

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, November 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
 Terri Straub, 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, Facebook
 Caitlin Rubia, Instagram

Attendance: 88 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 asked members to make sure they were signed in and put a ticket in the sprinkling can for door prize plants after the break. There were free plants on the side table and there would be a Q & A period after the talk.

Program: Jade Neely introduced today's speakers, John Martinez and Nils Schirrmacher. Their presentation was entitled "Dudleya: Succulent Diversity in Our Own Backyard." They live in Central LA and the Valley and decided to explore plants native to the area. Nils began the first half of the presentation. His curiosity about what grows here started his exploration of *Dudleyas*. He and John decided to try and locate, identify and photograph the plants in their native habitat. They limited their explorations to an hour's drive away from home. Poaching, fires and draught have affected the proliferation of *Dudleyas*. Also, the rarest ones live along the coast and the marine layer is diminishing due to climate changes. They are facing a lot of challenges. They belong to the family Crassulaceae. John picked up the second half of the presentation. There is a lot of diversity among these plants in habitat. Again, he stressed the challenges to the *Dudleya* population, including recreational activities in their habitat (rock climbing and equestrian trails), urban expansion, and illegal collecting. He says there are more plants out there that haven't been found yet and they will continue their search. A question and answer period followed.

December Potluck: We will have our holiday Potluck on Sunday, December 8th, our usual meeting day. We will start the festivities at noon and serve food at 12:30. The Society will provide meat and water; the remainder are dishes provided by members. Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert, ready to be served. After eating we will give prizes to those scoring the highest in each category for the Mini-show. Then we will judge who did the best on their Plant of the Year. So, please bring your Plant of the Year (*Haworthia maughanii X truncata*) to the Potluck, dead or alive. We also would like you to complete a questionnaire on your plants that will be in the Newsletter, as well as on the Website. Please: one person per questionnaire, as well as on the Website. We have some questionnaires at the sign-in table printed up for you to take home if you like. We do need volunteers to set up the Potluck tables, decorate and get the food lined up.

Phyllis DeCrescenzo will make centerpieces for the Potluck tables. Laurel agreed to bring Juniper for the tables. We also need volunteers to help set up the tables and decorate them. A few members raised their hands to help. If you are volunteering for this, please arrive between 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. A thank you to Dennis Emerson for helping with the tables. We also need help organizing in the kitchen.

Announcements before the break: Cory Zedler's name was chosen to announce free plant winners and George Unrine's name was chosen to help judge the Mini-show. Please sign your name on the list in the kitchen if you brought food today.

Announcements after the break: Maria reconvened the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

Mini-show: Nils Shirrmacher announced the Mini-show winners, aided by Jim Tanner. This month's plants were: Cactus: Columnar Cacti and Succulent: *Pelargonium*, *Sarcocaulon* and *Tylecodon*.

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

New members: Terri Straub introduced new members Snow Dunn, Lemono Mott, Cynthia Sanchez, Lucy Stone and Bertie Wood who were each offered a free plant.

Birth month plants: Members with November birthdays were asked to choose their free plants. Cory Zedler and George Unrine chose theirs. Maria picked names from the sprinkling can while Cory Zedler read the names for the winners of the free plants.

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

REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Programs Committee: January's Mini-show genera are: Cactus: *Mammillaria* straight spine (clumping) and Succulents: Aloe. The speaker for January will be Jeff Moore. He has written a new book called "Spiny Succulents: Euphorbias, Cacti and Other Sculptural Succulents and (Mostly) Spiny Xerophytic Plants.

CONCLUDING MATTERS

There was no new business. Maria adjourned the meeting at 3:45 pm. She announced that there would be a Board Meeting afterwards. She asked members to please pick up the leftover free plants and help put away the chairs and tables. Maria thanked all for coming to the meeting. She reminded members to get their Mini-show plants ready for January.

Submitted, Sue Wong, Secretary