

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 Zoom Meeting, July 12, 2020

Board Members:

Maria Capaldo, President
 M. A. Bjarkman, Vice-president
 Bernard Johnson, Treasurer
 Sue Wong, Secretary
 Terri Straub, At-large Board Member
 Clif Wong, At-large Board Member & Newsletter Editor
 Cory Zedler, At-large Board Member
 Gary Duke, Programs Committee Chair & Speaker
 Co-coordinator
 Sally Fasteau, Membership Committee Chair
 Lou Hagemeyer, CGCI Liaison

Jim Hanna, Finance Committee Chair & Plant Man
 Mike Short, Communications Committee
 Chair & Webmaster

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

The meeting was convened at 1:30 pm. The Club's first General Zoom meeting was co-hosted by our President, Maria Capaldo and Scott Bunnell from the Long Beach Cactus Club. Scott volunteered to set this up for us. Maria welcomed members and made some announcements:

Club meetings: There will not be any in-person meetings for the rest of 2020. We will hold monthly meetings on Zoom. There will also be opportunities to attend webinars provided through e-mail and the Society's Newsletter. If members have any announcements of related webinars they can notify Mike Short by e-mail. There are lots of speakers available. You can access Facebook for more information.

CSSA links to video presentations of lectures from the 2015 and 2017 conventions are available. You can access them at <https://cactusandsucculentsociety.org/>.

Photos of member's gardens will continue to be included in the Newsletter, as well as Mini-show photos. Maria is looking for feedback on how to vote on-line for the Mini-show submissions.

Programs Committee: August Mini-show genera are: Cactus: *Melocactus* and Succulents: *Bromeliaceae* (other than *Tillandsia*). Deadline for photo submissions is July 20th. Gary announced that next month's speaker will be Jackson Burkholder on "Cactus Biology." He recently gave this talk through CSSA. He is the son of two members of the Denver Society and is on the Board of Directors of CSSA. He is going for his Masters in horticulture.

Maria thanked Clif for his work in getting the Newsletter done. She also thanked all those who contributed photographs. Maria thanked Jim Tanner for his contribution. She is totally open to any new suggestions during this on-line only period. Gary has talks upcoming. Please see the Events page on our website at <https://southcoastcss.org/>.

Program: Maria introduced Gary Duke and his talk on "NW Argentina—Places and Plants." It covered a trip he took from November 19 through December 5, 2019. He began with a photo of *Neoporteria umadiable* which no one in the United States has been able to keep alive. There were images of *Gymnocalycium* growing in the grasslands among the rocks, *Notocactus* on a steep hillside, and blue *Cereus aethiops* with black spines. A *Trichocereus*, hundreds of years old, was left to stand in a vineyard instead of being bulldozed like some other examples. *Trichocereus terscheckii* stands 10' tall when it starts to bloom. *Blossfeldia liliputana* grew in a crack. It is the world's smallest cactus—about the size of a nickel. Images of multi-colored stone buildings were dispersed among the plant photos, mirroring the beautiful colors of natural stone in the landscape. Gary also showed a one-minute drone video of a flat, arid landscape with *Neoporteria*. Gary is selling plants on Instagram or you can contact him if you want to stop by and purchase them from his yard. You can contact him at dukebb@earthlink.net, on Instagram at garyduke53, or by phone at 310-947-9803. A period of questions and answers followed the presentation.

Treasury Report: Bernard Johnson gave his Treasury Report.

Dues are postponed until January 2021.

Brag plants: Mike Short showed us his large, blooming *Echeveria cante*. It was given to him by the club three years ago. The photo will be in the Newsletter.

Bob Caplan asked if people can show their plant photos during the next Zoom meeting and Maria said we could.

M.A. Bjarkman shared video of her garden planted in a filled-in swimming pool.

Facebook Mini-show: Scott showed his Club's pages and video of their Mini-show for Facebook. No one was sure that anyone would take on a similar project for our Club.

Maria thanked Scott for co-hosting and Gary for his presentation. The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Submitted, Sue Wong, Secretary