

Thorny Issues

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society

February 2020

Volume 63, II

Next Meeting: Monday, February 24th

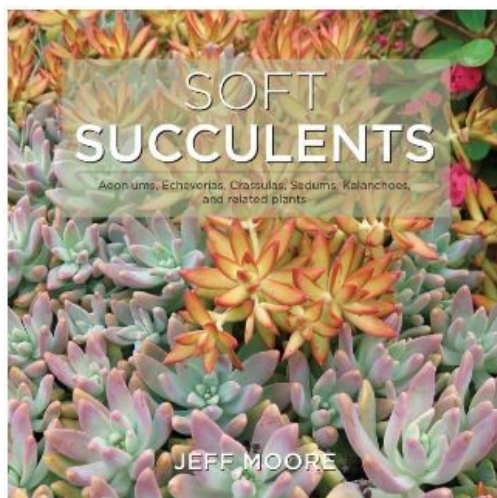
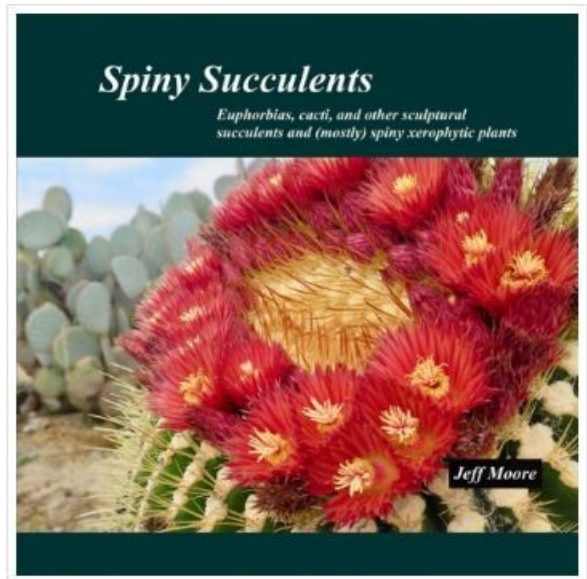
February Program

SPINY SUCCULENTS WITH JEFF MOORE

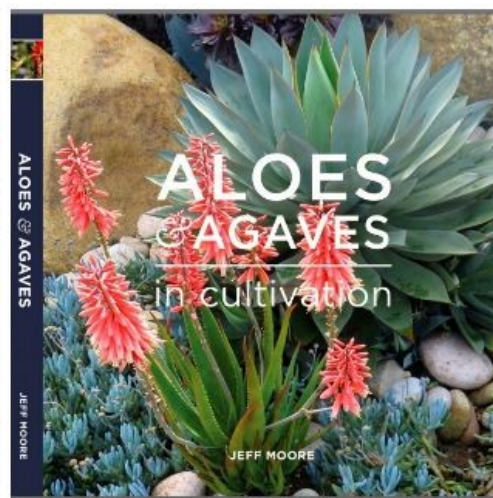
Jeff Moore will be our speaker to talk about **Spiny Succulents**. He has just published a book with the same name and will have copies available for purchase. The book celebrates the primarily spiny succulents in cultivation— cacti, euphorbias, alluaudias, pachypodiums, fouquierias, and bromeliads. Jeff had spoken to our club on several previous occasions and we look forward to an evening of beautiful images of mostly mature specimen plants taken in collector or grower's yards or botanical gardens. Jeff will discuss them from a grower/collector's perspective and offer any insights about incorporating them in your own garden. **Spiny Succulents**, released in October of 2019, is a follow up to his book **Soft Succulents** which was released in December of 2017.



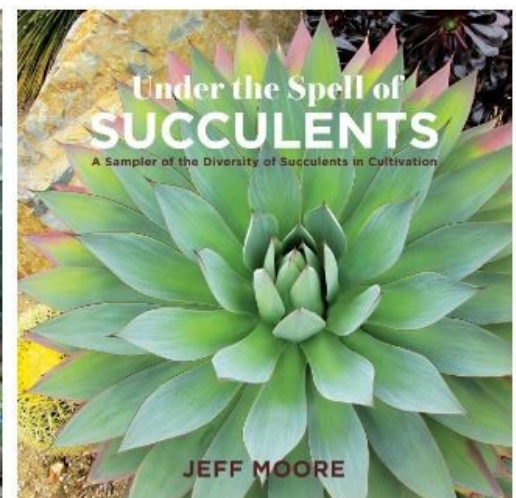
Jeff is the owner of Solana Succulents, a small specialty nursery in Solana Beach, CA near San Diego and has written 4 books on succulents over the past 6 years. Be sure to check out some of his other titles that we currently have in the club's library. His books are loaded with thousands of beautiful full color photographs; a visual tour through the world of succulents.



2017



2016



2014

February Mini Show

SUCCULENT: CRASSULA

Crassula is a diverse and extensive genus of succulent plants, with about 350 species. They are members of the stonecrop (*Crassulaceae*) family and are native to many parts of the globe, but cultivated varieties originate almost exclusively from species from the Eastern Cape. Probably the most well-known is the Jade plant (*Crassula ovata*). Because of the shapes and forms of their leaves, Crassula plants lend themselves to very descriptive common names. *Crassula barklyi*, the 'Rattlesnake Plant,' looks like the tip of the snake's tail. *Crassula argentea*, is called 'Living Coral.'



Crassula perforata, with its twirling leaves stacked one on top of another is known as 'String of Buttons.' Crassulas are usually propagated by stem or leaf cuttings. Most cultivated forms will tolerate some small degree of frost, but extremes of cold or heat will cause them to lose foliage and die.



CACTUS: ERIOSYCE, NEOPORTERIA AND NEOCHILENIA

Eriosyce is a group of mostly globose or somewhat cylindrical South American species. Despite this, the default listing here of Eriosyce includes species that are considered unique even today. The two primary names still used today are Neoporteria and Neochilenia with a third name of Islaya being used as a monotypic genus of one species. All three of these names are still commonly found on tags in cactus growers' collections as well as in the cactus nursery trade. Many species have been given both the name Neochilenia and Neoporteria at some time in the past. However, modern growers distinguish them in this way. Neochilenia have short to no spines and funnel shaped flowers that enable the inner part of the flower to be clearly seen when fully open. The floral tubes of Neochilenia are hairy and these later form hollow, fleshy fruits. In contrast, species in the Neoporteria group have denser, longer spines in general than Neochilenia. The flowers are bright pink with yellow interiors and are more of a tube shape as the inner petals remain mostly closed. The outer petals flare out and thus, the flower is not truly a tube shape as other cactus genera, but even when fully open, the inner parts of the flowers are still obscured by petals. The floral tubes may have a little fuzz and form similar fruits to the Neochilenia group. The plants considered Islaya are highly variable and cover a large range in Chile and Peru. In total, plants in the genus Eriosyce and related genera are rugged survivors of arid South American deserts, and occur at high altitudes where they endure big temperature swings and high UV. To deal with the harsh climate, the plants will sit dormant until conditions are again favorable. This environmentally controlled growth leads to a big discrepancy between plants in habitat and those in cultivation even of the same species. Plants in cultivation with sparse spines and plump round stems may be flattened and covered with spines so dense that the stem is not visible at all. This variation, as well as the differences described above, has led to an enormous amount of synonymous names being published.



January Mini Show Winners

Succulent Category

- 1st Place: Keith Taylor *Fockea crispa*
- 2nd Place: Penny Newell *Euphorbia squarrosa*
- 3rd Place: Elaine Thomas *Ficus microcarpa*

Cactus Category

- 1st Place: Keith Taylor *Mammillaria bertolini*
- 2nd Place: Cassidy Roberts-Yee *Mammillaria rhodantha*
- 3rd Place: Dennis Ragasa *Mammillaria geminispina var. nobilis*

Upcoming Mini-Show Categories-

Month	Cactus	Succulent
March	Lobivia, Echinopsis	Dudleya, Cotyledon, Tylecodon
April	Columnar cactus	Senecio
June	Gymnocalycium	Kalanchoe

President's Corner

The Board met on January 13 and 27 to put together our 2020 budget which can be found on page 5 of this newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact our Treasurer, Greg Lang via email at gmlcpa@aol.com. If you wish to recommend changes please email me at president@sacramentocss.com before the next meeting. We will vote to adopt the budget at the February meeting.

The Board will be meeting once each quarter in the first month of the remaining quarters (April, July and October) on the second Monday of that month. Meetings will be held at Shanghai Gardens at the corner of H Street and Alhambra beginning at 6:30pm. Meetings of the Board is for Board members and committee chairs including chairs for the annual show and sale. The meeting is open to all members.

The Board is seeking a member to meet with our treasurer at a mutually agreed time to review our financial records and report to the members. We don't need a licensed CPA but some financial experience would be helpful. Contact either the president or treasurer at the email above.

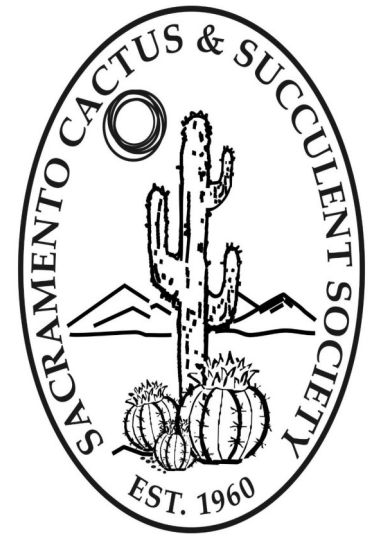
The Board will be forming a Constitution Committee to review the constitution and recommend changes to be approved by the members. Please contact the president if you can help. It will require attendance at one two hour working meeting and then reviewing the revised draft via email. We are seeking two members from the general membership or participants on any committees. No experience necessary.

We would appreciate any help you can provide to volunteer some time and improve our Society.

Thank you,
Mariel Dennis
President

2020 Board of Directors

President-	Mariel Dennis	President@sacramentocss.com
Vice President-	Theresa Roberts	VP@sacramentocss.com
Secretary-	Gerhart Bock	webmaster@sacramentocss.com
Treasurer-	Greg Lang	gmlcpa@aol.com
Past President-	Steve Goodman	
Webmaster-	Gerhart Bock	webmaster@sacramentocss.com
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Newsletter-	Kris McAninch	SCSSNewsletter@yahoo.com
Librarian-	George Krigas	
National Assoc. Affiliate:	Marilynn Vilas	
Refreshments-	Michelle Schwanberg	
Mini Show-	Shawnee Giles & Steve Goodman	
Drawing Ticket Sales-	Cindy Murrel & Chere' Peterson	
Door Prize Plants-	Chere' Peterson & Cassidy Roberts-Yee	
Sunshine Committee-	Marilynn Vilas	
Annual Show Co-Chairs-	Mariel Dennis & Keith Taylor	
Annual Country Store-	Holly Maxwell	



The 2020 Membership dues for the SCSS are due NOW!

The Membership dues are \$15 per person or \$20 per family for one calendar year. Lifetime memberships are also available for a one-time payment of \$100. Please see Carole Hada for more information at the next meeting or you can download the membership forms on the website at www.sacramentocss.com/membership or mail them to:

Carole Hada
4239 Arnold Way
Mather, CA 95655

Notes from the Shepard Garden & Arts Center

HEADS UP! PARKING ALERT!

Sacramento is to end free, unrestricted parking around the perimeter of McKinley Park to three hours, seven days a week. If park goers stay longer, they can move their car to another street. If the council approves the change, it will take 2-3 weeks to install signage. Warnings will be issued for two weeks, then \$47.50 tickets. Restrictions will be on McKinley and Alhambra Blvds., G, H, 33rd and 35th Sts., and Park Way, directly surrounding the park. (Excerpted from Sac Bee, Sat. Oct. 12, 2019, p. 3A.) Note: Article did not state hours during the day.

This will affect our May Show weekend.

Welcome New Members!

BRUCE CLARK
JOE KLAMECKI
LAUREN MAHAKIAN
JESSIE OTT
BRIAN WILKINSON



Upcoming Events-

THE SAN FRANCISCO ANNUAL PLANT SHOW AND SALE JUNE 6-7TH

Please come join us for the biggest succulent sale in the Bay Area at the Golden Gate Park this June 6-7th from 9am -5pm. There will be free admission, free hourly plant raffles, expert growing advice, as well as a show area with educational displays and exceptional specimens. You can find out more information at www.sfsucculent.org/annual-show-and-sale

CC&SS SPRING TRIP JUNE 6-7TH

The Carmichael Cactus & Succulent Society is planning a Spring Trip to the SF Show and Sale. They have a total of 55 spaces available for this trip and they are asking \$20 for CC&SS members or \$40 for non-members. The show is scheduled for June 6-7th. If you are interested in joining this group trip please contact Gerri with the Carmichael club at kgwigglesworth@sbcglobal.net for more information.

SCSS MAY SHOW AND SALE, SHADOW BOX SUBMISSIONS

The Annual SCSS Show and Sale is coming up in 3 months! Please consider constructing a Shadow Box for the event. Carole Hada will have more information on this at the February Meeting as well. Here are a few photographs of some Shadow Boxes created in the past few years!



Meeting Details

The Sacramento Cactus and Succulent Society meets the 4th Monday of each month at 7 PM.

Next meeting: February 24th

Shepard Garden & Arts Center | 3330 McKinley Blvd
| Sacramento, CA 95816
center phone: (916) 808-8800 |
www.sacramentocss.com

