

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 8, 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 44 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 and encouraged members to sign in with Nancy Sams who is helping with membership and put your name in the sprinkling can for a free plant later in the meeting.

Program:

Maria introduced Nick Renteria who presented a program on “Botanical Gardens of Thailand.” Nick has travelled to Thailand extensively and had wonderful photos of the garden there.

Nick invited members to show their plants at the CSSA Show in June. He advised that complimentary tickets to the Show at the Huntington Botanical Gardens are available to our Society members. Mike Short sent an email to members with links. Volunteers who work at the Show get free admission.

His presentation was followed by a question and answer period and concluded at 2:52pm.

Announcements before the break:

Maria asked Nancy 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 apprised attendees of our meeting places for the Fall. The Botanic Garden has made their auditorium unavailable to us for September through December. Hesse Park is available for September and October. However, because of a scheduling conflict our meeting time will have to change for those months to 11:00am-2:00pm. The speaker will start at 11:30am.

In November she has secured Zamperini Field for our meeting place. Although it is small, it will fit the numbers of attendees we have been having. Our Holiday Pot Luck will be December 13. She asked for people to mark it on their calendar since it is the second Saturday, rather than on a Sunday. It will be at the Palos Verdes Art Center.

For 2026, we will try to have a consistent meeting place if the Botanic Garden continues to be unavailable to us.

Show and Sale: The Board discussed the poor showing on Sunday at the Sale and so we decided to have our Show set-up on a Friday morning, with the doors opening for the sale from 1-5pm on Friday and then all day Saturday. I have discussed this with the Palos Verdes Art Center and we will proceed with that plan for next year.

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

Break-Reconvene:

Maria recessed the meeting at 2:58pm and it was reconvened at 3:10pm.

May Mini-Show categories: Cactus and Succulents: Cactus: *Rebutia*, *Aylosteria*, *Weingartia* (includes *Sulcorebutia* and *Scintia*). Succulent: *Mesembs*. No *Lithops* or *Conophytums*.

The plants were judged by Nick Renteria and assisted by June Treherne with overseeing by Terri Straub. Nick announced the winners in first, second and third place who were awarded in novice, intermediate and open categories. The winners will be listed in our Newsletter and on our Website, along with photographs of the first-place winners taken by Mike Short. June was offered to select a free plant for helping.

New members: No new members.

Brag table: None.

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

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

Announcements:

Next Meeting: Keith Taylor will be our speaker on a program to be announced.

The Mini-Show plants for June are: Cactus: *Matucana*, *Oroya*; Succulent: *Echeveria*.

Reports:

Minutes: The May 18 Minutes were posted. There were no corrections, and the Minutes were accepted as published.

Treasurer's Report: Maria read the Treasurer's Report. The balance for June 2025 is \$17,140 and the Sales Tax of \$1,233 is to be paid. The balance for June 2024 was \$19,313.

Bromeliad Show & Sale: Ted Johnson announced the August 9 one-day free event at the Palos Verdes Art Center from 10:00am-4:00pm.

Maria closed the meeting by thanking those who attended and asking for assistance in cleaning around their chair. The meeting was adjourned at 3:31pm.

Assisted by Nancy Sams

Submitted by Debra Bushweit Galliani, Secretary