

Thorny Issues

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society

June, 2022 | Volume 64, Issue VI

Announcements

June Meeting:

This month's meeting will be on June 27th at the Shepard Garden & Arts Center. Doors will open at 6:30 pm and the meeting will start promptly at 7:00 pm.

The Cactus and Succulent Society of America's bi-annual show will take place on Friday-Sunday, July 1-3rd will be at the Huntington Gardens and Library. SCSS is an affiliate member of CSSA and they have some free passes available to SCSS members who are also members of CSSA. See the President's corner for details.

SCSS Meetings will be held on the 4th Monday all Summer and into the Fall. If you have suggestions for speakers, please forward them to Mariel Dennis or Teresa Roberts.

Magnetic SCSS name badges are available for \$11.50, prepaid. Send a check payable to:
Carole Hada
4239 Arnold Way
Mather, CA 95655

or contact her at the meeting

June Program

Three Amigos in South Africa



This month's program will feature a digital trip to South Africa. Three of our club members, Cassidy Roberts-Yee, Theresa Roberts and James Yee, just came back from a succulent expedition to



South Africa. There will, of course, be lots of photographs of familiar and rare succulents growing in habitat in veld and mountains. In addition, details on travel, accommodation and noteworthy experiences will be included to enrich the presentation and add the human touch. Please come and join us for a bit of travel experience right from your seat at the Shepherd Garden Center.

Member's Corner: Deborah Jackson



What piqued your interest in cacti and/or succulents?

My dear friend Michele Swanberg introduced me to the Cactus Club about five years ago. My first thoughts were: I don't have time for this, I'm not a club person and it sounds dorky. However, after I retired I decided to give it a try and went to a meeting. Up till then I mostly thought of succulents as ice plant like I grew up with in San Luis Obispo. I couldn't believe the variety and beauty of the plants on display at that first meeting. Also, everyone was so friendly and interesting I decided to suspend my "no clubs rule" and joined up.

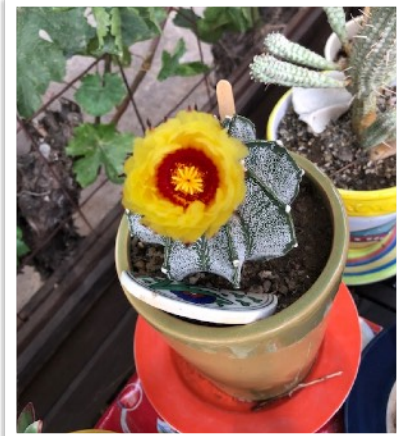
Which do you prefer cacti or succulents and why?

At first I was interested almost exclusively in succulents. I brought home a couple of cuttings of Echeveria from the coast one weekend, stuck them in the ground and they grew like

crazy. I dug out a little part of our front lawn and started a succulent garden. Eventually, we took out the entire lawn and now half the front yard is devoted to succulents and cacti. After winning a beautiful big barrel cactus in one of the raffles, I'd say cacti are now about 30% of my collection. Their blooms are more spectacular and surprising than most of my succulents.

What is your favorite plant family and why?

Right now I'm kind of obsessed with Haworthias. I love the plump leaves that look like they're full of jelly. I also have a love-hate relationship with Lithops. The first time I saw them I thought they looked like rocks and what was the point? My luck with them has not been great overall, but I'm learning to neglect them a little more and they seem to like that.



What are some of the pros and cons of gardening where you live?

My particular yard has a lot of sun in the back and partial shade in the front. Over the past few years I've learned which plants thrive in each environment and move them around accordingly. Also, last fall my husband built me a lovely garden shed/green house where I kept my most vulnerable plants over the winter. Everything survived and even thrived!

Have you traveled around the USA and/or out of the country to see plants in their natural habitat? To where and how was the experience?

I did a lot of foreign travel before COVID and before joining SCSS so I feel like I missed out on some interesting opportunities. However, in the past few years,

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Board and Committee Chairs

President

Mariel Dennis

Vice-President/Program Chair

Theresa Roberts

Secretary *Gerhard Bock*

Treasurer *Greg Lang*

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CSSA Affiliate

Mariel Dennis

Guest Book/Door Prize

Cassidy Roberts-Yee & Chere Peterson

Librarian

George Krigas

Membership/Roster

Carole Hada

Mini Show

Shawnee Giles

Newsletter

Shawnee Giles

Drawing Tickets

Cindy Morales

Refreshments

Michele Swanberg & Elaine Thomas

Annual Country Store

Holly Maxwell

Sunshine

Cherry Dulaney

Webmaster

Gerhard Bock

Annual Show & Plant Sale

Mariel Dennis/Keith Taylor
Co-chairs

2022 Mini-Show Categories

Month	Cactus	Succulent
June	Mammillaria	Agave
July	Gymnocalycium	Haworthia
August	Crests/Monstrose/ Variegates	Crests/Monstrose/ Variegates
September	Auction.....	
October	Ariocarpus	Stapeliads
November	Show us your favorite cactus	Show us your favorite succulent
December	Holiday Party.....	Awards presented to highest scores

Member's Corner (continued from p. 2)

my husband and I have taken a number of road trips around the southwest and I've found some pretty good plants to bring home.

What are your favorite gardens, nurseries or places to visit for plants? Why?

Locally I've probably gotten most of my plants at Green



Acres on Jackson Road. They have a pretty good variety and are reasonably priced. I've also enjoyed visiting Bancroft Gardens in Walnut Creek (beautiful grounds) and Highway 92 Succulents in Half Moon Bay (some unusual plants but a little pricey). High Hand Nursery in Rocklin is fun to visit and has a lovely restaurant.

Do you have other hobbies and interests that you would like to share with us?

Inspired by some other members, I've taken up ceramics in the past year. At first I aspired to make a pot for each of my 100+ plants. I've made 4 so far! So now, I'm just having fun making garden sculptures and planters that are fun and functional.

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June Plants for Sale

Lesley Shores and Jerry Slayter will be bringing a selection of plants for sale.

Cassidy Roberts-Yee will also be bringing plants for sale.

President's Corner

Welcome to Summer!

I hope you are finding ways to keep your plants from burning up on our hottest summer days in the Central Valley. We have a full summer of events planned and I hope you will be able to join us for some or all of them. As COVID-19 infections are rising again in California we need to remember all the safety protocols to protect ourselves and our friends and neighbors. That will include requiring masks indoors based on current guidelines for Sacramento county.

- **Sunday, June 19th is Father's Day**, I hope any of you that are dads, fathers-in-law or know someone who is have a great day and do something that makes you happy (possibly including cacti and succulents)!
- At our **Monday, June 27th meeting**, Vice President Theresa Roberts will talk about her recent family succulent expedition to South Africa. There will be lots of photographs of familiar and rare succulents growing in habitat in veld and mountains. In addition, details on travel, accommodation and noteworthy experiences will be included to enrich the presentation and add the human touch.
- **Friday–Sunday, July 1-3rd** will be the **Cactus and Succulent Society of America's bi-annual show at the Huntington Gardens and Library** in San Marino (near Pasadena). Plant sales start Friday and continue through the weekend; the show is on Saturday and Sunday. SCSS is an affiliate member of CSSA and they have some free passes available to SCSS members who are also members of CSSA. Check the information elsewhere about getting the free passes, if you're interested. Consider a mini-vacation to LA-area attractions and amazing succulent nurseries heading into the Independence Day weekend.
- **Monday, July 25th meeting** has not yet scheduled a speaker so if anyone has suggestions, please see if they are available for our usual "fourth Monday evening" meeting and let me or Theresa know.
- **Saturday, August 6th** from 8:00 AM–2:00 PM, SCSS will have an educational table at the **Sacramento County Harvest Day** at the Fair Oaks Horticulture Center in Fair Oaks, CA. The event includes speakers, demonstrations, educational tables, vendors, garden tours and food trucks. It is a well-attended free event open to the public. Attendance ranges from 1,500 to 2,000. See www.ucanr.edu/sacmg and click on Harvest Day in the orange menu bar. For the past two years this has been a virtual event due to the pandemic. This year it is back in-person and we need members to come to talk to attendees

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Show Calendar

This list of California shows is provided by the national and local clubs and is subject to change. Before planning a trip, please verify details.

June 16-19

San Francisco Succulent & Cactus Society
County Fair Bldg., Golden Gate Park
1199 9th Ave., San Francisco

July 1-3

Cactus and Succulent Society of America
Huntington Gardens and Library
1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino

July 22-23

Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society Summer Sale
Anaheim United Methodist Church
1000 S State College Blvd, Anaheim

August 5-7

36th Annual Inter-City Show & Sale
Los Angeles County Arboretum
301 N Baldwin Ave, Arcadia
Info: (626) 821-3222

August 19-21

Tri-County Home & Garden Show
Roebbelen Center
700 Event Center Dr, Roseville

September 4

Long Beach Cactus & Succulent Society Annual Plant Auction
Info: (310) 845-6306

September 16-18

Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
124 Atkinson Lane, Watsonville

President's Corner (continued from page 4)

about their love of succulents and answer questions. We can have some exhibition plants too. Our member plant vendors are also invited to participate and have a booth to sell plants. If you are willing to do a seminar, let me know.

- **Friday-Sunday, August 19-21st** SCSS will have a booth at the new 2022 **Tri-County Home & Garden Show** at the new Roebbelen Center in Roseville. The event planners will provide a 10x10 booth with table for our membership information. They expect 10,000 visitors. We can bring exhibition plants, sell plants and garden items (in partnership with our member-vendors) and offer some seminars. We need confirmation from our vendors who want to join with us in selling plants from our shared space. The show planners have offered to host our annual "show" at the event if we want to do it, but we need volunteers to help organize it and we need commitments to bring plants to exhibit for judging. We need folks to help out and staff the table or if you are willing to give a talk, please let me know ASAP.
- **Monday, August 22nd meeting**—save the date. If you have suggestions for a speaker, please see if they are available for our usual "fourth Monday evening" meeting and let me or Theresa know.
- **Monday, September 26th meeting**—we haven't decided yet if we will bring back our "country store" event or not, so if you have a preference, please let me know.

Stay cool and happy gardening!

Marisel Dennis

President

president@sacramentocss.com

May Meeting Report

Succulent Workshop presented by Lesley Shores

At our last club meeting on May 23rd, Lesley Shores presented a workshop which was wildly successful. There were approximately 25 participants many of whom were first time visitors, and joined as new members that night. Credit goes to Lesley who got the word out to multiple Facebook groups, generating the majority of registrations for the event. Please enjoy a selection of photos on the following page.

