

## 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, June 9, 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  
 Caitlyn Rubia, At-large Board Member  
 Clif Wong, At-large Board Member & Newsletter Editor  
 Gary Duke, Programs Committee Chair & Speaker  
 Co-coordinator  
 Sally Fasteau, Membership Committee Chair  
 Lou Hagemeyer, CGCI Liaison  
 Jim Hanna, Finance Committee Chair & Plant Man

Carol Knight, Show and Sale Coordinator  
 Mike Short, Communications Committee  
 Chair & Webmaster  
 William Wilk, CSSA Liaison

#### Committee Members (Tasked):

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:** 70 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 and asked if everyone had signed in and put their names on a ticket for the free plant drawing later in the meeting. She asked members to sign in so their attendance will be recognized and new members who attend frequently will be given name badges. She outlined the meeting by explaining that there is a Program Speaker and plant judging. Vendors will sell plants and there are give-away plants on the side table to take home.

**Program:** Jade Neely introduced today's speaker, Gary Duke. Gary gave this talk three years ago and now he has written a book about the subject of micro-climates. Gary grew up in a small town outside of Chicago and got interested in cacti at age ten after his mother gave him a small cactus garden.

Gary gave his presentation on "Landscaping and Micro-Climates for Small Yards." He is not a nurseryman or landscaper but he has been cultivating cactus and succulents for sixty years. Some authors advocate swaths of color (for example, Huntington Garden landscapes) but it is difficult to do that in small areas. He approaches landscaping by considering the sun angles, develops a garden plan, considers budget, starts building his scene and then considers how it is to be maintained. The University of Oregon created a chart to figure out the angles of the sun during the year to help figure out areas of shade for your yard. The information appears in Gary's book. Even too much sun reflected off of windows can burn plants. "Paint your picture around a focal point. Landscaping is playing with your visitor's eyes." Gary stressed the importance of creating a focal point and demonstrated this with his photos. He also showed the importance of symmetry and images of hardscaping as a focal point. Gary explained the importance of site preparation and how he trims certain types of plants from underneath to hide the cuts. For more information, please refer to the CSSA Home Page at <http://cactusandsucculentsociety.org> and Gary's site at [www.facebook.com/Landscaping-with-Succulents](http://www.facebook.com/Landscaping-with-Succulents). His books will be on sale on the back table.

Gary will be having an Open House on June 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. His address is 4660 Rio Avenue, Long Beach, 90805.

**Announcements before the break:** Maria thanked Gary and said his address will be in the Newsletter. His yard at the Open House will be a really great place to get ideas from. Gary added that we can also see how he starts his seeds.

Maria asked Sally to pick two names from the can, one to help judge (Pamela Broz) and the other to assist with names for the free plants (Judy Unrine). Maria thanked those who brought in refreshments today and Nancy Gray for covering in the kitchen. She asked for kitchen volunteers for the July meeting but none came forward. Cactus and Succulent Journals from CSSA will be available to read. They can be borrowed.

Maria announced a fifteen minute break and reminded us that there are free plants on the side table and vendors will be selling.

**After the Break:** Maria reconvened the meeting at 3:00 p.m. She said Gary will announced the winners of the Mini-show. She explained that the genera are cactus and succulent with competing categories of Novice, Intermediate and Open Classes. Keep track of your points. The member with the most points at the end of the year receives a plant.

**Mini-show:** Gary Duke announced the Mini-show winners, aided by Jim Tanner. This month's plants were: Cactus: *Rebutia*, *Aylosteria*, *Sulcorebutia*, *Weingartia* and Succulent: *Escheveria*.

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:** Maria invited Pamela Broz to choose her plant for helping with the Mini-show then invited those with June birthdays to choose their plants.

**Door prize plants:** Maria read the names of members to receive free plants with Judy Unrine assisting.

**New Members:** Sally Fasteau introduced new members: Mimi Gutierrez and Laurie Keller.

**Minutes approval:** The Minutes of the May General Meeting, previously distributed, were approved. Maria thanked Terri Straub for taking the May Meeting Minutes in the Secretary's absence.

### NEW BUSINESS

**Board Elections:** Bob Caplan, Jim Gardner and Lynda Johnson served as the Nominating Committee for this year's elections. Lynda Johnson read the slate of officers. Laurel Woodley moved to vote and the officers were approved as follows:

President: Maria Capaldo; Vice-president: M.A. Bjarkman; Secretary: Sue Wong; Treasurer: Bernard Johnson; At-large Board Members: David Hodgson, Terri Straub (new candidate) and Clif Wong.

**Newsletter Editor:** Maria asked if anyone saw the new Newsletter. She thanked Clif Wong, who has agreed to become our Newsletter Editor. He has a new format and the results were spectacular. Maria also thanked Mike Short, who has stepped down as our Newsletter Editor after about seven years. Mike will continue to manage our Website. If you have any announcements or articles for the Website or Newsletter, please submit them to both Clif and Mike. Maria also thanked Mike for his photography.

### REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Programs Committee:** The July Mini-show genera are: Cactus: *Matucana*, *Oroya* and Succulent: *Mesembs*: No *Lithops* or *conophytums* (examples would be *Aloinopsis*, *Cheiridopsis*, *Faucaria*, *Trichodiadema*, etc.). The information will be in the Newsletter. The speaker for July will be Attila Kapitani: "Botanical Gardens of Australia Tour."

**ISI (International Succulent Introductions)** is the plant distribution program of the Huntington Botanical Gardens. Bill Wilk told us they offer thirty plants each year. Please check the CSSA Journal and the Huntington Website if interested. There are unusual plants available for \$6.00 to \$10.00 each.

**CSSA Show and Sale:** Bill Wilk reminded us of the 54<sup>th</sup> Annual CSSA Show and Sale at the Huntington, June 29—30, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. If you are showing plants you will need a booklet with the categories needed to be entered on your ticket for each plant. If you need a badge, Bill will be at the entrance table on Saturday. See him if you need any badges.

**CSSA Convention:** Bill Wilk talked about the upcoming CSSA Convention (July 17-20) in San Luis Obispo. You must be a CSSA member. It is a chance to buy plants and have a good time.

**Bromeliad Show and Sale** was announced by Ted Johnson. Free admission and parking at Rainforest Flora Inc., 19121 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance 90503 on Saturday and Sunday, August 3—4. Show hours are 12:00 pm to 4:00 pm Sat. and 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Sun. Sales hours are 10:00 am to 4:00 pm on both Sat. and Sun. Maria suggested checking out the spectacular Bromeliads staged by the Johnsons.

**Palos Verdes Begonia Society Begonia Show and Sale** was announced by Ted Johnson. It will happen here in this hall on Saturday, August 24 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Free after Garden admission.

**CONCLUDING MATTERS**

Maria thanked everyone and asked us to please help put away the tables and chairs. She said she hopes to see members at the CSSA Show and Sale. She adjourned the meeting at 3:35 pm.

Submitted, Sue Wong, Secretary