

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, July 14, 2024

Board Members:

Maria Capaldo, President
Terri Straub, Vice President
Bernard Johnson, Treasurer
Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary
Martha Bjerke, At-large Board Member
Vincent Darmali, At-large Board Member
Nancy Sams, At-large Board Member
Sally Fasteau, Membership Committee Chair
M.A. Bjarkman, CSSA Liaison & Program Chair
Braulio Mena, CGCI Liaison

Jim Hanna, Finance Committee Chair & Plant Person
Mike Short, Communications Committee Chair & Webmaster

Committee Members (Tasked):

Ann Nye, Monthly Publicist
Terri Straub, Show & Sale Chair & Mini-Show Coordinator
Laurel Woodley, Facebook
Nancy Sams, Instagram
Maria Capaldo, Newsletter Editor

There were 51 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 which she then conducted.

Program:

M.A. Bjarkman introduced our speaker Ernesto Sandoval who gave a knowledgeable and entertaining talk on “30+ years of Growing Succulents Professionally and Learning from Others and the Wild.” He recommended that plants be grown in the ground as much as possible. He provided detailed advice about handling cuttings, watering, the importance of air circulation, container gardening tips, and needed nutrients.

A question and answer period followed his talk, which concluded at 2:39pm.

Announcements before the break:

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.

Society T-shirts were available for sale at the check-in table for \$12 each.

New Business:

Garden meeting dates: Maria advised that the Botanic Garden cannot accommodate us to meet in October. She asked attendees if they would prefer: (1) hold the meeting elsewhere, preferably at the Palos Verdes Library, (2) cancel the meeting for October, (3) hold a Zoom meeting, or (4) have a field trip. After an exchange of ideas, the show of hands indicated a preference for holding the meeting at the Palos Verdes Library. Maria asked if anyone had any other solutions to speak to her.

She announced a break to give people time to shop our vendors.

Break-Reconvene:

Maria recessed the meeting at 2:48pm and it was reconvened at 3:00pm.

July Mini-Show categories: Cactus: *Ferocactus*, *Leuchtenbergia*; Succulent: *Kalanchoe*.

The plants were judged by Ernesto Sandoval and assisted by Graham Scott with overseeing by Terri Straub. Winners in first, second and third place were awarded in novice, intermediate and open categories. The first-place winners will be listed in our Newsletter and on our Website, along with photographs taken by Mike Short. Graham was offered a free plant selection for helping.

New members and guests: Dan Engeln joined at the meeting. He was welcomed and Maria offered him a free plant.

Brag table: No plants were presented.

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

Door prize plants: Cheryl Seiver drew tickets for members to select a free plant and she announced the names of the winners. Cheryl selected a free plant.

Announcements:

Jackie Johnson announcements: She advised that the annual Bromeliad Society Show & Sale would be held at the Palos Verdes Art Center on August 10. Free admission.

In addition, the Peninsula Garden Club is holding a tour of four home gardens on July 26. Admission is free. Contact Jackie to RSVP.

Inter-City Show and Sale: Maria gave high praise and encouragement to attend the Inter-City Show and Sale at the Los Angeles County Arboretum. The sale is August 2 through 4, and the show is on August 3 and 4. Reservations and the admission fee are needed for non-members of the Arboretum; there is no reciprocal admission for South Coast Botanic Garden members.

Minutes: The June 9 Minutes were posted. There were no corrections and the Minutes were accepted as published.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be held on August 11. Our speaker will be Peter Walkowiak talking on "Soil and Fertilizer for Succulents."

August Mini-Show categories: Cactus: *Lobivia*, *Echinopsis*, *Soehrensia*, and *Chamaecereus*; Succulent: *Stapeliads*.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Bernard Johnson gave the Treasurer's Report.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking those who attended and asked for help stacking the chairs. She indicated that a Board meeting would not follow. The meeting was adjourned at 3:24pm.

Submitted by,

Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary