

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, May 19, 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 50 members in attendance. President, Maria Capaldo, called the meeting to order at 1:33pm in the South Coast Botanic Garden Auditorium. She welcomed attendees to the meeting then introduced Nick Renteria, the Show & Sale Chair for the Cactus and Succulent Society.

The annual CSSA Show & Sale will be at the Huntington Botanical Gardens on June 28-30. After describing the activities, Nick asked for volunteers to work inside or outside starting June 26.

Program:

M.A. Bjarkman introduced our speaker Kelly Griffin who talked with energetic passion and humor about his Namibia and South Africa trip. He showed a wide array of succulents growing in quite difficult conditions including lithops, welwitschias and aloes. He also advised that, on Friday, the book “Dudleyas” would be released that he co-authored with Jeff Moore and Jeremy Spath. Members expressed much interest.

A question and answer period followed his talk, which concluded at 2:42pm.

Announcements before the break by Maria:

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. Old CSSA Journals were at the information table for attendees to help themselves.

She announced a break to give folks time to shop our vendors, including Kelly Griffin.

Break-Reconvene:

Maria recessed the meeting at 2:45pm and it was reconvened at 3:05pm.

May Mini-Show categories: Cactus: *Eriosyce*, *Neoporteria*, *Neochilenia*, *Islaya*; Succulent: *Crassula*.

The plants were judged by Kelly Griffin and assisted by Shane Mullen 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. Shane was offered a free plant selection for helping.

Brag Table: Gary Duke displayed a *Denmoza rhodacanthae*, in full flower. He saw this species of plant in habitat in Argentina.

New members and guests: Maria Verderame was welcomed and Maria offered her a free plant.

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

Door prize plants: Marilyn Rubin drew tickets for members to select a free plant and Maria announced the names of the winners. Marilyn selected a free plant.

Announcements by Maria:

Show & Sale / Treasurer's Report: Bernard Johnson provided the Treasury Report.

Maria thanked those who donated their time to volunteer and thanked Terri for managing all of it. She expressed appreciation for those who donated such well grown plants for our Society table. She felt that publicity needs to be better and it would be addressed for next year.

Minutes: The March 17 Minutes were posted. There were no corrections and the Minutes were accepted as published.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on June 9. Our speaker will be Jeff Moore speaking on Dudleyas. He will present the new book, "Dudleyas," that he co-authored with Kelly Griffin and Jeremy Spath.

June Mini-Show categories: Cactus *Gymnocalycium*; Succulent: *Pachypodium*.

Ted Johnson Announcement: Ted advised that the annual Bromeliad Society Show & Sale would be held at the Palos Verdes Art Center on August 10.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking those who attended and it was adjourned at 3:29pm. She indicated that a Board meeting would follow.

Submitted by,

Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary