



PRICKLY NEWS

SOUTH COAST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY NEWSLETTER | NOV 2022



As we mark the 50th anniversary of our Society this year, I am encouraged by our growing membership and increasing involvement. I am so energized by our meetings, seeing members, welcoming visitors, and enjoying our time together.

As winter approaches, it is time to repot your winter growers, and maybe getting rid of unwanted summer growth in your gardens. As you do, please consider planting some cuttings in a 3-inch pot (or larger) for the Society sale table at the April Show and Sale. Many of you are bringing plants for giveaway at the meetings and if you could pot and nurse them until April for donation, it would be greatly appreciated. I have a supply of old plastic pots for this purpose that I will bring to the meeting. The effort is worthwhile; in 2022 our sales table covered the majority of expenses for the Sale at the P.V. Art Center. I usually start potting for the show in November so the plants are well established and ones we are proud to sell

We will elect our Board of Directors at the November meeting. The slate of officers for the Board of Director positions is published in this issue of the Newsletter. Thank you, Bob Caplan, for all the work you did bringing new names to our slate of candidates. If anyone is interested in adding their name to the slate, you may do so in person at the meeting, or submit your name to Bob.

Before each meeting, I must submit a current list of members to the garden. If you have a guest or are an unpaid member coming to the meeting, please submit your names to me by the Wednesday before the meeting at minniecap@icloud.com.

Our November speaker, Kelly Griffin, will be speaking about Socotra which is a landscape full of endemic succulents. Kelly is widely travelled and always brings interesting plants to sell. He s also a prolific hybridizer.

Thanks to all who come early and stay after, helping with the room set-up and take-down.

I hope to see you there!
Maria Capaldo

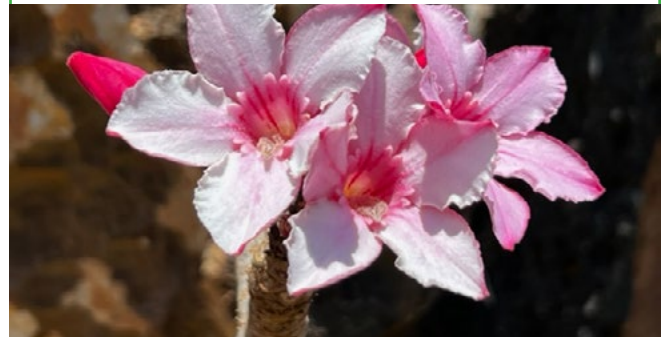
GUEST SPEAKER OF THE MONTH

Kelly Griffin

November 13, 1:30 pm



**“Now and then.
An update on the Yemen island
of Socotra.”**



To learn more visit southcoastcss.org



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“Now and then. An update on the Yemen island of Socotra.”

BY KELLY GRIFFIN



Kelly will share the flora and fauna he found over two trips to Yemen and Socotra. It is an incredible place that is not easy to access and even now that it has opened up a little, it's still difficult. The plants are under pretty severe stress from the pressures that man brings about stemming mostly from “progress” and increased farming. The mainland is still impossible to get to because of the civil war that is still on going there.

Kelly will share and discuss some of the plants from Mainland Yemen too.

Kelly is a succulent plant hybridizer, propagator and avid plant explorer. Like many of us, his interest in plants and particular succulent plants, started at a fairly young age. Since his early exposure, Kelly has traveled to 20+ countries searching for plants, visiting Madagascar 5 times, South Africa 5 times and Mexico 25 plus times to name a few. He worked as the Curator of Succulents at Rancho Soledad Nursery for 11 years and for the past 10 years he has been working for Altman's Plants as Succulent Plant Development Manager.

He has become well known for his hybridizing and is responsible for over 100 succulent hybrids now in the trade, including Aloes, Agaves and Echeverias. His specialty that he is well known for are his Aloe hybrids that are 30 years in the making (Pink Blush, Delta lights, Christmas Sleigh and Coral Fire etc) and some Agave hybrids and selections too (Blue Glow, Snow Glow, Cubic, Black and Blue, Dragon toes, Spawn, and Crème Brûlée to name just a few). He is also responsible for obtaining seed from many interesting species and propagating the seed for all to enjoy in cultivation.

Kelly has been a member of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society since 1992. He has been on the board of Directors for the SDCSS for way too long, he served 4 years as that clubs President and 2 years as Vice-President. He was very honored to be named a Fellow of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society.

He currently serves as a director on the board of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America.

He will be bringing some of his hybrids and some seed grown plants for sale.



Monthly Cactus: Columnar

Monthly Cactus: Columnar

Columnar cacti are not a closely related set of genera, but a lumping together of all the cacti that are much longer than they are around. Columnar cacti vary in size from a few inches, as in the aptly named, *Pygmaecereus* to the giants like *Pachycereus* and *Carnegiea* (Saguaro). Most are robust growers, given adequate water, fertilizer, root room and support. They expect more nitrogen in their soil (or plant food) and more water than most globular cacti. They do well in normal cactus soil, as long as they get additional fertilization.

Propagation is generally by cuttings or seed. Cuttings need to be dried well before planting. A few weeks is the minimum for some of the larger columnar species. They do best if dried in an upright position. If placed on their sides the cut end rots easier. Seed of columnar cacti are readily available, and are particularly enjoyable to grow. While all of the globular cacti are the size of a pea, many of the columnar cacti are filling the pot, and an inch or more high. If grown from seed, many will not tolerate crowding for long, and demand their own pot. This is particularly true of *Oreocereus*, which will quickly stop growing if there is more than one plant per pot.

The plants take many years to reach flowering size, and are only really happy in the ground, and get too big for pots in any case. Some genera are very popular.

Popular South American columnar cactus *Cereus* is a genus of cacti including around 33 species of large columnar cacti from South America. *Cereus peruvianus*, found in many Southern California gardens, has been cultivated for over 400 years, and is not known in the wild!

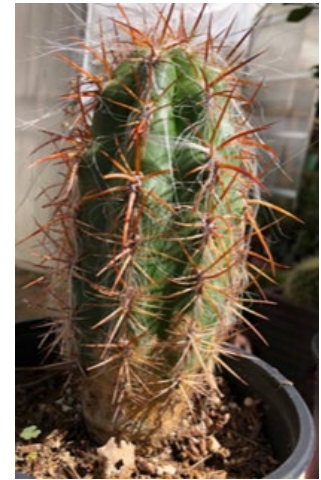
The flowers do not have areoles or spines, but they have a few scales. They are generally large, white, either funnel or trumpet-shaped. They are followed by a yellow or red fruit, generally edible containing black seeds.



By Tom Glavich



Weberbauerocereus weberbaueri var. *horridispinus*



Oreocereus celsianus



Cleistocactus winteri subsp. *colademononis*



Espositoa lanata



Echinopsis atacamensis



Cleistocactus strausii

NOVEMBER

Monthly Cactus : Columnar

Cleistocactus is one of the most beautiful genera of the columnar cacti. These slender plants branch from the base, and have dense spination. They are easy to grow, and quickly set flowers that are usually long red tubes sticking out through the spines. Some of the best are *C. smaragdiflorus*, with red flowers, a yellow band near the tip, and a bright green tip. *C. strausii* is a fuzzy white marvel, and often seen at sale tables at shows.

Espostoa come from Ecuador and Peru. Most of these are covered with a dense white wool that entirely hides the plant body.

Haageocereus come from Peru and Chile. They stay short (for a ceroid), rarely exceeding 3 or four feet, and have dense spines, and showy red flowers.

Micranthocereus is a small genus of Brazilian cacti. All of the species branch from the base, and make densely spined clusters. They stay small, and are happy as pot plants. Quite a few of these have been in the shows in the past few years.

Oreocereus are beautiful hairy plants, with wicked spines hidden in the hairs. Some branch from the base. They prefer outdoor air to a greenhouse, and need frequent turning to keep symmetrical growth. *Pilosocereus* is a largely Brazilian genera, almost all of which are worth growing. It has a wide distribution, stretching into central Mexico. Many of the species are a glaucous blue with bright yellow spines and hairy areoles. *Pilosocereus magnificus* is one of these, with 4 to 12 deep ribs. The outer edges are covered with short yellow spines.

Pilosocereus aureispinus has very 18 to 20 shallow ribs, and distinct areoles, that make dense yellow spirals around the plant on a dark green background.

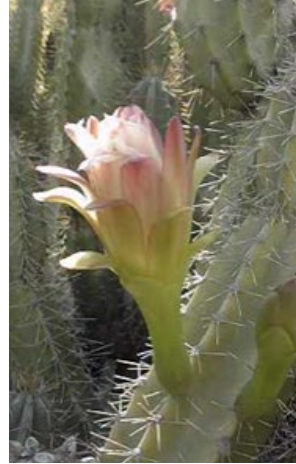


By Tom Glavich

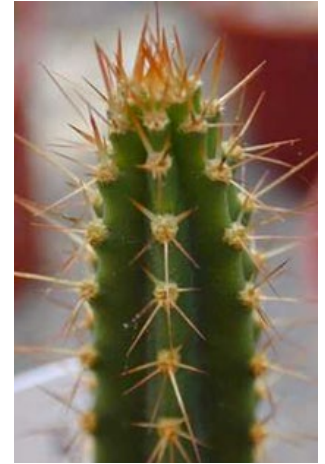


Cereus aethiops

Monthly Cactus: Columnar



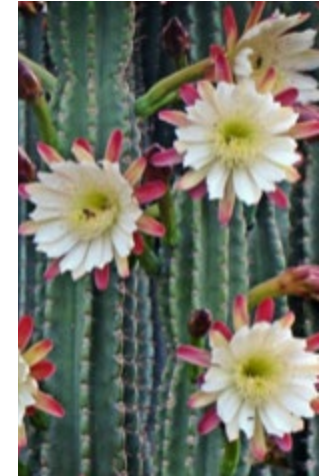
Cereus validus



Cereus spegazzinii



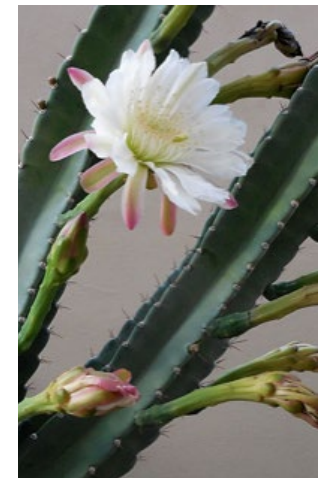
Cereus repandus



Cereus repandus flower



Cereus jamacaru



Cereus hildmannianus



NOVEMBER

Monthly Succulent: Pelargonium

Pelargonium and Sarcocaulon are two succulent genera of the Geraniaceae family. Sarcocaulon is native to South Africa and Namibia, and Pelargonium is centered there, but with outlier species appear as far away as Kenya and Yemen. Most of the succulent species come from South Africa or Namibia.

Pelargoniums are mostly winter growing succulents. They are dormant in the summer, and at this time some look like dead sticks. Most species are very easy to grow, if attention is paid to providing an environment very similar to their South African home. Some species, such as *P. echinatum* and *P. triste* are tolerant enough to be naturalized in the ground in Southern California when given good drainage and protected from summer watering. Many species will not go dormant if watered all summer, but the plant health and appearance both suffer.

A well grown Pelargonium will have leaves that appear to float near thick, rugged stems. If given too much water and fertilizer, they will grow leggy, and the leaves will become soft, large and droop. Plants grown hard will be healthier, and better able to survive hot summers undamaged. All Pelargoniums need pruning to maintain size and shape. Pinching new growth will make the plants bushy, and develop good trunk structure.

Many are self fertile, and seed is easily collected after flowering. Most are promiscuous, and garden hybrids are easily set if more than one species is in flower at a time. Seed collected in the spring and planted in late September to November germinates quickly, and will have an entire winter to grow before going dormant during the summer.



By Tom Glavich

Monthly Succulents: Pelargonium



Pelargonium ladysmithianum



Pelargonium cotyledonis



Pelargonium cortusifolium



Pelargonium carnosum



Pelargonium carnosum
flowers



Pelargonium alternans



Monthly Succulent: Sarcocaulum

Sarcocaulon is a small genus of about 14 species. Growing conditions for Sarcocaulon are identical to those for Pelargonium, however most require a drier summer environment for best growth. The potting mix for Pelargoniums and Sarcocaulon should be well drained, with only small amounts of organic matter. Fertilizer should be applied sparingly, and only during good (bright and warm) growing weather. A potting mix recommended by Michael Vassar is 50% pumice, 35% washed builders sand and 15% leaf mold based planter mix. Plants growing under these conditions will stay compact, have thick leaves, and a healthy appearance.

