

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 13, 2019

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: 80 were in attendance.

President Maria Capaldo called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in Frances Young Hall. She welcomed members and guests. Mike Short was called up front for assistance with the projector. Maria wished us all a “Happy New Year” and began a few announcements while the projector was set up. Bob Caplan said with a happy new year comes plans for the Society’s yearly Show. It will partly be publicized through the newspapers (Ann Nye is covering it) and by distributing post cards. Some of the proceeds go to the Botanical Garden. We also raise money for the Club. Cards were available at the break to take home and distribute.

Program: Jade Neely introduced today’s speaker, Laurel Woodley, as a star member responsible for the photos on the CSSA website and Instagram for the South Coast Botanic Garden and a former teacher. Laurel displayed her entertaining and patient teaching style, showing us how to identify our plants. “Discovering Plant Taxonomy” became “Botany 101” as she began her history with Linnaeus, the Father of Taxonomy. She explained identification, nomenclature and classification. She showed us how some scientific names are Latinized and how root words are linked to form a physical description of a plant. At the end of Laurel’s talk, she gave the audience a chance to use what they had learned with a short quiz and answered questions.

Announcements before the break: Before we adjourned, Maria asked Sally to draw names to help judge the Mini-show and choose names for free plants after the break. Sony Bantad was chosen to help with the free plants and Lynda Johnson was chosen to help judge the Mini-show. Maria introduced Nancy Jengo to speak about the April Show and Sale. Nancy said last year we were understaffed during the Sale and asked for more volunteers, especially for the jobs of tag pullers and selling tee shirts. Maria said members could sign up during the break. There will be job descriptions in the February Newsletter. If you are unable to stand for long periods of time, there are jobs available for sitting and watching over things.

After the Break: The President reconvened the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Mini-show: Lauren Woodley announced the Mini-show winners, aided by Lynda Johnson and Jim Tanner. This month’s plants were: Cactus: Single headed *Mammillaria* and Succulent: *Lithops* and *Conophytums*.

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

Brag table: Ted Johnson brought in his flowering *Kalanchoe brachyloba* with reddish flowers. John Nisewater wanted to know if the vining on his *Dioscorea mexicana* was normal. Laurel said the vine coming out the side was normal and that he should pile soil at the side where the roots were visible without burying the caudex.

New members and guests: Sally announced new member Lorraine Dupuy.

Birth month plants: Maria offered Birth month plants for December and then January.

Door prize plants: Maria announced the winners of the remaining free plants, assisted by Lynda Johnson.

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

REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Programs Committee: Maria announced the February Mini-show genera: Cactus: *Stenocactus*, *Echinofossulocactus*; Succulent: *Euphorbia* from Madagascar.

Jade announced that the February speaker will be Guillermo Rivera (“Argentina and Chile”). He has a Doctorate in Botany and had led CSSA tours in South America. He is a great photographer and will show us familiar cacti that we cultivate in their natural habitat.

The Huntington Desert Forum on Saturday, January 19th at 9:00 am was announced by Bill Wilk. Be sure to check in before 9:45 for free admission with your Society Badge. There will be refreshments in the Succulent Garden, docents in the Succulent Greenhouse and a sale afterwards. The rest of the afternoon is at your leisure. You may bring a lunch or eat at the café in the garden. Maria added: wear your badge. There is an Open House and the Greenhouse is open. The Plant Sale is from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. It is a great time to see the *Aloes*. Let us know if you want to carpool. If anyone wants to go who doesn’t have a badge, let Sally know and she will send you a paper badge.

The Bromeliad Spring Sale on Saturday, March 9, 2019 was announced by Ted Johnson. Sponsored by the South Bay Bromeliad Society, the hours are from 10:00 am to 3:00 PM. It will be held at Live Art Landscapes Inc, 1329 W 130th Street, Gardena, CA 90247.

CONCLUDING MATTERS

Maria announced that there were plenty of giveaway plants left on the table. She hoped to see some members on Saturday at the Huntington. The President thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting at 3:40.

Submitted, Sue Wong, Secretary