

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, January 12, 2025

Board Members:

Maria Capaldo, President
 Terri Straub, Vice President
 Bernard Johnson, Treasurer
 Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary
 Vincent Darmali, At-large Board Member
 Martin Dorsey, 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 53 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. She acknowledged the difficult time due to the fires for many of our friends and family and expressed appreciation to those who attended.

Maria reminded attendees that membership dues of \$20 for the year were now due. She thanked Sally for taking care of membership renewals at the meeting, along with performing all the work she does as Membership Chair.

Program:

M.A. Bjarkman announced Ernesto Sandoval, who spoke on “A Baja California Natural History: The Sonoran Desert’s Land of The Boojum and the Cardon.” His lively talk described the weather in different regions of the peninsula from chaparral in the north to a tropical zone at the southern end. It was enlivened with beautiful photographs of the landscape and particular plants, some of which were hundreds of years old.

His presentation was followed by a question and answer period and concluded at 2:47pm.

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.

Maria introduced the newly-elected Board members and asked them to join her at the front of the room: President: Maria Capaldo, Vice-President: Terri Straub, Secretary: Debra Bushweit Galliani, Treasurer: Bernard Johnson, and At-Large Members: Vince Darmali, Martin Dorsey, and Nancy Sams.

In addition, Sally Fasteau is Membership Chair, Mike Short is Communications Chair, Jim Hanna is Finance Chair, M.A. Bjarkman serves as CSSA Liaison and Braulio Mena (not present) serves as CGCI Liaison.

Plant of the Year: Our Plant of the Year, *Mammillaria perezdelarosae*, was distributed at the Holiday Party and they were also available at this meeting for those who missed the Party.

Maria announced a break to give people time to shop our vendors, including Ernesto who was selling his bulbs.

Break-Reconvene:

Maria recessed the meeting at 2:51pm and it was reconvened at 3:04pm.

January Mini-Show categories: Cactus: Single headed *Mammillaria* and *Cochemia*; and Succulent: *Pelargonium*, *Tylecodon*, and *Sarcocaulon*.

The plants were judged by Ernesto Sandoval and assisted by Teresa Nicoletto with overseeing by Terri Straub. Ernesto 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. Teresa was offered to select a free plant for helping.

New members: We welcomed three new members who were in attendance: Isabel Gregg, Anita Trujillo and David Trujillo.

Brag table: No plants were shown.

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

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

Announcements:

Next Meeting: Maria made a special emphasis that our February meeting takes place at Hesse Park. Tom Glavich will be speaking on "Ice Plants for the Cool Grower."

The Mini-Show for February is: Cactus: *Stenocactus* which includes the older name of *Echinofossulocactus* and Succulent: *Euphorbia* from Madagascar.

Minutes: The November 10 Minutes were posted. There were no corrections and the Minutes were accepted as published.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report: Maria read the Treasurer's Report.

Gary Duke Sale: Maria reported Gary's upcoming plant sale with details on our Website.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking those who attended and it was adjourned at 3:25pm. She announced that there would be a Board meeting to follow.

Submitted by,

Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary