

## **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, 2018**

South Coast Botanic Garden, Palos Verdes Peninsula, California

#### **Board Members:**

Maria Capaldo, President  
 M. A. Bjarkman, Vice-president  
 Sue Wong, Secretary  
 Bernard Johnson, Treasurer  
 Mike Short, Communications Committee Chair,  
 Newsletter Editor & Webmaster  
 David Hodgson, At-large Board Member  
 Clif Wong, At-large Board Member  
 Jim Wood, At-large Board Member  
 Sally Fasteau, Membership Committee Chair  
 Jim Hanna, Finance Committee Chair & Plant Man

Gary Duke, Programs Committee Chair & Speaker  
 Co-coordinator  
 Lou Hagemeyer, CGCI Liaison  
 William Wilk, CSSA Liaison  
 Heidi Husnak, Show and Sale Co-Chair  
 Nancy Jengo, Show and Sale Co-Chair

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

Anita Caplan, Publicity Coordinator  
 Carol Causey, Refreshments Coordinator  
 Jade Neely, Speaker Co-coordinator  
 Jim Tanner, Mini-show Coordinator

**Attendance:** 84 were in attendance.

President Maria Capaldo called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. in Frances Young Hall. She welcomed all and wished everyone a Happy New Year, then thanked those who helped set up for the meeting. She reminded everyone to add their names in the watering can for the free plant drawing. She told us there is one more free membership to CSSA available for a drawing and those interested should sign up now or during the break with Sally Fasteau. The drawing will occur during the break. She then asked Jade Neely to introduce the speaker.

**Program:** Jade introduced speaker Marcia Tatroe, a speaker from Colorado and a contributor to Sunset Magazine. We were told to ask questions during the presentation, entitled “Rockin’ with Cacti and Succulents,” rather than at the end. Marcia began by thanking Gary Duke and Jade for their guided tour of the area while she’s visiting.

Marcia talked about moving to Colorado and noticed there was no communication between different Botanical Societies. An exchange began between CSS and the Rock Garden Society and combinations of rock gardens with more succulents and cacti became more desirable. Her images were full of different styles of rock formations and plant mixes in large and small gardens, even rock gardens without rocks. She stated that the thing that defines rock gardeners is they “like to collect plants,” displaying a lot of singles in their gardens. She covered hardscaping, climate, plant examples and talked about using nonorganic mulches.

When the talk was over, Maria reminded us that Mike Short e-mailed a copy of the talk on January 3<sup>rd</sup> to Club members.

#### **Announcements before the break:**

Jade Neely announced that the February program will be a speaker originally from Palos Verdes, Greg Krehel. His presentation is called “Freaky Flowers: Echinopsis Flowers in Bloom” and shows these plants in timelapse sequences. A sample can be found on the Club website.

Kitty Guzman will draw names for free plants. Art Guzman and Bernard Johnson will judge the Mini-show.

Heidi Husnak said the Show and Sale will be held on Saturday, April 7 and Sunday, April 8. There will be a sign up for volunteers. Visitors to the Garden doubles to 700 per day during the Show and Sale. Set up starts on Friday and break down will be on Sunday.

Anita Caplan, Publicity Coordinator, announced that she has hundreds of printed post cards to advertise April’s Show and Sale. See her during the break with requests for the number of cards you would like to give out and Anita will provide them at next month’s meeting.

The President recessed the meeting at 2:50 p.m. for refreshments, plant sales, and the rest of the Mini-show judging.

**After the Break:** The President reconvened the meeting at 3:10 p.m. Art Guzman announced the Mini-show winners, aided by Bob Lewis. This month's plants were Cactus: *Mammillaria* - Hooked Spines and Succulent: *Caudiciform*.

**Mini-show:** The results will be published in the Society's newsletter, *Prickly News*, <http://southcoastcss.org/newsletters> and on our website at <http://southcoastcss.org/>.

Maria thanked the judges (Art, Bernard and Bob) and asked them to each pick a free plant for their assistance. She thanked Rose Arbuckle for helping in the kitchen in Carol Causey's absence and asked members to sign up and bring in food for February's meeting. Marilyn Rubin's recipe for a kale salad she served at the Holiday Party is available.

Maria showed images of her *Fockea edulis* in flower and passed around the fluffy seed samples.

**New members, and guests:** Sally Fasteau introduced last month's new member, Sherwin Rubin. Sally then introduced this month's new members: Joan Dennison, Rosalie Gorchoff and Rick Hernandez.

**Birth month plants:** Members with December and January birthdays chose their free plants.

**Door prize plants:** Kitty Guzman drew names for Bernard Johnson to announce the winners of the remaining free plants.

Maria announced that the plants of the year are not available today for those who were not at the Holiday Party. Please measure your plants, record growing conditions, repotting dates and locations. Place all your information on the provided forms for next year.

**Minutes approval:** The minutes of the November General Meeting, previously distributed, were approved.

#### REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**February Mini-show** genera are: Cactus: *Eriosyce*, *Neoporteria*, *Neochilenia* and *Islaya*; Succulent: *Crassula*. Maria mentioned that almost everyone has *Crassula* and encouraged novices to bring their plants to the Mini-show next month.

**Janet Avent**, a docent at the South Coast Botanic Gardens announced that the Rose Garden is unofficially open. The Grand Opening will be in March or April. Designed by a gardener at the Getty Museum, cactus and succulents are planted among the roses to show gardeners that they can be mixed together. Also, docent training at the Gardens will occur in February. Go to the front desk and leave your name and number if you are interested.

**President:** Maria announced that Martha Bjerke won the drawing for a free CSSA membership.

She reminded members to get their plants ready for the April Show and Sale. The Society will again be selling plants that are donated from the members. Last year we were able to raise over a thousand dollars from the sale of our plants. So, if you have plants that are extras, or cuttings that can be planted now, please donate them to our cause. If you can nurse them yourself until the Show and Sale that would be great. If you have a full name for the plant, please be sure that is included. We can provide top dressing for the Sale. Plain three inch pots or larger are fine.

The Long Beach Amateur Orchid Society is announcing an auction on Monday, March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 which is open to the public. Preview is at 6:00 pm. The auction will be from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm. It will be held at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church Hall, 6210 E. Willow St., Long Beach. Cash or checks only. Call 562-431-7025 for more info. Email: [info@lbaos.com](mailto:info@lbaos.com). Mike will place the information in the Club newsletter.

**Treasurer:** Bernard Johnson gave his Treasury Report.

#### CONCLUDING MATTERS

The President adjourned the meeting at 3:40 pm.

Submitted, Sue Wong, Secretary