

# CACTUS CORNER NEWS

## Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society

[www.fresnocss.com](http://www.fresnocss.com)

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*Affiliated with the Cactus & Succulent Society of America*

November 2016

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 3, 7:00 pm. (Doors open 6:30 p.m.)  
Deaf & Hard of Hearing Service Center (DHHSC), 5340 North Fresno Street, Fresno**

### PROGRAM

#### **WINTER IS COMING! GUIDE TO GETTING PLANTS READY FOR THE WINTER PRESENTED BY ROBERT SCOTT**

It's getting cold outside and that means it's time to talk about preparing for the winter! That's exactly what Robert Scott has planned for our next meeting. Robert will be giving a presentation on how to get our plants ready for the wet cold weather that is coming our way. He will talk about the difference between Summer and Winter growers, when to water, how to protect from frost and much more. If you're new to growing cactus and succulents or just need new ideas this is the presentation for you!



Robert also happens to be our Club's Treasurer for the last couple years. It's why he's always taking money at the back of the room. His passion for plants started as a little kid when his Grandma taught him how to grow vegetables, which eventually expanded to ornamentals, orchids, and water plants. His knowledge grew and he earned a degree in Plant Science from Fresno State. From there his love of cactus and succulents took root.

With the help of his best friend Nick Deinhart he learned that he could create new hybrids of aloes and a new obsession started. He grows all types of cactus and succulents but aloes are his favorite with over 120 pure species in his collection. When the local nursery he was working at went out of business he got the ball rolling on his idea of starting his own cactus and succulent nursery. He started Desert Roots Nursery in the Spring of 2015. It's been a long process to get the business up but he enjoys every minute of it. The last 6 months the nursery has been on the back burner as he started a job with Fresno County in their Agricultural Department but will have the nursery online and ready for sale by this coming Spring. He offers a large selection cactus, succulents, and air plants, priding himself in providing top quality plants. The nursery has taken him a while, but when it's done it will be amazing!

He hopes everyone comes to the meeting with lots of questions and learns something new!

**PLANTS: Robert will be bringing plants for purchase!**

~ DINNER ~

BJ's Restaurant Brewhouse  
715 East Shaw Avenue  
Fresno (559) 570-1900  
[www.bjsrestaurants.com](http://www.bjsrestaurants.com)

Begins promptly at 5:00 p.m.  
Reservation under Fresno Cactus Club.  
Members are invited to attend.

Contact Rosanna Rojas by  
Wednesday, November 2,  
to make reservations.  
Phone: (559) 999-0017  
Email: [rfojas96@gmail.com](mailto:rfojas96@gmail.com)

**FROM THE PREZ ...****Hi, all,**

November is the month for elections. Oh, you hadn't noticed? Yes, even our club is holding the election for next year's officers at this meeting. We have a complete slate of candidates for the officers and Board of Directors; nominations can be made from the floor at this meeting for any or all of the offices. Rosanna Rojas is in charge the election and, if necessary, will need several others to assist—to cross off the names of the voters as they vote, and then to help count the ballots. I want to thank Rosanna very much for her work on the nominations, and Vickie Veen, as well, who was a big help to her.

Also this month we will have signup sheets for the December potluck, which will be December 1<sup>st</sup>, in the DHHSC meeting room. All members are encouraged to attend and family members are welcome as well. We will also have a silent auction at the party, and next year's officers will be installed. We need several members to volunteer to help with the food—actually to decide which entrée we should provide and to make sure the club has enough paper plates, table service, etc. Club members will be asked to sign up to bring salads, sides, desserts, bread, etc.

Cindy Duwe and I represented the club at the Clovis Botanical Garden Water-Wise Plant Sale & Fair on October 15<sup>th</sup>. We had a good time visiting with guests and others who had booths there. We both met old friends who had come to the event, and I visited a bit with two former presidents of our club, Paul Slocum and Nancy Hannah. (You have to be a prehistoric member to recall either of them.) We gave away a lot of plants donated by Ann Bierbower and myself and gave out information about the club. The photo book of members' desert landscape gardens was very popular with visitors. Member Matthew Johnson stopped by to say that he and Megan have a new daughter, Mara Frances. Congratulations! Marian Orvis and Madeleine Mitchell were there for the California Native Plant Society. It was a nice day and it appeared that a lot of plants were sold.

The 2017 club budget is printed elsewhere in the newsletter. As you can see, it takes a not inconsiderable amount of money to fund club activities. We increased the amount devoted to the annual show and sale because this coming year will be a transition for us—to a new venue and perhaps a competitive show. This will be a new venture for us and we hope that we can call on all of you to help with the various aspects of it.

Winter will soon be upon us, though we have had very little in the way of rain so far. You will have noticed that your South African plants and other winter growers are coming into leaf and bloom. Elsewhere in the newsletter—in response to requests—is a general list of winter growing genera. Most of your plants are getting ready to go to sleep but not all of them. Observation will tell you which plants need to be watered occasionally in the winter. Remember, when you're not sure whether to water, don't.

See you at the meeting! *Sue*

**Club access:** President, Sue Haffner, 292-5624, [sueh@mail.fresnostate.edu](mailto:sueh@mail.fresnostate.edu); Programs, Rosanna Rojas, 999-0017, [rfrojas96@gmail.com](mailto:rfrojas96@gmail.com); Treasurer, Robert Scott, 960-3665, [Rob\\_scott85@yahoo.com](mailto:Rob_scott85@yahoo.com); Editor, Sue Haffner, 292-5624, [sueh@mail.fresnostate.edu](mailto:sueh@mail.fresnostate.edu); Refreshments, Marian Orvis, 226-0145, [mforvet@comcast.net](mailto:mforvet@comcast.net); Librarian, Madeleine Mitchell, 638-2784, [madeleine43@comcast.net](mailto:madeleine43@comcast.net); Webmaster, Vickie Veen, [vickieveen@gmail.com](mailto:vickieveen@gmail.com); Sunshine, Carole Grosch, 323-8602, [cgg266@comcast.net](mailto:cgg266@comcast.net).

**FRESNO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY BOARD MEETING****October 10, 2016****President Sue Haffner called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.****Attendance:**

Robert Scott, Treasurer; Cindy Duwe, Secretary; Polly Dunklin, Board Member; Mary Drumheller, Board Member; Carole Grosche, Board Member; Ann Bierbower, Board Member; Karen Willoughby, Board Member; Tom Meyer, Board Member; Fred Gaumer, CSAA Board Representative. **Absent:** Rosanna Rojas, excused. **Visitors:** Don Winton, Dan Gale

**Officer Reports:**

Sue informed the Board that a speaker is needed for November 21, 2016 for the Oakhurst Green Thumb Garden Club.

Sue informed the Board that the October 2017 meeting will be held at the Discovery Center.

Robert Scott told the Board the bank balance is \$5,733.31.

**Old Business:**

Sue reminded the Board that October is the month that we donate \$100.00 to the following groups: Tree Fresno, Clovis Botanical Gardens, DHHSC and Discovery Center. After discussion it was moved by Ann Bierbower, second by Carole Grosch to replace Tree Fresno with California Native Plants Society. Unanimous vote.

Ann Bierbower reported that the sale of the rescue plants was a success.

Sue informed the Board that the election of officers will take place at the November meeting.

**New Business:**

Sue reported that a chairman is needed for the Christmas Party on December 1, 2016.

Mary Drumheller volunteered to be in charge of decorating: we need someone in charge of food.

Robert Scott announced that the Show and Sale for 2017 will take place on June 3 and 4, 2017. Set up will be on Friday, June 2, 2017. He is still researching a new venue. A judged show was discussed.

The Board discussed the 2017 Budget and adjusted amounts to reflect the amount spent for 2016.

**Work Shop:**

The Work Shop will be held on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 at the home of Doris Hooton and Tom Meyer.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Duwe, Secretary

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** *Carmen Linares* (4<sup>th</sup>);  
*Karen Willoughby* (7<sup>th</sup>);  
*Nancy Jobin* (11<sup>th</sup>);  
*Sue Haffner* (14<sup>th</sup>);  
*Cathy Seeto* (15<sup>th</sup>);  
*Dan Gale* (17<sup>th</sup>)  
*Cindy Duwe* (20<sup>th</sup>).



~ ~ ~

**SAY HELLO TO THESE NEW MEMBERS:**

Daniel & Frances Cardenas (welcome back!)  
 Fresno, Johanna L. Jackson, Squaw Valley  
 Gloria Johnson, Debby Pratt, Fresno  
 Pat Schreyer, Tulare

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A sunshine card was sent to **Gail Blank** and we hope she makes a swift recovery from surgery.

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**COMING EVENTS**

**Nov. 5-6, San Gabriel Cactus & Succulent Society** Winter Show and Sale, Los Angeles County Arboretum, Arcadia;  
 hours: 9-4 both days.

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**INTERESTING WEBSITE:** A year ago, Buck and Yvonne Hemenway relocated from southern California to South Africa. They maintain a very interesting website which discusses local life in Calitzdorp, not to mention the wonderful plants they see every day in their area of the Klein Karoo: [www.pricklypalace.com](http://www.pricklypalace.com).

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**NEW IN THE CLUB LIBRARY:** "Cacti and Succulents" by Gideon Smith (2006).

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The September-October issue of **Cactus and Succulent Journal** is a special issue on landscaping with succulents. It's gorgeous and inspiring. If you're a CSSA member, you already have your copy. Otherwise, it will also be in the club library.

**BUDGET 2017**

Below is the budget approved by the Board of Directors: Calendar year—January 1 through December 31, 2017

Annual donations	400.00
Bank charges	45.00
Bus trip(s)	1,000.00
CGCI membership @ 2.75 per member	412.00
CGCI liability insurance	150.00
CSSA Affiliate fee	100.00
CSSA journal	55.00
Hospitality supplies	100.00
Library books & binding	400.00
Miscellaneous expenses	400.00
New member binders	100.00
Newsletter and postage	700.00
Office supplies & expenses	200.00
Officer gifts	425.00
Potluck, Christmas	300.00
Potluck, July	300.00
Printing—flyers, handouts, postcards, etc.	1,000.00
Raffle plants (9 flats @ \$85.00)	765.00
Room rent	825.00
Show & Sale expenses (incl. advertising)	2,500.00
Speakers (fee, motel, dinner)	3,000.00
Storage unit rent	660.00
Web hosting	<u>100.00</u>

**TOTAL \$13,937.00**



**BOARD MEETING**

**NO BOARD MEETING THIS MONTH.**

## Getting to Know You

### Don Winton

Not many people have experienced what it feels like to be in a lookout tower when an earthquake hits.

Don Winton has. "Boy, how that thing rocked!" he remembers of the event.

The earthquake happened years ago, during the time Don worked for the Forest Service at the Goat Mountain Fire Lookout (elevation 4,634 feet) in Sierra National Forest. Built in 1915, the cabin building blew down during the winter of 1916, then was reconstructed twice, the last time after winds shifted the tower on the base. The base was replaced with a 20 feet Pacific Coast Steel tower. Metal chairs in the tower were equipped with insulators to prevent electric shock of the occupant, should lightning hit the tower.



"Storms were exciting," says Don. "Sometimes it was hard to sleep, hearing the wind. You could feel the lightning and thunder in your chest. We were never hit by lightning, at least not while I was there. Should lightning hit something below, it was important to mark the location on the window, because something could catch fire later... Every ten minutes I made a lookout for fires and reported in three times a day.

"The lookout tower had everything you needed. Most of the time it was very peaceful and I had my little dachshund for company."

The Forest Service loss has been the club's gain. A newer member, Don helped out during both the June Show and Sale and the September Members Sale by transporting plants, helping arrange them and other activities.

"Years ago, when I was a kid, I took a four year vocational horticultural class and my mom was big into plants," says Don. "When I was looking up online where to buy succulents, up popped FC&SS."

Aloes, sedums and sansevierias are currently among Don's favorites.

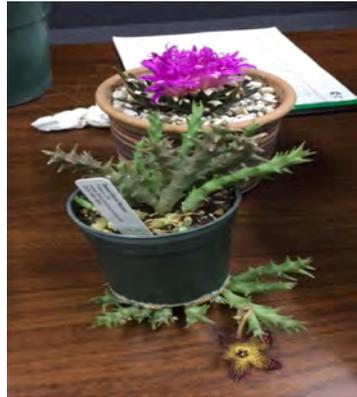
"I like simple," he says. "I just want to learn how to take care of what I like. Some of the more unusual stuff catches my eye....It bothers me to kill a two dollar plant - I don't want to kill a two hundred dollar plant!"

Originally from Tranquility, Don likes to write and has always enjoyed the outdoors and nature. He's an avid birdwatcher and is an experienced Spotted Owl observer.

"I like to walk around in the hills," he says. "You never know what you'll see next."

*Carole Grosch*

**OCTOBER BRAG TABLE:** The following brought plants to show on the Brag Table: Tom Meyer (*Ariocarpus agavoides*); Fred Gaumer (*Encephalocarpus strobiliformis*, *Euphorbia* aff. *Gorgonis* Marx 211); Bill Gale (*Orbea speciosa* and an unnamed othonna); Ed Etheridge (*Cyphostemma mappia*); Jack Fleming (*Euphorbia francoisii*, showing 4 plants with different leaf forms); Charlene Stebles (*Bombax ellipticum*); Dan Gale brought a half dozen cyphostemmas (*uter*, Namibian form; *uter*, Angolan form; *juttae*; *currori*; *seitzianum*; *betaformis*). Thanks very much to all of them.



Photos by Karen Willoughby



**CLUB WORKSHOP:** At the October workshop we discussed winter growers and some of these were brought for show and comments. We looked at plants in genera starting with Q-R-S—Rebutia, Sulcorebutia, Raphionacme, Stenocereus, Sarcocaulon, Sansevieria, Seyregia, Ritterocereus. Karl Church brought a flat of Hippeastrum seedlings to give away. Other plants shown included Ariocarpus species in bloom, Adenium arabicum, Cyphostemma, Operculicaria, Tylecodon paniculatum. Jack Fleming brought a large Pachypodium succulentum that had lost its roots, showing that he rooted it in pure pumice over water—that is, the water was poured in the saucer under the plant and the plant, sensing the water, produced roots to reach down to the moisture. Others bringing plants included Ed Etheridge, Mary Drumheller, Ann Beirbower, Sue Haffner, Tom Meyer and Dennis Anderson. Dan Gale brought a flat of succulent starts to give away. Thanks to all of them.

The November workshop will be Wednesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m., at 3733 N. Sierra Vista, Fresno. Genera for show and tell are those starting with T-U-V. Discussion topic will be “Putting to bed for winter.” All members are welcome.

### WINTER GROWERS

Usually referred to as the “winter growers”, these genera are dormant during the warmer months of May through August. Their primary growth actually occurs during autumn and spring while slowing considerably during true winter. Many will exhibit marginal growth during the summer months as well especially in the Lily and Crassulaceae families. (Thanks to Vickie Veen for the article below, though Mary Drumheller showed me that I had used this exact same list in the January 2004 newsletter!)

Adromischus, Aeonium, Aloe, Anacampseros, Astroloba, Avonia, Bowiea, Bulbine, Ceraria, Conophytum, Cotyledon, Crassula, Dioscorea, Dudleya, Fouqueria, Casteria, Gibbaeum, Graptopetalum, Graptoveria, Haemanthus, Haworthia, Kalanchoe, Neohenricia, Othonna, Pachycormus, Pachyphytum, Pachyveria, Pelargonium, Peperomia, Portulacaria, Sansevieria, Sarcocaulon, Sedeveria, Sedum, Senecio, Stomatium, Talinum, Tylecodon.

### FRESNO FAIR REPORT

Another Fresno Fair has come and gone. Many thanks to those of you who put in some time monitoring the cactus and succulent display—you are listed below in Rudy Rulloda’s statement. I wasn’t able to put in as much time as usual, as I’ve been on a jury in Fresno County Superior Court since September 8<sup>th</sup>. Lucky me.

Club members who exhibited plants were Bill Gale, Rudy Rulloda, Sue Haffner, Chuck Thew, Val McCullough and Alyssa Ortega. I’m happy to say that almost all of them won at least one blue ribbon. Best Cactus was Bill’s *Mammillaria plumosa* and Best Succulent was Robert Hanford’s *Adenia spinosa*. Bill won sweepstakes in succulents and Sue won sweepstakes in cactus. In addition, Bill’s big plumeria was judged Best Foliage Plant. Alyssa entered some very nice dish gardens, and Val entered begonias and other foliage plants. Cactus and succulent entries were down a bit from last year, though I don’t think you could tell from the nice display. Some classes only had one entry (see, if you had entered plants you would have had a very good chance of winning a ribbon—and a premium check.)

I appreciated how Dwight Horiuchi arranged the entries, keeping the plants in the same classes together as much as it was possible to do so. That way you could see how the judges looked at the class. I know that not everyone likes this arrangement. It’s been tradition for many years to mix the plants all around to create an aesthetic display, but I like the more educational arrangement.

The Greenhouse Building was devoted entirely to Floriculture this year and it looked great. The bonsai display was spectacular and even included a cabinet of viewing stones. Superintendent Jennifer Waite and her staff deserve a lot of credit for making sure everything ran smoothly during the two weeks of the Fair. Sue



Now that the 2016 Big Fresno Fair is over, the club wishes to take this opportunity to express its appreciation to the following club members: Dennis Anderson, Cori and Grey Auger, Ann Bierbower, Susan Cook, Veone, Dan, and Bill Gale, Doris Gravelle, Sue Haffner, Larry Homan, Nancy Jobin, Paul and Madeleine Mitchell, Val McCullough, Linda Olivas, Domenic Ortiz, Antoinette Phillips, Rosanna and James Rojas, John and Angie Santymire, Charles Thew, Mary Ann Villegas, and Don Winter. They volunteered to monitor clubs' cacti and succulents as well as to educate the public about our club activities and events and provide information in the caring of cacti and succulents.

Rudy Rulloda, Chair



Photos by  
Mary Ann Villegas

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2017

The election of officers 2017 will be conducted at the November meeting. The Nomination Committee is proud to announce its' recommendations, which are shown in the sample ballot reproduced in the adjacent column. Members of the nominating committee, Rosanna Rojas and Vickie Veen made an effort to contact eligible members to determine if they had any interest in holding elective office. The committee may nominate more than one candidate for the same position if that person expresses an interest and is found to be qualified. Additional candidates may be nominated from the floor at the meeting. Proposed nominees must be qualified under the Standing Rules, demonstrate an understanding of the responsibilities of the office and express a willingness to serve.

We will try to consume as little time as possible with the election process, so as to not interfere with the evening's program. Ballots will be passed out as soon as there has been an opportunity to see if there are to be any nominations from the floor. **Please bring a pencil or a pen with which to mark your ballot.** After all of the candidates have been introduced, we will ask for a voice vote to elect those unopposed candidates. You will then mark your ballot for the remaining unfilled offices, fold it and **after your name is checked from the eligibility list**, deposit your ballot in the ballot box. **Please wear your membership badge for quick identification.** When the balloting is concluded the regular meeting will be continued and the Committee will go to a quiet location and count the votes. Any candidate or their designee will be allowed to observe the counting procedures. A Statement of Results form will be filled out and signed by the election officials. The ballots and a copy of the results statement will be sealed in a large envelope and preserved for a year. It may only be opened by an order from the Board of Directors in the event of some controversy.

The results of the election will be announced at the conclusion of the meeting's program presentation.

### SECRET BALLOT

#### MARK THE SQUARE(S) OF YOUR CHOICE

*If you wish to vote for a candidate that has been nominated from the floor you must write their name in the appropriate space provided.*

#### PRESIDENT:

- Sue Haffner
- \_\_\_\_\_

#### VICE PRESIDENT:

- Rosanna Rojas
- \_\_\_\_\_

#### TREASURER:

- Robert Scott
- \_\_\_\_\_

#### SECRETARY:

- Karen Willoughby
- \_\_\_\_\_

#### AFFILIATE REPRESENTATIVE CSSA:

- Fred Gaumer
- \_\_\_\_\_

#### AT LARGE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

*VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN FOUR CANDIDATES*

- Craig Roberts
- Dennis Anderson
- Don Winton
- Michelle Roberts
- \_\_\_\_\_