

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, March 12, 2023

Board Members:

Maria Capaldo, President
 Terri Straub, Vice President
 Bernard Johnson, Treasurer
 Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary
 Vincent Darmali, At-large Board Member
 Braulio Mena, At-large Board Member
 Shane Mullen, At-large Board Member
 Sally Fasteau, Membership Committee Chair
 Lou Hagemeyer, CGCI Liaison
 Jim Hanna, Finance Committee Chair & Plant Person
 M.A. Bjarkman, CSSA Liaison & Program Chair

Mike Short, Communications Committee Chair & Webmaster

Committee Members (Tasked):

Ann Nye, Monthly Publicist
 Terri Straub, Show & Sale Chair & Mini-Show Coordinator
 Laurel Woodley, Facebook
 Caitlin Rubia, Instagram
 Clif Wong, Newsletter Editor

There were 53 members in attendance. President, Maria Capaldo, called the meeting to order at 1:38pm in the South Coast Botanic Garden Auditorium. She welcomed attendees to the meeting and reminded them of the Society's annual Show & Sale on April 15-16 at the Palos Verdes Art Center. She introduced Show & Sale Chairperson Terri Straub who asked for volunteers to sign up with her to fill open assignments, particularly on Sunday. The positions were posted in the Newsletter.

Program:

Member Ted Johnson introduced co-owner of Rainbow Flora, Jerry Robinson, who spoke about "Bromeliads for the Home and Garden." His pleasingly informal and very informative talk described the characteristics of several genera used in the landscape and those that can be displayed inside homes with success. He punctuated his descriptions by holding up examples of plants displaying striking variations of leaf colors, shapes and patterns.

A question and answer period followed his talk, which concluded at 2:40 pm.

Announcements before the break:

Maria Capaldo: Maria asked Sally Fasteau to pick two names from the sprinkling can: one to help judge and the other to assist with selecting names for the door prize plants.

She then indicated there would be a break to allow attendees to shop the plants and items brought by vendors and our speaker.

Break-Reconvene:

Maria recessed the meeting at 2:45pm and it was reconvened at 3:08pm.

March Mini-Show categories: Cactus: *Echinocactus Kroenleinia*. Succulent: *Agave, Manfreda, and X Mangave*.

The plants were judged by Jerry Robinson and assisted by Lucy Hemingway with overseeing by Terri Straub. Lucy announced the winners in first, second and third place that were awarded in novice, intermediate and open categories. The winners will be listed in our Newsletter and on our Website, along with photographs taken by Mike Short. Lucy was offered a free plant selection for helping.

Plant of the Year: Maria offered a Plant of the Year to members who had not yet received one.

New members and guests: Sally announced that Mary K. Thomas joined as a new member and that Mary will be offered to select a free plant at the next meeting she attends.

Brag Table: Jim Gardner described a tray of approximately 200 *Mangave* hybrid seedlings that he created by cross-pollinating two hybrids to see what they would look like.

Birth month plants: Members whose birthdays are in March were offered to select a free plant by Maria.

Door prize plants: Jackie Johnson drew tickets for members to select a free plant and M.A. Bjarkman announced the names of the winners. Jackie selected a free plant for assisting.

Announcements:

Show & Sale: Maria outlined the procedures for our Show & Sale on April 15-16. Setup will be on Friday, April 14 for Society volunteers and vendors only. No plants may be purchased on Friday, but volunteers may hold plants they intend to buy and then must pay for them on Saturday by closing time.

Bringing plants for sale: The Society will have a sale table with potted plants donated by members. They can be brought anytime on Friday or very early Saturday morning to the Holding Area, where they will be priced and labeled with the Society's tags. Plants are to be clean and preferably named. Those who can't make it on Friday and have many plants to donate should contact Maria to make arrangements.

Showing plants: Members and vendors are invited to bring their prize or favorite succulent and cactus plants to show off at the Society display table. Up to five Mini-Show points will be awarded to members, one for each plant displayed. There will be no voting or prizes. Plants are to be free of disease and clean. An identification slip is to be completed for each plant with the owner's name and the name of the plant (slips provided).

Food: Volunteers who work the entire day will be given lunch by the Society, who will also offer coffee, tea, and water during the day. The proceeds from this Show & Sale provide the finances for our speaker programs, community support, and donations to programs for conservation and education.

Postcards: Members have taken postcards and they are being distributed. More are available by contacting Maria.

Next Meeting: Maria emphasized that May's meeting will be held on the third Sunday, May 21, rather than our usual time of the second Sunday. She recommended that attendees mark their calendars. Our speaker will be Kelly Griffin who will talk about Aloe hybrids and has promised to bring many plants for sale.

Minutes: The February Minutes were posted. There were no corrections and the Minutes were accepted as published. Maria thanked Terri for running that meeting.

New Business:

May Mini-Show categories: Cactus: *Notocactus*, *Parodia*; Succulent: *Euphorbia* (not from Madagascar).

Newsletter: Maria lauded editor Clif Wong for his excellent job as our long-time Newsletter editor. He has retired to the Boston area and asked to be relieved of this editor duty by the end of this year. A replacement is needed. Most of the information that is posted in the Newsletter is ready to be published, but needs to be in a PDF format. She asked for those interested in taking this over to contact her.

Member Questions / Comments:

Details about the Bromeliad Society's April 2 talk by Jerry Robinson on Bromeliads in the "Landscape" were provided. It will begin at 1:30pm in the Palos Verdes Library Community Room and is open to guests.

One member asked if anyone was aware of a book on *Echinopsis*. Nobody offered an answer and Maria offered to do some research.

Another member thanked the Society for providing information about our Show & Sale via email, making it easy to spread the word. Maria acknowledged Mike Short for sending such email communications to members.

Reports:

Treasury Report: Bernard Johnson provided the Treasury Report.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking those who attended and requesting that members assist in restoring and tidying up the room. A Board meeting would follow in the auditorium. The meeting was adjourned at 3:39pm.

Submitted,

Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary