



## November South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter 2024



### President's message

We had a successful meeting at the alternate venue at Hesse Park. It is a comfortable space and vendors sold plants outside on the patio. It's nice to know we have an acceptable and affordable alternative for our meetings. Our next meeting will be back at the Botanic Garden.

**Pot up your plants!** As the cooler weather and shorter days approach, it is time to re-pot the winter growers and get rid of unwanted summer growth. As you do, please consider planting some cuttings in a 3-inch pot (or larger) for our Society sale table at the April Show & Sale (April 5-6, 2025).

Many of you are bringing plants for giveaway at the meetings and if you could pot and nurse them until April for donation, it would be greatly appreciated. I usually start potting for the show in November or earlier to get plants that are well established for the April Show & Sale.

**Website link.** I received a communication from a tutor who reported that he and his students were using our Website for information on a school garden project. One of his students, Michelle, found another website that is very informative and which she shared with us. [www.austinrealestate.com/growing-cacti-at-home.php](http://www.austinrealestate.com/growing-cacti-at-home.php). It is a useful site with good links. It would be a great reference for someone new to the hobby receiving a gift plant. Thank you Michelle!

**Our speaker** for this month, Keith Taylor, will give us a presentation on making the transition between the summer and winter growing seasons. He has terrific pots and plants for sale, grows his plants hard and is always a wonderful speaker. Please join us.

Maria Capaldo

## South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Meeting

November 10, 2024 1:00-4:00pm  
South Coast Botanic Garden  
26300 Crenshaw Blvd.  
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

### PRESENTATION



Keith Taylor  
"Transitioning from Summer to Winter Growers"



To learn more, go to  
<https://.southcoastcss.org>



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# Speaker of the Month

# Keith Taylor



## PRESENTER FOR NOVEMBER

### "Transitioning from Summer to Winter Growers"

In the Central Valley, it can be tricky making the transition from summer to winter growers. Evenings are cool and days are warm. Keith will talk about what he has learned over the eight years of living in the Valley. He will bring specimens from his collection and pottery available for purchase.

Keith Taylor began collecting caudiciform succulents in 1991 after seeing a large *Cyphostemma juttae* in the ground at a local botanical garden. "I was drawn to size and grotesque shape of the trunk." The *Cyphostemma* he saw is also the first succulent he purchased. His collection is now more than 800 plants. He grows them in plastic pots and raised beds. Keith prefers his succulents to look like habitat specimens rather than cultivated plants. He grows his plants hard, meaning limited water, little to no feeding and hot sun to give them the look of collected plants. His favorites include *Cyphostemma*, *Fockea*, *Fouquieria*, *Pachypodium*, *Pachycormus*, *Tylecodon*, *Othonna*, *Pelargonium*, *Mesemb*s and *Euphorbia*. Roughly five per cent of his collection are tuberous rooted cacti, *Lophophora*, *Peniocereus*, *Turbinicarpus*, *Mammillaria*, *Leuchtenbergia* and *Ariocarpus*.

In 2008, Keith began creating pots to show off his plants. He believes the pot should compliment, not distract. The main focus should be the succulent. If the pot is too ornate, colorful, or shiny, it draws your eye toward the pot rather than the succulent. Also proportion plays a roll. The container needs to be the right width and depth to look balanced. For example, if the succulent is placed in the center of the container surrounded by colorful stones it will look artificial and awkward. Rocks and topdressing add to complete the presentation. His pottery is sought after by cactus and succulent collectors as well as bonsai artists due to the natural look of the containers.

Keith sells his work at club meetings and shows, bonsai clubs, online through Instagram, and on his website. He accepts custom orders and ships worldwide.

Keith's Instagram page is: <https://www.instagram.com/kitoi>

Keith's website is: <https://palmstreet.app/u/kitoi?pr=Wh5hYdaH>



# ELECTION TIME

It's election time! Election of Board of Directors members will take place at our upcoming November meeting. Their one-year term will start January 2025.

The slate is as follows:

**President:** Maria Capaldo (incumbent)

**Vice-President:** Terri Straub (incumbent)

**Secretary:** Debra Bushweit Galliani (incumbent)

**Treasurer:** Bernard Johnson (incumbent)

**Members at Large:**

Vince Darmali (incumbent)

Martin Dorsey

Nancy Sams (incumbent)

If anyone is interested in adding their name to the slate of nominees, please contact Bob Caplan at [arcaplan2@gmail.com](mailto:arcaplan2@gmail.com). We will also give members an opportunity to nominate from the floor before the election process at the November meeting.

**Duties of each office:** A detailed description can be found on line in our Operating Procedures.

**President:** Prepares agenda for and runs General and Board Meetings, secures meeting sites, updates and reviews website for meetings and other events, writes message in monthly Newsletter, oversees functions of Committees and other Board members.

**Vice-President:** Serves as President and assumes duties when President unable to attend meetings.

**Secretary:** Records and distributes Minutes, reviews Bylaws and Operating Procedures.

**Treasurer:** Keeps the financial records, accepts dues, pays expenses, files taxes, arranges for credit card payments at Show & Sale.

**Members At Large:** Represents the General Membership at Board meetings, reviews minutes, assists in running the Society as members of the Board.

## Standing Committee Openings

**Newsletter Editor:** This Newsletter is prepared by your President and she needs someone to step up and help or take over the job. It is really difficult to do two demanding jobs. Articles are always appreciated.

**Publicity:** Ann Nye would appreciate help with Publicity for the Show & Sale. It would involve sending emails, notifying publications, and developing stories for social media.

**Plant Rescue Person:** We frequently get requests for rescuing plants from a property that is either being sold or has plants in pots that are no longer desired.

**Back-up Person:** For duties like Secretary, Treasurer and Membership when they are unavailable to perform their duties at meetings.



November  
2024

## Mini-Show Plant of the Month Cactus

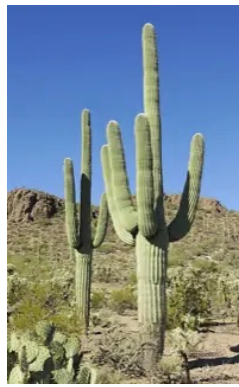
North American Columnar Cacti are this month's Mini-Show Plant of the Month. Columnar cacti belong to the Cactaceae family, and consist of erect, cylinder-shaped stems, which may or may not branch, without a very clear division into trunk and branches. They have ribs and spines which run vertically along their length with great variation in spacing of ribs and number of spines.

Some cacti may become tree-sized but without branches, such as larger specimens of *Echinocactus platyacanthus*. Cacti may also be described as shrubby, with several stems coming from the ground or from branches very low down, such as in *Stenocereus thurberi*.

Cacti that are smaller than the tree-like (arborescent) ones may be described as columnar. The boundary between columnar forms and tree-like or shrubby forms is difficult to define. Smaller and younger specimens of *Cephalocereus senilis*, for example, are columnar, whereas older and larger specimens may become tree-like. In some cases, the "columns" may be horizontal rather than vertical. For example, *Stenocereus eruca* has stems growing horizontally along the ground, rooting at intervals.

Columnar cacti are important sources of food and shelter for many desert animals. Their flowers produce nectar and pollen for pollinators, and their fruits provide food for animals. Birds make holes in saguaros for nesting, and great horned owls and red-tailed hawks build nests in the cacti's arms.

In cultivation, columnar cacti need to be grown in direct, bright light. If grown indoors, place at a sunny south facing window. Pot in well-drained soil and allow to dry between watering.

*Myrtillocactus cochal**Carnegiea gigantea* (saguaro)*Myrtillocactus geometrizans**Pilosocereus leucocephalus**Cephalocereus senilis**Pilosocereus polygonus*

November  
2024

## Mini-Show Plant of the Month Succulent

DNA research has come up with some changes in the *Senecio* taxonomy and so some of the succulent plants previously designated as *Senecio* have been split into the following genera: *Caputia*, *Curio*, *Kleinia*, and *Senecio*. They are all members of the family Asteraceae. In general, all four genera are very drought and heat tolerant and not very cold tolerant. They grow best in full sun. A few species can tolerate brief periods of cold or dampness, but prolonged exposure will turn them to mush.

The leaves are thick and fleshy and can be deep green, bluish or even striped. The leaves of these succulents vary widely in shape. Some are round, some banana-shaped, some stand upright. The flowers form in clusters on long stems. Different species bloom at different times throughout the year. The flowers persist for weeks. Shapes include red or white spires and yellow daisy-like flowers, but it is really the foliage that interests most gardeners. Many of their species are toxic to animals and humans if ingested.

Most plants of these genera are low growing, under 1 foot tall. Depending on genera, they may spread out and be used as groundcover or trail down about 1 foot or more.

**Caputia:** Usually those with a hairy coating on the white leaves. These include:

- Caputia oribiensis* (= *Senecio oribiensis*)
- Caputia pyramidata* (= *Senecio pyramidatus*)
- Caputia medley-woodii* (= *Senecio medley-woodii*)
- Caputia scaposa* (= *Senecio calamifolius* or *Senecio scaposus*)
- Caputia tomentosa* (= *Senecio haworthii*)

**Curio:** Plants in the genus are evergreen succulents with long, striated leaves and discoid flower heads lacking ray florets. Many of the hanging or sprawling *Senecio* have been placed in this genera.

- Curio radicans* (= *Senecio radicans*)
- Curio rowleyanus* (= *Senecio rowleyanus*)
- Curio herreianus* (= *Senecio herreianus*)

**Kleinia:** Has long been a separate genus, now includes some of the following:

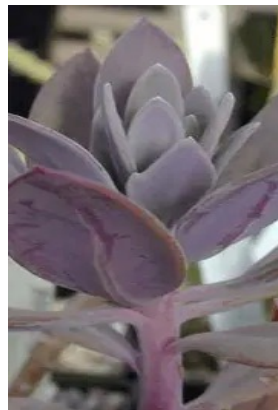
- Kleinia anteuphorbium* (= *Senecio anteuphorbium*)
- Kleinia grantii* (= *Senecio coccineiflorus*)
- Kleinia obesa* (= *Senecio deflersii*)
- Kleinia fulgens* (= *Senecio fulgens*)



*Caputia tomentosa*  
(= *Senecio haworthii*)



*Curio* (= *Senecio*) *rowleyanus*



*Kleinia grantii*  
(= *Senecio coccineiflorus*)



*Senecio x kleiniiformis*



*Curio talinoides* var. *mandraliscae*  
(= *Senecio mandraliscae*)



**Cactus**



- 1st - Gary Duke - *Ariocarpus kotschoubeyanus*
- 2nd - Gary Duke - *Pelecypora abdita*
- 3rd - Maria Capaldo - × *Echinopsis* 'Los Angeles'

**Open**

**Succulent**



- 1st - Gary Duke - *Adromischus marianiae* var. *immaculatus*
- 2nd - Gary Duke - *Lithops aucampiae*
- 3rd - Gary Duke - *Tylecodon stenocaulis*
- 3rd - Phyllis DeCrescenzo - *Aloe suprafoliata*

**Intermediate**



- 1st - Bernard Johnson - *Epithelantha micromeris*
- 2nd - Terri Straub - *Opuntia rufida*
- 3rd - Anita Caplan - *Mammillaria*, crested



- 1st - Terri Straub - *Lithops*
- 2nd - Bernard Johnson - *Kalanchoe humilis*
- 3rd - Terri Straub - *Euphorbia mammillaris*

October

2024

Mini-Show October Winners

Novice

Cactus



1st - Martin Dorsey - *Strombocactus disciformis*

2nd - Braulio Mena - *Opuntia rufida*

3rd - Martin Dorsey - *Mammillaria perezdelarosae* subsp. *andersoniana*

Succulent



1st - Martin Dorsey - *Ornithogalum sardienii*

2nd - Martin Dorsey - *Crassula columnaris*

3rd - Braulio Mena - *Anacampseros quinaria* subsp. *alstonii*

3rd - Braulio Mena - *Lapidaria margaretae*

Mini-Show Standings October, 2024

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals
MA Bjarkman		3	3	Anita Caplan	6	21	27	Maria Capaldo	46	43	89
Martha Bjerke		19	19	Bonnie Ikemura	1	7	8	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	35	47	82
Vince Darmali	15	9	24	Bernard Johnson	37	36	73	Gary Duke	65	33	98
Martin Dorsey	50	63	113	Lemono Lott		1	1	Sally Fasteau	5	2	7
Debra Galliani	1	3	4	Mike Short	2	42	44	Jim Gardner		37	37
Braulio Mena	20	18	38	Terri Straub	78	45	123	Jim Hanna		5	5
Shane Mullen	7		7					Laurel Woodley	1	6	7
ohn Nisewaner		6	6								
Linda Ohara		12	12								
Joe Tillotson	2	1	3								
Liz Ying	16	11	27								

<b>2024-2025 Mini-Show Calendar</b>		
<b><u>Month</u></b>	<b><u>Cactus</u></b>	<b><u>Succulent</u></b>
<b>November</b>	North American Columnar Cacti ( <i>Saguaro</i> , <i>Cereus</i> , etc.)	<i>Senecio</i> , <i>Caputia</i> , <i>Curio</i> , <i>Kleinia</i> and hybrids
<b>December</b>	Holiday Pot Luck	Holiday Pot Luck
<b>January 2025</b>	<i>Mammillaria</i> and <i>Cochemiea</i> , single-headed	<i>Pelargonium</i> , <i>Sarcocaulon</i> , and <i>Tylecodon</i>
<b>February 2025</b>	<i>Stenocactus</i> , <i>Echinofossulocactus</i>	<i>Euphorbia</i> from Madagascar
<b>March 2025</b>	<i>Thelocactus</i>	<i>Aeonium</i> , <i>Greenovia</i>
<b>April 2025</b>	Show and Sale	Show and Sale
<b>May 2025</b>	Dish Garden	Dish Garden
<b>June 2025</b>	<i>Rebutia</i> , <i>Aylosteria</i> , <i>Sulcorebutia</i> , <i>Weingartia</i>	Mesembs (no <i>Lithops</i> or <i>Conophytums</i> )
<b>July 2025</b>	<i>Matucana</i> , <i>Oroyo</i>	<i>Echeveria</i>
<b>August 2025</b>	<i>Epithelantha</i> , <i>Frailea</i> , <i>Aztekium</i>	<i>Dyckia</i> , <i>Hechtia</i>
<b>September 2025</b>	<i>Variegated Cactus</i>	<i>Variegated Succulent</i>
<b>October 2025</b>	<i>Turbinocarpus</i>	<i>Adromischus</i>

### Mini-Show Rules

Exhibitors must be Society members and must be present at the meeting in order to receive points. One name representing the same household must be used unless plants are grown separately. Mini-Show coordinator will be consulted if there is any question of entry identity.

Any container may be used, including plastic, as long as it is clean. All plants must be groomed and free of pests and disease. There are two plant categories, "Cactus" and "Succulents." Up to three plants per individual may be entered in each category.

#### Scoring:

First Place: 6 points  
 Second place: 4 points  
 Third place: 2 points  
 Placement: all entries that are not disqualified: 1 point.