[Ed: We know that the difference between a Geranium and a Pelargonium is that the former has five equally spaced petals whereas the latter has two at the top and three at the bottom. In my opinion the Pelargonium is named after a pelican because the petals make the buds bulge at the bottom resembling the beak of a pelican. Continuing the analogy it seems likely that the Geranium was originally pronounced with a soft G and was named after a Heron, having no bulge at the bottom of the bud. Interestingly *Geranium maculatum* is commonly known as cranesbill.]

Monthly Succulent: **Sarcocaulum**



Sarcocaulon vanderietiae



Sarcocaulon peniculinum



Sarcocaulon crassicaule



Sarcocaulon herrei



Pelargonium bud



Pelican



By Tom Glavich



Sarcocaulon multifidum



NOVEMBER

Monthly Succulent: Tylecodon



Tylecodon schaeferianus



Tylecodon wallichii

Monthly Succulent: Tylecodon

Tylecodon is a relatively new genus in the Crassulaceae family first published in 1978. In books published before this date, most plants that we know today as Tylecodon will appear as Cotyledon. In habitat, Tylecodon are generally deciduous, losing their leaves in summer while Cotyledon tend to be evergreen.



Tylecodon pearsonii



Tylecodon paniculatus



Tylecodon grandiflorus



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/botanary/>

Cactus

atacamensis [a-tah-kah-MEN-sis] Of or from the Atacama desert in Northern Chile.

celsianus [sels-ee-AY-nus] Named for Jacques Martin Cels, 18th century French writer, breeder, and plantsman.

Cereus [KER-ee-us, SER-ee-us] A wax candle, torch.

Cleistocactus [Kly-stoh-KAK-tus] From the Greek **kleistos** (closed) and cactus, referring to the closed perianth.

colademononis [koh-luh-dee-mon-OH-nis] From the Spanish vernacular name Cola de Mono (meaning monkey's tail).

Echinopsis [ek-in-OP-sis] From the Greek echinos (sea urchin or hedgehog) and opsis (like), referring to the plant's resemblance to sea urchins.

Espostoa [es-POS-toh-uh] Named for Nicolas E. Esposto, a botanist from Lima (Peru).

hildmannianus [hild-man-ee-AH-nus] For Heinrich Hildmann, 19th century German cactus enthusiast, horticulturist and nursery owner near Berlin.

horridispinum [hor-rid-ih-SPIN-um, hor-rid-ih-SPY-num] Prickly or bristly spines.

lanata [la-NA-tuh] Woolly.

Orocereus [or-ee-oh-KER-ee-us, or-ee-oh-SER-ee-us] From the Greek oreo (mountain) and cereus (candle).

repandus [REP-an-dus] Has wavy edges, wavy leaf margins.

spgazzinii [spg-uh-ZIN-ee-eye] Named for 20th century Italian-born Argentinian botanist Carlo Luigi Spegazzini.

validus [val-EE-dus, VAL-ih-dus] Well-developed.

weberbaueri [web-er-BAUER-eye]

Named for August Weberbauer, 20th century German botanist who studied cactus from the Peruvian Andes.

Weberbauerocereus [web-er-bauer-oh-SER-ee-us]

Named for August Weberbauer, 20th century German botanist who studied cactus from the Peruvian Andes.

Succulent

alternans [al-ter-NANZ] Alternating.

carnosum [kar-NO-sum] Somewhat fleshy.

cotyledonis [ko-ty-LEE-don-is] Of or from the cotyledon (joint socket, cavity).

crassicaule [krass-ih-KAW-lee] Thick-stemmed.

grandiflorus [gran-dih-FLOR-us] With large flowers.

herrei [HER-ray-eye] Named for Dr. Hans Herre, 20th century botanist and expert on South African succulents.

multifidum [mul-TIF-id-um] Many divided.

paniculatus [pan-ick-yoo-LAY-tus, pan-ick-yoo-LAH-tus] Referring to the flower clusters (panicles).

pearsonii [peer-SON-ee-eye]

Named for William Henry Pearson, 19th century hepaticologist and yarn agent.

