

Thorny Issues

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society

December, 2023 | Volume 75, Issue IV

Announcements

December Meeting:

December 18th 2023
6:15pm -9:15pm
Shepard Garden
& Art Center

Doors open at 6:15 for
setup up. Dinner begins
at 7 PM.

Open to the public.
No admission fee.
Free parking.
Refreshments served.



Presidents Corner:

ELECTIONS

Elections. At the November meeting, elections were conducted. All of the officers and Board were overwhelmingly re-elected to serve another year. Thanks to all who served through 2023!

PUNCTURED THUMB AWARD

Punctured Thumb Award. The club's annual service award was presented to a very surprised Mariel Dennis. Marilyn Vilas who made the award presentation, noted the challenges of holding the club together during the pandemic, the aftermath of which has also sparked interest from lots of new members.

It was great to see a big turnout for the November meeting. Our succulent wreath project was loads of fun. Thanks to everyone who contributed succulent cuttings, ribbons and bows. It was such a hit we got requests to do something like this next year! Perhaps succulent topped pumpkins!

Presidents Corner

HOLIDAY DINNER

Menu for Holiday Dinner:

- Rosemary-Garlic Tri-tip
- Grilled Cranberry Boneless Chicken Breast Tenderloin finished with fresh cranberries, rosemary, maple syrup.
- Served with rice pilaf, pasta primavera, House Salad, Rolls and Butter.
- Cheese Cake with raspberry sauce.
- Asst Beverage: Soda, water, Snapple, sparkling water.

We will need RSVPs for the holiday dinner NO Later Than NOON on Friday, December 15th! This is to ensure we have enough food catered. Please RSVP to Mariel at : president@sacramentocss.com

While the club is paying for members, this year the Board accepted a member suggestion that guests will be charged \$25 a person. This is slightly less than the cost of the meal so the club is not making a profit on our guests. Cash or checks only will be accepted for guests on arrival (no credit or debit cards). We would hate to turn anyone away but if more show up than we planned for, we will only be able to seat those who RSVP'd in advance.

During dinner we reflect on what went well this past year and what we might want to improve or discontinue. We value everyone's opinions who participated in various events. We also try to collect speaker topic suggestions for next year.

After dinner we will do our White Elephant Gift Exchange which is always fun! If you wish to participate, please bring a wrapped gift valued around \$15-20. It can be succulent or garden themed, hand-crafted or not, or something you might want to re-gift.

We wrap up the festivities with our holiday attire contests. This year there will be two contests (and a change of clothes is permitted to participate in each if you prefer). The first is holiday succulent attire (so at least one succulent image or the real thing has to be visible) and it also has to have a holiday theme. The second is our ugly sweater contest - the crazier the better! Prizes will be awarded.

We recognize that not everyone celebrates Christmas so any seasonal celebrations are encouraged and we hope you will share your tradition with us. While participation in the gift exchange or contests is never required, we hope you will have fun and play along. Please come and share your holiday cheer!

Happy holidays!



-Mariel Dennis

November Meeting



Board and Committee Chairs

President:

Mariel Dennis

Vice-President/Program Chair:

Theresa Roberts

Secretary: *Gerhard Bock*

Treasurer: *Greg Lang*

Board of Directors:

Penny Newell, Carole Hada, Tina Marie, Steve Goodman, Ex Officio Tina Micheal Ruse

CSSA Affiliate:

Mariel Dennis

Librarian:

George Krigas

Membership/Roster:

Carole Hada

Mini Show:

Linda Partmann

Newsletter:

Eve Milan

Drawing Tickets:

Cindy Morales

Refreshments:

Michele Swanberg & Elaine Thomas

Annual Country Store:

Bill McCabe

Sunshine Corner:

Cherry Dulaney

Webmaster:

Gerhard Bock

Annual Show & Plant Sale:

Mariel Dennis/Keith Taylor Co-chairs

Birthdays

January Birthdays



01 Ron Edwards

18 Theresa Roberts

01 S. Samaniego

23 Rudy Aguilar

05 Elton Roberts

23 Linda Partman

10 Naomi Bloss

30 Jennifer Haley

10 Cindy Morales



Welcome New Members:

Claudia de La Torre, Ron Morrison, Martin & Amelia Montana

**Saguaro Sam Says:
2024 Membership
Dues are Due**

**Memberships forms
available at our meetings
or on the website:
www.sacramentocss.com**

Delinquent on December 31st



2023 Mini Show Schedule

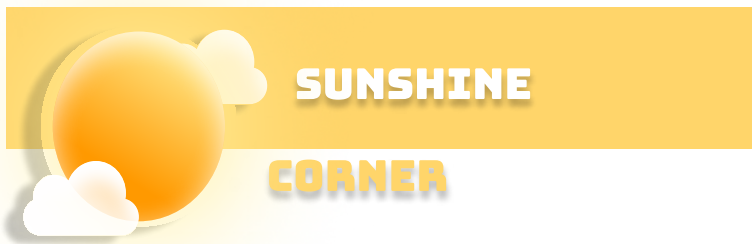
Month	Cactus	Succulent
December	Holiday Party	No Mini-show

SCSS Name Badges

SCSS NAME BADGES: \$12.50

Contact Carole Hada to order yours!
 akacejay@comcast.net
 Payment due at time of ordering. (cash or check)

Sunshine Corner



Please contact Cherry if you know of anyone needing a little sunshine to brighten their day.
 Cherry Dulaney, cdaf182@gmail.com.



November Mini Show

2023 MINI SHOW WINNERS!

The totals are in, and the winners are below. First place winners will receive a unique one-of-a-kind pot from Keith Katoi Taylor! Second place winners will receive a unique pot made by myself, Linda Partmann. Hopefully next year we will have a little more participation -- especially in the dish garden category! I know you all have them!

Cactus:

1st place - Rudy Aguilar

2nd place - George Krigas

Succulent:

1st place - Steve Goodman

2nd place - Mariel Dennis

Dish Garden:

1st place - Elaine Thomas

2nd place - Linda Partmann

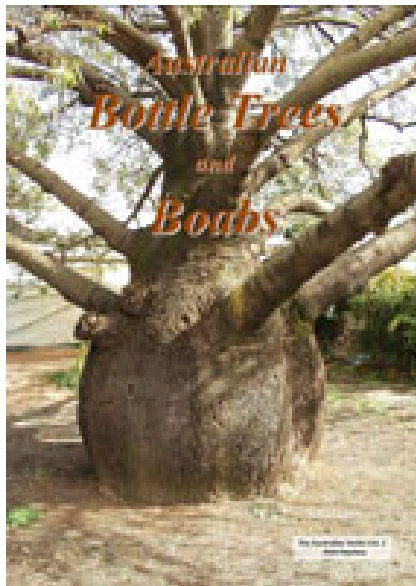


I hope everyone has a wonderful Happy Holiday--whatever you celebrate, and a Happy New Year!

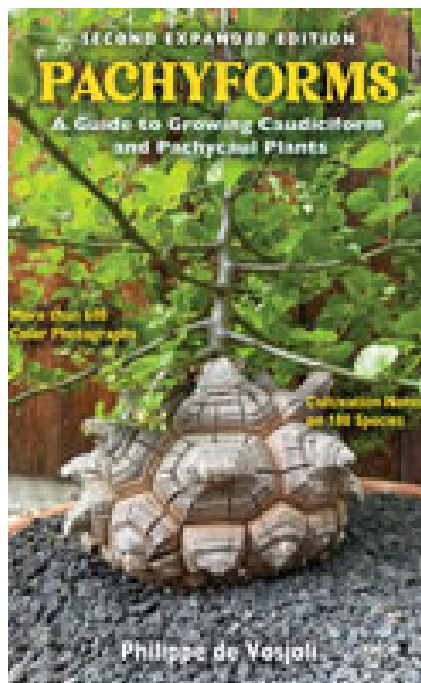
Library

LIBRARY ACQUIRES NEW BOOKS IN 2023

Thanks to the generosity of our club's Board of Directors, the library has acquired 4 new books to be part of our permanent collection:

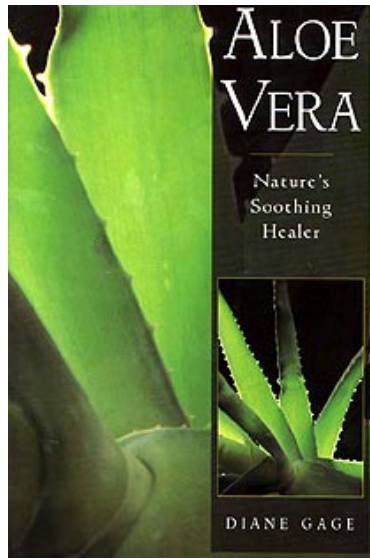


Australian Bottle Trees and Boabs by Attila Kapitany. This booklet has many high quality images of Australian bottle trees and boabs, both in habitat and in cultivation. Comparing the various species and distinguishing features. There are five Australian species covered. While many people know two or three, they'll be surprised to see the other very rare and unusual new species. The text explores the diversity of species and habitats as well as cultivation and their popularity. Perhaps more importantly this booklet highlights the need for further research and trials by landscapers and home gardeners alike.

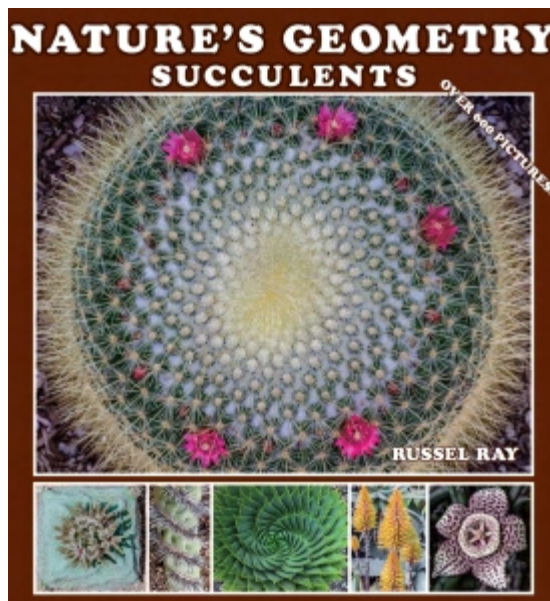


Pachyforms A Guide to Growing Caudiciforms and Pachycaul Plants by Philippe. De Vosjoli
Pachyforms is a complete guide to the selection and cultivation of the increasingly popular group of plants known as caudiciforms and pachycauls, species that develop thick bodies with sculptural forms. In Pachyforms, you will find information that will allow you to grow some of the most impressive plants in the world: baobabs and boojum trees; members of the passionflower family with bodies as large and wide as a witch's cauldron; species in the cucumber family that acquire the form of flying saucers; yams with complex geometric forms; morning glories with gorgeous flowers and egg-shaped weathered bodies.

Library



Aloe Vera Nature's Soothing Healer by Diane Gage. In this book the author discusses the properties of Aloe vera and explains why it is effective in healing. She also explores the ways the plant has been used throughout history by cultures as diverse as the ancient Egyptian In this book, the author discusses the properties of Aloe vera and explains why it is effective and Native American. Gage demystifies the proven curative properties of Aloe vera and shows how it can be used to best advantage for a wide variety of problems.



Nature's Geometry: Succulents by Russell Ray.

Russell Roy spoke at our club's November meeting. He discussed cacti and succulents that feature nature's geometry. The author has a particular interest in plants showing Fibonacci's sequence of numbers. He has written a book on the topic and it is now part of our library. Here's your chance to change a fear of math that many have into a pleasure. If you are already confident with math, you can comfortable extend your knowledge by reading this book

These books will be available for your review and check-out at our club's January 2023 meeting.

-George Krugas

Librarian