

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, October 14, 2018

South Coast Botanic Garden, Palos Verdes Peninsula, California

Board Members:

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

Lou Hagemeyer, CGCI Liaison
 Carol Knight, Show and Sale Coordinator
 William Wilk, CSSA Liaison

Committee Members (Tasked):

Maria Blas, Refreshments
 Anita Caplan, Show and Sale Publicist
 Debby Hemingway, Refreshments Assistant
 Jade Neely, Speaker Co-coordinator
 Ann Nye, Monthly Publicist
 Jim Tanner, Mini-show Coordinator
 Laurel Woodley, Social Media

Attendance: 75 were in attendance.

President Maria Capaldo called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. in Frances Young Hall. She welcomed members and guests and reminded members to sign in and put their names in the sprinkling can for the free plant drawing. Before the program began, she spoke of some unfinished business. It seems that no one received reimbursement for attending the Huntington Symposium and Maria assured those who attended and wanted reimbursement will be paid. She asked those members to see Bernard at the break. He will divide the reimbursements among the requesting members.

Program: Jade Neely introduced our own Club member, Gary Duke, as today's speaker. She said this is Gary's favorite talk subject. He started growing a dish garden in his Chicago bedroom that his mother had gifted him as a child and his interest took off from there. Gary's presentation was, "What Kind of Cactus is This?" or "Duke's Cactus for Dummies." Gary thanked Jade and checked to see if everyone had a printed copy of the screen images of his talk. He explained the two different approaches to taxonomy that he used: "Cactus Family" by Edward Anderson and "Taxonomy of the Cactaceae" by Joel Lode. The first is a plant labelling bible lumping plants together and the second uses DNA analysis. Today's cactus subjects were small and globular, genus and species. After a brief cactus biology lesson, Gary showed us illustrations of the different forms and spines of globular cacti. There was a test of our knowledge at the end to see who could identify the illustrations shown by genus and species.

Announcements before the break: Maria thanked Gary. Jim Gardner made an announcement that the Garden held it's Fall sale yesterday and there were plants left over for sale at the Garden gift shop. Maria asked Sally to pick two names from the can. Nancy Jengo would serve as Mini-show judge, aided by Lynda Johnson. Karin Cozzolino was chosen to help read off the names for the free plant drawing. Maria thanked all who brought refreshments and asked them to put their names down in the kitchen. She reminded everyone that there is a sign-up sheet there. She also stated that there were plants available for purchase during the break and free plants were on the table to the right.

After the Break: The President reconvened the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Mini-show: Nancy Jengo announced the Mini-show winners aided by Lynda Johnson. Maria thanked them afterward and offered them free plants.

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: Sally introduced new member June Wong and invited her to choose a free plant.

Birth month plants: Maria offered Birth month plants for October.

Door prize plants: Maria announced the winners of the remaining free plants, assisted by Karin Cozzolino.

Maria thanked Debby Hemingway for her work in the kitchen.

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

REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The speaker for November was announced by Jade Neely. Tom Glavitch will speak on “Pelargoniums of Southern Africa.” He will bring plants for sale.

November Mini-show genera are: Cactus: North American columnar cactus (*Saguaro, Cereus*); Succulent: *Senecio*. The Newsletter and the website have the plants of the month described with photos and is available at least two weeks before the meeting.

A Water Harvest Block Party will take place on Saturday, October 20 outside of the Edward C. Little Water Recycling Facility, located at 1935 S. Hughes Way in El Segundo, CA. Free parking and shuttle service will be available at 1960 E. Grand Ave. (at Pacific Coast Highway) in El Segundo. This will be a chance to learn about water conservation, environmental stewardship and using water more efficiently in everyday lives.

California Rare Fruit Growers will meet here in the auditorium on October 20 from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm. They will be discussing the hybridization of dragon fruit.

Lynda Johnson will be having another plant sale and give-away on Saturday, October 20 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. She will have free plants and cuttings and will be selling larger plants, including *Euphorbias*, for \$3.00 to \$5.00.

CSSA election voting with Laurel Woodley representing Bill Wilk, our CSSA liaison: members received ballots for the upcoming elections of officers. Laurel reminded all CSSA members to submit their ballots. William Wilk is running for Vice President. Gary Duke is running for the Director position. The Club voted for three, with the loser available to fill in for the Board. A slate of officers was elected and Laurel marked the votes on the ballot. Maria added that as a member club we have a copy of the latest Cactus and Succulent Journal. She put it out on the table for anyone to borrow. She also mentioned the passing of Myron Kimnach, whose obituary appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Lou Hagemeyer, CGCI Liaison reported that the California Garden Club gives out awards for “outstanding private garden.” She has applications. A council must approve the nominees. The criterion is “outstanding.” CGCI gives awards to newsletter and websites as well. Maria wants to submit ours. Maria stated if you know or are a landscaper, that is a separate award.

The South Bay Bromeliad Society bus trip was announced by Ted Johnson. On October 27 at Live Art Plantscapes at 8:00 am the bus will leave for Carpinteria and Santa Barbara. Those interested can see Ted for flyers. The charge for non-members is \$25.00. There are three seats left on the bus.

Club Donations brought up by Bob Caplan began a discussion of what contributions the Club can make. He asked about donating another \$2,000 to the Huntington if they reach their fundraising goal. Maria said we will find out if they reached their goal by the next Board meeting. If so, \$2,000 will be given to the CSSA Speakers Fund (\$2,000 has already been donated). Gary Duke said Peter Breslin and Ernesto Sandoval are possible grant recipients. Rose Arbuckle suggested giving to college students. Maria stated that if someone wants to make a proposal to the Board regarding a student scholarship, the Board will take that into consideration. Gary asked about the qualification criteria for a proposal. Bob Caplan wants to find a specific set of criteria and try it for one year. He is willing to coordinate three or four people. Maria suggested keeping the donations within our local community. She asked if there were any other suggestions for ways for the Club to donate such as new tables for the Garden’s propagation department.

CONCLUDING MATTERS

The President asked to please help stack the chairs and if possible, help put away tables. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Submitted, Sue Wong, Secretary