

CACTUS CORNER NEWS

Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society

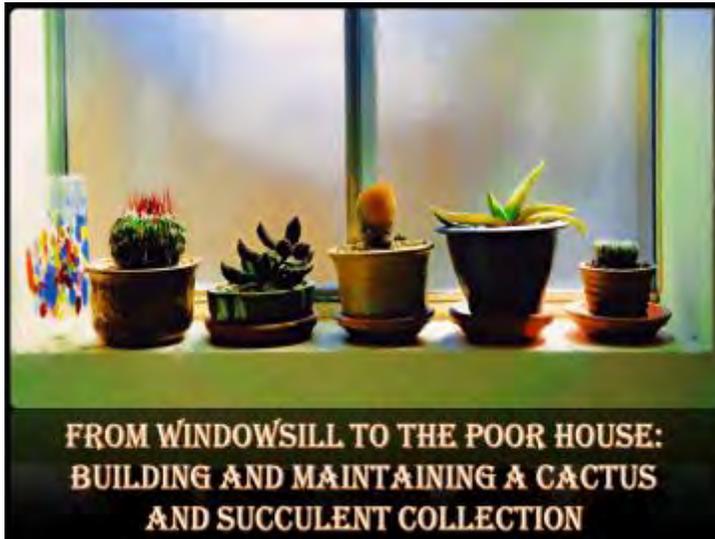
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Affiliated with the Cactus & Succulent Society of America

Vol. 35, No. 4

April 2017

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 6th, 7:00 p.m. (Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Service Center (DHHSC), 5340 North Fresno Street, Fresno



Presentation

by

GUNNAR EISEL

Gunnar will explore why we collect and what to collect, types of collections, building and “right-sizing” your collection, do’s and don’ts of managing your collection, a few example collections, pest control, and current trends and innovations.

Gunnar Eisel's interest in cacti and succulents can be traced back to his childhood infatuation with photographing night-blooming cereus flowers and a few unfortunate encounters with opuntia glochids. His interest in cacti became intensified through many annual trips to the Anza-Borrego desert.



Born and raised near Heidelberg, Germany, Eisel has taught music at Cal State Univ. Los Angeles, Cal State Univ. Fullerton, Whittier College and Fullerton College. He is currently full-time music theory and history of music professor at Citrus College in Glendora, CA where his students are occasionally subjected to his rantings regarding cacti and succulents.

An avid C&S collector, he serves as General Manager and Convention Chairperson for the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) and Past President of the San Gabriel Valley Cactus and Succulent Society.



~ DINNER ~

BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse
715 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno (559) 570-1900
bjsrestaurant.com/menu

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

Contact Rosanna Rojas by Wednesday
April 5th to make reservations.
Phone: (559) 999-0017
Email: rfrojas96@gmail.com

*Dear Cactus and Succulent Society of America members,

We invite you to the CSSA's 37th Biennial Convention in beautiful downtown Tempe, Arizona. Tempe is part of the Greater Phoenix Metropolitan area and home to Arizona State University and the Mill Street Entertainment District



with just a short light rail ride to many other interesting venues in Phoenix. The convention is from July 26 to July 30, with tours beginning on the 27th, which you won't want to miss! There will be great speakers, plant and pottery vendors, auction and silent auction, local sales area, tours and great food at the opening reception, the banquet and breakfast each morning of the convention.

Our convention hotel, **The Tempe Mission Palms**, is located in the heart of Tempe within walking distance of many restaurants, bars, clubs and theaters. It is a luxury hotel with pool, exercise room, airport shuttle, valet parking and many other amenities. Our special convention rate is only \$85.00 per night plus taxes. The light rail stop to other adventures is just out the back door of the hotel.

To learn more about the convention and to register go to cssaconvention.com

You may register also online at <https://cssa.myshopify.com/collections/convention-memberships>

See you in Tempe,

Gunnar Eisel and Beth Kirkpatrick - CSSA Convention Co-Chairs

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

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

We have a busy month coming up as spring gets underway.

First, the fun stuff:

Garden open house, Saturday, April 29th. Jeff and Marilyn Carter will open their garden to the members. More information is in this issue. We thank the Carters very much for their hospitality and generosity and would like to invite anyone else who would be willing to have members drop by their gardens to let us know of their interest.

Club bus trip: we're planning a bus trip on Saturday, May 27th, over to San Luis Obispo to visit the Central Coast Cactus & Succulent Society show and sale. The CCCSS is an amazing club—not that many years old but they have grown into a significant presence in the succulent world, with a huge show featuring plants exhibited by some of the best known growers in the hobby. And a great sale, too! Further information is available in this newsletter and your check will reserve your seat on the bus. Michele and Craig Roberts have put in a lot of hours planning the itinerary, and we owe them many thanks.

While we're passing out thanks, we need to thank those who helped out at the Home & Garden Show on March 3-5. It always takes many hands to make this event work. Some vendors reported that things seemed a bit slower than last year. (But ask Dan Gale how well he did.) We've already signed the contract for 2018.

Elsewhere in the newsletter I explain just where we're at with regard to the Annual Show and Sale. I hope you will read it and think about it. We have some challenges ahead with regard to the change of venue and, especially, the date; also with the issue of mounting a judged show this year. I know that some of us may look upon this with trepidation. Yes, it can be unsettling to try something new, to go outside your comfort zone. But please think about it and know that you'll have a chance to vote on this and also on the issue of moving the date of the Members' Sale Night.

I know your plants and gardens are bursting with spring and all the extra rain. The weeds are on steroids. It's the time to get the shade cloth up! So much work, so little time!

See you at the meeting, **Sue**

It's time to survey your succulent plantings in the ground and in planters. Refresh the beds by thinning the offsets and general over-growth. Snap off the heads of leggy succulents and replant the tops. This is something that should be done every 2 to 3 years, at least. Yes, your beds and planters will look thin for awhile but the new growth will fill in soon.



Who are these bundled up ladies? Ann Bierbower and Rosanna Rojas staffed our club information table at the "Spring into your Garden" event at the Clovis Botanical Garden on March 25th. It was a wet, chilly day, unfortunately, which kept turnout down. Madeleine Mitchell and Marian Orvis also worked at the event. Mary Drumheller and Larry Homan sold plants.

Fresno Cactus and Succulent Society Board Meeting Minutes for 3/13/17

Meeting called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President Sue Haffner. In attendance were the following members: Fred Gaumer, Dennis Anderson, Rosana Rojas, Mary Drumheller, Robert Scott, Ann Bierbower, Don Winton, Michele Roberts and Karen Willoughby. Absent was Craig Roberts.

Officer Reports:

President: Sue reported that we are still looking for volunteers to "adopt" the cactus/succulent garden at the Clovis Botanical Garden with perhaps a monthly work day and help in IDing their sales plants.

Vice President: Rosanna reported that our April speaker will be Gunnar Eisel who will be doing a demonstration with plants. Rosanna reported she is going to start pricing a new microphone for use at the meetings.

Treasurer: Robert reports that our bank balance currently is \$7,421.23. He has not paid for the room at DHHSC yet as he has not received back the certificate of our insurance coverage which is necessary for rental contract for the year. Robert reported that gross income from the Home & Garden sale was \$10,829.50 which was slightly more than last year. The profit for the club was \$2,502.38, the difference being the profits to the vendors who were selling. The split is 75% for vendors and 25% for the club.

Old Business:

Home & Garden show wrap up: Robert presented a wrap up of the Home & Garden Show. He reported that there were many good volunteer workers, some who worked all three days of the show. Problems experienced during the show were also discussed which included the building not being locked up when it was supposed to be, no heat on Sunday when it had rained and was very cold in the building and no one apparent doing day to day management of the building. We have not yet received the 2018 contract from the Home & Garden show and this is generally received right after the show closes. Robert would like to get rid of the old cash registers and will be looking into purchasing pads and tablets to use as cash registers in the future and updated square readers for debit/credit card use. The need for written Bylaws for the show and sale was discussed. Ann and Robert are working on this. Problems of diseased plants being brought to the show and again boxing up and leaving early was/continues to be an issue. The hold system for plants worked well.

Clovis Botanical Garden "Spring into your Garden Festival" which is set for March 25 from 9-2. Rosanna and Ann will be manning the club table handing out club info and perhaps cuttings.

"Coffee in the Garden" Marilyn Carter has volunteered her garden, date to be announced which most likely will be in April.

Spring Picnic: Sue believes that Patty Miller stated that May 20th would be the best date for she and Mark to host the picnic again this year. This will be confirmed.