Pelargonium [pe-lar-GO-nee-um]

From the Greek for Stork referring to the seed heads.

Sarcocaulon [sar-koh-KAW-lon]

From the Greek sarkos (flesh) and caule (stem).

Tylecodon [ty-lee-KOD-on]

An anagram of Cotyledon (a closely-related genus).

wallichii [wall-ik-ee-eye]

Named for Dr. Nathaniel Wallich, early 19th century Danish plant hunter, botanist and physician.



Mini-Show Plant Calendar



Mini-Show Plants for 2022-23

November 2022	South American columnar cactus (Espostoa, Oreocereus, Cleistocactus, etc.)	Pelargonium, Sarcocaulon, Tylecodon
December 2022	Holiday Potluck	Holiday Potluck
January 2023	Mammillaria straight spine (clumping)	Aloe
February 2023	Epiphytic Cactus	Haworthia, Astroloba
March 2023	Echinocactus	Agave, Manfreda, (inc. x Mangave)
April 2023	2023 SCCSS SHOW & SALE	2023 SCCSS SHOW & SALE
May 2023	Notocactus, Parodia	Euphorbia (not from Madagascar)
June 2023	Opuntia, Tephrocactus, Cyllindropuntia, Austrocylindropuntia	Cissus, Cyphostemma
July 2023	Melocactus	Bromeliaceae (other than Tillandsia)
August 2023	Astrophytum	Sedum, Pachyphytum, Sempervivum
September 2023	Ariocarpus, Obregonia	Adenium, Adenia
October 2023	Copiapoa	Graptopetalum, Graptoveria, Pachyveria



SCCSS Mini-Show OCTOBER Winners



Open Cactus

- 1st: Gary Duke – *Turbinicarpus pseudomacrochele*
- 2nd: Gary Duke – *Turbinicarpus valdezianus*
- 3rd: Gary Duke – *Turbinicarpus klinkerianus*



Intermediate Cactus

No Winners this month



Novice Cactus

- 1st: Terri Straub – *Turbinicarpus viereckii* subsp. *reconditus*
- 2nd: Terri Straub – *Turbinicarpus saueri nelissae*
- 3rd: Terri Straub – *Turbinicarpus klinkerianus*



SCCSS Mini-Show OCTOBER Winners



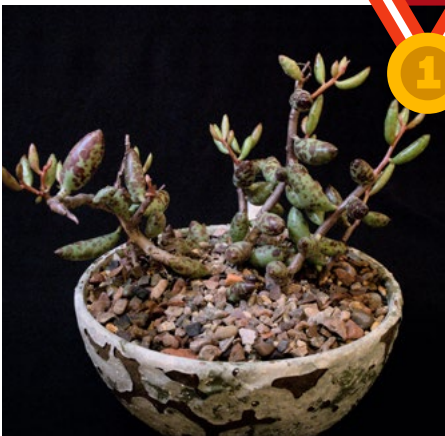
Open Succulent

- 1st: Gary Duke – *Adromischus marianae*
- 2nd: Gary Duke – *Adromischus marianae* f. *herrei*
- 3rd: Maria Capaldo – *Adromischus marianae* f. *herrei*



Intermediate Succulent

- 1st: Bernard Johnson – *Adromischus rupicola*
- 2nd: Bernard Johnson – *Adromischus cristatus*
- 3rd: Bernard Johnson – *Adromischus filicaulis*



Novice Succulent

- 1st: Braulio Mena – *Adromischus filicaulis* subsp. *filicaulis*
- 2nd: Terri Straub – *Adromischus cooperi*
- 3rd: Vincent Darmali – *Adromischus cristatus*



SCCSS Mini-Show (OCTOBER 09, 2022) Standings

[Click here for sortable standings](#)

