

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, March 10, 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
 Jade Neely, Speaker Co-coordinator
 Ann Nye, Monthly Publicist
 Jim Tanner, Mini-show Coordinator
 Laurel Woodley, Social Media

Attendance: 75 were in attendance.

Filling in for President Maria Capaldo, Programs Committee Chair Gary Duke called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in Frances Young Hall. He welcomed members and guests and asked if everyone had signed in and put their names on a ticket for the free plant drawing. There was a microphone check for the speaker, Rob Skillin.

Program: Gary Duke introduced today's speaker, Rob Skillin, as an exceptional grower. If you see larger specimens at the Inter-City Show they are probably his. Rob and Gary have toured Bolivia together. Rob began his presentation, "Kenya, Land of Tropical Succulents." He toured Kenya in November 2017 and brought back some beautiful photographs of the landscape, large animals and succulents. He described the climate in Kenya as a little different for succulents. He showed small and large forms with unusual, sometimes starfish-shaped flowers. Others resembled squash blossoms. Rob invited members to his "Open Greenhouse Day" in San Luis Obispo on Saturday, April 20 at 10:00 am. There will be a raffle for plants and a plant sale. Please email him at rskillin@gmail.com for an official invitation if you are interested. Gary thanked Rob for his presentation and Rob answered some questions from members.

Show and Sale: Carol Knight reminded us that anyone wanting a table at the Show and Sale needs to fill out a form. Help is also needed in the kitchen—there is no one in charge. Also, we probably won't be able to unload plants at the side door.

Nancy Jengo again reminded us that she needs help in the kitchen for the Show. She has four Club aprons left for sale at \$12.00 each.

Anita Caplan talked about publicity for the Show. There were postcards on the back table to hand out. She suggests to share them with family and friends. We need more people to come from the community as well. Please leave cards on the door steps of people in your neighborhood with nice gardens. Make sure the correct dates (April 6 and 7) is on the cards.

Gary said the Club will provide sandwiches for lunch for volunteers working during the Sale. Club members will provide salads, desserts and side dishes.

Announcements before the break: Gary asked Sally to draw names of members to help judge the Mini-show (Maria Blas and Joe Tillotson) after the break. Rob would be busy answering questions and selling plants during the Mini-show, so Gary asked Dale La Forest to judge the plants. Gary thanked those who brought in refreshments and reminded them to put their names on the sheet in the kitchen.

Sally Fasteau thanked Debby Hemingway for her help in the kitchen. Sally asked members to see her if they want to volunteer to fill Debby's spot as assistant.

Gary announced a break at 2:35 pm and reminded us to see Rob's plants for sale.

After the Break: Gary reconvened the meeting at 2:50 p.m. He invited Joe Tillotson to choose a free plant for helping to judge the Mini-show.

Mini-show: Dale La Forest announced the Mini-show winners, aided by Maria Blas. This month's plants were: Cactus: *Thelocactus* and Succulent: *Aeonium* and *Greenovia*.

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

Birth month plants: Gary invited Maria Blas to choose her plant for helping with the Mini-show then invited those with March birthdays to choose their plants.

Door prize plants: Maria Blas read the names of members to receive free plants with Russ Richer assisting.

REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Programs Committee: The May Mini-show genera are: Cactus and Succulent: dish gardens.

Show and Sale: Gary said this year's vendors will be in the auditorium and the Show will be in the classrooms. Set-up will be on Friday, April 5th. We have to use the front entrance instead of the side door. He reminded us to bring in plants for the Show Table to receive Show points. There will be people there to help identify and name them. If you have an Artistic Display, please see Nancy Jengo. For People's Choice, plants will show on Saturday and be judged on Sunday. Show and Sale doors open at 9:00 am on Saturday and Sunday to the public. Please arrive at 8:00 to 8:30 am if you are working at the Sale. Lunch for vendors and volunteers will be provided on Saturday and Sunday. Volunteers should bring in a salad, dessert or side dish for the Potluck. Volunteers for set-up should arrive at noon on Friday.

A California Garden Club Landscape Award is awaiting David Hodgson for Outstanding Private Garden. He was unavailable and will receive it from Lou Hagemeyer at the next meeting.

Show and Sale last reminder: Carol Knight asked volunteers to please sign up for jobs for the Sale before leaving the meeting today. Help is needed for the children's table: please donate more cuttings and a person is needed to oversee the table. Nancy still has postcards advertising the sale left to be handed out. We need people at the sales tables, in the kitchen and as tag pullers. The Show and Sale is making money for the Club, so please help. Gary added that our speaker's fees come from the profits as well.

CSSA Convention: Bill Wilk talked about the upcoming CSSA Convention (July 17-20) in San Luis Obispo. You must be a CSSA member. There are lots of nurseries along the way and there will be garden tours in San Luis Obispo. Gary added that there will be three days of speakers and tours. You will meet people from all across the United States and the world. You can find out how they grow their plants. You can register for the convention and the hotel at <http://www.cssaconvention.com/>.

CONCLUDING MATTERS

Sally said the two people who normally pick up the chairs and tables are not here today so please help pick up before you leave. Gary thanked everyone for coming and adjourned the meeting at 3:30 pm.

Submitted, Sue Wong, Secretary