

## **South Coast Cactus & Succulent Society**

*Affiliate of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America (CSSA) • Associated Plant Society of California Garden Clubs, Inc. (CGCI)*

### **Minutes of the General Meeting, January 14, 2024**

#### **Board Members:**

Maria Capaldo, President  
Terri Straub, Vice President  
Bernard Johnson, Treasurer  
Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary  
Martha Bjerke, At-large Board Member  
Vincent Darmali, At-large Board Member  
Nancy Sams, At-large Board Member  
Sally Fasteau, Membership Committee Chair  
Braulio Mena, CGCI Liaison  
Jim Hanna, Finance Committee Chair & Plant Person  
M.A. Bjarkman, CSSA Liaison & Program Chair

Mike Short, Communications Committee Chair & Webmaster

#### **Committee Members (Tasked):**

Ann Nye, Monthly Publicist  
Terri Straub, Show & Sale Chair & Mini-Show Coordinator  
Laurel Woodley, Facebook  
Caitlin Rubia, Instagram  
Maria Capaldo, Newsletter Editor

There were 59 members in attendance. President, Maria Capaldo, called the meeting to order at 1:34pm in the South Coast Botanic Garden Auditorium. She wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed attendees to the meeting. She reminded attendees to renew their annual membership due of \$20 with Sally Fasteau and Bernard Johnson at the Membership Table. She thanked Sally for maintaining the memberships lists.

#### **Program:**

Maria introduced our speaker Al Klein who talked about “Growing Caudiciforms, Fat Plants.”

A question and answer period followed his talk, which concluded at 2:30pm.

#### **Announcements before the break by Maria:**

Maria asked Sally Fasteau to pick two names from the sprinkling can: one to help judge and the other to assist with selecting names for the door prize plants.

She introduced all the newly elected Board members whose term is starting this month. Maria is President, Terri Straub Vice-President, Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary, and Bernard Johnson, Treasurer. Members at Large are: Martha Bjerke, Vincent Darmali, and Nancy Sams. In addition, Sally Fasteau is Membership Chair, Mike Short is Communications Chair, Jim Hanna is Finance Chair, M.A. Bjarkman serves as CSSA Liaison and Braulio Mena serves as CGCI Liaison.

**Plant of the Year:** Our Plant of the Year was distributed at the Holiday Party and we are giving those out today for those of you who missed the Party. Please bring your plant to show off at this year’s Holiday Party in December.

There are some small pots available under the freebie table to pot up some extra plants for our Show and Sale which will take place on April 13-14 at the Palos Verdes Art Center.

She announced a break to give folks time to shop our vendors, including Al Klein who brought some plants from Botanic Wonders.

#### **Break-Reconvene:**

Maria recessed the meeting at 2:37pm and it was reconvened at 2:59pm.

**January Mini-Show categories:** Cactus: *Mammillaria*, hooked spine, and Succulent: *Caudiciform*.

The plants were judged by Al Klein and assisted by Donna Baranowski with overseeing by Terri Straub. Winners in first, second and third place were awarded in novice, intermediate and open categories. The winners will be listed in our Newsletter and on our Website, along with photographs taken by Mike Short. Donna was offered a free plant selection for helping.

**Brag Table:** None.

**New members and guests:** There were no new members.

**Birth month plants:** Members whose birthdays are in December and January were offered to select a free plant by Maria.

**Door prize plants:** Nancy Sams drew tickets for members to select a free plant and Maria announced the names of the winners. Nancy selected a free plant.

**Announcements:**

**Next Meeting:** Our speaker for February will be Gary Duke “Chile: More than Copiapoas” which will include drone footage.

**February Mini-Show categories:** Cactus: *Coryphantha*, *Escobaria* ( all have been moved to *Pelecyphora*), *Acharagma*, *Cochemia*, *Sclerocactus* and Succulent: *Gasteria* and hybrids (this includes intrageneric hybrids).

**Show and Sale:** Our Society Show and Sale will be on April 13-14 with set-up the day before on April 12 at the Palos Verdes Art Center. Jim Hanna will coordinate vendors, Terri Straub will coordinate volunteers and Ann Nye is doing publicity. Please save the date for displaying your plants, donating plants for our Sale table and volunteering for some or all of the weekend. This is our chance to raise funds for the Society to pay for programs and make donations to causes we want to support.

**Minutes:** The November 2023 Minutes were posted. There were no corrections and the Minutes were accepted as published.

**Pop-Up Sale:** Gary Duke announced that he would have a plant sale on his property on Saturday, February 3.

**Reports:**

**Treasury Report:** Bernard Johnson provided the Treasury Report.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking those who attended and it was adjourned at 3:20pm. She indicated that a Board meeting would follow.

Submitted with assistance from Nancy Sams

Submitted by,

Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary