



Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter

On the Dry Side



May 2013

Meeting – May 19, 2013 Our Club's Birthday Party!

Speaker: Ernesto Sandoval
South African Bulbs

Potluck: 12:30 PM to 1:00 PM

For our Birthday party, the club will provide KFC chicken, and we will have a big birthday cake. Please bring side dishes. Thanks! For more on the special activities for the Birthday party, *see page 3*.

Meeting: 1:00 PM

Program: South African Bulbs

Do you like bulbs? Ernesto Sandoval, director of the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, will be talking about his experience growing South African bulbs. Come see pretty pictures of these photogenic flowers and learn about their diversity in both foliage and flower as well as their horticultural needs, and some of the reasons why South Africa has so many of them!

Also, Ernesto will be bringing some bulbs and other succulent beauties to purchase for your benefit and that of the Botanical Conservatory. Albuca, Cyrtanthus and an assortment of other bulbs including a few CA natives will be available as well as less common Aloes and other succulents from South Africa and elsewhere. Nearly all of these species are quite suitable for and tested outdoors in Northern California! On the less common side of succulents Mr. Sandoval will also bring succulents from South Africa and elsewhere such as Pseudolithos migiurtinus, P. cubiformis, Whitesloana crassa!, Dorstenia gigas, Dendrosicyos socotrana, a variety of Haworthia and an assortment of other interesting plants.

See Plants of the Month on page 2.

*Happy
Birthday
to Us!*



Hesperantha cucullata, photo by Ernesto Sandoval

May Speaker's Biography

Photos by Ernesto

Ernesto Sandoval

Ernesto Sandoval began working with plants at the young age of 10 years old. He worked for his landscaper dad by running a mower, trimming and pruning trees and shrubs in the Los Angeles area. He took his interest to U.C. Davis and earned a Bachelors of Science in Botany in 1996. He has worked full time in the conservatory since his graduation and now is curator. He has thousands of pictures of plants and many from the deserts. He often takes students on field trips to the Arizona and Baja deserts.



Oxalis obtusa Oxalidaceae



Romulea komsbergensis
South Africa Iridaceae



Lachenalia carnosia



Spiloxene capensis
Hypoxidaceae

Plants of the Month

Succulents

Bulbs of any kind in flower, your choice.

Cactus

Any plant in flower

Any plant from Chile- *Austrocactus*, *Copiapoa*, *Corynocactus*, *Cylindropuntia*, *Echinopsis*, *Eriosyce*, *Echinia*, *Oreocereus*.

Novice only — Dish Gardens

Any Small Dish Garden up to 4" x 7" (or any combination that is 30 square inches or less.)

Be sure to bring in Show and Tell Plants! Club members are interested in hearing about your plants.

Future Plants of the Month

June

Succulents: Caudiciforms

Cactus: Bulbs of any kind in flower, your choice.

July

Succulents: Mutants—Crests, Monstrose, Oddballs

Cactus: Epiphytums



New Honorary Member

Welcome to new honorary member!

Angelina Santana, owner of Jardines Restaurant, San Juan Bautista, welcome to our club! We honor you and thank you for all these years of our Show and Sale in the lovely gardens at Jardines!

Our Club's Birthday Party

We will have a potluck lunch. The club will supply KFC chicken and a big B-day cake. We will need members to bring side dishes and some non-cake deserts like pies, (Manson's favorite is key lime, hint hint). We will also need plenty of people to help set up. Please come in around 11:30am to help put this celebration together. If you have any questions please call Lynda or Manson, 831-663-3355.

Our celebration will also have a silent auction. Please have plants ready to be placed on the tables before the program.

Bidding on the plants will end soon after the program.

Auction rules: 1) 3 plants per member maximum donation, 2) a dollar minimum is OK but needs to be noted on the plant ID slip, 3) no dollar top end, 4) member may donate all monies or 25% of the total bid to the club.

We would like to extend an invitation to all members of other clubs to come and enjoy our celebration!

Lotus Land Field Trip, May 11–12, 2013

We all had a blast! I will not have space to include many of the photos I took on the trip, but I'll include a few as a teaser for what I'll show next month.

We left at the crack of dark on Saturday morning, May 11th, and travelled in a cushy bus down to Santa Barbara. Some of the San Jose CSS joined us, so we had a full bus and made some new friends! The Lotus Land tour was fabulous, and long. I had no idea we would be in for such a treat. Then we grabbed a bite to eat, and proceeded to the Seaside Gardens Botanical Garden and Nursery in Carpinteria. We were quite a bunch descending on this nursery! The evening was spent at the motel pool, eating snacks, quenching our thirst, and enjoying lively conversation.

The next day we headed off to Terra Sol Garden Center in Santa Barbara. I tell you, we were like bees swarming into a field of flowers, only we were, of course, focused on cacti and succulents. We found many rare plants, and had a hard time leaving. Then we grabbed lunch in San Luis Obispo, and headed for the adorable little town, Cambria, to Nick Wilkinson's Grow Nursery shop. Nick has done a great job on this well-stocked and beautifully staged shop, with not just plants, but rocks, pots and more. Nice job, Nick!

At all of the nurseries, many of us loaded up on new plants to take home. I think we gave Rey, our wonderful bus driver, a special challenge with fitting all of our treasure plants in the bus' lower compartments. It was loaded!

We had a great time! More photos will come next month.

~Trudy Karl, Editor



Lotus Land, Santa Barbara



Having fun on the bus!



Nick Wilkinson, at his succulent shop, Grow Nursery, Cambria

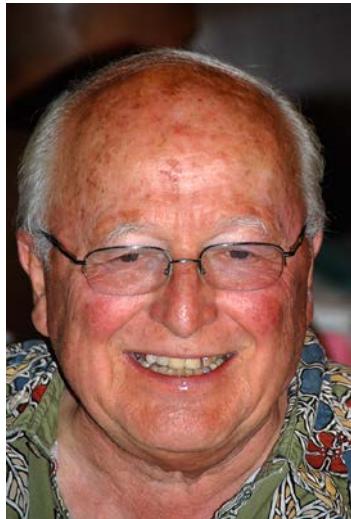
Letter From The President

I knew Frank Bloss for a quarter of a century. His passing was a surprise. He was due to go into Stanford hospital on the Monday after his death for a diagnosis. He was confident that his health would allow him to supervise the cash registers at the MBCSS show and sale in April.

Lynda and I traveled several times down to Baja with

Frank and Naomi. They were great to travel with mainly because I got to use the tow rope that I always had in my truck. Frank some times would find the softest sand to park his VW camper in. I would be called on to pull them out of the sand after the morning meal so that we could make it to the next camp site. Being stuck never bothered him, or Lynda and I for that matter. It was just one of those things that happens with a rocket scientist. He really was a rocket scientist. Lynda and I will miss Frank.

~Manson and Lynda



Sad News, Frank Bloss

We are very sad to share the news that our club's dear friend, Frank Bloss, passed away Friday night, April 26th, 2013, the night before our Show & Sale, in San Juan Bautista. He was 80 years old. Frank was a pillar to our club, as a founding member (1986), Director on the Board, CSSA Affiliate Representative, and dear friend. Frank and Naomi have been involved with cactus and succulents since the mid-70's. We will miss Frank tremendously. Please keep Naomi, Frank's Wife, and their children and family in your thoughts and prayers.

My thanks to Michael Buckner for permission to use this great photo of Frank.

More Sad News, Kathy Cairns

We are also sad to share that Kathy Cairns, member since 1994, has also passed away. We will miss her, too! Please keep Kathy's family in your thoughts and prayers, as well.

April Show & Sale

Our April Show & Sale was wonderful!

We had a very successful Show & Sale. We had more members selling their plants, and a beautiful show.

Thank you to everyone who helped set up before the Show & Sale, and helped break down after! Your assistance is greatly appreciated and helps makes the Show & Sale the success that it is. With each show, our planning and action gets better and better.

If anyone has not received 'Show Buc's' that they have earned please contact Manson or Lynda Waters and the problem will be covered with a rain check for the fall sale.

Note from Karl Karl

I want to offer my heartfelt thanks those who stepped up to the plate to help with set-up and tear-down at the Show & Sale. While I had to suddenly comandeer the cash registers, I could not lead the set-up and tear down, unfortunately. My job changed quickly when I realized without our Frank, someone had to manage the cash registers. So, we all pulled together and did it. Thank you to everyone for your amazing work, and also for your patience with me during this challenge. The sale and show was immensely successful because of all of you.

Karl Karl, (normally) Chair of Set-Up/Tear down

Note from Sales Chair, Lynda Waters

I would like to thank all that helped out in the sales area for the weekend. Not only did the vendors help in this area but several of the club members did also. This year we had 2 people that chaired the sales area. They were Karl Karl and myself. We made a few changes this year which helped to aid in the success of the sales area. Some of the changes were to assign vendors tables, publish a cash register schedule, move vendors to different locations and not to use the round tables for plant sales. The Board felt that the round tables should be positioned such that visitors could sit, relax and enjoy the beautiful garden surroundings, which they did. I received very positive feedback that everyone really liked the sales set up and were more than willing to help out. This made for a very enjoyable weekend.

Let us know if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

Lynda Waters, Chair of Sales

April Show & Sale Awards

Judges Awards

- Frank & Naomi Bloss, *Aloe Roeoeslii*
Peter Beiersdorfer, *Albuca Spiralis*
Frank & Naomi Bloss, African bulbs
Bud 'n Ev's, *Echinocereos pectinatus*
Frank & Naomi Bloss, *Peniocereus maculatus*
Frank & Naomi Bloss, *Dudleya species*
Frank & Naomi Bloss, *Euphorbia unispina*
Frank & Naomi Bloss, *Ceraria namaquensis*
Richard Deming, *Mammillaria geminispina*

Bests in Show

- Best Cactus—Novice**
Linda McNally, *Astrophytum myriostigma*
Best Cactus—Intermediate
Ronald Harris, *Uebelmannia floridispina*
Best Cactus—Open
William Munkascy, *Astrophytum asterias*
Best Succulent—Novice
Dorothy Hurley, *Gasteria*

- Best Succulent—Intermediate**
Peter Beiersdorfer,
Crassula rupestris v. marneriana

- Best Succulent—Open**
Bud 'n Ev's, *Aloe aristata v. leiophylla*

Sweepstakes

- Novice—Karl Karl**
Intermediate—Ronald Harris
Advanced—Frank & Naomi Bloss

President / Directors' Awards

- Novice**
Sharon Lucchesi,
Haworthia truncata variegata

- Intermediate**
Peter Beiersdorfer, *Euphorbia stellate*

- Open**
Frank & Naomi Bloss, *Fouquieria macdougalii*



Frank & Naomi Bloss
Aloe roeoeslii



Frank & Naomi Bloss
African bulbs



Bud 'n Ev's
Echinocereos pectinatus



Frank & Naomi Bloss
Peniocereus maculatus



Frank & Naomi Bloss
Dudleya species



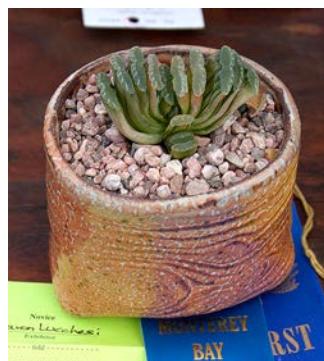
Frank & Naomi Bloss
Euphorbia unispina



Frank & Naomi Bloss
Ceraria namaquensis



Richard Deming
Mammillaria geminispina



Sharon Lucchesi
Haworthia truncata variegata



Peter Beiersdorfer
Euphorbia stellata



Frank & Naomi Bloss
Fouquieria macdougalii



Linda McNally
Astrophytum myriostigma



Ronald Harris
Uebelmannia florispina



William Munkacsy
Astrophytum asterias



Dorothy Hurley
Gasteria



Peter Beiersdorfer
Crassula rupestris v. marneriana



Bud 'n Ev's
Aloe aristata v. leiophylla



Judges: Richard Bernard, David Dupre, Tom Vincze



Cactus & Succulent Show



Cactus & Succulent Show

(No photo for Peter Beiersdorfer's *Albuca spiralis*, or the Sweepstakes winners)



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Calendar of Events

See our listing of CSS Shows on the back page.

UC Santa Cruz Arboretum

Succulent Wreath Making

Most Wednesdays, call to confirm—831-427-2998
See more: <http://arboretum.ucsc.edu/calendar/>

Monterey Bay Master Gardeners Boot Camp

June 15, 2013, 8am–5pm (BYO lunch, or buy there)
Registration is required and starts May 1.
Cabrillo College Horticulture Center
Call 831-763-8007, email bootcamp@mbmg.org, or
See website: mbmg.org

CSSA Annual Convention

June 15 to 20 — CSSA 35th Biennial Convention.
Austin, TX — <http://cssa2013.com>

The Ruth Bancroft Gardens

Succulent Garden Design

Saturday, July 6, 2013, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
\$20 General; \$12 Members

Propagation Workshop (Popular—April's sold out!)

Saturday, July 27, 2013, 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
\$20 General; \$12 Members

Container Gardening with Succulents

Saturday, August 10, 2013, 10:00–11:30am
\$25 General Admission; \$20 Members
Register for above: <http://www.ruthbancroftgarden.org/rbgarden/pages/GardenWorkshop.html>

LA CSS Drought Tolerant Plant Festival

June 8–9, 9am–5pm
Sepulveda Garden Center
16633 Magnolia Blvd., Encino, CA
www.lacss.com

CSSA Annual Show & Sale

Huntington Botanical Gardens
June 29 & 30th, 10:30AM–4:30PM
Early bird plant sale: Friday, June 28, noon–4:40PM
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA.
Info: 626-405-2160 or 2277

Huntington Botanical Gardens

Succulent Symposium

Sept. 7, All day event

MBACSS Future Programs (Our Own)

June 2013: Richard Bernard, 'Wild Flowers'
July 2013: Don Cravalho, Epiphyllums

Wrinkled Potatoes & Mojo Picón

Potato with pepper sauce recipe from the Canary Islands

Russell Wagner brought a traditional food served in the Canary Islands, *Wrinkled Potatoes*, which was delicious.

Wrinkled Potatoes (Papas Arrugadas):

Boil baby potatoes in salty water. Remove from heat and pour off the water. Return pot with potatoes to the stove, letting the steam evaporate. You should see a nice light layer of salt form on the dry skins. Serve them with Mojo Picon, below.

Mojo Picón

Ingredients:

4 dried red peppers – bell or any other non-spicy red pepper (I bet you could use fresh)
1–2 slices stale white bread – crusts trimmed if very dry
3–4 cloves garlic, peeled
1/4 tsp ground cumin
2 tsp red pepper flakes
1/2 tsp coarse salt
1 cup extra virgin Spanish olive oil
1/4 cup (approximately) water or chicken broth
Spanish sherry vinegar to taste

Preparation:

This red pepper sauce recipe makes about 1.5 cups. Soak the dried red bell peppers in a bowl or pan of warm water for 10-15 minutes to soften and rehydrate them. After soaking, drain water and remove the stems.

Slice the garlic cloves. Break bread into quarters and set aside.

Process the peppers, cumin, garlic slices, hot pepper flakes and salt in a food processor or blender to create a paste. While blending, drizzle in olive oil gradually. Alternately add small pieces of the bread and small amounts of water or broth until the sauce is thick, but not as thick as a paste. Add 1-2 tsp vinegar or more, according to your taste.

