

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, February 13, 2022

Board Members:

Maria Capaldo, President
M.A. Bjarkman, Vice-president, CSSA Liaison & Program Chair
Bernard Johnson, Treasurer
Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary
Terri Straub, At-large Board Member
Clif Wong, At-large Board Member & Newsletter Editor
Gary Duke, At-large Board Member
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):

Ann Nye, Monthly Publicist
Jim Tanner, Mini-show Coordinator
Laurel Woodley, Facebook
Caitlin Rubia, Instagram

Our President, Maria Capaldo, began the meeting at 1:30pm. Scott Bunnell, her co-host, started recording the meeting for YouTube. She welcomed all attendees.

Program:

M.A. Bjarkman introduced our speaker, Jackson Burkholder, as a new rising star in the cactus and succulent world. He has served on the Cactus and Succulent Society of America board of directors since 2020, and is living in Colorado after recently graduating from Colorado State University with a degree in Horticulture and minors in Botany and Japanese.

His talk, "*Sulcorebutia: A Virtual Tour through Bolivia*," discussed his favorite genus of cacti. He noted that this group of plants has more recently been included in Rebutia and Weingartia, and were among his stunning photographs of cultivated plants. He enthusiastically described their cool spination and attractive coloring, before mentioning their knock-out flowers. He finds them easy to propagate from a clump by pulling away an offset, that will likely have roots.

He reviewed some of the special care that these plants require in order to do well and put on large flowering displays. The pros and cons of the two main choices of media were outlined: pure pumice; or a combination of regular cactus and succulent media plus top dressing, comprised of 40% squeegee, 40% pumice and 20% potting soil.

His took us on a virtual tour of Bolivia that showcased a dazzling slide show of plants from his collection grouped by locality. The presentation ended after a Q&A session at 2:49pm.

February Brag and Garden Plants: Maria showed a number of photos submitted by club members of their potted and garden plants.

February Plant-of-the-Month: Maria gave a photo presentation from members of the Plants-of-the-Month: Cactus: *Stenocactus*; and Succulent: *Euphorbia* from Madagascar. The photographs will also be posted in the newsletter.

Announcements:

March 13 In-Person Meeting: Our in-person meetings will resume with the first one held at the Peninsula Library Community Room on the top floor. It can be easily accessed, particularly if transporting plants, by entering the outdoor parking lot off of Deep Valley Drive, even though the address is on Silver Spur Road. Underground parking with elevator access is also available. Instructions will be in the newsletter and an email will be sent along with a map.

Although no plants will be sold, there will be many giveaway plants including, the Plant-of-the-Year for 2022 (*Folkia edulis*, propagated and raised by Laurel Woodley), the Birthday-of-the Month for March, and award plants to those who submitted photos in 2021. We will be having a mini-show for Plant-of-the-Month.

M.A. announced that the March speaker will be Woody Minnich, with a presentation on “The Cacti and Succulents of New Mexico.” She regarded him as a man of great knowledge, well-known to our plant community, well traveled, funny and who has such interesting information to share.

Proof of vaccination will be required to attend the meeting, based on a decision of the board. Those individuals with medical conditions precluding them from being vaccinated must show official negative COVID test results, taken within 24 hours of the meeting. Jim Gardner agreed to perform the vaccination check-in process, which will take place outside the meeting place. The membership check-in table will be located just inside the entry to the Community Room. Signage will be provided by Clif Wong, with copy from Maria.

No food or drink is allowed inside the building, including water. We will follow the County’s mask mandates that are in effect at the time.

Plant-of-the-Month: Cactus: *Thelocactus*; Succulent: *Aeonium and Greenovia*. In addition, bring any Brag plants and any plants you might have questions about.

Minutes: The December Minutes were posted. There were no corrections and the Minutes were accepted as published.

Recording was stopped at 3:13pm.

Reports:

Show and Sale: Maria reminded members that it will be held at The Palos Verdes Art Center (PVAC) on April 23 and 24. She thanked Debra Galliani for composing a very upbeat article for publicity use by Ann Nye. Maria will email a copy to the board, and Ann is editing it a bit for distribution to publications. Ann indicated that the *Los Angeles Times* expressed interest in it. She will reach out to the PVAC to publicize the event, such as in their newsletter, and will provide postcards available for their attendees.

Terri Straub is continuing to enlist volunteers for the event to fill the many spots that are open. Shifts are Friday from 1:00pm to 5:00pm; and both Saturday and Sunday from 9:00am to 12:30pm and from 12:30pm to 4:00pm. A box lunch will be provided for volunteers working the whole day, or volunteers can bring their own lunch. Vendors will provide their own lunches. Eating is allowed inside the building. Terri was thanked for her ongoing work. Mike Short will send a list of volunteer jobs to our extensive email list and direct them to sign up with Terri.

Maria asked for help to distribute postcards and can be contacted by email. In addition, Sally Fasteau has available postcards. Ann will distribute postcards to places such as libraries and garden supply stores.

Clif Wong is moving at the end of March but generously offered to continue to write our newsletter. He was recognized for being so gracious and giving of his time while serving on the Board. He is resigning as the At-large Board Member and a replacement is needed. Board members were asked to remain after the March 13 Membership Meeting for a board Meeting.

Treasury Report: Bernard Johnson provided the Treasury Report.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking those who attended. The Zoom meeting was adjourned at 3:33pm.

Submitted,

Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary