

Thorny Issues

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society

January, 2023 | Volume 65, Issue I

Announcements

January Meeting:

This month's meeting will be on January 23rd at the Shepard Garden & Arts Center. Doors will open at 6:30 pm and the meeting will start promptly at 7:00 pm.

LAST CALL! 2023 SCSS MEMBERSHIP dues were due by January 1st.

The membership dues are for a calendar year; January-January.

SCSS membership dues are \$15 for an individual, \$20 for a family, \$100 for a lifetime membership.

Please fill out the form (found at www.sacramentocss.com) and mail to:

Carole Hada
4239 Arnold Way
Mather, CA 95655

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE
TO **SCSS**

For questions contact Carole Hada: akacejay@comcast.net or 916-803-0109

January Meeting

Forging a Future Together

At our Holiday Party on December 19, 2022, SCSS President Mariel Dennis asked the members present how the monthly meetings could be streamlined to ensure they don't run too late — specifically whether to keep all the regular meeting activities or drop/modify some of them. Here are the topics for consideration:

- Limit the number of door prizes to 2-3 plants instead of 6-8.
- Limit the number of plants in the plant drawing to 15 higher-quality plants.
- Eliminate new-member gifts altogether and simply acknowledge new members OR buy new-member plants as needed from the plant sellers present.
- Simplify the format of the mini-show to avoid confusion, encourage more participation, and make the tabulation of results easier.
- Plant sales by members and speakers should start at 6:15 pm when the Center opens and be halted during the presentation. They can continue after the presentation if desired.

Since there's no speaker for this month's meeting, we have an opportunity to discuss the meeting format with the club membership and get feedback on the ideas above and any others that anyone would like to introduce. So, please come to the meeting with your ideas and your point of view so we can hear all voices.



Board and Committee Chairs

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Mariel Dennis

Vice-President/Program Chair

Theresa Roberts

Secretary *Gerhard Bock*

Treasurer *Greg Lang*

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Penny Newell, Carole Hada, Tina

Marie, Steve Goodman, Ex Officio

CSSA Affiliate

Mariel Dennis

Guest Book/Door Prize

Cassidy Roberts-Yee &

Chere Peterson

Librarian

George Krigas

Membership/Roster

Carole Hada

Mini Show

Shawnee Giles-Clarke

Newsletter

Shawnee Giles-Clarke

& Bruce Clarke

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

New Mini-Show Guidelines — 2023

My dream last year was to promote more participation in the mini-show. I encouraged each of you to participate by easing some of the restrictions. For each category you may enter two plants: two cactus; two succulents; two mini gardens. Also you are always welcome to bring a show and tell plant that you are especially excited about.

The purpose of the mini-show is to show off your prized plants and to practice staging skills. Mini-shows can be very inspirational and gives you a chance to talk to other members, ask questions and receive helpful suggestions. You must be a member to participate and be present at the meeting.

There are three different levels of experience each month; novice, intermediate and advanced. You can pick which category you imagine yourself to be and you will stay at that level for the year.

Novice class is for those who are completely new at showing a plant. Only the plant will be judged. The pot will not be judged and the plant may be in a plastic pot. You should have owned this plant for at least 3 months. Plants must be shown as a single specimen per pot.

Intermediate and advanced levels. You can join either category at your discretion. You will stay at that level for the year. Both the plant and the pot will be judged. You should have owned the plant for at least 6 months. Plants must be shown as a single specimen per pot.

Mini gardens. For fun we are adding another category, dish gardens or mini gardens. They can be as creative as you can imagine. Mini-gardens WILL NOT BE divided by novice, intermediate and advanced levels. They must be grown by the exhibitor for a minimum of three months.

Each member is asked participate in the judging by dropping one bean in the cup next to the plant that you think is the best example for that category: best cactus; novice; intermediate; advanced, and one bean each for best succulent: novice; intermediate; advanced. Please also vote one bean for your favorite dish garden.

Voting should be completed before the speaker begins their talk.

Mini-show winners will be posted on a board for each category before the end of the meeting. Scoring points are as follows;

1st place 8pts., 2nd place 6pts., 3rd place 4pts.

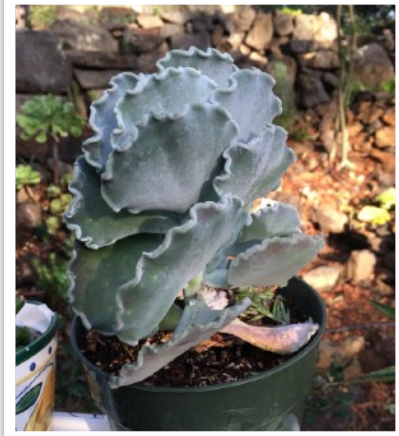
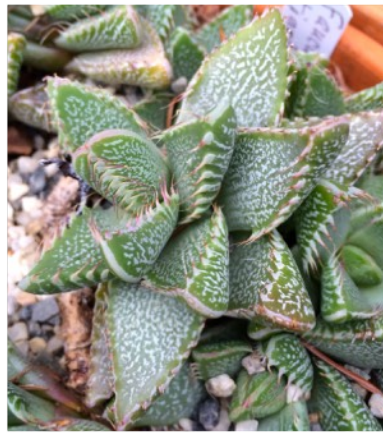
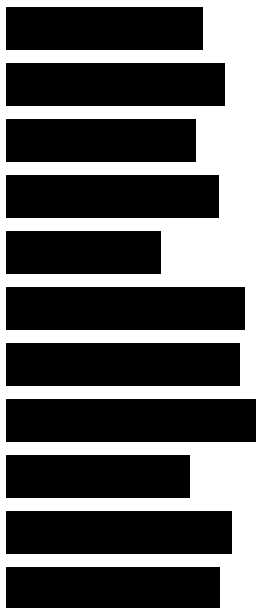
At the end of the year high scoring individuals will be asked to move up to the next level.

Remember, you may show **2** cactus and **2** succulents each month.

New Members for December 2022 and January 2023



January Birthdays

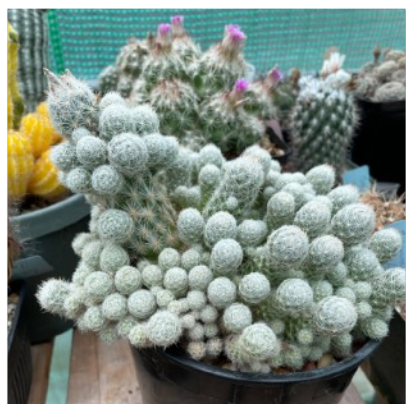


Mini-show 2023 Schedule

Month	Cactus	Succulent
January	Any Miniature Cactus	Any Miniature Succulent
February	Any Long-spined Cactus	Any Spiny Succulent
March	Astrophytum + Ariocarpus	Any Caudiciform
April	Mammillaria	Haworthia
May	Spring Sale	No Mini-show
June	Ferocactus + Tephrocactus	Senecio + Othonna
July	Any Monstrose Cactus	Any Monstrose Succulent
August	Notocactus, Parodia or Matucana	Echeveria
September	Country Store	No Mini-show
October	Echinopsis + Neoperteria	Tylecodon + Cotyledon
November	Columnar Cactus	Dudleya
December	Holiday Party	No Mini-show

Mini-Show Point Totals for 2022

Name	Points
Shawnee Giles-Clarke	181
Elaine Thomas	110
Tina Ruse	50
Steve Goodman	44
Linda Partmann.....	40
Penney Newell.....	36
Mariel Dennis.....	34
Theresa Roberts	32
Chere Peterson.....	30
Troy Ferguson.....	28
George Krigas	28
Bruce Clarke	27
Brett Johnson	14
Sydney & Thomas.....	14
Carole Hada.....	12
Rudy Aguilar	10
Carol Margue.....	1
Kienan Parr	1
Wendy Ikelman.....	1



Library Acquires New Books in 2022

Thanks to the generosity of our Board of Directors, the library has acquired five new books to be part of our permanent collection:

California Desert Plants

by P. Rundel, R. Gustafson and M Kauffmann

The desert areas of California include the northwestern portion of the Sonoran Desert, the largest part of the Mojave Desert, and the western margin of the Great Basin. *California Desert Plants* explores these vast and intimate desert landscapes through their diverse, colorful, and dynamic flora. Thanks to Gerhard Bock for his suggestion to acquire this book.

The Timberland Press Guide to Succulent Plants of the World

by Fred Dortort

The plants are organized into 28 intuitively logical groups such as succulent euphorbias, mesembryanthemums, bulbs, succulent trees, aloes agaves and haworthias. Each entry includes information on the plant’s native habitat, its cultivation requirements and its horticultural potential. A former club member never returned this book and thus it needed to be replaced.

How to Grow Lithops and Other Living Stone Plants

by P. Dzieduszynski

This well illustrated book discusses the characteristics of living stone plants, the botanical description of the family as well as answers to the questions of where and under what conditions these plants occur naturally.

Gymnocalycium - recounted by John Pilbeam

A book of 109 color photographs that illustrates many species of this cactus genus for the benefit of the lovers, so they can decide which ones to include in their collections.

***Cool Plants for Hot Gardens* by Greg Starr**

The award-winning horticulturist, nursery owner, and master gardener Greg Starr provides an indispensable reference for low water gardens. He offers extensive information on 200 low-water-use plants, including clear descriptions of each plant and its ornamental features, maintenance, and climate requirements, along with landscape applications, precautions, and tips for plant identification.

These books will be available for your review and check-out at our club’s next meeting. See the book covers on following page.

George Krigas, Librarian

