

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, February 11, 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: 75 were in attendance.

President Maria Capaldo called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in Frances Young Hall. She welcomed all and suggested not to hold back watering our gardens during this dry winter. She began announcements while the new projector was being set up. She introduced Heidi Husnak, the Show and Sale Co-Chair.

Annual Show and Sale: Heidi reminded us of the annual Show & Sale on April 7th and 8th. Sign-up sheets were by the membership table. Club members are encouraged to sign up for an hour or so to be a general helper at the Show and help guide visitors. Extra help may be needed in the kitchen. Maria said set-up for the Show will start on Friday, the 6th at 12:00 pm. Displaying a plant on the Club Show Table can add up to four points to member's overall Mini-show score. A point for each plant displayed. There is a sign-up sheet for members to bring food. Heidi added that the "Kid Planting Station" will be in the Courtyard. Small plastic pots and soil donations are needed. Maria talked about the Club Sale Table. Please bring in extra plants from your yard and drop them off at the next meeting or at Maria's home if you prefer. The Club will be placing labels and prices on the plants on Friday during the set-up.

Program: Jade introduced speaker Greg Krehel, a former Palos Verdes resident now residing in Florida. He is a self-proclaimed "Echinopsis Freak" (check out his website: www.EchinopsisFreak.com). Greg describes himself as an "enthusiast"—not a "professional." His presentation was entitled "Freaky Flowers: Echinopsis Flowers in Bloom," which showed the stunning beauty of these bright flowers in time-lapse photography. The plants were showcased with short stills, forming a "film" of about 2,000 individual shots displaying multiple blooms opening and sometimes, up through the wilting process. Greg has to guess when a plant may be ready to bloom before setting up to film overnight. Sometimes he has more plants ready for overnight filming than he can handle with his three cameras set up in his bathroom darkroom. You can contact him at Greg@echinopsis.com.

Announcements before the break:

Maria asked our speaker, Greg, to help judge and announce the Mini-show winners with Phyllis DeCrescenzo, Marie Bowers and Clif Wong assisting.

Anita Caplan told us that more postcards advertising the April Show and Sale are available. Please give them out to neighbors, friends and family.

Heidi picked Bill Osmun to help pick names for free plants.

The President recessed the meeting at 2:30 p.m. for refreshments, plant sales, and the rest of the Mini-show judging.

After the Break: The President reconvened the meeting at 2:55 p.m. Greg Krehel announced the Mini-show winners, aided by Phyllis and Clif. This month's plants were Cactus: *Eriosyce*, *Neoporteria*, *Neochilenia* and *Islaya* and Succulent: *Crassula*.

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/>.

New members, and guests: There are no new members this month.

Birth month plants: Members with a February birthday chose their free plants.

Door prize plants: Bill Osmun drew names for M.A. to announce the winners of the remaining free plants.

Maria announced that the plants of the year are 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. Gary will provide more information on the Club website.

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

REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

February Mini-show genera are: Cactus: *Echinocereus*; Succulent: *Gasteria* and hybrids.

The speaker for next month was announced by David Hodgson. Jeff Moore, owner and propagator at Solana Succulents, will talk about "Soft Succulents." He has written a new book on the subject which will be available for purchase and signing.

The South Bay Bromeliad Associates Spring Sale was announced by Ted Johnson. The sale is on Saturday, March 24 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. The sale is at Live Arts Landscapes nursery, 1329 W 130th Street, Gardena, CA 90247. The sale will feature plants from member's collections.

CSSA Liaison Bill Wilk announced the passing of Lee Miller this morning in Washington, D.C. He served as past librarian and secretary for CSSA. The next CSSA Convention will be held in San Luis Obispo in 2019. Phil Rundel, Director of the UCLA Mildred Mathias Botanical Garden, will be running a tour of South Africa (starting on August 26, for three weeks).

Treasurer: Bernard Johnson gave his Treasury Report.

Maria asked for more volunteers to provide refreshments for the March meeting. Bob Caplan and Maria thanked all those who assisted with food for this meeting. Members were asked to please help put away the chairs and tables before leaving.

CONCLUDING MATTERS

The President adjourned the meeting at 3:20 pm.

Submitted, Sue Wong, Secretary