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Total
Bjarkman, M.A.	0	4	4	Caplan, Anita	2	4	6	Capaldo, Maria	33	47	80
Bjerke, Martha	2	12	14	Johnson, Bernard	22	61	83	DeCrescenzo, Phyllis	25	37	62
Blas, Maria	0	1	1	Johnson, Ted	0	8	8	Duke, Gary	55	25	80
Cottrell, Diane	0	6	6	Lott, Lemono	0	12	12	Gardner, Jim	0	34	34
Darmali, Vincent	8	6	14	Short, Mike	1	10	11	Hanna, Jim	0	4	4
Davis, Gretchen	1	1	2					Woodley, Laurel	2	12	14
Diaz, Gloria	0	6	6								
Galliani, Debra	0	4	4								
Mena, Braulio	10	10	20								
Mori, Joyce	0	2	2								
Neely, Jade	0	1	1								
Nisewaner, John	0	12	12								
Straub, Terri	72	40	112								

Mini-Show Rules

Exhibitors must be club members and must be present at the meeting in order to receive points. One name representing the same household must be used unless plants are grown separately. Mini-show coordinator will be consulted if there is any question of entry identity.

Any container may be used, including plastic, as long as it is clean. All plants must be groomed and free of pests and disease.

There are two plant categories, "Cactus" and "Succulents". Up to three plants per individual may be entered in each category.

There are three entry classes: "Novice", "Intermediate" and "Open". Only members new to the hobby would be expected to be in the novice class.

After the November meeting, members' point totals will be reviewed by the Board of the Society. Novice members awarded more than 64 points or winning at least 6 first place awards will be asked to move to the Intermediate class in both categories. Intermediate Members awarded more than 64 points or winning at least 6 first place awards, will be asked to begin showing in the Open class.

All plants must be grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of six months for novice and intermediate and one year for open class. An individual plant may be entered only once a year

Scoring:

First Place: 6 points

Second place: 4 points

Third place: 2 points

Placement: all entries that are not disqualified receive one point



Member's
Notice

Nominated candidates for the Board of Directors of South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society

The membership has been polled at our meetings and in our newsletter for nominations. As a result, the following slate is being published in advance of the voting for the Board of Directors at the November meeting of the South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society. Calls for anyone wishing to nominate themselves for a position will be able to do so at the meeting.

PROPOSED SLATE

President	Maria Capaldo
Vice-president	Terri Straub
Treasurer	J. Bernard Johnson
Secretary	Debra Bushweit Galliani

Members at large	Vincent Darmali
	Braulio Mena
	Shane Mullen

Upcoming Events

[Click here for Full List](#)



SOUTH COAST
CACTUS & SUCCULENT
SOCIETY

Meeting Location:
South Coast Botanic Garden, Frances
Young Hall
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA

Meeting starts at 1:00 pm
Guest Speaker:
Kelly Griffin
“Now and then. An update on the
Yemen island of Socotra.”
November 13, 1:30 pm



HUNTINGTON
BOTANICAL GARDENS

Huntington Fall Plant Sale
Reservations Required
Nov. 4-6, 10-5pm
Huntington Botanical Gardens
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, CA
Info 626-405-3504



SOUTH COAST
CACTUS & SUCCULENT
SOCIETY

December 11 @ 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm PST
South Coast C&SS Holiday Gathering
2022 (members and their guests only)
South Coast Botanic Garden, Frances
Young Hall 26300 Crenshaw Blvd.,
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA

Members and guests only:
Our first Holiday gathering in 3 years
will be held on Sunday, December 11th.
The festivities will start at 1PM in the
Auditorium. Awards will be...

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



2022 Board of Directors

OFFICERS:

President
Maria Capaldo

Vice President
M.A. Bjarkman

Treasurer
Bernard Johnson

Secretary
Debra Bushweit Galliani

AT LARGE BOARD MEMBERS:

Gary Duke
Terri Straub



STANDING COMMITTEES:

Show and Sale
Terri Straub

Programs Chair
M.A. Bjarkman

Finance Chair
Jim Hanna

Mini-Show Coordinator
Terri Straub



Communications Chair

Mike Short

Webmaster
Mike Short

Newsletter
Clif Wong

Publicity
Ann Nye

Facebook
Laurel Woodley

Instagram
Caitlin Rubia



Membership Chair Sally Fasteau

COMMITTEE MEMBERS (TASKED):

Speaker Coordinator
M.A. Bjarkman

LIAISONS:

CGCI
Lou Hagemeyer

CSSA
M.A. Bjarkman

