



# PRICKLY NEWS

SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER | SEPT 2020

**ZOOM PRESENTATION**  
 Sunday, Sept 13, 2020 @ 1:30 pm  
 (Members watch for an email invitation)

**Gunnar Eisel**

**The Folklore, Enchantment, and Evolution of the C&S Hobby from 1894 to the present day**



### Greetings from Home, still!

**The New Reality** This Newsletter, our web page and Zoom meetings have been important way for us to keep in touch during the Pandemic. Since we will be in this mode for a long time, we may wish to begin a conversation about how we can better meet our Society's goals. Are there ways we can build upon the public's renewed interest in gardening? Are there other ways we can provide sources of plants and information? If anyone has any ideas, contact me to discuss.

I am so grateful that we can meet on Zoom. Thanks to Scott Brunell for hosting the meetings for us. I enjoy seeing everyone's faces. Please join in at 1 PM for a social half-hour and at 1:30 for the presentation on Sunday September 13th. I will again present the Plant of the Month and garden submissions as a Power Point after the presentation. Contact me if you have difficulty managing the Zoom on your computer so we can have more people enjoy the presentation.

Thanks to Clif Wong for keeping us connected through the Newsletter. I hope you are enjoying all the photos.

Thanks to Mike Short for uploading old Newsletters to our website a good resource for history of the Society and descriptions of genera.

**CALL FOR PHOTOS:** Plant of the Month genera for September are Cactus: Ariocarpus and Obregonia and Succulent: Adenium and Adenia. Photos from your collection will be published and you will be given one Minishow point each for a submitted photo of your cactus and succulent (up to 2 points). Please include your plant's full name if you know it (and if you don't, I will seek advice for you just as we do during meetings). Let me know if you would prefer not to have your name published with the photos. The photos don't have to be professional quality but as high resolution as possible so they will publish well. This is for fun and to have a chance to learn from one another and show off your plants. You may send as many photos as you like. E-mail them to me at [minniecap@icloud.com](mailto:minniecap@icloud.com) by September 12th so I may present them at the upcoming Zoom meeting.

*I look forward to hearing from you.*  
MARIA CAPALDO

**SHARE YOUR GARDEN**

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)

**VIDEO PRESENTATIONS:**

**CSSA (Cactus and Succulent Society of America)**, is sharing the complete video presentations of the lectures from the 2015 and 2017 Conventions. This is a chance to hear from world renowned lecturers and experience the high level information received at the Conventions.

Please go to this website to access the videos.  
<https://cactusandsucculentsociety.org/>

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

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# The Folklore, Enchantment, and Evolution of the Cactus & Succulent Hobby from 1894 to the present day

BY GUNNAR EISEL



The allure of cacti and succulents has fascinated people for hundreds, if not thousands, of years. However, unlike some other horticultural endeavors, the collecting and fostering an interest in the C&S is fairly new. This program focuses on the people, the changing American landscape, and a curious set of events that have shaped our hobby as we find it today.

Gunnar Eisel's interest in cacti and succulents can be traced back to his childhood infatuation with photographing night-blooming cereus flowers and a few unfortunate encounters with opuntia glochids. His interest in cacti became intensified through many annual trips to the Anza-Borrego desert.

Born and raised near Heidelberg, Germany, Eisel has taught music at CSULA, CSUF, Whittier College, and Fullerton College. He recently retired as music professor at Citrus College in Glendora where his students were frequently subjected to his rantings regarding cacti and succulents.

An avid C&S collector, he serves as Executive Director of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) and President of the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society.

What's in your garden?



*June Treherne*



*Joe Tillotson*



Joe and June. Thank you for sharing!

What's in your garden?

[minniecap@icloud.com](mailto:minniecap@icloud.com) by September 12th



# Mini - Show Plant Calendar



## Mini-Show Plants for 2020-2021

September	Ariocarpus, Obregonia	Adenium, Adenia
October	Copiapoa	Graptopetalum, Graptoveria, Pachyveria
November	Crested and Monstrose	Crested and Monstrose
December	<i>Lobivia saltensis</i>	<i>Lobivia saltensis</i>
January 2021	Mammillaria - Hooked Spines	Caudiciform (Beaucarnia, Calibanus, Dioscorea, Fockea, etc.)
February 2021	Eriosyce, Neoporteria, Neochilenia, Islaya	Crassula
March 2021	Echinocereus	Gasteria and hybrids
April 2021	2021 Show and Sale	2021 Show and Sale
May 2021	Coryphantha, Escobaria, Acharagma	Dudleya, Cotyledon
June 2021	Gymnocalycium	Pachypodium
July 2021	Lobivia, Echinopsis	Sansevieria
August 2021	Ferocactus, Leuchtenbergia	Stapeliads (Stapelia, Huernia, Orbea, etc)



SEPTEMBER

## Monthly Cactus: ARIOCARPUS

**Ariocarpus** is one of the treasures of the world of Cacti. This genus, from Central to Northern Mexico and Southern Texas has some of the most spectacular species of the entire family. Some succulent growers, who otherwise avoid cacti, make this genus their sole exception. There are collectors who collect nothing but Ariocarpus, and have hundreds of plants in their collections. Rare specimens can change hands for hundreds of dollars. Rare cultivars with unusual tubercles can be sold for even more, particularly in Japan. There is no denying that this single genus has generated a world wide cult of devotees.

With all of this, you might expect Ariocarpus to be difficult to come by, and difficult to grow. Nothing could be further from the truth. They are no more difficult to grow than many other central Mexican genera. All of the species and all of the varieties are readily available, and nearly all are affordable. This genera is well within the range of even beginning novice growers. Field collected specimens are occasionally available, and these are much more expensive, and much harder to grow. Recently collected specimens are now almost always illegally obtained.

With all of the fuss we make over this genus, it is important to remember that the plants have had important ethno-botanical uses. The tubercles contain a sticky mucilage, which was often used as glue to mend broken pots. *Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus* was boiled and used as a cure for rheumatism, and several species were used as 'false peyote' in religious ceremonies.

Cultivation is not difficult, when the home environment of these plants is considered. They grow in mineral soils, with very little organic matter. They all have large tuberous roots. They grow in areas that are very hot in the summer, and that have summer rainfall. If they are protected from excess organic matter, particularly peat, and watered heavily only in hot weather, (but lightly throughout the summer growing season) good growth will result. They need protection from winter rains. There are six species, several varieties, and a near infinite set of cultivars.



By Tom Glavich

### Cactus: Ariocarpus



*Ariocarpus bravoanus*



*Ariocarpus fissuratus*



*Ariocarpus fissuratus*



*Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus*



*Ariocarpus scaphirostris*



*Ariocarpus retusus*



*Ariocarpus retusus* var. *trigonus*



# Monthly Cactus: Obregonia

## Cactus: Obregonia

**Obregonia**, the artichoke cactus, is a genus of cacti with a single species, *Obregonia denegrii*. The species is endemic to the state of Tamaulipas in Mexico.

It is an IUCN Red List Endangered species.

The genus Obregonia is named after Álvaro Obregón, while the species is named after Ramon P. De Negri, who was the Minister of Agriculture of Mexico when the cacti was first described by Alfred Frec in 1923.

### Description

This rare species resembles an inverted green pine cone with a woolly center. Obregonia is among the most famous of all cacti for its unique artichoke-shaped stem. It is the only representative of its monospecific genus and is related to Ariocarpus. It grows almost always as a solitary plant leveled with the ground, with the sunk and woolly apex. It is considered an intermediate form between Ariocarpus and Lophophora.

### Uses

The Nahuatl Indians call the plant peyotl, and it is said to have hallucinogenic alkaloids. It is one of the closest living relatives of the genus Lophophora.



*Obregonia denegrii*



*Obregonia denegrii*



*Obregonia denegrii* in flower



By Tom Glavich



*Obregonia denegrii*



# Monthly Succulent: ADENIUM

**Adenium** is a member of the Apocynaceae, and a relative of Pachyodum, Oleander, and Vinca. The Apocynaceae is home to many showy flowering plants used for ornamental and medicinal purposes. Oleander is a staple of much of Southern California Gardening, Vinca is grown over the world.

**Adenium** are native to Africa. Adenium are easy to grow, requiring only good fertilizer, and lots of water when in growth, and protection from cold and damp when dormant. Some growers place their plants in their garages in late fall to force dormancy, and protect them from cold and damp. Adenium hybridization for caudex shape and flower color is being undertaken around the world.

Succulent: Adenium



*Adenium arabicum*



*Adenium boehmianum*



*Adenium multiflorum*



*Adenium obesum*



*Adenium obesum* 'Black'



*Adenium oleifolium*



*Adenium somalense*



*Adenium swazicum*



*Adenium socotranum*



By Tom Glavich



SEPTEMBER

Monthly Succulent: ADENIA

**Adenia**, a plant entirely unrelated to *Adenium*, is a member of the *Passiflora* or *Passion Flower* family. Most of the collectable adenias have large bases that support climbing stems or branches. In habitat they are often found in brush, with the branches scrambling up through brush, or alternately growing in an open area, entirely covered by a sprawling mass of live and dead stems.

In cultivation the sprawling stems are regularly pruned to keep the plant good looking in a pot (as well as transportable). All of the *adenia* are cold sensitive, particularly when young, and should never be exposed to cold and damp.



By Tom Glavich

Succulent: Adenia



*Adenia aculeata*



*Adenia stenodactyla*



*Adenia digitata*



*Adenia ellenbeckii*



*Adenia racemosa*



*Adenia venenata*



*Adenia glauca*



*Adenia globosa*



*Adenia spinosa*



*Adenia goetzei*



*Adenia volkensis*



*Adenia pechuelii*



*Adenia cissampeloides*



# Latin Lookup

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

## C A C T U S

**Ariocarpus** [ar-ree-oh-KAR-pus] From the Greek aria (sorb) and karpos (fruit), referring to the similarity to the fruit of the Ario genus.

**denegri** [de-NAY-gree] Named for Ramon P. De Negri, Mexican Minister of Agriculture.

**fissuratus** [fis-zhur-RAY-tus] From the Latin fissura, to split or crack.

**kotschoubeyanus** Named for Prince Kotschoubey, Russian prince and patron of horticulture.

**Obregonia** [o-bray-GON-ee-a] Named for Alvaro Obregon, 19th century President of Mexico.

**retusus** [re-TOO-sus] Rounded and notched tip.

**scaphiostriis** [skay-fee-ROS-tris] From the Greek skaphe (boat) and the Latin rostrum (beak); in reference to the shape of the tubercle tips.

**trigonus** [try-GOH-nus] Three-cornered, triangular.

## S U C C U L E N T

**aculeata** [ah-kew-lee-AY-tuh, a-kew-lee-AH-tuh] Prickly, thorny.

**Adenia** [a-DEE-nee-uh, a-DEN-ee-uh] Named for Aden, a small country south of Saudi Arabia, where the species is native.

**Adenium** [a-DEE-nee-um] Named for Aden, a small country south of Saudi Arabia, where the species is native.

**Apocynaceae** [a-pos-ih-NAY-see-ee, a-pos-ih-NAY-see-eye] Family name for the dogbane family; from the Greek apo (away from or away with) and kuon (dog).

**arabicum** [a-RAB-ih-kum] Of or from Arabia.

**digitata** [dig-ee-TAH-tuh, dij-ee-TAH-tuh] Finger.

**ellenbeckii** [el-len-BEK-ee-eye] Named for Dr. Hans Ellenbeck, German physician who collected plant material on Berlinger's expedition to Abyssinia.

**glauca** [GLAW-kuh] Bloom has thin powder (like plums).

**globosa** [glo-BOH-suh] Spherical.

**multiflorum** [mul-tih-FLOR-um] Many flowers.

**obesum** [oh-BEE-sum] Fat.

**Oleander** [oh-lee-AN-der, OH-lee-an-der] Olive-like.

**oleifolium** [oh-lee-ih-FOH-lee-um] Having leaves like Olea (Olive genus).

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

**Passiflora** [pass-iff-FLOR-uh] Passion flower.

**pechuelii** [pesch-WEL-ee-eye] Named for Dr. Eduard Pechuel-Loesche, 19th century German scientist and explorer in Africa.

**racemosa** [ray-see-MO-suh] Having racemes (a type of flower cluster).

**socotranum** [so-koh-TRAY-num] Of Socotra, a Yemen island in the Indian Ocean at the mouth of the Gulf of Aden.

**somalense** [soh-mal-EN-see] Of or from Somalia, Africa; sometimes spelled somaliense.

**spinosa** [spy-NO-suh] With spines.

**swazicum** [SWAZ-ih-kum] From the Royal Kingdom of Swaziland, South Africa.

**venenata** [ven-en-AY-tuh] Poisoned, drugged or enchanted.

**Vinca** [VIN-kuh] To bind.

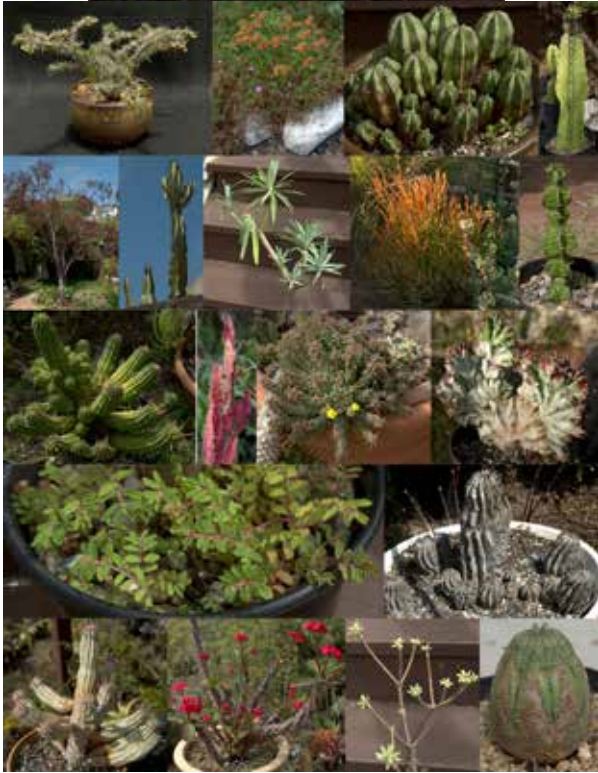
**volkensii** [vol-KEN-see-eye] For 20th century German botanist Dr. Georg L. A. Volkens.

<https://davesgarden.com/guides/botanary>

SEPTEMBER

Clippings and Spine tingling laughter

QUICK QUIZ



What do all these plants have in common?

- A. They are all in Mike's Garden
- B. They are all Euphorbias.
- C. All of the above.

Answer: B

ARTICLE



The Cactus Song  
*Beyond Silence in the Argentine Desert*

<https://revista.drclas.harvard.edu/book/cactus-song>

By Violeta Nigro Giunta

VIDEO

Cactus and the Arts



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hhEnM1X0Uwc>

Apologies: SCCSS does not endorse any of the commercials you may see.

VIDEO

John Wayne's character creates and adds to a famous myth



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ye\\_FzizUO\\_M](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ye_FzizUO_M)

Apologies: SCCSS does not endorse any of the commercials you may see.



# Virtual Mini-Show: NOVICE / SUCCULENT

## SUCCULENT CATEGORY: NOVICE



*Sedum dendroideum* 'Colossus'  
by Terri Straub



*Cremnosedum* 'Little Gem'  
by Gretchen Davis



*Sedum adolphii* 'Fireworks'  
by Sonita Bantad



*Sedum adolphii* 'Fireworks'  
by Sonita Bantad



*Sedum morganianum*  
by Gretchen Davis



*Sedum platyphylla*  
by Joe Tillotson



*Sedum praealtum*  
by Gretchen Davis



*Sedum rubrotinctum*  
by Sonita Bantad



*Sempervivum* 'Pink Sky'  
by Sonita Bantad



*Sempervivum* 'Red Heart'  
by Sonita Bantad



*Sempervivum heuffellii* 'Tan'  
by Sonita Bantad



*Sempervivum* sp.  
by Sonita Bantad



*Sempervivum heuffellii*  
'Beacon Hill' by Sonita Bantad



*Sempervivum heuffellii*  
'Giuseppi Spiny' by Sonita Bantad



*Sempervivum* sp.  
by Sonita Bantad



*Sempervivum* sp.  
by Sonita Bantad



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

CACTUS CATEGORY: NOVICE



*Astrophytum myriostigma*  
by Terri Straub



*Astrophytum sp.*  
by Nancy Sams



*Astrophytum myriostigma*  
by Sonita Bantad



*Astrophytum ornatum*  
by Joe Tillotson



*Astrophytum myriostigma*  
by Sonita Bantad



*Astrophytum ornatum*  
by Terri Straub



*Astrophytum ornatum*  
v. *mirbellii* by Gretchen Davis



**AUGUST**

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

SUCCULENT CATEGORY: INTERMEDIATE



*Sedum morganiium*  
by Dale LaForest



*Pachyphytum compactum*  
by Lemono Lott



*Sedum* sp.  
by Bernard Johnson



*Sedum* sp.  
by Bernard Johnson



**AUGUST**

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

CACTUS CATEGORY: INTERMEDIATE



*Astrophytum capricorne*  
by Lemono Lott



*Astrophytum myriostigma*  
by Lemono Lott



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

SUCCULENT CATEGORY: OPEN (Continued next page)



*Pachyphytum sp.*  
by Maria Capaldo



*Pachyphytum hagii*  
by Maria Capaldo



*Pachyphytum oviferum*  
by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



*Sedum 'Burrito'*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sedum 'Matrona'*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sedum 'Ruben's Lizzard'*  
by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



*Sedum clavatum*  
by Maria Capaldo



*Sedum frutescens*  
by Jim Gardner



*Sedum hernandezii*  
by Jim Gardner



*Sedum hernandezii*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sedum nusbaumerianum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sedum nusbaumerianum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sedum oxypetalum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sedum pachyphyllum*  
by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



*Sedum platyphyla*  
by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



*Sedum prealtum*  
by Laurel Woodley



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

SUCCULENT CATEGORY: OPEN



*Sedum prealtum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sedum reflexum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sedum rubrotinctum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sedum rubrotinctum*  
by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



*Sedum rupestre 'Angelina'*  
by Laurel Woodley.



*Sedum torulosum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sedum spectabile*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sedum spurium*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sempverium calcareum*  
by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



*Sedum treleasei*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sempverium calcareum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sempverium 'Ohioan'*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sempverium arachnoideum*  
v minor by Gary Duke



*Sempverium arachnoideum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sempverium arachnoideum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Sempverium arachnoideum*  
'Crest' by Laurel Woodley



Virtual Mini-Show: OPEN / CACTUS

CACTUS CATEGORY: OPEN



*Astrophytum asterias*  
by Gary Duke



*Astrophytum asterias*  
'Super Kabuto' by Maria Capaldo



*Astrophytum capricorne*  
by Gary Duke



*Astrophytum coahuilense*  
by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



*Astrophytum myriostigma*  
by Gary Duke



*Astrophytum myriostigma*  
Hybrid by Gary Duke



*Astrophytum ornatum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Astrophytum ornatum*  
by Gary Duke



*Astrophytum ornatum*  
by Laurel Woodley



*Astrophytum ornatum*  
by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



*Astrophytum ornatum*  
by Phyllis DeCrescenzo



*Astrophytum ornatum*  
'Meztitlan' by Gary Duke



*Astrophytum* 'Super Kabuto' XA *capricorne* by Laurel Woodley







**AUGUST**

## SCSS Mini-Show AUGUST 2020 Standings

[Click here for sortable standings](#)

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total
Bantad, Sonita	3	3	6	Caplan, Anita	1	3	4	Capaldo, Maria	20	14	34
Bjarkman, M.A.	3	7	10	Johnson, Bernard	14	25	39	DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	23	22	45
Bjerke, Martha	0	2	2	Johnson, Ted	5	16	21	Duke, Gary	17	16	33
Cottrell, Diane	7	9	16	La Forest, Dale	8	8	16	Sally Fasteau	6	18	24
Cozzolino, Karin	0	2	2	Lott, Lemono	1	4	5	Gardner, Jim	12	5	17
Davis, Gretchen	3	3	6	Neely, Jade	3	3	6	Hanna, Jim	0	8	8
Diaz, Gloria	0	2	2	Nettles, Coni	22	15	37	Wilk, William	8	4	12
Dorsey, Martin	1	9	10	Short, Mike	1	10	11	Woodley, Laurel	5	7	12
Nisewaner, John	0	12	12								
Sams, Nancy	1	3	4								
Seiver, Cheryl	1	1	2								
Sover, Suzane	0	1	1								
Straub, Terri	21	10	31								
Straub, Matt	0	2	2								
Tanner, Jim	9	13	22								
Tillotson, Joseph	2	3	5								
Unrine, Judy	0	6	6								
Wong, Clif	0	1	1								
Youssefzadeh, Aya	1	4	5								
Youssefzadeh, Jacob	5	15	20								

### SCSS Mini-Show Rules

A Mini-show is scheduled for all meetings except April (Show and Sale) and December (Holiday Potluck) as a way for members to show their prized plants and staging skills; and for everyone, especially novices to learn how to grow and show theirs. Lists of eligible plants are printed in the newsletter and on our Society's website.

**There are three entry classes:**

Novice, Intermediate and Open. New members may enter at any level, but once a level has been entered members may not regress to a less advanced class.

There are two plant categories, Cactus and Succulent. Up to three entries per member may be entered in each category.

Exhibitors must be club members in good standing and present at the meeting.

One member's name representing a household must be used unless plants are grown and shown separately. We trust you.

Any container may be used, including plastic. The containers and plants must be free of pests and disease. Only one plant/container is permitted but this includes rosettes/offsets/pups connected by rhizomes, stolens,

and above ground clusters. Dish gardens are an exception if they are the category of the month. Novice and Intermediate entries must be grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of six months, and open class entries for one year.

Usually our speaker (as an unbiased expert) will be asked to judge, but if the speaker is a Society member, one or two members who are not showing will be asked to judge. Remember, judges may not be experts and usually judge based on how well the plant is grown and staged.

The following point system is used.

- 1st place= 6
- 2nd place=4
- 3rd place=2

**Entries not disqualified receive 1 point.**

After the November meeting, point totals will be reviewed by the Board. Novice and Intermediate members with more than 64 points or with at least 6 first place awards may be asked to move to the Intermediate or Open class if their entries show them qualified. This is a subjective judgment.

### Mini-show Virtual Points

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

Up to 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

**The Folklore, Enchantment,  
and Evolution of the C&S  
Hobby from 1894 to the  
present day**

**Sunday, September 13**

Invitation will be sent  
by e-mail, and also will be available  
by streaming on U-tube.

**Speaker:**

Gunnar Eisel

**Start time:**

1:30 pm



Check all events for September, as they may have been

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

## Board of Directors 2020-2021

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**Maria Capaldo**

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**M.A. Bjarkman**

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**Sue Wong**

Treasurer

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AT LARGE BOARD  
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**Terri Straub**

**Clif Wong**

**Corey Zedler**



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**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:

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**Lou Hagemeier**

CSSA

**M.A Bjarkman**

OTHER POSITIONS:

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**Laurel Woodley**

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Hospitality/Refreshments  
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Newsletter

**Clif Wong**

Webmaster

**Mike Short**

Plant Man

**Jim Hanna**