An individual plant may be entered only once a year.

There are three entry classes: "Novice," "Intermediate," and "Open." Only members new to the hobby would be expected to be in the Novice class.

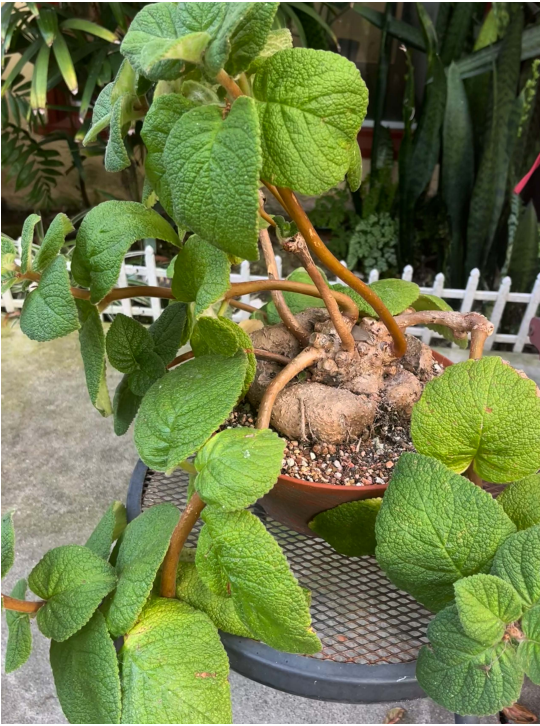
After the November meeting, members' point totals will be reviewed by the Board of the Society.

Novice members awarded more than 64 points or winning at least 6 first place awards may be asked to move to the Intermediate class in both categories. Intermediate members awarded more than 64 points or winning at least 6 first place awards, may be asked to begin showing in the Open class.

All plants must be grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of six months for Novice and Intermediate and one year for Open class.



## Member photos



*Sinningia* by M.A. Bjarkman



*Lobivia draxleriana* hybrid by Debra Bushweit Galliani



*Echinopsis* 'Citron Sunshine' by Debra Bushweit Galliani



*Euphorbia milii* hybrid by Laurel Woodley

# Upcoming Events



**HUNTINGTON FALL PLANT SALE**  
 Reservations Required  
**Fri., Nov. 1, 2024, 10 a.m.-5 p.m**  
**Sat., Nov. 2, 2024, 10 a.m.-5 p.m**  
**Sun., Nov. 3, 2024, 10 a.m.-5 p.m**  
**Huntington Botanical Gardens**  
**1151 Oxford Rd.**  
**San Marino, CA**



**SOUTH COAST CACTUS  
 AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
 MEETING**

**PRESENTER: Keith Taylor**  
**November 10, 2024 1:00-4:00 pm**  
**SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN**  
**Frances Young Hall**  
**26300 Crenshaw Blvd.**  
**Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274**



**SOUTH COAST CACTUS  
 AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
 Holiday Party**

**December 8, 2024 1:00-3:00 pm**  
**SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDEN**  
**Frances Young Hall**  
**26300 Crenshaw Blvd.**  
**Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274**

For more information and to learn more



## 2024 Board of Directors

**OFFICERS:**

President

Maria Capaldo

Vice President

Terri Straub

Treasurer

Bernard Johnson

Secretary

Debra Bushweit Galliani

At Large Board Members

Martha Bjerke

Vince Darmali

Nancy Sams

**STANDING COMMITTEES:**

Show and Sale

Terri Straub

Programs Chair

M.A. Bjarkman

Finance Chair

Jim Hanna

Mini-Show Coordinator

Terri Straub

Communications

Chair Mike Short

Webmaster Mike Short

Newsletter Maria Capaldo

Publicity Ann Nye

Facebook Laurel Woodley

Instagram Nancy Sams

Membership

Chair Sally Fasteau

Speaker Coordinators

M.A. Bjarkman

Braulio Mena

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