



ON THE DRY SIDE



The next meeting is **Sunday**
January 8 in the Odd Fellows'
Hall at 2:00.

In This Issue:
Speaker for Meeting
Ernesto Sandoval
Plant of the Month
None this month
Announcements
Meeting Minutes- none

Letter from the President
"Ask Me Table" & Garden
Gatherings
Brag Plants - none
Business Members
Board Members

Updated: our speaker this month is none other than Ernesto! I spoke to him and he is healthy and looking forward to giving his talk on Propagation. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Ernesto Sandoval - "Tricks and Techniques for Propagation of Succulents from Stems" and Leaves and More!

Ernesto and company at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory have been propagating succulents in a variety of ways for many many years and he'd like to share some of his experiences and advice. This seminar will focus on Vegetative

propagation techniques using Stems, Leaves, grafting and more. Timing, media, environment and orientation also matter so these will be covered as well!



Ernesto Sandoval has been wondering and seeking questions and answers to why plants grow and look the way that they do for nearly 40 years. Now he explains and interprets the world of plants to a variety of ages and from amateur to professional gardeners. He regularly lectures to a variety of western Garden Clubs throughout the year and particularly to Succulent Clubs throughout California. Desert plants are his particular passion within his general passion for plants. He describes himself as a "Jose of All Plants, Master of None" and loves learning from the experiences of others as well as his own. Ernesto thoroughly enjoys helping others, and gardeners in particular, to understand why and how plants do what they do.

PROGRAM FOR JANUARY — “Tricks and Techniques”...

When he was about 13 he asked his dad why one tree was pruned a particular way and another tree another way. His dad answered bluntly "because that's the way you do it." Since then he's been learning and teaching himself the answers to those and many other questions by getting a degree at UC Davis in Botany and working from student weeder/waterer to Director over the last 30 years at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



President's Message January 2023

Happy New Year everyone! I hope this year will be good for you, with lots of blooms and happiness. Everyone seemed to have an outstanding time at our Holiday Potluck in December. I was impressed with all the plants and items brought in for the silent and the live auctions. We know what to do!

Many thanks to everyone for your participation and help. The Odd Fellows Hall is such a nice venue for our Society and I am glad that we can continue to meet there. Thank you to everyone who participated in setting up and cleaning up after our feast. A special thank you to Pat who did so much to organize this special event.

There was no formal meeting, so no minutes were taken or submitted.

Next month Ernesto Sandoval will be our featured speaker. Ernesto is always informative, he brings excellent plants for us to purchase, and he is generous in teaching us ways to improve our growing habits.

Behind the scenes I have been working with Susan Chandler's daughter Margaret, several members of the BOD, and show & sale committee members to develop a Youth Grower Award category for our next show & sale. Tentatively, we will have 2 Divisions. Division 1 will be kids up to 10yrs old. Division 2 will be kids from 11 to 18 or still enrolled in high school. We are planning to have a modest cash prize, and a gift certificate for redemption at the show & sale. For this first year we will modify our rules, for the Youth Award only, and require only 3 months of plant ownership to enter. Our crack Publicity team will advertise this to local schools and publications. The fine details will be worked out in the show & sale committee meetings. Having young people get excited about growing succulent plants bodes well for the future of organizations like ours.

Next meeting is January 8th at 2pm. Hope to see you there.....Harry

ANNOUNCEMENTS—Continued

We had a kind and generous local landscape contractor donate several *Euphorbia abyssinica* 5-gallon plants. They are all well rooted, some with arms, some with flowers. The club will be selling this for \$75 each, three for \$200 and the price will go down if you buy more. All proceeds go to the club. Contact Bill Findley via email coolcactuskid805@gmail.com to view and purchase. Matt Cathey of Fortini Landscapes was this kind landscaper. His email if you are interested is matt@fortinilandscapes.com
Thanks Matt!

Plant
Sale



THANK YOU!

#1 Thank you all for pitching in to set up and clean up for the Annual Holiday potluck.

I am honored to be part of such a fantastic group. It is so nice to be able to participate in person again, the potlucks are so much fun since we can visit with each other. I am looking forward to our next potluck. Thank you again for participating.

Pat

#2 I could use a few more people to bring some snacks for the January meeting.

I am making a turkey pot pie with the leftover meat. Please contact me if you can help.

Thank you,

Pat 805-710-4957 or hupt74@yahoo.com



ANNOUNCEMENTS - Continued

CCCSS ASK US:

WE WILL TRY TO HELP!!

GENE SCHROEDER & KATHIE MATSUYAMA ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS

The CCCSS ASK US TABLE is available at CCCSS meetings or send us your questions. The online ASK US service is for Active CCCSS members only.

We will try to help with:

- Plant ID (Provide photos of the plant: 1) close-up of leaves, flowers, spines; 2) plant photo with a ruler, soda can or credit card for scale; and 3) plant photo showing where its grown (full sun, shade, in the ground?)
- Cultural Requirements (water, light, fertilizer, soil type)
- Pests & Other Problems
- Propagation

Please provide as much information as you can to help us answer your question. Microclimates matter, be sure to tell us where you live!

Send your ASK US questions to Gene Schroeder and Kathie Matsuyama at:

AskMe@centralcoastcactus.org

Happy and Healthy Growing in 2023 and HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Gene and Kathie



UPCOMING GARDEN GATHERING EVENTS

A Garden Gathering is planned at **Jose Toll's** home in Pismo/Shell Beach on **Saturday January 14, 2023**. This will be a fun and relaxing event in the garden of an excellent collector and grower. Jose will have some plants for sale at the event and Mary Peracca will be selling her exquisite pottery as well!

This event is currently full. If you are interested in attending, please let us know; we will put your name on the waiting list and contact you if a spot opens. **You must be a CCCSS member and fully vaccinated to attend.** Email Kathie and Paul at luvbigdogs@earthlink.net to put your name on the waiting list.

We are currently booking additional Garden Gathering dates for 2023. Let us know if you are interested in hosting. It is super fun!

New to CCCSS? Here are the FAQs about Garden Gatherings:

Health FIRST: We take the health and safety of our club members seriously. Our Garden Gathering hosts are inviting us into their homes and gardens. Most hosts require all attendees to be fully vaccinated and to provide proof of vaccination to attend the events.

Why: CCCSS club is large and growing; it is hard to connect with other cactophiles at our huge in-person meetings.

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 the focus of the events.

Where: Gatherings take place 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. Events average one½ hours.

Help: Event pre-planning, organization, sign-up and email coordination with your guests is all capably managed by Paul and Kathie!

Interested in hosting a Garden Gathering in 2023?

Contact Paul and Kathie Matsuyama at luvbigdogs@earthlink.net

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Continued

GARDEN GATHERING RE-CAP HERE'S WHAT YOU MISSED!!

GENE SCHROEDER'S CACTUS COMPENDIUM

On a lovely warm day on December 17th, 30 CCCSS members met in two separate time shifts at the Nipomo home of past CCCSS President Gene Schroeder (Yes, for those of you keeping score at home, that makes two Garden Gatherings in a row hosted by Past CCCSS Presidents! Thanks again, Charles Varni, for hosting last month! Okay other Presidents who is next !!?.....)



If there is a word to describe Gene and Dail's garden it would be transformation! Since most CCCSS members had last visited, there have been many changes at the Schroeder homestead. A complete renovation of the upper garden terrace behind the back patio was recently completed. It included a meandering gravel strolling path lined with rock. Plants in this area were intentionally selected to be "non-prickly" at Dail's request and for Golden Retriever Skye's benefit! What a lovely new garden area.



Around Gene's greenhouse, the changes were also very significant. The very large pine tree that had dominated the space previously had fallen during a very windy rain storm several years previously. Now in the resulting abundant sunshine, Gene had designed several large planter areas making excellent use of stacked recycled concrete pavement pieces to create low retaining planter walls. His collection of Ferocactus is stunning and seeing them grouped together in planters is a garden focal point in the planters.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Continued

Between the in-ground planters and his greenhouse, Gene maintains an extensive collection of cactus and succulents under a shade cover. There were abundant Matucanas, Pachypodium hybrids, and Aloes etc. I'd love to tell you about the inside of Gene's greenhouse, but what usually happens when I step inside is that my head explodes when I see Gene's plants. This visit was no exception! Actually, inside Gene's greenhouse is a world class collection of extraordinary cactus from around the world and amazing succulents as well.



We concluded our garden tour with a look at the in-ground plantings along the lawn border where Gene and Dail planted their first garden plants. The Barrel Cactus were immense; Aloes and Ferox were super tall, and many were in full gorgeous bloom. All plants were super healthy and happy to be growing in the ground!



As an extra benefit to this Garden Gathering, Gene had lots of unique plants for sale at enough price points to tempt most Garden Gatherers to take something new home from the event. Plants were seed grown or vegetatively propagated by Gene.

We are certainly very, very fortunate to have as a member of CCCSS a person of Gene's expertise and extensive experience in growing and propagating plants, particularly all kinds of cactus. But what stands out about Gene, is his genuine approachability and niceness!

It has been Paul and my pleasure to be Gene and Dail's neighbors for more than a dozen years. In that time, Gene's passion for cactus has certainly rubbed off on us! Gene is fond of saying that the most beautiful flowers in the plant kingdom belong to cactus plants....and I can't disagree with my friend Gene, the world class cactus expert!!



Thank you, Gene, and Dail, for hosting an excellent Garden Gathering!

ANNOUNCEMENTS—Continued



FOUNDERS WALK & TALK

Tuesday, January 3
11AM - 12:30PM

Walk and talk with Founder, Eve Vigil and discover the Garden's rich history, what's in bloom, important maintenance - when and why - or whatever interests the group such as preparing garden beds, irrigation schedules and more. Participants meet horticulture enthusiasts and learn great tips and tricks for creating a stunning water-frugal garden.

Free Garden Tour with Paid Admission / Members Free

FREE FAMILY DAY

Sunday, January 8
9AM - 4PM

Join us for our monthly Free Family Day when admission is waived all day for all guests! The Garden will be welcoming in the new year by creating new decorations for the Children's Garden! Fun family-friendly activities from 11AM-2PM. Make it a day for exploration in nature.



BE A PART OF THE PROCESS - VOLUNTEER!

Do what you know and love or learn something new! Opportunities include Garden & Facilities Maintenance, Educational Docent, Photography/Videography, Propagation, Special Events and More! It is because of our community support that we are able to maintain and grow. If you or your company would like to play a part, reach out to **Cheryl Wakefield** to learn more. We would be honored to work together.

Contact: Cheryl Wakefield cheryl@slobg.org



The Five Cities Orchid Society (FCOS) Orchid Talks 2023 invites you to an evening with:

MARY GERRITSON: GROWING ORCHIDS OUTDOORS IN CALIFORNIA.

January 12, 2023
7 pm- 8:30 pm

Sign up for our monthly newsletter at www.FCOS.org/subscribe to receive the zoom link.

Mary Gerritsen's talk on Growing Orchids Outdoors in California will help you make (some of) your orchids weatherproof, i.e. able to thrive outside the comfort of your home. The talk will include information about creating suitable growing areas, micro-climates and how to cope with heat and cold.

She will also delve into a survey of popular orchids that are grown outside year-round in coastal California.

Mary has been a fan of orchids since her post-doctoral days in the late 1970s in San Diego. She is an independent biotechnology consultant and in her spare time she travels as much as she can to see orchids in their native habitat. In the past 12 years, Gerritsen has traveled to more than 15 countries to track and/or photograph orchids. She has also written articles for orchid magazines, including *Orchids*, *Orchid Digest*, and the *Orchid Review*, and has written (with co-author and photographer Ron Parsons) a number of orchid books, including *Masdevallias*, *Gems of the Orchid World*, *A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species* (1st and 2nd editions), *The American Orchids Society Guide to Orchids and their Culture* and *A Bay Area to Orchids and their Culture*. Mary serves on the board of the *Orchid Digest* and is the incoming president of the Orchid Conservation Alliance, and is a past president of the San Francisco and Peninsula Orchid Societies. Mary lives in San Mateo, CA and has a large collection of orchids that grow in 6 outdoor shade structures, two greenhouses, her front porch and an indoor sunroom.





Cactus and Succulent Society of America

Happy New Year! Join us Saturday, January 7th at 10:00 a.m. PST for the next in our series of webinars featuring Cactus and Succulent experts from around the world.

Buck Hemenway: *Survival of the Fattest*

To register for the webinar, [click here](#)



Program: *Survival of the Fattest*

When supply of water is so unreliable, plants find a number of ways to adapt to these harsh conditions. In this program, Buck Hemenway explores the ways succulents collect, store, and conserve water in South Africa. The presentation features a professionally produced video, “Survival of The Fattest”, with lots of commentary and insights.

Biography: Buck and Yvonne Hemenway turned their one-time hobby into the *Prickly Palace* nursery in Riverside Ca, which supplied cacti and succulents to the retail nursery trade in Southern California for 15 years. Buck is past president and lifetime member of several C&S Societies and served on the board of the CSSA for 10 years. They have worked together for many years. When they retired, they did something many of us talk about, but few do: They packed their bags and moved to Calitzdorp. South Africa to be closer to their love of succulents.

ANNOUNCEMENTS - Continued



CSSA Members: If you have not yet done so, please renew your membership now. Not a member? Join now! [CSSA membership](#)

CSSA Membership Benefits:

- Receive the prestigious *Cactus and Succulent Society Journal*, published four times annually.
- Receive *To The Point*, our CSSA e-newsletter, published four times annually, featuring news, views and growing tips from around the world.
- Participate in CSSA's bi-monthly Webinar Series featuring C&S experts from around the world.
- Access and purchase rare C&S seeds at our [CSSA Seed Depot](#).
- Participate in CSSA's members-only field trips to native habitats of cacti and other succulents.
- Participate in the CSSA convention. The next convention will be in Colorado Springs in 2023. Stay tuned!

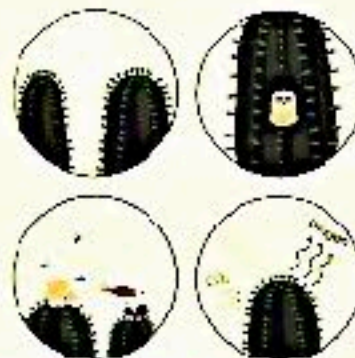
CREATING AN ETHICAL CACTUS AND SUCCULENT COLLECTION

Cactus and succulent species are at risk



One third of all cactus species (Cactaceae) are at risk of extinction¹, and so are many succulents and caudiciforms, including *Dudleya*, *Dioscorea*, and *Pachypodium*². Half of threatened cacti are at-risk at least in part due to the horticultural trade³. Social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram influence the desire to take old and rare cacti, succulents and their seeds from habitat^{2, 4}.

Cacti and succulents are central in dry ecosystems



Cacti and succulents store water in their tissues, provide nesting areas and food for wildlife, photosynthesize, store carbon, and even provide a place for insects to lay their eggs until they develop into adults. These plants play an essential role in dry and ecosystems and must be protected.

Building your collection

1 Check the source before you buy



Use caution when buying online.

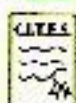


Was it nursery grown, or habitat collected?



Is it a species at risk?

2 Buy from reputable plant sellers



Search for an approved grower.

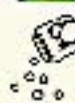


Ask your cactus and succulent community.



Ask previous customers.

3 Grow your own cacti and succulents



Plant from seed.



Propagate from a cutting or leaf.



Buy and grow young plants from sellers.

4 Educate yourself and spread the word



Learn more about plant growing.



Join a cactus club or online community.



Join a conservation group.

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