

Thorny Issues

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society

November, 2023 | Volume 74, Issue IV

Announcements

November Meeting:

November 27th 2023
6:15pm -9:15pm
Shepard Garden
& Art Center

Doors open at 6:15 for
plant sales and
fellowship. Program
begins at 7 PM.

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



Presidents Corner:

ELECTIONS

As the year is coming to a close we have some fun events coming up but business first.

Elections:

At the November meeting we will conduct our elections for next year's Board. We will take nominations at the meeting for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer plus 3 Directors. All of the current officers and Directors have agreed to be candidates again but if anyone would like to be considered, you can self-nominate or have a friend nominate you. The elected Board will be installed at the December meeting so they can plan the 2024 year beginning before the first meeting in January. Committee chair-people are not elected but we always need help, so take a look at the list of committees and see what interests you and where you can help. Look for a January Board meeting announcement that will be open to all to attend as we will review the budget so we can approve it at the January club meeting.

Presidents Corner

NOVEMBER MEETING:

We will hold our regular meeting on Monday, November 27th, after Thanksgiving. We be doing a craft project making succulent wreaths. We'll provide small grapevine wreaths and sphagnum moss attached so you can attach succulent cuttings. Please bring cuttings with a small stem to poke into the moss. We'll be using tacky glue to adhere them. Please bring lots of cuttings so we can share them! Succulent wreaths will last through the New Year and then the cuttings can be planted in the garden in the spring.

- Bring Cuttings to share
- We'll be asking for RSVPs so we know how many wreaths to bring.
- Please email to RSVP to robertst@csus.edu



DECEMBER HOLIDAY DINNER & WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE:

Join us on Monday, December 18th for our annual Holiday dinner and White Elephant Gift Exchange. Please note that this is third Monday instead of our usual fourth Monday meeting date. We'll be publishing the full menu in the newsletter and there will be a chicken and beef entrée as well vegetarian selections and we will need everyone to RSVP. This year, the club will provide dinner free to members but guests will need to pay \$20 each (cash or check) that night. Set-up will begin at 6:15 pm with dinner starting at 7 PM.

- Guests cost an additional \$20
- We are asking everyone to RSVP.
- Please RSVP to Carole Hada at akacejay@comcast.net

For those that wish to participate in our fun but optional White Elephant gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift valued about \$15-\$20. The gift can have a succulent or garden theme, be hand-crafted, a gag gift or even regift an item! There will also be gifts given for the most festive holiday attire/"ugliest" sweater. Have a very Happy Thanksgiving and the Merriest of Holidays,

-Maruel



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:

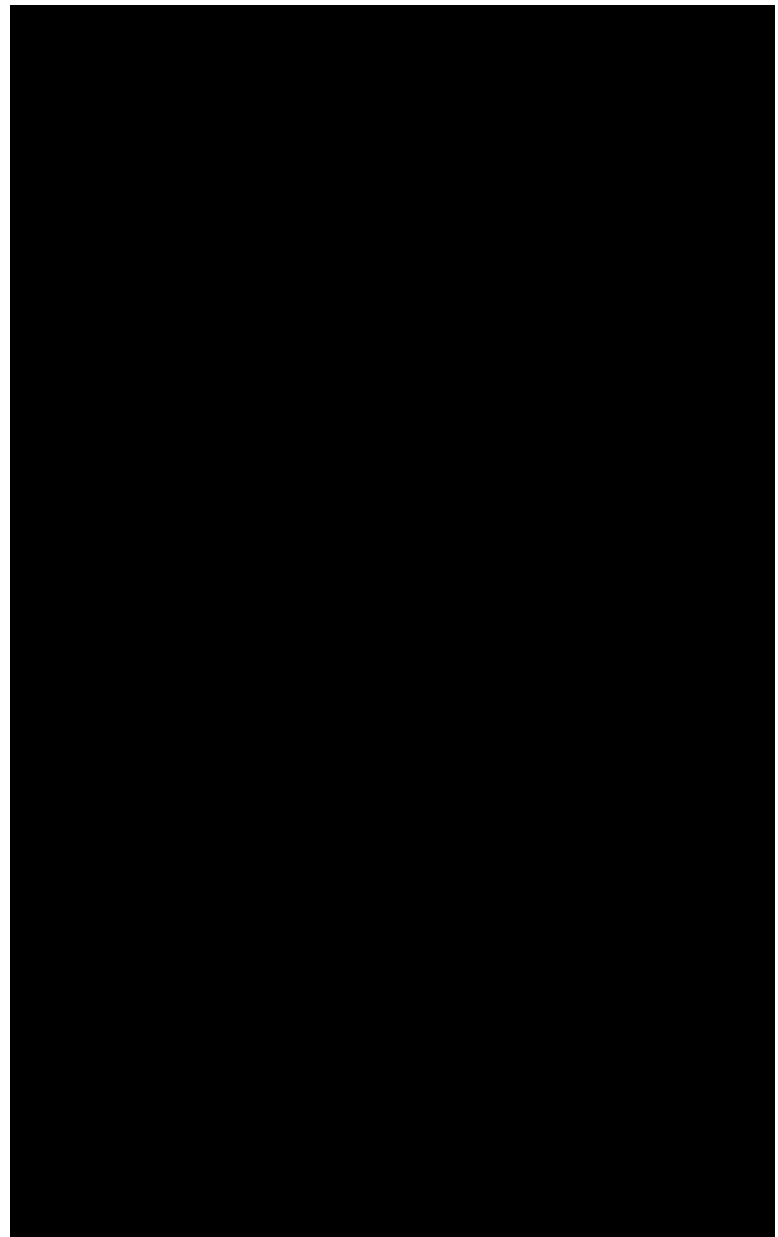
Cherry Dulaney

Webmaster:

Gerhard Bock

Annual Show & Plant Sale:

*Mariel Dennis/Keith Taylor
Co-chairs*



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
November	Columnar Cactus	Dudleya
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



Sunshine Cards were sent to Elaine Thomas, Carole Hada and Cherry Dulaney.

Please contact Cherry if you know of anyone needing a little sunshine to brighten their day.

Cherry Dulaney, cdaf182@gmail.com.



November Mini Show

Columnar cactus and Dudleya: This is our last mini-show of the year! Remember prizes are being given out next month at the Christmas Dinner! You don't want to miss out! I guarantee you will wish you had participated more this year! This month the mini show is featuring Columnar Cactus and Dudleya Succulents. I would like to thank Bill McCabe for handling the October mini show in my absence.

Columnar Cactus:

What is a Columnar Cactus?

.Columnar cacti are upright, cylinder-shaped cacti that may or may not have branches. They are great for making a statement in your landscape with only a small footprint. They typically grow straight up, reaching heights of several meters, while the base of the plant only occupies one square foot of ground space.

Columnar cacti are important sources of food for many animals of the desert. Their flowers produce nectar and pollen for bees, moths, birds and bats to eat.

Here are some tips for caring for columnar cacti:

- Water every 2-3 weeks during the growing season (spring and summer)
- Reduce watering in the dormant season (fall and winter) to once a month
- Plant in well-draining soil, preferably a cactus or succulent mix
- Ensure the pot has drainage holes to prevent waterlogging
- Pruning a columnar cactus is possible, but if the cactus is thriving and healthy, and not too tall for its space, it isn't necessary.



Columnar Cactus



Columnar Cactus

November Mini Show

Dudleya:

Dudleya, commonly known as liveforevers is a genus of rosette-forming succulent plants in the stonecrop family, Crassulaceae, consisting of about 68 taxa in southwestern North America and Guadalupe Island. The species come in many forms, some large and evergreen, others geophytic and deciduous.

Attractive, robust and long-lived, the Dudleya succulents often have a small, charming rosette. These occur on branches as they mature. This plant grows in a variety of shapes and has a range of habits. It may be branched or unbranched, and does not grow from its leaves. It can only propagate from seed, cuttings, or division, so not all Dudleya cultivars are available.

“LiveForever” is the epitome of low-maintenance; it literally thrives on neglect. While all succulents benefit somewhat from neglect, it appears to extend the life of this plant. In the wild, Dudleya lives to be 50 to 100 years old. Hard as it may be, get your plant settled into the right spot and forget about it. These soft succulents appreciate a bright light or sunny spot when growing near the coast and afternoon shade when grown inland. Dudleya plant info says they like a cool location but cannot tolerate frost. Too little light quickly results in soft leaves and stretching.



Dudleya pulverulenta



Dudleya pulverulenta

New Garden Sign

Check Out Our New Garden Sign!

A new informational sign has now been installed in the SCSS demonstration garden at Shepard Garden and Arts Center. The full color sign is one step in the expansion and upgrading project that started last May. George Krigas, Bill McCabe and Dave Roberts have been overseeing this project. Eve Milan, our talented newsletter editor, created the design. Thanks also to Gerhard Bock for the great photos. Labeling the plants, the next and final phase, is now underway. Many thanks to all the volunteers who came out to spread soil, place heavy rocks and install the many donated plants.

So next time you are coming to a meeting or walking the dog near the garden, take a few minutes to check out all that is going on. And if you are inspired to help us out with some of the maintenance chores in the garden, just let George, Bill or Dave know and we will be happy to put you to work!



The Country Store

The September Country Store was a tremendous success!

Thank you to everyone who donated! The number of plant donations was great, as always, but where you really outdid yourselves was in the Silent Auction category. There were some exceptional items donated this year. Thank you to all of the new members who attended. A special thank you to everyone who volunteered.

POTTERY FOR SALE

We have people selling cacti and succulents at almost every monthly meeting. The November meeting will be one of the rare meetings where we also have someone selling pottery. Eric Bailey, a relatively new member, will be selling his pottery on Monday November 27th. Make sure to say hi to Eric and check out his pottery.



CSSA is seeking a Business Manager

The Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) is currently seeking an enthusiastic and highly motivated individual to serve as the Executive Director. The ideal candidate will possess strong leadership abilities, excellent communication skills, and a passion for fostering the mission and vision of CSSA. This is a unique opportunity to contribute to the growth and success of a vibrant community dedicated to the appreciation and conservation of cacti and succulents.

We are looking for a Business Manager to:

- Serve CSSA effectively, ensuring seamless day-to-day operations.
- Execute Board of Directors (BoD) strategic plans, program development, and policies.
- Work with the BoD to ensure compliance with 501(c)3 regulations and laws.
- Help promote CSSA's mission to stakeholders.
- Coordinate with officers to provide excellent service to members.
- Provide quarterly updates to the BoD, evaluating programs and suggesting resource allocations.
- Handle correspondence with members and organizations.
- Foster positive communication with CSSA affiliates.
- Manage finances, including invoices, payments, and budgets with the treasurer.
- Maintain membership records and coordinate mass mailings.
- Manage relationships with external entities, including the U.S. Postal Service and others.
- Supervise CSSA's presence at shows and conventions.
- Ensure secure backups of CSSA's electronic data.
- Arrange and communicate Board meeting logistics.
- Handle all incoming CSSA mail appropriately.

The ideal candidate should have:

- Proven track record in nonprofit management, including 501(c)3 familiarity.
- Proficiency in financial management and budgeting.
- Excellent interpersonal skills to collaborate with diverse stakeholders.
- Knowledge of web hosting, design, and internet commerce is advantageous.

Join us in our mission to promote our appreciation and preservation of cacti and succulents. If you are dedicated to creating a significant difference in the world of Cactus and Succulent, we welcome your application. To apply, please submit your resume and a cover letter outlining your relevant experience and your vision for CSSA under your leadership to Rod Haenni, President CSSA at rhaenni@comcast.net

CSSA CONSERVATION POLICY STATEMENT



The Cactus and Succulent Society of America Conservation Policy Statement

The Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) is the national organization for the study, education, and promotion of cacti and succulents. The popularity of cacti and succulents, their availability online, and their increased monetary value have critically endangered their populations in the wild. The conservation of these unique plants and their habitats is of critical concern.

Existing Policies and Guidelines

CSSA shall adhere to:

- All national and international guidelines, treaties, and laws regarding the protection of cacti, other succulents, and their habitats.
- The Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) treaty and the American Endangered Species Acts for both plants and animals.
- The International Organization for Succulent Plant Study (IOS) Code of Conduct.
- Specific conservation policies of the applicable State or other local jurisdictions.

CSSA Show and Sale Policies

- CSSA will not accept field collected plants in its competitive shows; plants in question will be evaluated by a review team upon entering.
- CSSA functions will not allow the sale, purchase, or promotion of habitat-collected plants.

- CSSA encourages its affiliate societies to adopt or incorporate CSSA Conservation Policies in developing their own missions and show and sale policies.

Commercial Selling

- CSSA endorses and promotes vendors which produce sale plants from seed, cuttings or other artificial means.
- CSSA discourages the use of nurseries and online vendors that sell field collected plants.

Legal Initiatives

- CSSA will work with our appropriate government agencies to modernize laws regarding the sale of plants across international borders, especially for hybrids.
- CSSA will endorse and promote state laws and policies pertaining to the rescue of plants due to urban or agricultural encroachment.
- CSSA will assist in the development of procedures to conserve and disseminate rescued plants.



Erioseya napina subsp. *lembckeii*. A little cactus of Atacama Region that is a species in danger.
Photo: Rescuti - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=64463623>

IOS CODE OF CONDUCT

To the Collector in the Field

Before collecting anything:

- **DO** acquaint yourself with **CITES** and national and state controls, and find out which species are protected.
- **DO** obtain all necessary permits, both for collecting and for export and import to other countries.
- **DO** notify interested local organizations of your intentions.

Then:

- **DO** strictly observe restrictions on what may be collected (which species, how many specimens, what kind of material). Where possible, collect seed, offsets or cuttings, **NOT** the whole plant.
- **DO** leave mature plants for seed production. They are needed to perpetuate the wild population, and are unlikely to transplant successfully.
- **DO** collect discreetly; **Don't** lead local people to believe the plants are valuable, or encourage or pay them (or their children) to collect for you.
- **DO** make careful field-notes, including precise locality, altitude, type of vegetation and soil, date of collection and your own field number. Try to assess the number of individuals and extent of the population, the amount of seed-setting and the frequency of seedlings.
- **DO** note possible threats to the habitat, e.g. through grazing, drainage or cultivation, urban spread or road widening.
- **DO** take photographs and/or preserve representative herbarium material. Submit this material, with a copy of your notes, to an appropriate institution or organization.
- **DON'T** underrate the value of your field observations: carefully recorded they will be a useful contribution to science and to conservation.
- **IF...** you plan to collect in commercial quantities, don't.
- **IF...** you plan to sell any of the plants you collect to defray the cost of your trip, don't
- **IF...** you plan to collect for research or study obtain the agreement (and preferably the collaboration) of competent scientific authorities, such as a government agency or university department, in the host country.
- **IF...** you think "two or three plants won't be missed", remember someone else may be thinking the same tomorrow, and the next day, and the next...

IOS CODE OF CONDUCT

To the Importer, Private or Commercial

- **Don't** import wild plants, even if legally permitted, except as a nucleus for propagation and seed-production. And then:
- **Do** check the credentials of suppliers offering wild plants and satisfy yourself they are "legal".
- **Do** observe international and national export/import regulations.

To the Nurseryman

- **Do** sell nursery-raised or propagated material only; don't advertise or sell un-propagated wild plants under any circumstances, even when legally permitted to do so.
- **Do** try to propagate all rare or documented material and distribute it to recognized IOS Reference Collections.
- **Do** keep more than one clone of rare species, even self-fertile ones, for seed production.
- **Do** keep careful records of the origin of all stock, especially any with collectors' numbers or locality data, and pass on the information to interested purchasers.

To the Grower/Collector at Home

- **Do** make successful cultivation your prime objective, **NOT** the size of your collection or rarity of the plants.
- **Don't** buy **ANY** plant unless you are sure it was nursery-grown; remember that **YOUR** choice will influence the market.
- **Don't** buy wild-collected plants even if with the aim of saving the "individual". We want to save the species, not the specimen. Only when importers see their wild-collected plants rotting because **NOBODY** buys them they will stop the import of wild-collected plants.
- **Do** enjoy the satisfaction of raising from seed. Some of the rare or "difficult" species will test your skill and patience, but reward your success accordingly!
- **Do** record when and from whom you got your plants/seeds, and ask your source for any data: collector's numbers, locality, and so on: all just as vital, to the serious enthusiast, as the name on the label.
- **Do** try to propagate rare and documented material and distribute it to other enthusiasts. It's the old proverb: To keep a plant, give it away!
- **Do** notify the IOS Secretary if you suspect a supplier is infringing legal controls.

IOS CODE OF CONDUCT

To the Society and Club

- **DO** endorse the precepts of this **Code of Conduct**, as a guide for responsible and conscientious behaviour.
- **DON'T** permit wild plants to be advertised for sale in your publications, either openly or by hints.
- **DO** publicize national and international regulations on the export, import and sale of wild plants.
- **DO** sponsor or support national and international measures to protect the habitats of rare and threatened species.
- **DO** inform the competent authorities of any suspect sale of collected plants. If you know of people travelling to countries where succulents grow wild, with the intention to collecting, inform the competent authorities; the best way to stop habitat exploitation by collectors is to catch them at the port of entry with the plants in hand.

To the Show Committee and Judges

DO include in the schedule some classes for plants raised from seed by the exhibitor.

DON'T permit species protected by **CITES Appendix I** to be shown in competitive classes, except as seedlings or other propagations raised artificially.

DO make a policy of giving preference to well-grown seedlings over field-collected plants. Check that obvious or suspected "imports" are properly rooted and established.