

Thorny Issues

Sacramento Cactus & Succulent Society

December 2025 | Volume 7, Issue 12

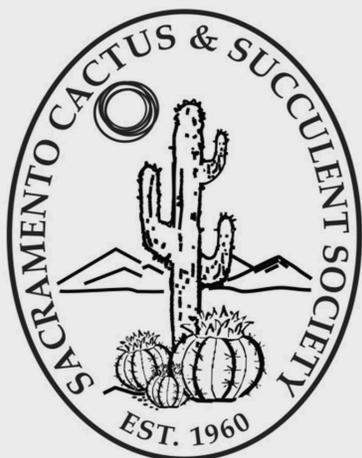
Announcements

December Meeting:

December 15th, 2025
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



This Months Contents:

Holiday Dinner
Birthdays & New Members
Sunshine Corner
Mini Show
Membership Renewal
Presidents Corner
Thank you Members
Email Scams
Home & Landscape Expo And Volunteers



December Program

Holiday Dinner



UPDATE: HOLIDAY DINNER DEADLINE IS PASSED, SIGN UPS ARE NOW CLOSED.

Thank you to everyone who signed up! We had a record number of RSVPs! We completely filled our sign up sheet, added as many more as we could and then filled all those spots as well. We are looking forward to seeing those of you who have signed up on Monday. We are sorry we couldn't accommodate more members this year.

For those of you who have signed up:

Join us on Monday December 15th for our annual Holiday Dinner & Gift Exchange.

Please note that this is on the THIRD MONDAY of December, NOT our typical 4th Monday.

Party Details:

<https://sacramentocss.com/2025/12/03/holiday-dinner-and-gift-exchange-december-15th/>



Board and Committee Chairs

President:

Bill McCabe

Vice-President/Program Chair:

Theresa Roberts

Secretary: *Gerhard Bock*

Treasurer: *Greg Lang*

Board of Directors:

Carole Hada,

Tina Micheal Ruse

Amie Frisch

David Roberts

Ex Officio: Mariel Dennis

CSSA Affiliate:

Gerhard Bock

Librarian:

George Krigas

Membership/Roster:

Charlotte Tipton

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

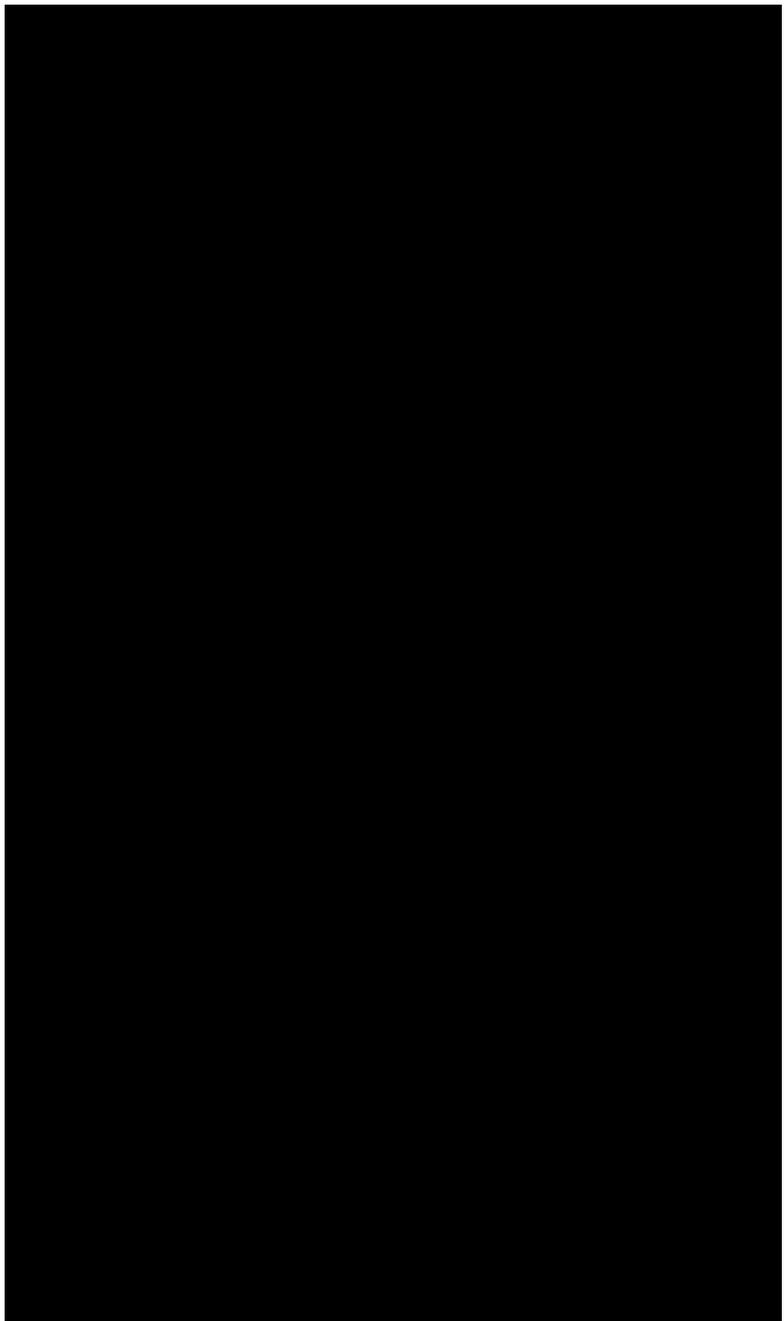
Webmaster:

Gerhard Bock

Annual Show & Plant Sale:

Mariel Dennis/Keith Taylor

Co-chairs



2025 Mini Show Schedule

Month	Cactus	Succulent
January	Spiral Cactus	Aeonium
February	Cylindropuntia	Haworthia
March	Ferocactus	Gasteria
April	Coryphantha	Euphorbia
May	Catered Dinner – No Mini Show	
June	Aporocactus	Adenium
July	Rebutia	Echeveria
August	Ariocarpus	Senecio
September	Country Store – No Mini Show	
October	Pediocactus	Pachyphytum
November	Mammalaria	Crassula
December	Holiday Party – No Mini Show	



Sunshine Corner



No new Sunshine cards were mailed this past month, always something for which to be grateful during the Thanksgiving season. But, remember, if you know of someone from the club who could use a get well, sympathy, or other cheerful note to let them know we are thinking of them, please send me an email at cdaf182@gmail.com using Sunshine on the subject line.

