



December South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter 2025



President's message

We could not secure the Botanic Garden for our Holiday Pot Luck, so the PV Art Center will be a different and fun venue. It is only available on a Saturday, so take note of the date. I hope to see you there.

I would like to acknowledge members who have contributed in so many ways to our Society this past year. My personal thanks go to the following:

Mike Short, for managing our Website, Events Calendar, photography of Mini-Show plants, sending out communications to all the members, and setting up microphones at meetings.

Debra Bushweitt Galliani, for her work as Secretary in 2025, documenting and archiving minutes, taking on the work of Treasurer for the last 2 months and auditing the books. She also helps edit the Newsletter, and posts photography and videos of meetings.

Sally Fasteau, our Membership Chair, for maintaining our membership directory, greeting members at meetings, and welcoming new members.

Terri Straub, for serving as Vice-President, managing the Mini-Show, which involves tallying the Mini-Show results at meetings and contributing information on the plants of the month in our Newsletter, and volunteer coordinator for the Show & Sale.

Jim Hanna, for coordinating the vendors for the Show & Sale, supplying plants, and distributing information.

M.A. Bjarkman, speaker coordinator and liaison to CSSA.

Ann Nye, for publicity for our Show & Sale and monthly meetings.

Bob Caplan, for being the Nominating Committee in 2025.

Laurel Woodley, for her photography at meetings, posting on Facebook for the Society and willingness to be a source of advice for our Mini-Show and member questions.

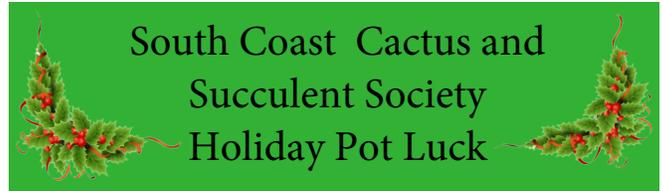
Vince Darmali, for serving as Member-at-Large and helping with meeting set-up.

Martin Dorsey, for serving as Member-at-Large.

Nancy Sams, for serving as Member-at-Large, posting on Instagram and helping Sally with membership at meetings.

There are so many tasks to keep our meetings running and to make our Show & Sale successful; so many of you have helped in some way. I thank you all for your contributions.

Maria Capaldo



South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Holiday Pot Luck

Saturday-PLEASE NOTE DIFFERENT DAY

December 13, 2025 1:00-3:00pm

Palos Verdes Art Center

5504 Crestridge Rd.

Rancho Palos Verdes, Ca. 90275



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



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<https://www.instagram.com/sccs>

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Holiday Pot Luck

Our Holiday Pot Luck will be held on Saturday, December 13, at the Palos Verdes Art Center.

The festivities will start at 1:00 pm in the Atrium. We will start set-up at 12:00 noon. Anyone with a flair for decorating is encouraged to come at that time.

The Society will provide prime rib and ham, paper plates, cups, and plastic utensils. Coffee, tea and water will be available. You may bring your own drink if you want something else.

