyo Grande Ca 93420

805-489-6548 jenna@calseedling.com

Please try to support local businesses as much as possible, including our valued Business Members on these pages. Click on images to visit their websites or to contact them via email. Many will take online or phone orders. Some are now on Etsy!

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



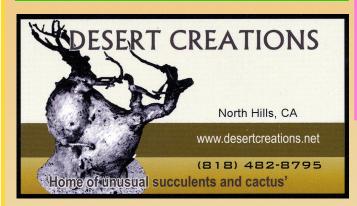
- We Have Four Locations To Serve You -

224 Tank Farm Road San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

1079 El Camino Real Arroyo Grande, CA 93420 805.489.5514 • FAX 805.473.7263

1108 Paso Robles Street Paso Robles, CA 93446 805.543.3751 • FAX 805.543.0613 805.238.1177 • FAX 805.238.3527

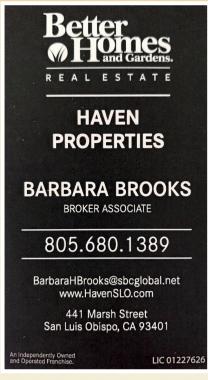
> 1920 N. Broadway Santa Maria, CA 93454 805.922.2737 • FAX 805.922.6982







Stephanie Archart Ceramics Handmade Ceramic Vessels For Online Sales & Info: stephaniearehartceramics.com





Plants & Gifts for a Cause

956 Chorro St. San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 Phone: 805-544-4967 Email: ggdstore@t-mha.org

Inspiring hope, growth, recovery and wellness in our communities. www.t-mha.org

CCCSS BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

President Harry Harlow

Vice President Bill Findley

Secretary Mary Harrlow

Treasurer Kathy Goss

Publicity Tanya Luthin

Hospitality Pat Gilson

Membership Laura Oliver

Past President Loring Manley

CSSA Affiliate Rob Skillin

Member-at-large 1 Natasha Erikson

Member-at-large 2 Karen Kolba

Member-at-large 3 Mary Peracca

Newsletter Editor Carol Mortensen

General Club Email Address:

info@centralcoastcactus.org