Bus Trip: Michele Roberts reports we need to firm up contract with the bus company and the information regarding this event should be published in the next newsletter. The trip will be 5/27 with a trip to the Central Coast show and sale in San Luis Obispo. It is anticipated that we would leave Fresno around 7 and arrive in SLO at approximately 10 with one stop in Kettleman City. We would leave SLO approximately 1-2 p.m. with a late lunch stop at a location still to be determined. There was discussion of giving the Home & Garden show volunteers preference in reserving a bus spot and half price of their tickets as a thanks for their hard work.

Old/Newer Business: Ann Bierbower presented detailed information regarding the club use of the Clovis Veterans Memorial District facilities for our annual show and sale. Ann described the various rooms that were available for us and dates on a price/availability chart she presented along with a map of the facilities. Other possible venues were briefly discussed also. Using Sierra Vista Mall the following weekend presented conflicts with some of our vendors. Pricing and discounts for two possible locations in the Memorial Building was presented. Using the Veterans Room and the two board rooms was proposed. After much discussion, a motion was made by Michele Roberts and seconded by myself that the dates of September 9/10 be selected with the above rooms. All in attendance were in agreement via a show of hands.

Member's sale will still be held at the 9/7 meeting as this has already been planned.

Next board meeting will be 4/10 at 6:00 pm in the same location.

No other business was brought up and the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Willoughby, Secretary



HAPPY BIRTHDAY: *Pat Schreyer (4th); Robert Scott (11th); Bruce Hargreaves, Barbara Brown (18th)*

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**CONGRATULATIONS:** Billy and Vanessa Gale are the parents of Emily Rose, born February 19<sup>th</sup>. (Hey, Bill Gale is a granddad!)

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The membership roster is close to being finished and will be distributed via email to members. If you wish to have a paper issue, see Polly Dunklin.

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This is the time of year when we ask you for your donations of succulent cuttings. We have been asked for plant material for the abalone shell dish gardens to be made at the **Egg Fest at the Discovery Center on April 8<sup>th</sup>**. Then we can use your giveaways for the **Water-Wise Plant Give and Take held April 22<sup>nd</sup> at CSUF**.

Dominic Ortiz will take custody of any Discovery Center donations (and they should be small succulents, no cacti, in scale with the abalone shells.) Sue Haffner will accept the Give and Take donations.

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Mark Muradian and Patty Miller have a limited number of **passes to the San Francisco Flower & Garden Show** (held at the San Mateo Event Center, 1346 Saratoga Dr, San Mateo, April 5-9.) Call 559-333-2692, if interested.

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**TEE SHIRTS:** Ann Bierbower will have club tee shirts for sale at this meeting.

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MARCH BRAG TABLE: The following brought items for the Brag Table: Fred Gaumer (*Adromischus marianiae* 'Little Spheroid', *Euphorbia aff. Gorgonis*); Bill Gale (*Pachypodium decaryi* or *lavranii*); Jack Fleming (*Euphorbia* 'White Ball Project' (*E. polygona* x *E. obesa*) x *E. symmetrica*); Bruce Hargreaves (*E. polygona* x *E. obesa*); Mark Muradian brought a rock with ammonite fossils; Val McCullough brought a mesemb to be identified by our speaker.

BOARD MEETING: The April board meeting will be Monday, the 10th, 6:00 p.m., at 3733 N. Sierra Vista. We have a number of important issues of discuss. As always, any member is welcome to attend and share their views.

COMING EVENTS

April 8th, Saturday, Egg Fest, Discovery Center, 1944 N. Winery, Fresno.

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April 8<sup>th</sup>, Fresno Iris Society Show and Sale, Sierra Vista Mall, Community Room; 12 to 6 p.m.

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April 22nd, Water-Wise Plant Give and Take, CSUF greenhouses, Barstow & Chestnut, Fresno; 8 a.m. to noon.

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April 29<sup>th</sup>, Garden Open House (information elsewhere in this issue)

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April 29-30, San Jose C&S Society Spring Show & Sale, Peterson Middle School, 1380 Rosalia Ave, Sunnyvale; Sat. 9-5; Sun. 10-4.

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May 6-7, Sacramento C&S Society Show & Sale, Shepard Garden & Art Center, 3330 McKinley Blvd, Sacramento.

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MARCH WORKSHOP: Was held in the big meeting room at the Betty Rodriguez Regional Library. It's a very nice facility with tables that can be arranged in any useful configuration. Bringing plants for discussion were: Bill Gale, Dennis Anderson, Cindy Duwe, Ann Bierbower, Jack Fleming, Sue Haffner, Mary Drumheller and Dan Gale. Dan brought small plants of *Ariocarpus lloydii* to give away. We looked at plants in these genera: Echinocereus, Echinopsis, Echinomastus, Eriosyce, Epithelantha, Escobaria, Euphorbia and others.

The April workshop will be Wednesday, April 19th, 6 p.m. at the Rodriguez Library, 3040 N. Cedar. All club members are welcome. The plants for discussion are those in genera starting with F and G. Discussion topic is getting your plants out of hibernation and into the sun.



2017 ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE

Our Annual Show and Sale will be held at the Clovis Veterans Memorial District building September 9-10, 2017. This is a change from our usual date of the first weekend in June. Changing the date is a serious issue and I thought I would let you know about the steps that led us to this.

First, for the past several years we had been considering a larger venue for our event. The Sierra Vista Mall Community Room is a convenient and economical locale but we have outgrown it. We had been assuring our customers for several years that we would find a more spacious place. Last year we increased the budget for the annual show and sale, figuring that we would have to pay more for a new venue.

We looked at several empty commercial spaces but they were really not suitable (dark, dirty, inconvenient). By March we realized we had to stop spinning our wheels and get with it. Someone suggested the CVMD. This is a very attractive, high visibility venue which hosts all manner of events. It is also very popular and their rooms book up as much as a year in advance. By March the rooms we were interested in were unavailable until mid-summer. We didn't want to schedule our show and sale for summer, due to the heat, so we grabbed the first plausible date, September 9-10. Ann Bierbower and I met with the facilities manager on March 22nd and signed the contract.

This date change is a one-time thing. We expect to be back to the first weekend in June by next year.

Now, this date puts the show and sale immediately on the heels of the Member's Sale Night, which is normally held at our September meeting. It has been proposed that the Member's Sale be changed to June. Those members present at the April meeting will vote on whether or not to do this, so be thinking about it. Again, if approved, this will be a one-time change in our meeting schedule.

The space we will have at the CVMD will enable us to have a real show. In recent years, our "show" had been limited to a few plants displayed along one wall of the Community Room or a single specimen displayed on a vendor's table. This year the show will be in an adjacent room to the sale. I think we all know how a display of gorgeous plants can work to "sell" the plants in the sale room.

For the past few years, some of our vendors and others in the hobby have been nudging us to have a judged show, once we found an appropriate venue. Well, this year we will have the space. The argument is that we are a growing club and that we need to take this step, looking ahead, not back. After all, part of our mission is to educate the public about cacti and succulents and having a show featuring these special plants is a central part of it.

Still, we haven't had a judged show since the very early days of the club (before my time.) It isn't presently in our DNA to do this, but other clubs, some a lot smaller than we are, do mount judged shows every year. It can be done, but it requires a buy-in from the membership. So the members will also vote at this meeting whether or not to have a judged show, so be thinking about that, as well.

I want to thank Ann Bierbower for looking at the available spaces with her engineer's eye (and tape measure) and also thank Craig and Michele Roberts, who scouted other locations before we settled on CVMD. Other board members are also thanked for their support.

Sue



COME ON AN ADVENTURE WITH US!

The Fresno Cactus and Succulent Society invites you on an upcoming “party bus” trip to the Central Coast Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale in San Luis Obispo.

Scheduled for Saturday, May 27, 2017, the trip will take you to and from the Show and Sale, all in the comfort of a bus specially equipped with tables and seats that swivel to allow conversation between riders. There will also be stops for breakfast and lunch, as well as the convenience of an onboard restroom.

The spectacular Show and Sale will highlight wonderful cactus and succulents as only the coastal area can grow them, along with many of the same plants for purchase. The action starts at 10:00 AM and goes until 5:00 PM; a live auction will also be held at 1:00 PM.

