

## **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, September 8, 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 37 members in attendance. President Maria Capaldo called the meeting to order at 1:35pm in the South Coast Botanic Garden Auditorium. She welcomed attendees to the meeting which she then conducted.

#### **Program:**

M.A. Bjarkman introduced our speaker John Trager whose talk was titled “Succulent Treasures of Taiwan in Habitat and Cultivation.” John’s descriptions of his January 2024 trip were enhanced by his excellent photography. He discussed plants in the mountainous areas along the west side of the island, protected natural areas and nurseries along the east side.

A question and answer period followed his talk which concluded at 2:37pm.

#### **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.

#### **New Business:**

**October meeting location:** Maria announced that our October 13 meeting will be held at the Administrative Building at the Hesse Park Community Center in Ranch Palos Verdes off Hawthorne Boulevard. This venue has ample parking, a ramp down to the entrance, and an outdoor patio where vendors can set up. There will be a map link and instructions in the October Newsletter and on the Website. Make a note in your calendars of the change in location. The room needs to be set up and Maria asked people to arrive at 12:00pm if they are able to help set up chairs and tables.

Maria announced a break to give people time to shop our vendors, including John’s plants.

#### **Break-Reconvene:**

Maria recessed the meeting at 2:40pm and it was reconvened at 2:56pm.

**September Mini-Show categories:** Cactus: *Discocactus* and *Uebelmania* and Succulent: *Sansevieria* and *Dracaena*.

The plants were judged by John Trager and assisted by Ric Dykzeul with overseeing by Terri Straub. John announced the winners in first, second and third place who 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. Ric was offered to select a free plant for helping.

**New members and guests:** No new members were in attendance.

**Brag table:** No plants were presented.

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

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

**Announcements:**

**Minutes:** The August 11 Minutes were posted. There were no corrections and the Minutes were accepted as published.

**Next meeting:** The next meeting will be held on October 13 at the McTaggart Hall in Hesse Park in Rancho Palos Verdes. Our speaker will be determined. We will be back at the Botanic Garden for our November meeting.

**September Mini-Show categories:** Cactus and Succulent: Miniatures (plants of any size in less than 3" containers).

**Reports:**

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

Maria announced that the Board approved to donate \$2,500 to the CSSA annual convention and it will probably be paid to them in January 2025.

Gary Duke is hosting a plant sale on September 14 at his Long Beach home garden. A flyer will be on our Website.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking those who attended. The meeting was adjourned at 3:25pm.

Submitted by,

Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary