

CACTUS CORNER NEWS

Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society

<http://www.fresnocss.com>

Affiliated with the Cactus & Succulent Society of America

Vol. 37 No. 12

December 2019



CHRISTMAS FIESTA !

HOLIDAY POTLUCK PARTY

Thursday, December 5th

Redeemer Lutheran Church

1084 West Bullard Avenue, Fresno

Doors open at 6:00 pm; Dinner at 6:30 pm

Members are welcome to arrive early for set-up

DINNER: Club will contribute Mexican appetizers and entrees, members can contribute salads, desserts, beverages, or an appropriate dish that you like to make. Club will also provide coffee and water.

SERVICE AWARDS: Awards will be presented to officers and others who have helped with club activities this year.

SILENT AUCTION: We will have a silent auction at the party. Bring something related to the hobby, something you think others might like (plant, pot, book, decorative object, etc.)

Come prepared to bid!

Your officers and board members wish you all a wonderful holiday season.

FROM THE PREZ ...

WINTER THOUGHTS: This will be my last letter as President, as I turn the “gavel” over to Robert Scott. He comes to the job well qualified, as he was president of the Turtle and Tortoise Society for years, as well as our sales chairman and board member. I know you will give him your support as he takes over in January.

Our other officers deserve note, as well. Vice President Rosanna Rojas works hard on the monthly programs, including the notes for the newsletter. Michele Roberts is as organized a Treasurer as any group could want. I so appreciate her abilities; she’s a real self-starter. Karen Willoughby is an enthusiastic and efficient Secretary. She’s also been chairman of the annual show for the past several years.



Fred Gaumer is retiring from the Affiliate Chairman Office after serving for quite a few years. If you don’t know what this job is, the Affiliate Rep presents information from the Cactus & Succulent Society of America, our parent organization. He also needs to be thanked for running the monthly Brag Table for an equally long time.

It’s been my honor to serve with some outstanding board members over the years. It always makes the President’s job easier when there are others to shoulder responsibilities in an efficient manner. Many thanks!

I am so thankful for our great webmaster, Vickie Veen. She does a super job. And I can’t express enough gratitude for the work Mary Ann Villegas has done over the years in formatting the newsletter. She’s made it into a superior publication.

We all appreciate the efforts of Librarian Marilyn Carter. We thank her very much. (And thanks to Jim and Jan Brummel, who have the library cabinet and some of the contents at their home.) Karl Church has a big job as Raffle Chairman. The plants need to be acquired, housed and transported. Thanks, Karl!

Who else? Nancy Jobin and Pat Schreyer bring enthusiasm and imagination to their Refreshments duties. Rudy Rulloda has been our Fair Coordinator for several years, now. Thanks to him. Carole Grosch has handled Sunshine for several years. Tony Sharp has taken on the Greeter’s job, bringing his schoolteacher’s efficiency with it.

Of course, we had losses this year. Tom Meyer passed too soon, and his mother, Doris Hooton, had to relocate to the Redding area to live with family. We can still drive by the house and see the cactus gardens. We hear that the new owners love the plants and intend to keep them.

As President, I appreciated the efforts of all of the above, as well as those of you who step forward to help whenever asked. You’re a great group! I’m sure you will also support your new officers as they assume their duties.

Hope to see you all at the party! **Sue**

RENEWAL FORM:

The 2020 renewal form accompanies this newsletter. Please fill it out and return it by mail or bring it to the meeting. We need to have your up-to-date contact information. Thanks.

FRESNO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY BOARD MEETING NOVEMBER 2019

Called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Sue Haffner in the Science Kids Building at the Discovery Center. In attendance were the following: Cindy Duwe, Bill Gale, Michele & Craig Roberts, Dominic Ortiz, Fred Gaumer, Rosanna Rojas and Rob Scott. Absent were Jim Brummel, Karen Willoughby and Marilyn Carter. Minutes taken by Cindy Duwe. Visitors were Nancy Jobin, Pat Schreyer and Monte Tackett.

OFFICER REPORTS:

President: No report.

Vice-President: No report.

Treasurer: Michele distributed the current financial report.

Membership chair: Craig reported that we had a new member and that some members had renewed for 2020.

OLD BUSINESS:

2020 Show and Sale: Rob Scott will meet with Peter Beiersdorfer regarding the use of barcodes and the equipment we will need. The procedure should be ready by the March Home & Garden Show sale.

Raffle Plants: Fred Gaumer inquired about members selling flats of plants to the club for the opportunity drawing. It was agreed that this is a good means of keeping the opportunity drawing stocked.

NEW BUSINESS:

Holiday party: Nancy Jobin and Pat Schreyer discussed their plans for the "Christmas Fiesta". The club will supply Mexican appetizers and entrees. Members may contribute salads, desserts, drinks, etc. Dinner will start at 6:30 on December 5th. There will also be a silent auction.

Year-end appreciation gifts: Tony Sharp has made nice pots which will be distributed at the Christmas Party to members who serve the club during the year.

Life Membership: It was moved, seconded and carried that Doris Hooten be awarded a Life Membership in the club. It is much deserved.

Newsletter: Mary Ann Villegas, who has formatted the newsletter for at least ten years, would like to relinquish the job by the end of the year. Craig Roberts offered to assist with this as he has Microsoft Publisher on his PC. Thanks Craig!

Rides to meetings: Rob mentioned that several members who live at a distance from the meeting might like rides. We have a member near Herndon and Academy and another in Reedley who find it hard to get to the meetings.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. There will be no Board Meeting in December.

Members who would like more detailed information on these topics can speak to any board member.

Respectfully submitted, Cindy Duwe, for absent secretary Karen Willoughby.

~ ~ ~ **NO BOARD MEETING FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER** ~ ~ ~

Club access: President, Sue Haffner, 292-5624, sueh@mail.fresnostate.edu; Programs, Rosanna Rojas, 999-0017, rfrojas96@gmail.com; Treasurer, Michele Roberts, 645-5257, robertshowse@comcast.net; Editor, Sue Haffner, 292-5624, sueh@mail.fresnostate.edu; Refreshments, Nancy Jobin; Librarian, Marilyn Carter, 977-6611, mkc3253@gmail.com; Webmaster, Vickie Veen, vickieveen@gmail.com; Sunshine, Carole Grosch, 323-8602, cgg266@comcast.net.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Janet Moos,
Heather Franks (2nd);
Monte Tackett (6th);
Doris Hooton(8th); Russ Lindquist
(9th); Ruth Saludes (17th);
Doris Gravelle (22nd); Alexander
Ginter (23rd); Marilee Ginter (25th).

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**SAY HELLO TO THIS NEW MEMBER:**

Sandy Yates, Kingsburg

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NEW IN THE CLUB LIBRARY: Fred Gaumer has donated the following book, “Secrets of Namaqualand Succulents,” by Florent Grenier. This is a very thorough photographic account of the flora of the Namaqualand region of South Africa, by a young Frenchman who scoured the area on foot. This is quite a unique work. It will be available for circulation in January.

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**PILLARS OF THE COMMUNITY**

Saguaros are truly the “pillars” of their communities, not just by their height. As they grow, they become increasingly important to the eco-systems they inhabit. They are the keystone species of the Sonoran Desert. In the desert’s most arid spots, pack rats, rabbits, deer and bighorn sheep gnaw the flesh of young cacti to find moisture. Gila woodpeckers and gilded flickers excavate nest cavities in the columns of taller saguaros, raising their young in spine-fortified towers high above the bobcats, coyotes and other predators that prowl the desert floor. When these birds move on, small owls, finches and sparrows frequently move in. Red-tailed and Harris’s hawks hunt from cactus-top perches and assemble their stick nests among saguaros’ arms. Nectar from saguaros’ creamy blossoms nourishes two species of long-nosed bats. And in the dry, lean days of midsummer, ripe saguaro fruits help sustain a roster of desert birds, mammals, reptiles and insects.

(From *National Wildlife*, Dec.-Jan. 2020 issue)

**SOME BOTANICAL TERMS**

Acaulescent – Having no true stem or only a very short one concealed in the ground.

Dentate – Toothed

Glabrous – Smooth, without hairs or wool

Glaucous – Covered with a wax-like bloom

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WHY DOESN’T MY JADE PLANT BLOOM? This is a question frequently asked by succulent growers. The Jade Plant is a very common house plant and even a landscape plant in frost-free areas. It can be grown outside in our area, provided it can get some protection from frost.

Blooming: you may see photos of Jades in bloom and wonder why your plant doesn’t do that. Blooming is a feature of maturity. A large, old plant should bloom, provided that conditions are right: bright light, cool nights of autumn and not too much water.

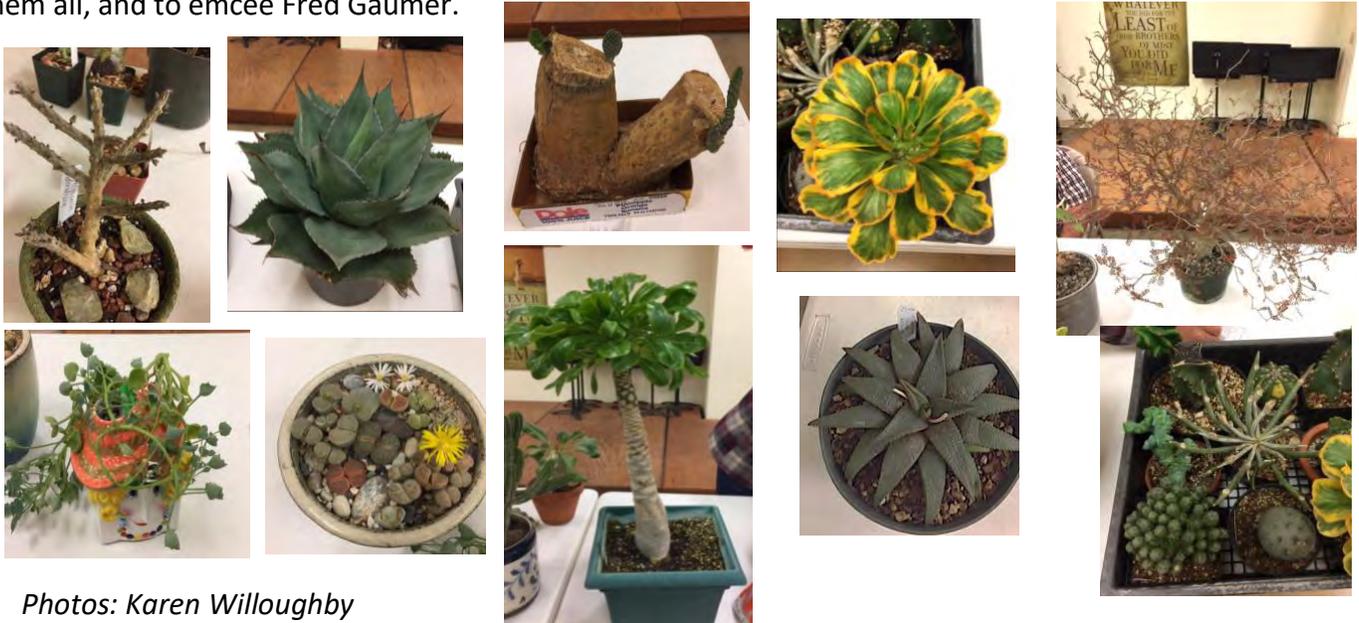


Photo: Vancouver Sun, January 20, 2011

December is the end of the year and for those who might want to donate to our club please see Michele Roberts at the Xmas meeting. Your donation is tax deductible and Michelle will provide you with the donation form for your tax records. And thank you for thinking of our club.

Rosanna

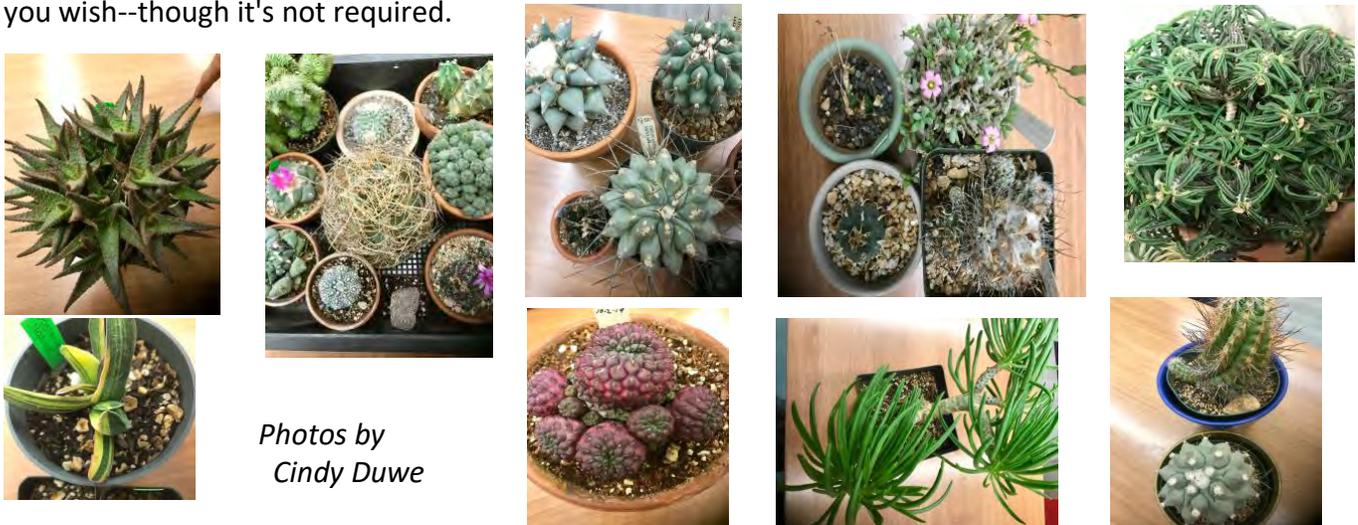
NOVEMBER BRAG TABLE: Fred Gaumer brought *Haworthia koelmanniorum*, *Tylecodon buchholziana*, *Avonia ustulata*, *Monsonia multifida*, *Neochilenia occulta*, *Ruschia revoluta*; Brian Nagles showed a Lithops and *Senecio tropaeolifolius*; Bruce Hargreaves exhibited *Euphorbia handiensis*; Marilyn Carter showed *Pachypodium namaquanum*; Bill Gale brought *Brighamia insignis* and a dead dioscorea caudex that had been filled with cement (or something similar), making it a nice paperweight; Jack Fleming exhibited *Cyphostemma segmentatum* and *Operculacaria pachypus*; Dan Gale brought a tray of some of his amazing plants, including *Agave ovatafolia*, *Astrophytum myriostigma* Japanese clone, *Euphorbia poisonii* variegated; *Puna bonnieae*, *Tephrocactus geometricus*, *Myrtillocactus geometrizans* and *Astrophytum caput-medusae*. Many thanks to them all, and to emcee Fred Gaumer.



Photos: Karen Willoughby

NOVEMBER WORKSHOP: At the November workshop we looked at plants in genera starting with T-U-V. Plants on display included *Tephrocactus*, *Thelocactus*, *Turbinicarpus* and *Tylecodon*. Bringing these and other plants were: Mary Drumheller, Sue Haffner, Eddie Etheridge, Bill Gale, Cindy Duwe, Dennis Anderson, Polly Dunklin, Joe Ishimoto, Dan Gale and Nancy Jobin. We also had a birthday cake for Dan and Nancy. Dan brought *Astrophytum* seedlings and mandarins to give away.

The December workshop will be Wednesday, Dec. 18th, 6 p.m., at the home of Dennis and Sylvia Anderson, 3884 N. Chickadee, Sanger. Chickadee is just south of Ashlan, a mile east of Academy. We will finish out the alphabet. The December workshop has evolved into a potluck holiday party, so you can bring some goodies, if you wish--though it's not required.



Photos by
Cindy Duwe

2020

Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society

Membership Application: New [] or Renewal []

Annual Membership Renewals Due by January 1st

Single Membership with email newsletter ___ X \$20.00 = _____

Single Membership with paper newsletter ___ X \$30.00 = _____

Family Membership with email newsletter ___ X \$30.00 = _____

Family Membership with paper newsletter ___ X \$40.00 = _____

New / Replacement Name Badges \$5.00 EA. # of Badges ___ x \$5 = _____

(Make sure name/s are printed legibly below)

Total \$ _____

Checks payable to: Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society (FCSS)

Mail to: FCSS – 12307 Gleason Dr Madera, CA 93636

INFORMATION FOR CLUB USE ONLY: [] Check here if you don't want your information available on the internet

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Check if Change []

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Contact Phone _____

Email _____

Birthday(s) Optional – Month & Day _____

The club publishes an annual Roster containing all current members' information as shown above and distributes it to club members. If you do not want some of your information published in the Roster let us know.

I am interested in helping out in the following areas. Please contact me.

Show & Sale Programs Library Publicity Technology

Refreshments Hospitality Sunshine Special Events

How do you wish to receive your Newsletter, "Cactus Corner"? E-mail or US Mail

Please read and complete for the Newsletter, Cactus Corner

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No Thank You Yes, I agree to the uses of these materials described above, except for any restrictions noted below.

Signature _____ Date _____