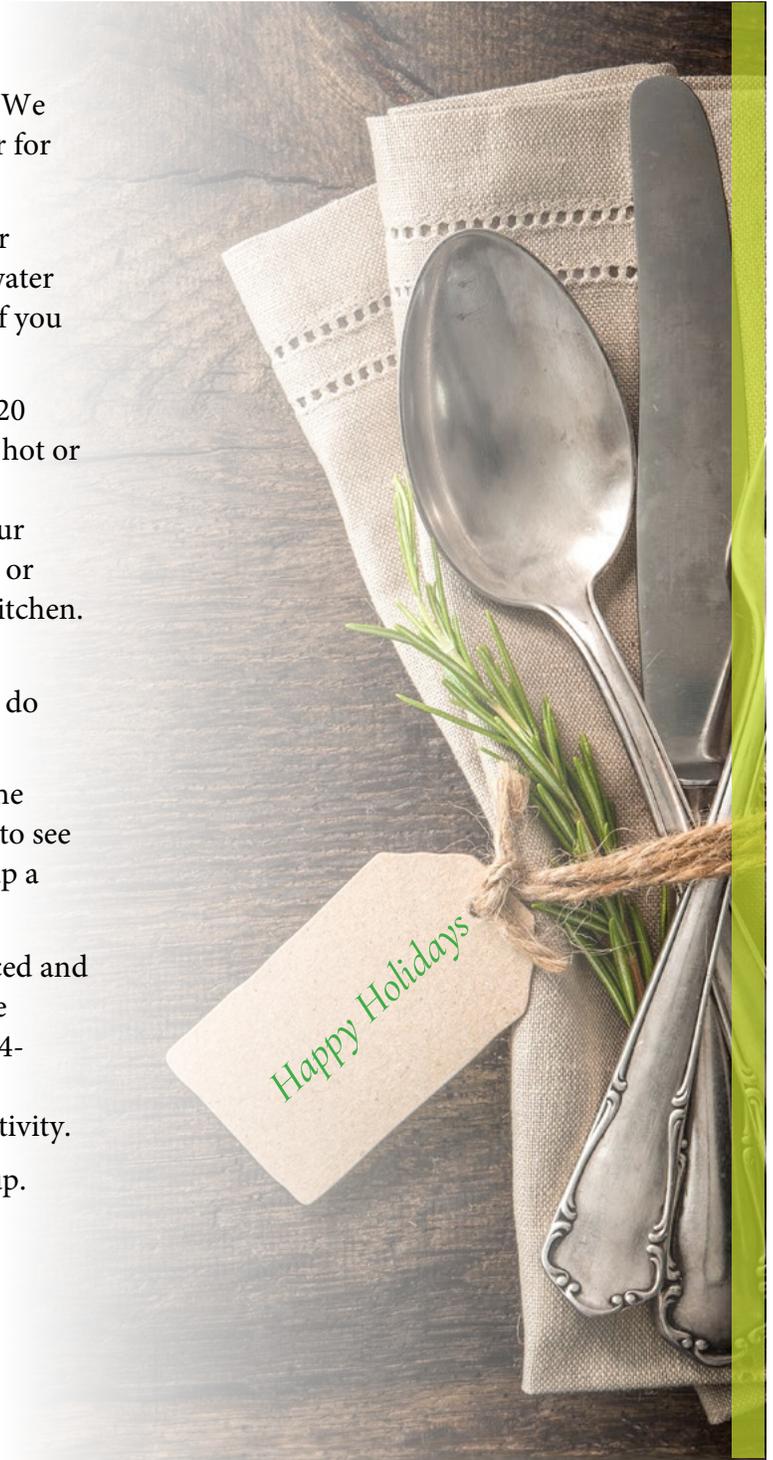
Please bring a covered dish for small servings for 20 people. It can be a salad, appetizer, casserole, side hot or cold dish or dessert. (Try to keep desserts to a minimum.) Don't forget a serving utensil with your name on it. Please bring your food already heated or chilled. We are unable to warm things up in the kitchen.

Adult guests will be permitted with a paid \$10 admission. Check in with Sally at the door. Please do not bring young children.

This is the time to show off your 2025 "Plant of the Year", *Mammillaria perezdelarosae*. It will be fun to see how they did – dead or alive. Members can pick up a 2026 "Plant of the Year" at the party.

The Mini-Show winners for 2025 will be announced and prize plants will be awarded to the people with the highest point totals. We will award to the highest 4-point total in each category. Thanks to all who participated in this interesting and educational activity.

After we adjourn, please pitch-in and help clean up. We expect to adjourn around 3:00 pm.



2025 Plant of the year: *Mammillaria perezdelarosae*

November
2025

Mini-Show Winners

OPEN CACTUS



1st - Maria Capaldo
Espostoa species



2nd - Phyllis DeCrescenzo
Espostoa melanostele



2nd - Maria Capaldo
Oreocereus trollii



3rd - Gary Duke
Espostoa blossfeldiorum

OPEN SUCCULENT



1st - Phyllis DeCrescenzo
Lithops karasmontana



2nd - Maria Capaldo
Conophytum species



3rd - Gary Duke
Lithops aucampiae

INTERMEDIATE CACTUS



1st - Mike Short
Oreocereus trollii



2nd - Anita Caplan
Peniocereus greggii

November
2025

Mini-Show Winners

INTERMEDIATE SUCCULENT



1st - Terri Straub -
Lithops species



2nd - Anita Caplan
Rhombophyllum species



3rd - Terri Straub
Conophytum bilobum

NOVICE CACTUS-no entries

NOVICE SUCCULENT



1st - Martha Bjerke
Lithops species



2nd - Liz Ying
Lithops species



3rd - Martha Bjerke
Lithops species

Mini-Show Standings 2025

Novice Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals	Intermediate Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals	Open Class	Cactus	Succulents	Totals
Julie Biggs		6	6	Anita Caplan	18	22	40	Maria Capaldo	66	55	121
M. A. Bjarkman	6	7	13	Martin Dorsey	11	14	25	Phyllis DeCrescenzo	57	68	125
Martha Bjerke		19	19	Sally Fasteau		3	3	Gary Duke	29	15	44
Bob Caplan		2	2	Bonnie Ikemura	5	22	27	Jim Gardner		32	32
Vince Darmali	22	7	29	Jackie Johnson	2	3	5	Jim Hanna		5	5
Lupe Hulett		1	1	Lemono Lott		12	12	Laurel Woodley		35	35
Shane Mullen	5	8	13	Mike Short	7	19	26				
George Unrine		1	1	Terri Straub	66	58	124				
Judy Unrine		4	4								
Liz Ying	17	33	50								

2026 Mini-Show Calendar

<u>Month</u>	<u>Cactus</u>	<u>Succulent</u>
January	<i>Mammillaria</i> – straight spine (clumping)	<i>Haworthia, Astroloba, Tulista, Haworthiopsis,</i>
February	Epiphytic cactus	<i>Aloe, Kumara</i>
March	<i>Echinocactus, Kroenleinia</i>	<i>Cissus, Cyphostemma, Dorstenia</i>
April	Show and Sale	Show and Sale
May	<i>Astrophytum</i>	<i>Agave, Mangave</i> and hybrids
June	<i>Opuntia, Tephrocactus, Cyllindropuntia, Australocyllindropuntia</i>	<i>Euphorbia</i> (not from Madagascar)
July	Melocactus	Bromeliaceae (other than <i>Dyckia, Hechtia</i>)
August	Copiapoa	<i>Graptopetalum, Graptoveria, Pachyveria</i>
September	<i>Notocactus, Parodia</i>	<i>Sedum, Pachyphytum, Sempervivum, Graptosedum</i>
October	<i>Ariocarpus, Obregonia</i>	<i>Adenium, Adenia</i>
November	Crested and Monstrose	Crested and Monstrose
December	Holiday Pot-Luck	Holiday Pot-Luck

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

Photos by Laurel Woodley



Oxalis gracilis



Lithops aucampiae



Oxalis ambigua



Oxalis nortieri

Tricocereus 'Cherry Red'
by Debra Galliani



IN MEMORIAM

This past month we lost Bernard Johnson, a member of our Society since 2009 and Treasurer since 2011. Bernard's kindness and sense of humor were enjoyed by many. His dedication to the financial well-being of our Society was evident in his passionate opinions on spending.

A long-time gardener, Bernard's interest in succulents was influenced by his attendance at the 2009 CSSA Convention in Tucson. He promptly joined two clubs (also a member of the Sunset Succulent Society), agreed to serve as Treasurer two years later, bought prize cacti and succulents and eventually won a trophy at the CSSA Show.

With his love of cooking, he contributed to our Pot Luck meals both at Holiday Parties and the Show & Sale.

His presence at our events and in our lives will be sorely missed.



Online access to form is at: <https://southcoastcss.org/join/>

South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Membership Application

Make check payable to: **South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society**

Mail form and payment to: **Sally Fasteau**
30728 Rue de la Pierre
Date _____ **Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275**

Name: _____

Our membership year begins January 1 and ends December 31.

_____ New Member \$25 Please Print and fill in all information.

_____ Renewal Member \$25 For renewals, only complete info that has changed.

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

The above information will be included in our Membership Directory (for use by members only). If you wish to exclude any of the above information from the Directory, please indicate your exclusions here.

Do not publish my _____ email _____ phone _____ address

SCCSS is a 501 3C organization. In addition to your dues you may make an optional charitable donation to support our philanthropic endeavors as well as the operating expenses of the organization. If you choose to do so, please indicate the amount _____. You will receive a donation receipt. Thank you.

I agree to have my information published in the Membership Directory with noted exceptions.

_____ Date _____
Signature

Sally Fasteau, Membership Chair
sallyfasteau@cox.net
310-867-9693 m.

11/16/2025

-----below information is for office use only-----

Date _____ Check # _____ Cash _____ Amount _____ Donation Receipt _____

Welcome _____ Master _____ Dir. _____ Address _____ Badge _____ Sign in _____ Plant _____

Upcoming Events

The Duke's Rare Plant & Pottery ANNUAL HOLIDAY SALE

SATURDAY, DEC 6TH

9AM TO 2PM

4660 Rio Ave, Long Beach, Ca

Additional parking in the back behind Johnny Reb's

[@garyduke53](#)

[@east_los_succulents](#)

[@rojassucculents](#)

[@port_town_pottery,](#)

[@potterybypatrice,](#)

[@myfriendroze.d.d.succulents,](#)

[@southbayplantitas](#)



South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society

Holiday Pot Luck
Saturday, December 13, 2025
12:00pm Set-up
1:00-3:00pm Festivities
Palos Verdes Art Center
5504 Crestridge Rd.
Rancho Palos Verdes



South Coast Cactus and Succulent Society Meeting

Sunday, January 11, 2026
11:00am-2:00pm
GARY DUKE "Bolivia in Bloom"
Fred Hesse Jr. Community Park
McTaggart Hall
29301 Hawthorne Blvd.
Rancho Palos Verdes



For more information and to learn more

2025 Board of Directors

OFFICERS:

President

Maria Capaldo

Vice President

Terri Straub

Treasurer

Debra Bushweit Galliani

Secretary

Debra Bushweit Galliani

At Large Board Members

Vince Darmali

Martin Dorsey

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 Coordinator

M.A. Bjarkman

LIAISONS

CGCI: Debra Bushweit Galliani

CSSA: M.A. Bjarkman