If you will not use the sauce the same day, store in a glass jar, (such as the jars made for canning), then cover the sauce with olive oil, seal tightly and refrigerate.

There are many more recipes online; search for *Mojo Picon*.

April Meeting

Russell Wagner is a tall, lean, sparkler of a speaker! He illuminated our afternoon with stories and experiences of not only a trip to the Canary Islands, but his publishing venture, and some 'Wrinkled Potatoes' that he contributed to our potluck lunch.

When Russell travels, he goes alone and lives out of his rental car. He admitted he was pretty rough on them. He visited the Canary Islands and spent time on a few. On Grand Canaria, there were thickets of euphorbias, misty, mossy, mountains, and big, black bumblebees. He stayed in the wild places, avoiding the beaches, bars, and German radio.

In Tenerife, growing under the Euphorbias, was Aeonium lindleyii, an antidote to the Euphorbia sap. A handy tip! Here he found his Sonchas, the perennial sow thistles with big yellow flowers. Desirable, honest. Also, one of his favorites, Euphorbia atropurpurea, a tree to 12' tall with wine red flowers.



In the Canyon of Anxiety, on the island of La Palma, he saw Aeonium nobile with its thick, solitary rosettes, the beautiful little boutonnieres of Greenovia, and an Adiantum fern with round leaves. And we know that when algae met fungus they took a 'lichen' to each other. He notices those too.

He brought Steven Hammer's new book, 'Mesembs, the Titanopsis Group,' prints and notecards from the book, and a lot of unusual plants. The book is a marvel! Gorgeous illustrations begin each chapter and the photographs make you glad they are so small with all those 'teeth.' Take a look at the wonderful presentation of Steven's bumpy dumplings!

The 'Wrinkled Potatoes' were baby potatoes boiled in salted water, served with *Mojo Picon*, a tasty hot sauce (a close recipe on page 6). A snack from the Canary Islands. Served cold. *Very nice.* As was our afternoon with Russell.

Thank you for taking these marvelous notes, Suzy Brooks!

April Mini Show Winners

Dish Gardens (Novice)

- 1st Place: Suzy Brooks
2nd Place: Dot Hurley

Novice Succulent

No entries

Novice Cactus

- 1st Place: Dian Duchin Reed, Mammillaria elongata
'Golden Stars'
2nd Place: Dot Hurley, Mammillaria elongata 'Goldilocks'
3rd Place: Dot Hurley, Mammillaria elongata 'Julia'

Intermediate Succulent

- 1st Place: Pat Boylan, Pelargonium
2nd Place: Pat Boylan, Sarcocaulon

Intermediate Cactus

- 1st Place: Pat Boylan, Mammillaria pilcayensis
2nd Place: Pat Boylan, Mammillaria sp.

