



Monterey Bay Area
Cactus & Succulent
Society

On the Dry Side

Next Meeting: June 21st Potluck 12:30 Program 1pm



June Meeting Program, Ernesto Sandoval

Methods of Succulent propagation at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory:

A brief tour of the techniques used at the Conservatory to propagate a variety of succulent plants from seed (sexually) and from stems, leaves, and rarely roots (vegetative). Techniques for better seed germination and methods of vegetative propagation such as a variety of stem cuttings, leaf cuttings!, grafting and leaf cutting will be discussed.

Ernesto Sandoval has been wondering and seeking questions to why plants grow and look the way that they do for a long time. Now he explains and interprets the world of plants to a variety of ages and experiences from K-12 to professionals and Master Gardeners. He regularly lectures to a variety of western Garden Clubs throughout the year and particularly to Succulent Clubs throughout the State and elsewhere since that group of plants is his particular passion within his general passion for plants. He describes himself as a "Jose of All Plants, Master of None." Ernesto thoroughly enjoys helping others, and gardeners in particular, to understand why and how plants do what they do.

When he was about 13 he asked his dad why one tree was pruned a particular way and another tree another way. His dad answered bluntly "because that's the way you do it." Since then he's been learning and teaching himself the answers to those and many other questions by getting a degree at UC Davis in Botany and working from student weeder/waterer to Director over the last 23 years at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory. He's long left the "mow blow and go" monoculture landscape gardening world and has immersed himself in the world of polyculture and biodiversity by growing several thousand types of plants at the UC Davis Botanical Conservatory, many of them succulents. Several of his favorite garden projects involved converting lawns and or water loving landscapes to drought tolerant and diversity filled gardens! la He likes to promote plant liberation by encouraging gardeners of all sorts to grow more plants in the ground when possible. He loves the technical language of Botany but prefers to relate information in more understandable methods of communication! By helping people to understand the workings of plants he hopes to help us better understand how to and why our plants do what they do and how we can maximize their growth with less effort.

May Meeting Recap

Our DVD of the Sonoran Desert was reminiscent of grade school days with a Disney film. Only the color, sound, and presentation was excellent without the clicking projector. It gave a complete overview of the eco system; plants, animals, weather. Home of the magnificent saguaro. And it is so close! Sounds like a road trip to me. Thanks, Stan!

Look a Book

Yvonne Cave's book, 'Succulents for the Contemporary Garden,' is a good book for beginners and collectors alike. It has descriptions and growing tips for hundreds of species and hybrids. Great color pictures too. Look for it next meeting.

Mini Show for June

Our plant categories for June are:

*Succulent: Crassula/Sedum

*Cactus: Any blooming cactus

Bring your plant in show condition. Novice, Intermediate, and Advanced entries will be judged by the members. Winners earn a raffle ticket and bragging rights.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, Stan Verkler

Hello Everyone, I hope this letter finds you well, and enjoying the mild Spring weather. I hope you will plan to attend our June meeting, and wish to highly recommend the Program this month. We are very happy to have Ernesto Sandoval coming to give us a program from UC Davis Botanical Gardens. Ernesto will be sharing excellent advice on plant culture and care that you won't want to miss.

See you at the meeting on June 20th!

New Members

Davie Kurtz, P.O. Box 658, Brookdale, CA 95007, 831.609.6396, kurtz@me.com

Mary Ann Rawlings, 550 Cherokee Court, Salinas, CA 93906, 831.214.9667, marawll@aol.com

Taryl Meyenberg, 71 Marion Ave., Salinas, CA 93901, 831.757.7427, tarylmeyenberg@gmail.com

Dana Meyenberg, 22299 Davenrich Dr., Salinas, CA 93908, 813-484-2251 danamarie3333@yahoo.com

Mike Goldsmith, 260 Rio Del Mar Blvd., 12, Aptos, CA 95003, 831.515.2901, m165@geolwilson.com

Patty Connole, 6510 Cooper St., Felton, CA 95018, 831.335.4134, pattyconnole@gmail.com

Also we are happy to welcome back former member Dorothy Hurley, who rejoined the club after a year long recovery from surgery.

Dorothy Hurley, 205 Quail Run Road, Aptos, CA 95003, 831.688.9157, dot205@yahoo.com

Please add to your roster and offer a warm welcome!

COMING EVENTS

June 26-28, CSSA 50th Annual Show & Sale,
Huntington Botanical Gardens <http://cssashow.com>

CSSA INFORMATION:

This year is the bi-annual Convention. There are very interesting speakers and things to do at these events. And if you do not have enough plants, pots, books or other related stuff this is a very good place to enhance your collection. It is being held at Pitzer College in Claremont, Ca. in June from the 14th to the 19th. Most meals will be available at the school's lunchroom and lodging in the dorms. The cost of attending is greatly reduced compared to the last few conventions.

The other CSSA function coming up in June is the annual show and sale. It is on the weekend of June 26, 27 and 28 and held at the Huntington. You will be able to get into the show free if you have your Fresno Cactus and Succulent badge on along with a sticker type badge issued by the Huntington. If you don't have a club badge this will probably give you enough time to get one. There will be no exceptions to this and you will not be able to get the Huntington sticker badge at the gate. Cost to get in is at least \$20, so please see me so you can spend that \$20 on new plants.

The CSSA Show is one of the best in the world. You may go well prepared by bringing a bib so as to not drool all over your shirt. The show has plants that you have never seen the quality of before. You are invited to show there but there is only one category: Open. So you will not be competing with novices or other form of rookie. No pre-registration so you can just show up with your great plant and enter it. I have show schedules and rule books that I will mail you entry stickers or the convention info.

Fred Gaumer



Linda McNally's Garden!



June 21, 2015

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. Visitors are always welcome. For more information call Membership Chair: Linda McNally (831) 247-4382 or Club President: Stan Verkler (805) 550-8393

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

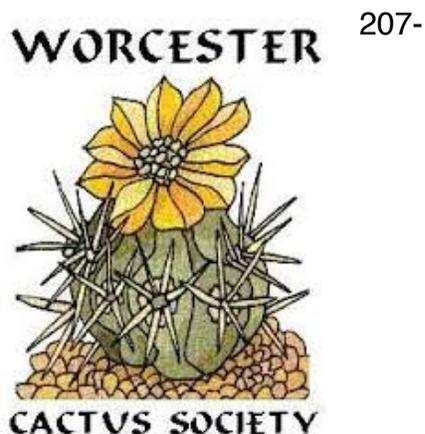
Library – Suzy Brooks (831) 207-4021

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

BOARD MEETING 11:00am Open to Members

CSSA Rep: Jeff Brooks (831)
4021



A logo contest for members to design a plant for the new look. The logo must be original art, digitalized, no photos, no limit per person. All entries must be submitted to Sharon by Oct 15. Members will vote for the top 3, then the Board will vote on the winner at the Oct meeting. The prize will be a 1 yr membership to CSSA worth \$55.

SEDUM

The succulent foliage of many types of sedum is topped by starry flowers in late summer and fall. Low-growing types are perfect for rock gardens, while taller varieties thrive in perennial borders. Another common name is stonecrop.

There are numerous types of sedum, all of which have fleshy, succulent leaves. Low-growing varieties hug the ground and may reach just 2 inches in height, while tall varieties top out at 2 feet or more. Use the low-growing types as ground covers and in rock gardens; tall varieties command attention in the perennial border with their dense foliage and large flower heads. Flower colors include red, pink, gold, yellow, and white, and plants bloom in summer to fall, depending on the species. Well-drained soil is essential to ward off fungal diseases, especially during wet summers.



Plant in spring, spacing plants 6 inches to 2 feet apart, depending on the variety. Prepare the garden bed by using a garden fork or tiller to loosen the soil to a depth of 12 to 15 inches, then mix in a 2- to 4-inch layer of compost. Dig a hole twice the diameter of the pot the plant is in. Carefully remove the plant from its

container and place it in the hole so the top of the root ball is level with the soil surface. Carefully fill in around the root ball and firm the soil gently. Water thoroughly.

Care

Apply a thin layer of compost each spring, followed by a 2-inch layer of mulch to retain moisture and control weeds. Water plants during the summer if rainfall is less than 1 inch per week. After the first killing frost, cut stems back to an inch or two above soil line. Divide plants every 3 to 4 years as new growth begins in the spring, lifting plants and dividing them into clumps.

Special Features

Easy care/low maintenance

Good for cut flowers

Attracts butterflies

Unusual foliage

Tolerates dry soil

Site Selection

Select a site with full sun to light shade and very well-drained soil.

Planting Instructions



On the LOOKOUT for: In an effort to improve our Club's friendly face, it was proposed that volunteers participate in a monthly garden tour program to show their plants and growing areas at their homes. The Board would also like to have a Hospitality Person volunteer from the membership to meet and greet at the door, make name tags for visitors and schedule the monthly garden tours.

Enjoy some photos of our May Meeting Plant Auction!