Come join us on May 27th for a trip to the coast without the hassle of driving. Tickets are \$40 per person and do not include the cost of food or plant purchases. The journey will start at 7:00 AM at the Walmart parking lot at 3680 **West Shaw** in west Fresno, which is where it will end that night about 6:30 PM. Please pay Craig or Michele Roberts by May 24, 2017 to insure your seat and the bus reservation. Questions or concerns, please contact the Roberts at 559-645-5257 or 559-908-1167, or robertshowse@comcast.net

Michele Roberts



GARDEN OPEN HOUSE

Want to see an attractive garden featuring drought tolerant and succulent plants? Want to get some ideas about the judicious use of garden art and a creative way to use and place plants? Then you need to take advantage of this opportunity. Jeff and Marilyn Carter will open their garden to club members and friends on Saturday, April 29th, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. They have a nicely landscaped corner lot, succulents and other plants in pots, and an attractive, livable backyard with a small greenhouse. Drought tolerant plants are featured on drip irrigation in the flower beds. The backyard is wheelchair accessible by a wide paved walkway. Light refreshments will be available.

Address: 394 Cromwell, Clovis; corner of Cromwell and Harvard. Directions: from Alluvial turn north on DeWitt, jog left on Athens, then right on Harvard.

Thank you, Jeff and Marilyn!



Pics by Marilyn



Mark Your Calendars for the NINTH ANNUAL
Water-Wise
PLANT GIVE AND TAKE EVENT!

Don't miss our free give and take of water-wise plants for your Fresno-friendly garden.

Saturday, April 22, 8 a.m. to noon

at the Fresno State Horticulture Greenhouses

California State University, Fresno • 3150 E. Barstow Ave. just east of Chestnut Avenue in Fresno

RECEIVE "SOMETHING SPECIAL" IF YOU BRING WATER-WISE PLANTS, CUTTINGS, BULBS, SEEDS OR TREES FROM YOUR GARDEN FOR THE FREE PLANT TABLE!

Free Water-wise plants or other items from local organizations! Master Gardener Workshops! Information booths! Irrigation & Controller questions answered! Kids Mother's Day craft project! Gardening Experts! Student projects! FSU Water-wise Garden in bloom!

PLUS A SUPER PLANT SALE IN THE FRESNO STATE NURSERY!

FREE WORKSHOPS!

Held in Fresno State Nursery Classrooms and Tree Fresno's new demonstration garden. Also tour the beautiful Iris Garden during the event.

ANOTHER GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN!

Scott Miller, owner of Gazebo Gardens Nursery in Fresno will be guest speaker during the water-related program co-sponsored by The Friends of the Madden Library and Central Valley Water Awareness Committee on Friday, April 28th at 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Madden Library on the Fresno State Campus. Call 559-278-5790.

WHAT PLANTS ARE WATER-WISE AND VALLEY FRIENDLY? Water-wise plants are acclimated to our unique environment and require a minimal amount of water to thrive in the Central Valley.

Note: Some guests bring a cart or wagon to carry their plants to their car.

Information about current event and photos of past event - click on Conservation at www.fresno.gov/water

Email: waterwise@fresno.gov

Call 621-5480 for more information about the Plant Exchange



3150 E. Barstow Ave. just east of Chestnut

COMMUNITY PARTNERS AND EXHIBITORS

- | | |
|---|--|
| City of Fresno, Water Conservation Program | Friends of the Madden Library at Fresno State |
| Central Valley Water Awareness Committee | Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART) |
| Fresno State Horticulture Unit | Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society |
| Irrigation Association | USDA Agricultural Research Service/ NALPGRU |
| UC Cooperative Extension, Master Gardener Program | Fresno City College Horticulture |
| California Native Plant Society | Central Valley Friendly Landscape Awards Program |
| Clovis Botanical Garden | |
| Tree Fresno | |
| Center for Irrigation Technology at CSUF | |

Desert Creations Nursery and Gift Shop

It's Time Again For

THE BEGINNING-OF-THE-YEAR SALE

Friday March 31 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Saturday April 1 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sunday April 2 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

ALL Nursery Plants are on Sale at a **SPECIAL
discount for as much as 50% off
You determine your own discount**

Here is how it works!!!

- **Select the items you wish to purchase**
- **Bring them to the register**
- **The cashier will total your order**
- **You will then be asked to select a disc from a container**
- **The disc will have one of the following numbers on it; 10, 20, 30, 40 or 50**
- **That number will be the percentage deducted from your total order**

Pots, tools, and gift items will receive a 10 discount

General Horticulture books 15% discount

Be sure to save the dates!!!

18161 Parthenia Avenue, Northridge, CA 91324

info@desertcreations.net

818-482-8795