Cheers,
Cherry



Mini Show: Winners!

Well 2025 is almost over, and another year of Mini Shows are over for our group. We had more engagement this year, and I hope it continues into 2026. I know that everyone will be envious of the prizes!

As with last year, the prizes will be special hand made pots from our own Keith Taylor, Eric Bailey and myself. The prizes will be handed out at the Christmas Dinner. If a winner is not at the Christmas Dinner, hopefully they can make the January meeting. Otherwise I will work it out with them directly.

So please participate in the 2026 Mini Show, and maybe you can be a big winner next year. I did receive some feedback that many people vote on the Mimi Show early in the evening and sometimes a really great entry arrives and has no chance of winning. So in 2026 I will not put out the voting beans for voting until 6:30. I will make an announcement that voting has begun. So please if you want to participate, you must bring your entry in no later than 6:30 p.m. Voting will end at 7 pm when the speaker starts. Winners will be announced after the speaker. The January newsletter will set out the Mini Show schedule for 2026.

The voting criteria was 5 points for first place, 3 points for second place, and 1 point for third place. The top 5 winners are:

1st Place – Rudy Aguilar (with 30 points)

2nd Place – Elaine Thomas (with 29 points)

3rd Place – Micheal Ruse (with 25 points)

4th Place – George Krigas (with 19 points)

5th Place – Steve Goodman (with 17 points)



The official tally of non-winners: J. Vaninetti (13), Dan Mecca (12), Eric Bailey (12), Amie Frisch (11), Linda Partmann (11), Jerry Friis (6), Kevin Schultz (6), Troy Fajerson (6), Dennis Gonzales (5), Laura Oliver (5), Leslie Hurlburt (5), David Roberts (5), Keith Taylor (3), Thelma Baren (3), Cindy Morales (3), Calvin Nauer/Anna Gibson (3), Kathy Rose (3), Matt Der (1).

Happy Holidays everyone, and I hope to see you at the Christmas Dinner.

Linda

Membership

Saguaro Sam's Son Says:



2026 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE!

COMING SOON!

NEW ONLINE MEMBERSHIP PORTAL! JOIN IT!

You will receive an email in the next week with details:

- Automatic renewals and automatic payments
 - Manual one time payments
 - Reminder emails & Club News
- Reach out to Charlotte or Amie for questions
- Can still renew with check or cash at monthly meetings membership table

Presidents Corner

The Club is still looking for someone to help with the organization of the Show portion of our annual Sale/Show. Keith Taylor is once again going to be a Show Chair. We could use a volunteer to be the second Show Chair and assist Keith in organizing the Show. We need to make sure we have all of the necessary tablecloths, entry forms, category dividers, pencils, notebooks for the clerks, etc. You will have help from other Club members in creating a checklist to streamline the process. Anyone who is interested and would like to make use of their organizational skills to help the Club, please contact Bill at 916-225-5974 or 8mcca8e@sbcglobal.net.

Scam Emails

I'm sorry to put a negative article in the Holiday newsletter, but it can't be helped. There are still bad people out there using the emails of Board members to try to scam other Club members. Board members WILL NOT ask you by email or text to help them with our finances. If you ever receive an email asking for help with wiring money, using Venmo or Paypal or some other means to send your money to someone else, you are being scammed. Even if the email looks correct, you are being scammed. If you cannot talk to the person on the phone or in person, then please do not be taken in. If you talk with someone on the phone and you don't recognize the voice, do not be taken in.

Thank you Members!

A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR MEMBERS FOR AN OUTSTANDING 2025!

It's the Club members who make this Club what it is today! I just want to give my heartfelt thanks to all of you for making 2025 so much fun. Thank you to all of the people who have been here for years. Thank you to all of the new members in 2025. We brought in more new members than any year I can remember (so many new members--so many more people to enable us with our plant obsessions). Thank you for another fantastic year of volunteering. Let's make 2026 even better!

Bill

Home & Landscape Expo and Volunteers



Throughout the year the SCSS participates in outside events to increase awareness of our Club and to recruit new members. Next month we will be participating at an outside event: The Northern California Home and Landscape Expo at Cal Expo Jan 30, Jan 31 and Feb 1. Friday 11AM-5PM, Saturday 10AM-5PM and Sunday 11AM-5PM. Cassidy (Radiant Cactus) and Lesley and Jerry (L & J Plants) will be there selling plants.

We can always use a few volunteers to talk with interested people about cacti & succulents. If you volunteer for at least 3 hours we can provide parking passes for you. There is a special place for volunteer parking that also allows you to get into the Expo for free. If interested, please contact Bill at 8mcca8e@sbcglobal.net or talk with any Board member at the December or January meeting.

<https://www.homeandlandscapeexpo.com/attend/attend.html>

Northern California Home and Landscape Expo at Cal Expo Jan 30, Jan 31 and Feb 1.
Friday 11AM-5PM, Saturday 10AM-5PM and Sunday 11AM-5PM