



Monterey Bay Area
Cactus & Succulent
Society

On the Dry Side

Next Meeting: August 16th Potluck 12:30 Program 1pm

July Meeting Recap

Our July meeting brought us our famous Country Store. The Country Store provides opportunity to go home with lots of goodies. Hope you had fun!

President's Message

Hello everyone, hope all is going well with all of you this month. I want to invite you to our August meeting, where we will have an interesting program given by Don Cravalho on the plant genus Epiphyllum. These are epiphytic plants that have annual super flowers in a wide variety of colors. We also will raffle off some rarer and quite interesting succulent plants that the club has purchased in the past from some of our guest speakers. Hope to see you there on Sunday, August 16th....12:30 P.M. Stan Verkler



Succulent Extravaganza Time

The Succulent Extravaganza is being held at the Succulent Gardens in Castroville on September 25th

and 26th. <http://sgplants.com/pages/succulent-extravaganza>

Our club's show and sale is on September 26th and 27th. The priority is to volunteer for the club show and sale. However, if you have time on the 25th or 26th to sit at a MBACSS membership table at the Extravaganza, please email you day and times to Anita Crawley at acrawley@comcast.net

MiniShow Categories

The plants for August Mini-Show Succulent category are Echeveria and intergeneric hybrids of Echeveria like: Sedeveria, Graptoveria, and Pachyveria (I will accept Taciveria).



Cactus category is any BLOOMING cactus. **All plants not fitting the criteria will not be judged.**

Plants are to be healthy and in show condition.

Society Achieves Non-Profit Status

The Monterey Bay Cactus & Succulent Society has always operated informally as a non-profit organization, but has only recently pursued the legal definition of that status.

The first step was to become a California corporation, which was effective on May 21, 2014.

Then, on September 12, 2014, the Internal Revenue Service determined that the Society is a

"public charity," exempt from federal income tax.

California's Franchise Tax Board took until early June 2015 to confirm the Society's

exemption from state income tax, but that also became effective on September 12, 2014.

This brings the Society into the system, so perhaps it's our Declaration of Interdependence!

Tom Karwin



Illegal Cactus You've Never Heard About

by Jorge Quiñónez

Up until now, I knew that Peyote (*Lophophora* species), a spineless cactus from Southwest was illegal to possess in the USA with the exception of Native American Church members. Recently, while reading about *Opuntia* online, I discovered that a South American cactus, *Opuntia aurantiaca* (commonly known as Tiger Pear, Jointed Cactus or Jointed Prickly-pear) is considered a "Noxious Weed" by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA). Nurseries aren't supposed to carry it nor sell it.



Unlike Peyote, Tiger Pear isn't especially attractive or desirable. Based on what I've seen and read online, it grows in clumps up to a foot high with cylindrical or club-shaped stems. It could easily be mistaken for a cholla. Tiger Pear occurs naturally in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay and is considered an invasive species in Africa and Australia. Speaking with several *Opuntia* experts including one at the CSSA 2015 conference, revealed that Tiger Pear is no more noxious or invasive than any of the other cacti we have in the USA, which was my suspicion all along. They felt the USDA was wrong in calling *Opuntia aurantiaca* a noxious weed.

Sources: Wikipedia (picture) & USDA website.



Monterey Bay Area Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale
Come one come all! Join us September 26th-27th At the San Juan Bautista Community Hall 10 San Jose St. San Juan Bautista. Vendors will have plants, pots, and items for growing and tending your lovely plants. Also view the amazing entries of prime cactus and succulent in the show portion of the event!

We also need your help! Come volunteer behind the scene, with set up on Friday the 25th and breakdown Sunday promptly by 4pm. During the show and sale we will need packers, door security and clerks for check out. It is really fun, earn raffle tickets for your help! Win Win!



On the Dry Side is the newsletter of the Monterey Bay Area Cactus Society. Club Meetings are held the 3rd Sunday of each month in the VFW Bldg., 1960 Freedom Blvd., Watsonville, CA. A pot luck lunch starts at 12:30 p.m. followed by the program.

Board & Committee Chairs:

President – Stan Verkler (805) 550-8393

Vice. President – Naomi Bloss (831) 722-1446

Secretary – Pat Livensparger (831) 6252980

Treasurer – Ruth Pantry (831) 758-6645

Membership – Linda McNally (831) 247-4382

Library – Suzy Brooks (831) 207-4021

Programs – Manson Waters (831) 663-335

Director at Large-Tom Karwin (831) 760-6727

Director at Large –Gary Stubblefield (831) 663-4411
Director at Large –Anita Crawley (831) 293-8788

CSSA Rep: Jeff Brooks (831) 207-4021

Newsletter Editor: Sharon Lucchesi (831) 688-8454

Board Meeting 11:00 am, Members welcome to attend.

Visitors are always welcome. For more information call Membership Chair: Linda McNally (831) 247-4382 or Club President: Stan Verkler (805)