

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, October 10, 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

Our President, Maria Capaldo, began the meeting at 1:30 pm. Scott Bunnell, her co-host, began recording the meeting for YouTube. She welcomed us all. Viewers can unmute themselves to ask questions during the interactive presentation. Questions can be posted to Chat. She asked Gary Duke to introduce today's speaker.

Program:

Gary introduced our speaker, Rod Haenni, with a presentation on "Growing Succulents from Seed." He began with an introduction of himself: a plant grower for over forty years, thirty-five growing from seed. He grows cacti and succulents in the cold climate of Colorado where it is below zero degrees every winter.

His talk covered why people should grow from seed, suggestions on how to be successful and examples of established seedlings. Growing from seed helps to conserve plants because they won't be taken from the wild. For success with seeds the soil mix and moisture must be taken into consideration. Rod uses a soil mix made up of expanded shale, scoria, pumice and compost. He uses a translucent plastic box for germinating. If they don't come up in about two weeks, then they are probably not viable. He fertilizes regularly using Miracle Gro 20-20-20. He leaves them in the translucent box until they grow a few sets of leaves. They spend about eighteen months in their seedling pots.

Rod's seeds are sown onto the irregular surface of his potting mix by dropping them from above. His mix drains better than sand. He adds a splash of vinegar to a gallon of tap water for irrigation. He likes to keep the pH around 7. There are many ways to grow seed and Rod feels that if you have success with a certain method you should continue to use it.

For a list of cold hardy plants you can email Rod at رهاenni@comcast.net or check out @maihuenia1 on Instagram.

The presentation and Q&A session ended at 2:30 pm. after Maria thanked him.

October Brag and Garden Plants: Maria showed photos submitted by Club members of their favorite plants from their gardens. She thanked all for sharing.

October Plant-of-the-Month: Maria gave a photo presentation of the Plants-of-the-month: Miniatures for both the succulent and then cacti categories.

Announcements:

November 14th Zoom: will be a presentation from Joe Stead called "Propagate It! Then Put It in the Ground." The information will be on our website. The Zoom link is always there.

In-person meetings: may start in January 2022, depending on the COVID status and what's required. We will make an announcement after the Board discussion today.

Plant-of-the-Month: will be Cactus: North American Columnar Cacti (*Saguaro, Cereus*, etc.; Succulent: *Senecio*. Please send your plant photos to Maria by November 12th (the Friday before the meeting). Any Brag plant photos are also welcome.

Conejo CSS Succulent and Cactus Plant Sale: Sunday, October 17 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm at 558 North Ventu Park Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320. A flyer will be on our website on the Events page.

CSSA Webinars continue to be available every other Saturday at 10:00 am. The next presenter on October 16th will be Kelly Griffin: "*Oaxaca Meanderings in Search of Succulents, Adventure and Fun.*" All presentations are usually available on YouTube which may be accessed through a link on the CSSA website or Facebook page.

Recording was stopped at 2:50 pm.

Reports:

Minutes: September's Minutes were posted. There were no corrections and the Minutes were accepted as published.

Treasury Report: Maria gave Bernard Johnson's Treasury Report.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending. The Zoom meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Submitted, Sue Wong, Secretary