

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, October 13, 2019

South Coast Botanic Garden, Palos Verdes Peninsula, California

Board Members:

Maria Capaldo, President
 M. A. Bjarkman, Vice-president
 Bernard Johnson, Treasurer
 Sue Wong, Secretary
 David Hodgson, At-large Board Member
 Terri Straub, At-large Board Member
 Clif Wong, At-large Board Member & Newsletter Editor
 Gary Duke, Programs Committee Chair & Speaker
 Co-coordinator
 Sally Fasteau, Membership Committee Chair
 Lou Hagemeyer, CGCI Liaison
 Jim Hanna, Finance Committee Chair & Plant Man

Carol Knight, Show and Sale Coordinator
 Mike Short, Communications Committee
 Chair & Webmaster
 William Wilk, CSSA Liaison

Committee Members (Tasked):

Anita Caplan, Show and Sale Publicist
 Jade Neely, Speaker Co-coordinator
 Ann Nye, Monthly Publicist
 Jim Tanner, Mini-show Coordinator
 Laurel Woodley, Social Media

Attendance: 64 were in attendance.

President Maria Capaldo called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in Frances Young Hall. She welcomed members and guests and asked members to make sure they were signed in and put a ticket in the sprinkling can for door prize plants after the break.

Program: Jade Neely introduced today's speaker, Gunnar Eisel, who gave a presentation on "Astrophytum Revisited." Gunnar is the Executive Director of the CSSA and President of the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society. Jade distributed the handouts for Gunnar showing some common Japanese terms for *Astrophytum* hybrids. Gunnar began by showing us some spectacular examples of *Astrophytums* that he grew. One was raised up to show the caudex and was about twenty years old. Some of the plants in the photos he showed us were from friends and collectors. These plants have been in production for about forty-five years and come from small areas in the southern United States, Texas and northeastern Mexico. The presentation showcased *A. asterias* and *A. myriostigma*. One interesting fact is that *A. asterias* share their habitat with Peyote. Peyote buttons are cut off at the top when harvested and will regenerate, while any *asterias* mistakenly harvested in the same way will not grow back. Some of the plants displayed bold patterns, heavy flocking, feathery petals and extra ribs. Gunnar (a music teacher) couldn't resist giving a short quiz to see if we could identify the species on the screen. He also shared his seed propagating method. Overwatering the plants will produce cracks and underwatering the plants will cause puckering. They are slow growing and don't normally produce offsets, making them a more expensive addition to any collection. Offsets can be produced by coring.

Announcements before the break: Charlie Spencer's name was chosen to help with the door prize plants later on and new member Alan Ronn's name was chosen to help judge the Mini-show. Maria reminded members that there will be a seed propagation workshop today immediately following the meeting. There is space for thirty people. She asked anyone interested who hadn't already signed up to see Sally during the break. Maria also pointed out that there were lots of plants available today on the Free Table. She reminded those who brought refreshments today to put their names on the list in the kitchen. A power point presentation of plants would be running during the break.

Announcements after the break: Maria reconvened the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

Mini-show: Alan Ronn announced the Mini-show winners, aided by Gunnar Eisel and Jim Tanner. This month's plants were: Cactus: *Turbincarpus* and Succulent: *Andromischus*.

The results will be published in the Society's newsletter, *Prickly News*, <https://southcoastcss.org/newsletters> and on our website at <https://southcoastcss.org/>.

Brag table: Dale La Forest brought in his *Sansevieria concinna* which was beginning to flower. It is a plant which grows in Mozambique.

New members: Sally Fasteau introduced new member Alan Ronn, who was offered a free plant.

Birth month plants: Members with October birthdays were asked to choose their free plants. Charlie Spencer picked names while M. A. Bjarkman read them and invited those members to choose their plants. Maria stated that six or seven of the available plants are from the late Maria Jenkins's collection. Maria thanked M. A. for making the coffee and working in the kitchen.

Minutes approval: The Minutes of the September General Meeting, previously distributed, were approved.

REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Programs Committee: November's Mini-show genera are: Cactus: South American columnar cactus (*Espostoa*, *Oreocereus*, *Cleistocactus*, etc.) and Succulent: *Pelargonium*, *Sarcocaulon* and *Tylecodon*. The information will be in the Newsletter. The speakers for November will be John Martinez and Nils Schirrmacher, presenting "Dudleya: Succulent Diversity in Our Own Backyard."

CONCLUDING MATTERS

Maria adjourned the meeting at 3:05 pm. She asked members to please pick up the leftover free plants and help put away the chairs and tables. Those participating in the seed propagation workshop should adjourn to the classroom. Maria thanked all for coming to the meeting.

Submitted, Sue Wong, Secretary