

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, June 11, 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 50 members in attendance. President, Maria Capaldo, called the meeting to order at 1:30pm in the South Coast Botanic Garden Auditorium. She welcomed attendees to the meeting.

Program:

Braulio Mena introduced our speaker, Ron Kaufmann, whose program was entitled “Life on the Rocks, The World of Rupicolous Orchids.” His presentation took us on a journey to several isolated mountains, termed inselbergs, near coastal Rio de Janeiro. They offered harsh, dry settings and steep slopes with nighttime moisture. Plants germinate in rock crevices, then when grown they aid in establishing islands of vegetation on barren rock.

Orchids and cacti thrived side-by-side in these conditions and Ron contends that some orchids are effectively succulents. He recommended treating inside orchids more like succulents than ferns, allowing them to dry out between watering. He provided the website for an organization in which he is involved that protects and conserves native orchid habitat: OrchidConservationAlliance.org.

A question and answer period followed his talk, which concluded at 2:33pm.

Announcements before the break:

CSSA Show and Sale: Maria introduced Nick Renteria this year’s CSSA Show and Sale chairperson who described the annual event held June 23 through 25 at the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens. Details about the dinner, volunteering, the silent auction, showing plants and admission policy were among the topics reviewed. Attendees were encouraged to sign up for open volunteer positions.

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 announced a break to give folks time to shop our vendors.

Break-Reconvene:

Maria recessed the meeting at 2:50pm and it was reconvened at 3:04pm.

June Mini-Show categories: Cactus: *Opuntia*, *Tephrocactus*, *Cylindropuntia*, *Austrocylindropuntia*; and Succulent: *Cissus*, and *Cyphostemma*.

The plants were judged by Ron Kaufmann and assisted by Bonnie Ikemura with overseeing by Terri Straub. Winners in first, second and third place 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. Bonnie was offered a free plant selection for helping.

Brag Table: Braulio brought a rupicolous orchid as a live example of the speaker's topic. Shane Mullen showed a shallow pot with *Opuntia robusta* seedlings he is growing.

New members and guests: Sally announced that Carlos Aburto and Graham Scott joined as new members and they were each offered to select a free plant.

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

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

Announcements:

Bromeliad Society Show & Sale: Ted Johnson announced that The South Bay Bromeliad Associates has their annual Show and Sale on Saturday, August 12 at the Palos Verdes Art Center.

Next Meeting: : Our speaker on July 9 will be Kelly Griffin who will discuss "Aloe Hybrids" and may bring plants to sell.

July Mini-Show categories: Cactus: *Melocactus*; and Succulent: Bromeliaceae (other than Tillandsia)

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

Reports:

Treasury Report: Bernard Johnson provided the Treasury Report.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking those who attended and adjourned the meeting at 3:27pm.

Submitted,

Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary