

# PRICKLY NEWS

SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER | JUNE 2021

**Ernesto Sandoval** **ZOOM PRESENTATION**  
 Sunday, June 13 @ 1:30 pm

**Succulents: Liberated or Constrained in Containers?**



Many thanks to Laurel Woodley for her informative presentation on Kalanchoes. It really would make a wonderful book. The presentation is available for a limited time on YouTube (link is on the Society's Facebook page and website home page <https://southcoastcss.org>) for those who still want to access the talk and the slide show of the plants of the month.

**CALL FOR PHOTOS** June's Mini Show plants are Cactus: *Gymnocalycium* and Succulent: *Pachypodium*. Please E-mail photos for the monthly Mini Show to me at [minniecap@icloud.com](mailto:minniecap@icloud.com) by June 11th so I may present them at the upcoming Zoom meeting. If you have a plant in the ground or want to share your garden, those photos are also welcome. Thank you to all who have shared photos of their gardens. It's so fun to see how everyone grows their plants.

**DUES** This is a reminder that we will not be charging dues until we meet in person and when we pay dues, it will carry through 2022.


**BOARD ELECTIONS** Board elections are normally held in June. Since a formal in person election is not feasible, I have asked each Board member to continue on the Board for now and there will be occasional Zoom meetings for decisions that need to be made. Sue Wong would like to be replaced as Secretary starting February 2022. If there is anyone who is interested in being on the Board (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Member at Large) and especially Secretary to replace Sue, or interested in becoming Show chair for 2022, or doing the publicity for the Show and Sale, please let me know. Gary Duke and Jade Neely have been finding speakers for the Society for the last 15 and 10 years respectively and would also like to be replaced in that capacity. I would like to know if any members would be willing to take over that job. You would really be more involved in the speaker community if you did so. Formal voting for the upcoming year will be held whenever we can next meet.


**NEXT MEETING** We are pleased to welcome Ernesto Sandoval back for our next meeting on Sunday, June 13th. His presentation is titled "Succulents, liberated or constrained in containers" and sounds intriguing. I look forward to seeing it. See you there! Stay well and keep in touch!


MARIA CAPALDO

**SHARE YOUR GARDEN OR YOUR FAVORITE PLANT**

Email me with photos of your garden and/or plants that we can publish as a way of staying connected.  
[minniecap@icloud.com](mailto:minniecap@icloud.com)

 [To learn more visit southcoastcss.org](https://southcoastcss.org)

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## “Succulents: Liberated or Constrained in Containers?”

BY ERNESTO SANDOVAL



As with much of life there are benefits and challenges from the choices that we make and how we grow our succulents is part of that. Without getting too philosophical about life's choices Ernesto will explore the benefits of growing succulents in the ground versus in containers. There are reasons for doing both and we'll explore, visually the results and challenges of each option. Ernesto will take you through these options using examples of growing plants in the collections of the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory in Northern California, where Ernesto cares for a plethora of plants, as well as examples from private and public succulent growers.

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.

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/Manager over the last 30 years at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory.

He's long left the “mow blow and go” monoculture landscape gardening world and has immersed himself in the world of horticultural biodiversity by growing several thousand types of plants at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, many of them succulents! Several of his favorite garden projects involved converting lawns and or water loving landscapes to drought tolerant and diversity filled gardens! He likes to promote plant liberation by encouraging gardeners of all sorts to grow more plants in the ground when possible. He loves the technical language of Botany but prefers to relate information in more understandable methods of communication! By helping people to understand the workings of plants he hopes to help us better understand how to and why our plants do what they do and how we can maximize their growth with less effort.

What's in your garden?

*Echinopsis Gardens by Bill Wilk*



Thank you for sharing!  
What's in your garden?

[minniecap@icloud.com](mailto:minniecap@icloud.com) share by June 11, 2021

What's in your garden?

Gardens by M.A. Bjarkman



Gardens by Jim Tanner



Thank you for sharing!  
What's in your garden?

[minnicap@icloud.com](mailto:minnicap@icloud.com) share by June 11, 2021

What's in your garden?

Gardens by Terri Straub



Gardens by Phyllis De Crescenzo



Thank you for sharing!  
What's in your garden?

[minnicap@icloud.com](mailto:minnicap@icloud.com) share by June 11, 2021

**What's in your garden?**

*Gardens by* **Jim Gardner**



*Aeonium sedifolium*

*Garden by* **Jim and Roberta Hanna**



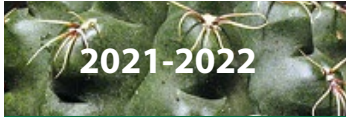
*Aeonium sedifolium*



*Gymnocalycium mesopotamicum*

Thank you for sharing!  
**What's in your garden?**

[minniecap@icloud.com](mailto:minniecap@icloud.com) share by June 11, 2021



# Mini - Show Plant Calendar



## Mini-Show Plants for 2021-2022

June 2021	Gymnocalycium	Pachypodium
July 2021	Lobivia, Echinopsis	Sansevieria
August 2021	Ferocactus, Leuchtenbergia	Stapeliads (Stapelia, Huernia, Orbea)
September 2021	Discocactus, Uebelmania	Kalanchoe
October 2021	Miniature (3 inches or less)	Miniature (3 inches or less)
November 2021	North American Columnar Cacti (Saguaro, Cereus, etc.)	Senecio
December 2021	HOLIDAY POTLUCK???	HOLIDAY POTLUCK???
January 2022	Mammillaria single headed	Lithops, Conophytum
February 2022	Stenocactus, Echinofossulocactus	Euphorbia from Madagascar
March 2022	Thelocactus	Aeonium, Greenovia
April 2022	SHOW and SALE	SHOW and SALE
May 2022	Cactus Dish Garden	Succulent Dish Garden



## Monthly Cactus: Gymnocalycium

### Cactus: Gymnocalycium

**Gymnocalycium** are among the most popular of cacti, from the novice through the advanced grower. They are easy to grow; flower readily; come in a large number of distinguishable species; look great in flower, in bud, and even when dormant. A well grown plant will often flower several times during the year.

Gymnocalycium is an old genus, first named in 1845. The genus is named for the naked (spineless) calyx (the outermost covering of the bud and lower flower). Most Gymnocalycium are also readily identified by their 'chins' beneath the areoles.

The heart of the genus Gymnocalycium is Argentina, although the genus stretches into Southeastern Bolivia, Western Paraguay, Uruguay, and into the Southernmost part of Brazil. For the most part Gymnocalycium are grassland plants, growing and shaded in the grass of the Pampa and Chaco (dry forest) that covers much of Argentina. As a result, most like some protection from full afternoon sun, but need bright light during the day.

Gymnocalycium cultivation is easy. They need a dry rest during the winter; they can take Southern California climate without winter heat, as long as they are dry. They should be fed regularly with a weak general purpose fertilizer when growing. They are tolerant of any well drained soil, but constant wet will cause the roots to rot. Fortunately, they are easy to re-root, with roots generally re-growing in a just few months.

Gymnocalycium are easy to grow from seed, started in a well drained, damp potting mix in a plastic bag covered pot. Germination is fairly rapid, but growth during the first year is slow compared to most Mammillaria and many other genera. Vegetative propagation is also easy. Offsets from clumps can be removed, left to dry for a few days and potted. They generally root within a few weeks.

All the species and all the varieties and forms of Gymnocalycium are worth growing.



*Gymnocalycium nova*



*Gymnocalycium mihanovichii*



*Gymnocalycium horstii*



*Gymnocalycium fischeri*



*Gymnocalycium anisitsii*



*Gymnocalycium baldianum*



By Tom Glavich





## Monthly Succulent: Pachypodium

**Pachypodium** are members of the Apocynaceae or Periwinkle family, and are most closely related to *Adenium*, and more distantly to *Oleander* and *Plumeria*. *Pachypodium* are native to only Southern Africa and Madagascar. There are more Madagascan species than there are African, due to the geography of the island of Madagascar, with isolated regions that encourage the development of populations of plants, animals and insects unique and isolated from others of the same genus. New species are still being discovered as botanists explore the more remote and isolated regions of Madagascar.

The Madagascan species are easy to grow, with the sole difficulty being their sensitivity to cold and wet. If they are protected, either by being brought indoors during the winter, or protected from rain and cold in a cold frame, or even a garage, they will survive and grow quickly. African species are generally easier, and are more tolerant of cold and wet.

The standard method of propagation of both the Madagascan or African species is from seed. Seeds are simply placed on good wet potting soil, and germination generally occurs within a week. Seeds should be sown in the spring to mid summer, however the seeds are generally not long lived, (germination drops off in the second or third year) and good results can be obtained nearly any time of year except mid winter. Protection from direct sun is necessary until the first few leaf pairs have formed, and then gradual movement into strong light, with an increase in feeding and water will bring quick and strong growth. Pinching of growing tips in young seedlings encourages the formation of side branches, a more interesting trunk and quicker growth.

All *Pachypodium*s are worth growing, and since there are not really that many species, and seedling plants are relatively cheap, a complete collection is within the resources of most.

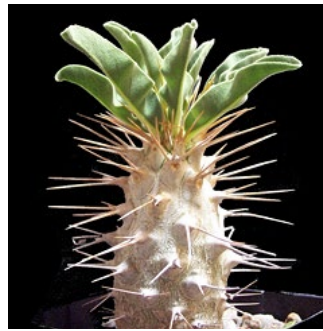
### Succulent: Pachypodium



*Pachypodium succulentum*



*Pachypodium saundersii*



*Pachypodium namaquanum*



*Pachypodium lamerei*



*Pachypodium densiflorum*



*Pachypodium brevicaule*



*Pachypodium baronii* var.  
*windsorii*



By Tom Glavich

## Latin Lookup

Loquerisne Latine (Do you speak Latin)?  
The meanings of latin plant names on the previous pages  
– from <http://davesgarden.com/guides/botany/>

### CACTUS

**anisitsii** [an-is-ITS-ee-eye] Named for Prof. J. Daniel Anisits, 19th century Hungarian pharmacist and plant collector.

**fischeri** [FISH-er-ee] Named for Friedrich Ernst Ludwig Fischer, 19th century German-born Russian botanist and St Petersburg botanical garden.

**Gymnocalycium** [jim-no-kal-LISS-ee-um]  
From the Greek gymnos (naked) and calyx (covering; calyx); the flower buds are naked.

**horstii** [HORST-ee-eye] Named for Leopoldo Horst, 21st century Brazilian plant collector.

**mihanovichii** [me-han-oh-VIK-ee-eye, my-han-oh-VIK-ee-eye] Named for Nicolas Mihanovich, 20th century Yugoslavian shipping magnate and patron of botany.

**nova** [NO-vuh] New.

### SUCCULENT

**baronii** [bar-oh-nee-eye] Named for Reverend Baron, an early 20th century English missionary in South Africa.

**bispinosum** [by-spin-OH-sum] Two-spined.

**brevicaule** [brev-ee-KAW-lee, brev-ee-KAW-lay]  
Short stem.

**densiflorum** [den-see-FLOR-um] Densely flowered.

**Lamerei** [la-MER-ee-eye]  
named after La Mere.

**namaquanum** [na-MAWK-wan-um] Of or from the Namaqualand region (South Africa).

**Pachypodium** [pak-uh-PO-dee-um] Thick foot.

**saundersii** [son-DER-see-eye] Named for the botanist who discovered it in South Africa in the late 1800s.

**succulentum** [suk-yoo-LEN-tum] Succulent, fleshy.



# Virtual Mini-Show: SUCCULENT/NOVICE

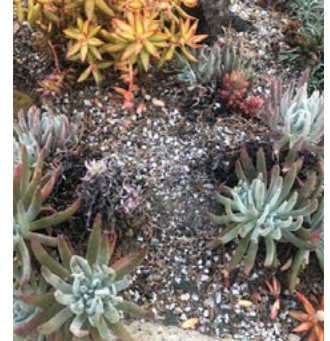
SUCCULENT CATEGORY: NOVICE



*Dudleya stolonifera*  
(Orange county) by Gretchen Davis



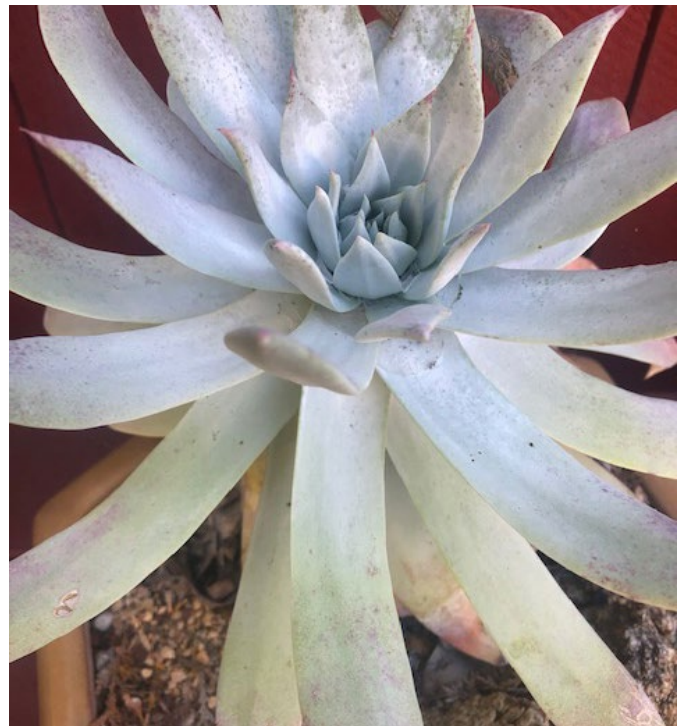
*Dudleya* sp.  
by M.A. Bjarkman



*Dudleya farinosa*  
by M.A. Bjarkman



*Dudleya farinosa* (Tilden Park)  
by Gretchen Davis



*Dudleya brittoni*  
by M.A. Bjarkman

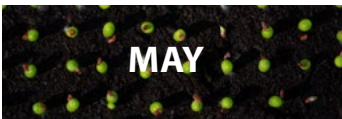


*Dudleya cymosa* (Bollinas, CA)  
by M.A. Bjarkman



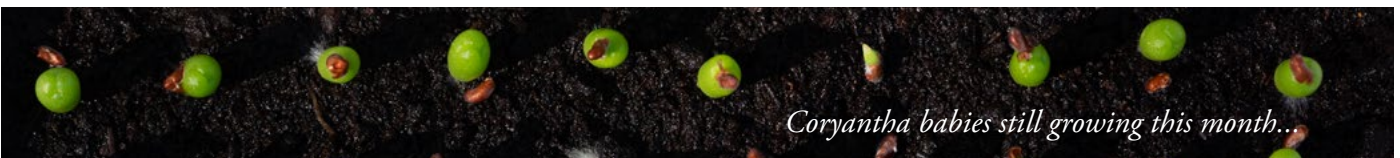
*Dudleya caespitosa*  
by Gretchen Davis

SUBMITTED BY: SCCSS MEMBERS



# Virtual Mini-Show: CACTUS/NOVICE

SUCCULENT CATEGORY: NOVICE



*Coryanthe babies still growing this month..*



Virtual Mini-Show: **SUCCULENT / INTERMEDIATE**

SUCCULENT CATEGORY: INTERMEDIATE



*Dudleya virens* subs. *hassei*  
by Mike Short



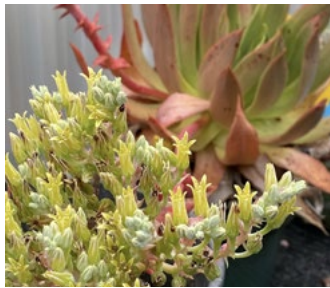
Dudleyea Hybrid  
by Bernard Johnson



*Dudleya brittoni* (Mother, left and daughter) by Mike Short



*Dudleya brittoni*  
by Anita Caplan



*Dudleya brittoni* Green form from  
Punta Banta by Bernard Johnson



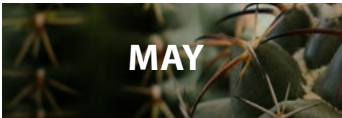
*Dudleya brittoni* (Flowers)  
by Mike Short



*Cotyledon ladismithensis*  
by Anita Caplan



Dudleyea  
by Bernard Johnson



Virtual Mini-Show: **CACTUS/INTERMEDIATE**

CACTUS CATEGORY: INTERMEDIATE



*Nothing blooming in this space this month...*



Virtual Mini-Show: **CACTUS/OPEN**

CACTUS CATEGORY: OPEN



*Coryphantha pycnantha*  
var. *andrea* by Phyllis De Crescenzo



*Coryphantha pycnantha*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Acharagma roseanum*  
by Gary Duke



*Coryphantha neglecta*  
by Gary Duke



*Coryphantha micromeris*  
by Phyllis De Crescenzo



*Coryphantha elephantidens*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Coryphantha pycnantha*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Coryphantha pallida*  
by Gary Duke



Virtual Mini-Show: **SUCCULENT/OPEN**

SUCCULENT CATEGORY: OPEN



*Dudleya virens ssp. hassei* (PV)  
by Maria Capaldo



*Dudleya virens*  
by Phyllis De Crescenzo



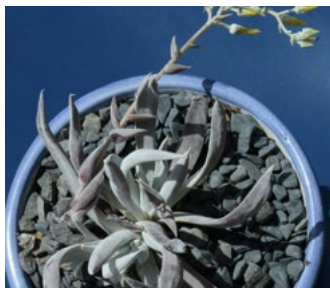
*Dudleya virens*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Dudleya virens* (Catalina Island)  
by Maria Capaldo



*Dudleya verityii*  
by Maria Capaldo



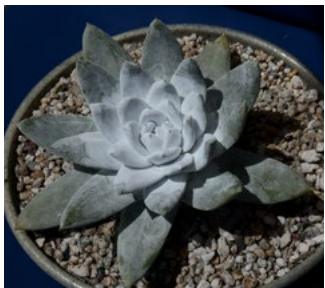
*Dudleya verityii*  
by Maria Capaldo



*Dudleya pulverulenta*  
by Maria Capaldo



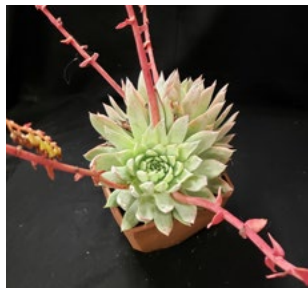
*Dudleya pulverulenta*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Dudleya pachyphytum*  
*x anthonyi* by Maria Capaldo



*Dudleya* hybrid  
by Maria Capaldo



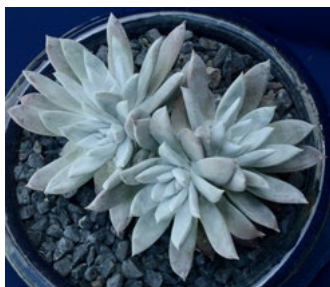
*Dudleya farinosa*  
by Sally Fasteau



*Dudleya greenii*  
by Phyllis De Crescenzo



*Dudleya farinosa*  
by Phyllis De Crescenzo



*Dudleya farinosa*  
by Maria Capaldo



*Dudleya crassifolia*  
by Gary Duke



*Dudleya caespitosa* (SLO)  
by Maria Capaldo



Virtual Mini-Show: **SUCCULENT/OPEN**

SUCCULENT CATEGORY: OPEN



*Dudleya brittonii*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Dudleya brittonii*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Dudleya brittonii*  
by Phyllis De Crescenzo



*Dudleya brittonii* (white form)  
by Gary Duke



*Dudleya brittonii* (green form)  
by Gary Duke



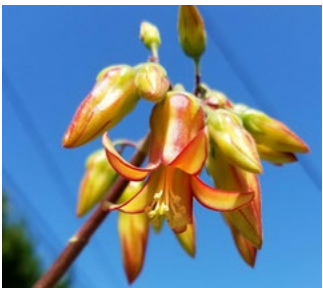
*Dudleya* 'Frank Reinelt'  
by Gary Duke



*Cotyledon velutina*  
by Laurel Woodley



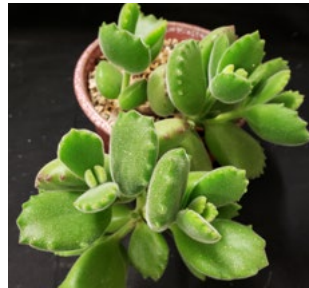
*Cotyledon velutina*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Cotyledon velutina*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Cotyledon tomentosa*  
by Sally Fasteau



*Cotyledon tomentosa*  
by Sally Fasteau



*Cotyledon pendens*  
by Phyllis De Crescenzo



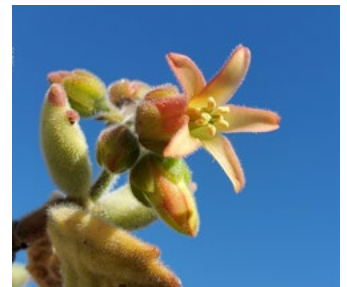
*Cotyledon orbiculata*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Cotyledon orbiculata*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Cotyledon ladismithensis*  
by Phyllis De Crescenzo



*Cotyledon ladismithensis*  
by Laurel Woodley



## SCSS Mini-Show 2021 Standings

[Click here for sortable standings](#)

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total
Bantad, Sonia	1	3	4	Caplan, Anita	1	9	10	Capaldo, Maria	3	7	10
Bjarkman, M.A.	2	6	8	Johnson, Bernard	3	7	10	DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	4	6	10
Davis, Gretchen	3	5	8	LaForest, Dale	0	4	4	Duke, Gary	4	4	8
Nisewaner, John	1	1	2	Short, Mike	2	8	10	Fasteau, Sally	2	4	6
Straub, Terri	4	6	10					Gardner, Jim	1	9	10
Tanner, Jim	3	7	10					Wilk, William	0	4	4
Tillotson, Joe	1	6	7					Woodley, Laurel	5	5	10
Wong, Clif	1	1	2								
Wong, Sue	0	2	2								
Zedler, Cory	0	2	2								

### Mini-show Virtual Points

One (1) Mini show point each for a submitted photo of your cactus and succulent (up to 2 points)

Up to two (2) points for those submitting garden photos if you had **not** submitted Mini-show photos.





## Upcoming Events

[Click here for Full List](#)



SOUTH COAST  
CACTUS & SUCCULENT  
SOCIETY

### ZOOM MEETING **Succulents: Liberated or Constrained in Containers?**

Sunday, June 13, 2021  
Join the zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84707550766?pwd=U1JyNmR6ekUyU0g3RkxQNCtTdi-8yZz09>

**Speakers:**  
ERNESTO SANDOVAL

**Start time:**  
1:00 pm meeting  
1:30 pm presentation

Coming soon...get ready. Get vaccinated!



[For more information and to learn more](#)

## 2021 Board of Directors

### OFFICERS:

President

**Maria Capaldo**

Vice President

**M.A. Bjarkman**

Secretary

**Sue Wong**

Treasurer

**Bernard Johnson**

AT LARGE BOARD  
MEMBERS:

**Terri Straub**  
**Clif Wong**  
**Corey Zedler**



### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Communications

**Mike Short**

Finance

**Jim Hanna**

Membership

**Sally Fasteau**

Programs

**Gary Duke**

Show and Sale

**Open**



### COMMITTEE MEMBERS (TASKED):

Mini-Show Coordinator

**Jim Tanner**

Publicity (Show)

**Open**

Publicity (Monthly)

**Ann Nye**

Speaker Coordinator

**Jade Neely**



### LIAISONS:

CGCI

**Lou Hagemeyer**

CSSA

**M.A. Bjarkman**

OTHER POSITIONS:

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**Laurel Woodley**

Instagram

**Caitlin Rubia**

Hospitality/Refreshments  
Volunteers

Newsletter

**Clif Wong**

Webmaster

**Mike Short**

Plant Man

**Jim Hanna**