Advanced Succulent

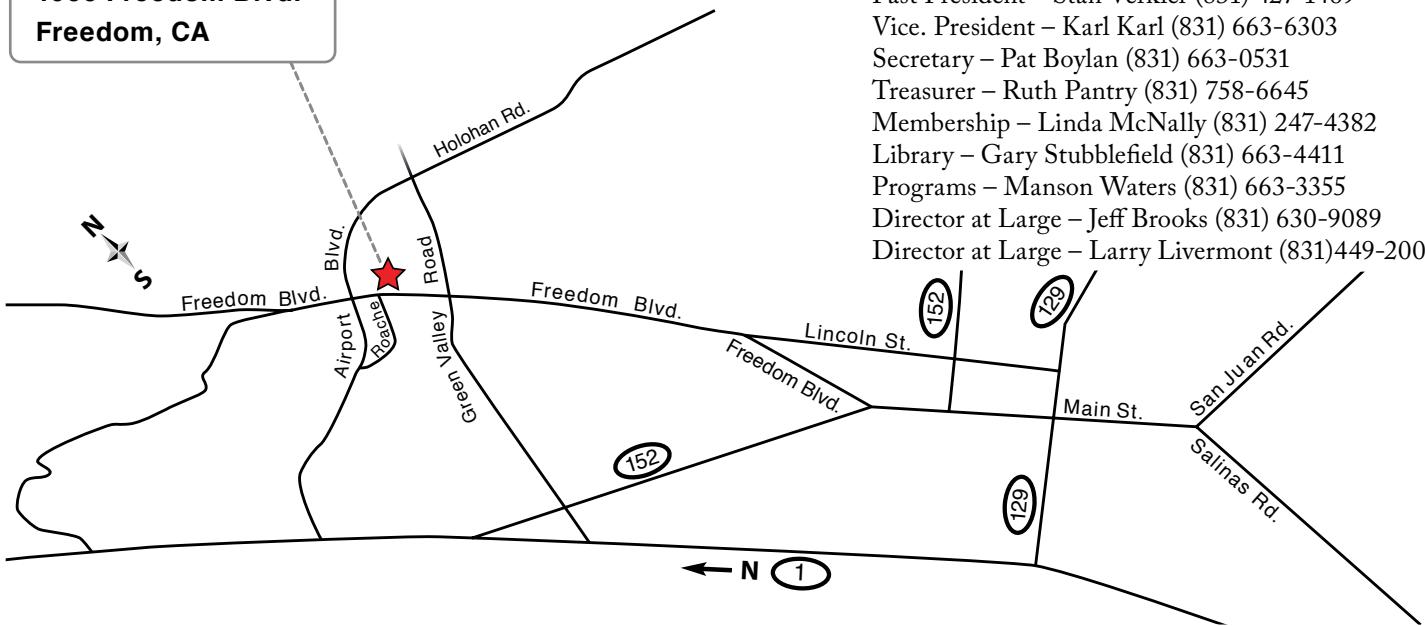
- 1st Place: Stan Verkler, Pelargonium sidoides

Advanced Cactus

No entries



VFW Hall
1960 Freedom Blvd.
Freedom, CA



2013 CSS Shows & Sales

Date	Society	Location
May 18–19 Sat. 9–4 Sun. 10–2:30	Carmichael CSS	Carmichael Park Clubhouse 5750 Grant Ave. Carmichael, CA
May 25–26 Sat. 10–5 Sun. 10–4	Central Coast CSS	Ludwick Community Center 864 Santa Rosa St. San Luis Obispo, CA
June 1–2 Sat. 10–6 Sun. 11–5	Fresno CSS	Sierra Vista Mall Community Room 1060 Shaw Ave. Fresno, CA
June 1–2 Sat. 10–6 Sun. 11–5	San Diego CSS	Balboa Park Room 101 ph:858-382-1797 San Diego, CA
June 8–9 9–5	San Francisco SCS	SF County Fair Bldg. 9th & Lincoln Way Golden Gate Park San Francisco, CA
June 8–9 Sat. 9–5 Sun. 9–3:30	LA CSS	SF County Fair Bldg. 9th & Lincoln Way Golden Gate Park San Francisco, CA
June 28–30 Fri. 12–4:40 Sat., Sun. 10:30–4:30	CSSA	Huntington Gardens 1151 Oxford Road San Marino, CA
July 26–28 Fri., Sat. 9–5 Sun. 12–4	Orange County CSS	Info: call 949-212-8417
Aug. 17–18 Sat. 9–5 Sun. 9–5	Inter-City CSS	LA County Arboretum 301 N. Baldwin Ave. Arcadia, CA
Sept. 14–15 Sat. 9–5 Sun. 9–4	Monterey Bay Area CSS	Jardines Restaurant Garden 115 Third St. San Juan Bautista

For more dates and locations, see Fresno CSS nice website events calendar: <http://www.fresnocss.org>

ON THE DRY SIDE

Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society
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