

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, May 9, 2021

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):

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 and was being recorded for YouTube. The Club's Zoom meeting was co-hosted by our President, Maria Capaldo and Scott Bunnell from the Long Beach Cactus Club. Maria welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished a Happy Mother's Day to all and hoped for an enjoyable day. She thanked Scott for hosting this meeting.

Program:

"Getting to Know Kalanchoe." Jade introduced our speaker, Laurel Woodley, as a great teacher. This is an updated version of her talk from May 2015. Jade says she understands more about *Kalanchoes* because of Laurel's presentation.

Laurel began by explaining the facts about these succulents. They are from the family Crassulaceae and there are about 136 species. Their natural habitat is mainly in Madagascar and East and South Africa. They like a semi-arid environment. She showed us photos of the horticultural *K. blossfeldiana* then spoke about species plants. There are species where the flowers face upwards, some *Kalanchoes* reaching up to four feet tall. *K. rhombopilosa* is speckled and striped; *K. eriophylla* has fuzzy leaves; and some have a seasonal "blush" color to their leaves in winter. *K. orgyalis* has a rusty to metallic blue color to its leaves. *K. luciae* has cluster of white flowers and leaves edged in red. "Fantastic" is festive in the garden.

Some species have their flowers hanging down. Bryophyllums (sprouting leaves) form plantlets along the leaf margins. They sport bell-like pendant flowers. *K. prolifera* from Madagascar has pinnate leaves and the flower sepals are longer than the petals. *K. daigremontiana* has flowers in every leaf margin which all fall off and propagate heartily. *K. manginii* is loaded with pendant flowers and is good for planting in hanging baskets, as is *K. uniflora*.

Points to remember when landscaping with *Kalanchoes*: they are frost tender; make good container subjects; tend to grow best in winter and spring; they mix well with other succulents; have a variety of shapes and colors and can show seasonal color changes.

Laurel ended her presentation at 2:25 pm. A question and answer period followed that lasted for ten minutes. Maria reminded us that the talk can be viewed again on YouTube, where it can be stopped and started so viewers can take screen shots of the *Kalanchoes*.

May Brag and Garden Plants: Maria showed photos submitted by Club members of their favorite plants from their gardens. She thanked those participating for sharing their plants and asked members to keep sending in their photos. Jennifer said that she would share plantlets of *Kalanchoe* with anyone interested. You can email her at princessgadget@gmail.com.

Scott shared a link to *Kalanchoe* plant names: <http://www.theplantlist.org/browse/A/Crassulaceae/Kalanchoe/>.

May Plant-of-the-Month: Maria gave a photo presentation of the Plants-of-the-month which were: Cactus: *Coryphantha*, *Escobaria* and *Acharagma*; and Succulents: *Dudleya* and *Cotyledon*. Maria said although there were a lot of photos submitted this month, very few people had examples of *Coryphantha*. No one had *Escobaria* and only Gary had *Acharagma*. There were lots of *Dudleyas* and some *Cotyledons*.

Recording for YouTube was stopped.

Announcements:

June Presentation: Jade announced that next month's speaker will be Ernesto Sandoval. They'll figure out a subject that we haven't heard recently. Next month's Zoom meeting will be on Sunday, June 13th.

June Plant-of-the-Month: Cactus: *Gymnocalycium*; Succulent: *Pachypodium*. Maria hopes we will have lots more photos. Please remember to send her your photos of your P.O.M. by June 11th. You can also send photos of your gardens as well as any Brag plants that you have questions about or are blooming.

CSSA Webinars continue to be available every other Saturday at 10:00 am. The next one is on May 15th. Derek Tribble will speak on "Insights into *Adromischus*." Please keep up with the website periodically to get notices of upcoming events.

C & S Fest at Green Touch Nursery: Saturday, May 15th, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Gary Duke will be there in Bellflower. See the notice on Instagram at garyduke53.

Cactus Ranch: Maria showed us the Home Page from the L.A. Times featuring the Cactus Ranch. It is only open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm. Laurel said that the plants are not labelled because they sell mostly to landscapers. Maria said it looks like a fun place to browse for landscape plants.

Reports:

Minutes: The Minutes of the April Zoom Meeting, previously distributed, were approved with a correction. *Correction: the date of the Treasurer's report was changed from March 2021 to April 2021.*

Treasury Report: Bernard Johnson gave his Treasury Report. We are not collecting dues at this time. Bernard has received a couple of applications (renewals) with checks. He is not cashing them at this time. Judy said Bernard could tear up her check.

Membership Dues: Maria said that if we meet before January 2022, any dues paid previously will carry until then. Dues may increase to \$20 in 2022. They will be collected in January in the future.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking everyone. "It was fun. See you next month for Ernesto Sandoval's talk." The Zoom meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm.

Submitted, Sue Wong, Secretary