



CCSS Newsletter

Connecticut Cactus & Succulent Society

May 2019



36th Annual Show & Sale Newsletter Edition

We did it again!

The show was a huge success!

At least 1,634 guests signed in at the door and 12 new members joined.

The Juried Show held an exceptionally fine selection of plants this year. Many thanks to the judges from the Massachusetts and Philadelphia Societies who traveled to Connecticut to participate in this very important part of our show.

***Our vendors went home with big smiles and empty trays;
and the CCSS bank account gained some serious weight.***

Many, many thanks to Show Chairman David Schultz, Phyllis Milano Show Room Director & Judging Head Clerk, along with the more than 35 volunteers who put in many long hours making our show a success.

And let us not forget our loyal vendors, who brought an outstanding selection of plant material, pots and accessories for our guests to choose from.

Perhaps most of all, we should thank our loyal public who attended our show and made it such a success.

To all : Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

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The CCSS Newsletter is published each month except in January. An annual membership fee of \$12.00 includes subscription to the newsletter. This membership includes all members of a immediate family residing at the same residence. The membership fee is payable to: CCSS. Mail to: CCSS Membership Chairperson David Schultz, 194 Benham St., Torrington, CT 06790

President's Message

~ *Chris Allen*



President Chris Allen
Photo credit: H. Sullivan

May Newsletter

I wish to thank everyone for a doing their part at another highly successful annual Show & Sale. Under the steadfast leadership of our show director, David Shultz, our 36th Show and Sale was be-

yond a doubt a great financial and public relations success for the CCSS. Thank you again for volunteering your valuable time and effort!

Our May meeting will be at a new location – the Monroe Congregational Church, 34 Church Street in Monroe, CT. We will be meeting at a large hall (called Wilton Hall), behind the main church and adjacent to the parking lot. The plan is to have our regular CCSS meeting there then make a trip to my home/greenhouse in Trumbull afterwards. Because of the number of members attending our meetings (40-50), I do not have the facilities for a meeting at my house. Viewing members succulent collections is part of what we are about, so we may use this two-location format in future meetings where members invite us to view their collections, but don't have a meeting space.

On the agenda will be a plant swap run by Devan Parker, show wrap up, club plant purchase, officer elections (president and secretary), and a presentation on my recent trip to Arizona with members of the Massachusetts

Society. Following our meeting we will head to my home in Trumbull, about 8 miles away. If you are using GPS, the address is 15 Bonheur Rd. in Trumbull, about a 15 to 20 minute drive. It has been about four years since the last visit from the CCSS and since then there have been quite a few changes. In addition to the cold frame, I have some new outdoor cactus gardens/displays, new greenhouse benches with wicking material, LED lights, and newly installed solar panels. We should be able to catch some cacti in bloom that were featured in my February presentation on growing cacti in cold frames. See you on May 5th!

Post script: The Elizabeth Park in Hartford contacted Chris that they had some cacti to donate. See below & below, left. These plants will be available to members at Chris's greenhouse when we visit this month.



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Secretary's Report

~ *John Canali*



Secretary John Canali
Photo credit: H. Sullivan

April 13, 2019 Meeting

We had **35 dedicated members** stay after close of business on the first day of The Greatest Show and Sale in the World, to share in a pizza dinner and a short business meeting.

There were 1051 guests signed-in for the first day of the sale. **Over-**

all, the day was a great success, with some minor issues easily rectified. A more detailed accounting will follow in May or June, Stay tuned.

Linda McMullen reminded new members and anyone who needs to, see her to order name badges. The order **Mike Wicki** is managing for winter hardy cactus should be in by the May meeting.

The election of officers, per our bylaws, happens in **May**, this year it is **President and Secretary's** turn. Chris and I agreed to continue on, however, if someone wants to give it a go, Excellent! All are encouraged to bring fresh ideas to our group.

We are happy to announce that **new member Marya Dube**, has offered and we have accepted, for her to become the **new Facebook Moderator and manager**. This will free up Devan from one of many tasks that she takes care of. Thanks and welcome Marya.

Lastly, **It has been suggested that the Club purchase a digital projector**, Chris and David will research and get back to us.

The **next meeting** is at **Monroe Congregational Church** and **Chris Allen's** house to view his greenhouse and cold frame.

Please note the cut-off date for submitting material to the June 2019 newsletter is 5/17/2019.

Thank you!

There are approximately 10 bags of cacti potting mix left-over from the show. If you would like to purchase some, please contact John Canali.



John greets our guests at the Show Registration Table

Future Meetings & Events:

- May 5, 2019:** Monthly Meeting at Monroe Congregational Church Trip afterward to Chris Allen's greenhouse/cold frame
- June 2, 2019:** Home of Jeanine and Andy Loya, E. Nassau, NY, Succulent Wreath Workshop
- July 14, 2019:** Monthly meeting at Acer Gardens (Tentative), Deep River, CT
- August 4, 2019:** Summer picnic and meeting at the home of Pepper and Jack Phillips, Lebanon, CT
- September 15, 2019:** Monthly meeting at UConn, Storrs, Matt Opel speaking
- October 6, 2019:** Monthly meeting TBD
- November 3, 2019:** Monthly meeting at Southbury or Litchfield Public Library, Fred Kattermann speaking
- December 1 or 8, 2019:** Monthly meeting, Edgerton Park, New Haven (Tentative), Glen Lord speaking

Treasurer's Report

~ Linda McMullen



Statement:

Mar. 17, 2018 to Apr. 20, 2019

Income:

New members, renewals, donations	\$667.00
Emporium Table Sales	\$1,598.50
Norlite sale	\$10.00
Vendor Commissions (to date)	\$5,000.45
Book sales	\$2,114.30
Club Table Plant sales	\$3,272.25
Auctions	<u>\$2,221.32</u>
Total Income:	\$14,883.82

Expenses:

Newsletter printing	\$117.28
New member badges	\$66.38
Deposit for May meeting rental	\$100.00
Supplies for cacti potting mix	\$24.95
Refreshments for show volunteers	\$100.85
Merchandise & displays for Emporium	
Table	\$377.88
Annual Show Insurance premium	\$541.00
Office supplies & copying services	\$102.92
Trash bags for show	\$11.10
Sign holders	\$14.00
Postage	\$11.35
Folding Bench	\$42.53
Book purchases	\$554.28
Blue T-shirt reorder	\$892.36
New Tan T-shirt order	<u>\$769.34</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$3,726.22</u>

Net Income (Loss) \$11,157.60



From the Editor —

Confessions of a caudiciform captive

~ Sharon Smith Delisle

Crowd Control: Accolades to all the 35+ volunteers who helped make our 36th Annual Show & Sale a huge success, yet again. All of the hours and hours of preparation, and back breaking labor is worth it when the final numbers are in, our guests have loyally followed us to wherever we may be, our vendors leave on Sunday afternoon with smiles on their faces and many empty trays, and the CCSS bank account has put on some serious new weight.

Every show always as a few small problems, thankfully never insurmountable issues. However, one problem has cropped up year after year in the judged show room area. A few of our guests either forget to read the very prominent signage warning them not to touch the plants on display, or our guests simply choose to ignore our warnings. This year there were two instances on Sunday. One guest was far too close to the plants in an effort to take a photo of every single plant, and its identification tag. Repeated requests and demands from our security team were brushed aside and ignored. Later, another guest reached out and fondled the fuzzy leaves of a show plant. It is my understanding that this particular plant's leaves will not recover from that unwanted physical attention.

What do we do? It is embarrassing and awkward for everyone when it gets confrontational. I would like to suggest that our club consider using crowd control measures in the future, which will relieve us from this predicament. Retractable belt stanchions can be rented or purchased. These stanchions would guide our guests through the showroom area, keeping them a safe distance from our precious plants.

Our judged show-room area is already quite crowded, and perhaps that is part of the problem—access to the plants is too easy. On the other hand, our guests enjoy having a close-up look at the many fine details of such beautifully grown plants, especially the miniatures. In order to make adequate room for stanchions, we may have to rethink the show room layout. Perhaps Linda McMullen's security table could be moved out into the hallway to allow use of the space she currently occupies. Let's talk about this issue at the May meeting. ♦

Retractable belt stanchion



36th CCSS Annual Show & Sale

David Schultz

Annual show recap

First, I want to thank everyone who pitched in to help set up the show, sale, hall signage and “dining” room, some staying on Fri until 9:30 getting the show plants rearranged. This allowed Phyllis Milano and others to finish the final display on Sat morning. The panel of judges from Phil CSS and CSSMa completed the “evaluation” of the very impressive plant display in good time. The show plant display was among the best we have ever offered to the public and was well-received. Kudos to all who brought in plants to show! I do not wish to forget anyone in the **THANK YOU!!**, so will not name names. We can be proud of another great show and sale. Speaking of which, it is not too late to begin planning for the 37th annual event. The dates have been set and the rental agreement has been prepared, for April 17-19, 2020!

Attendance was great, with 1,634 signed in over the 2 days; 1,051 on Sat and 583 on Sun. Although slightly below the numbers for 2018, the vendors were, nevertheless, able to take home many fewer plants than they arrived with. The final accounting will still be a month or more in the works as bills are paid out, but we did well financially.

Membership update

New Member Welcome...



We had nearly 40 memberships renewed and **12 NEW memberships**. There are still members who haven’t renewed, and a reminder is always in order.

We welcome:

- ♦ Kris Archambault and Signian McGeary, both of Cheshire
- ♦ Walter Callagy from Trumbull
- ♦ Emily Carreiro and Agnes Dion, both from Bristol
- ♦ Jennifer Casaburi from Burlington
- ♦ Morgan Daniels of Durham (a welcome back from several years ago)
- ♦ Frank LaSala and Mary Demers from West Hartford
- ♦ Jessica Nelson from New Haven
- ♦ Susan & Stephen Pretto from Prospect
- ♦ Brian & Gretchen Smith from Rocky Hill
- ♦ Terrie Storm from Bridgewater.



Chris Allen demonstrates a point with an example of one of his cacti from his new cold-frame, during his talk about “Blooming Cacti in a Cold Frame” at the show.

36th Annual Show & Sale photos



This young lady paid CCSS the best compliment by coming to the show dressed in a cactus shaped costume. Now, that's real devotion!



Our venerable leader John Spain holds a copy of his book "Growing Winter Hardy Cacti." John held court at the club plant sales table on Sunday afternoon.



Barbara Schultz & Kathryn Shubar volunteered at the Club Book Table



Children enjoyed the cacti-themed coloring books at the "Kids Coloring Area".



The CCSS Emporium Table offered club t-shirts, various cactus-themed home decorating items, jewelry, playing cards and prickly pear cactus candy.



Sales were hot in the vendor sales area.

Our judged Show Room was filled with spectacular plants, as always.



Some of the many examples of cacti that members submitted for judging.



Sedum Compactum
Earned a second place ribbon in
Class 42.
Plant grown by John story



Euphorbia ambovombensis
Earned a first place ribbon in Class 50
(Plant was grown by John Spain for over
30+ years.) It is now owned by
Sharon SmithDelisle



Euphorbia cylindrifolia
Earned a second place ribbon in
Class 50.
Plant grown by David Schultz

Judged plants, continued



Fockea edulis
Earned a 1st place ribbon in Class 64
Plant grown by Stephen Volpe



Dioscorea elephantipes
Earned a 1st place ribbon in Class 73
Plant is 30+ yrs. old
Grown by Judy Becker



Bursera sp.
Earned a 1st place ribbon in Class 87
Grown by Chris Allen



Gasteria armstrongii
Earned a 1st place ribbon in Class 59
Grown by Stephen Volpe



Lithops
Variety of species, some grown from seed.
Earned Best in Division ribbon in Class 95, Special Exhibits
Grown by Sebastian Lee
(Note the carefully laid out key to all the plants in this collection)



Escheveria 'Curly Locks'
Earned Best in Division ribbon in Class 100-Novice
Grown by Katherine Heminway

Judged plants, continued



Entrants in the Class 6 Stenocactus & Class 7 Echinocactus categories

Judged plants, just for fun...



Succulents in a Ford
3rd place ribbon in Class 99—Cacti junior
Grown and designed by Jeanine Loya



Club members Carolyn and Gary Decko do a "little" shopping in the vendor sales area.

Our thanks to all of our loyal vendors who participated in the show.



David Burdick
Daffodils & More
www.daffodilsandmore.com

On right: Very interesting Bromeliad-type plant in David's sales area. David is a CCSS member and frequent guest speaker at CCSS.



Carol Thoma Moore,
artist & teacher, and
her fine selection of
handcrafted pottery.



Doug Peterson is a new CCSS member and a first-time vendor at the show. Among other cacti, Doug was offering seedlings of Yellow Dragon Fruit plants, which he grew himself from seed.



Vendors Andy and "wild & free" Jeanine Loya offered clever new ways to display succulents such as succulents in watering cans.

Vendor Tribute continued.



Andrea Reed of
Reed Designs
Notice the magnificent
fern in a raised container
at right.



Deb Pope of Deb Pope Statuary
is a Massachusetts Society
member who always attends
our show. Deb will be conduct-
ing a hypertufa pot making
workshop with CCSS later this
year.



Glen Lord of Lordicultural is a frequent
speaker at CCSS meetings. He is a lover
of geraniums and Christmas cacti. We
will see Glen at our December holiday
party. Find Glen on Facebook!



Pierre of Sunny Border Nurseries, Inc.
Visit them at www.sunnyborder.com.



John and Diana of Story's
Neversink (Rare Succulents & In-
teresting) Plant Co.
Visit them on facebook!



Beth and Brandy of Rick Logee's Rare Plants
Shop at www.ricklogeesrareplants.com!



Richard & Donna Carlson of The Glass
Canvas. They are long-time CCSS mem-
bers and Rick is a frequent guest speaker.

Vendor Tribute continued.



Ginny & Linda with their butterfly and bat houses (also lots of outstanding plants for sale, too.)



Bob and Patty Sparrow of Sparrow's Country. Very long-time CCSS members

Also thanks to vendors Vincent Burns of Prickley Pear Cactus, Ken of Cwikia's 365 and Steve Pierson of Zaneta, whose photos were unavailable.



Sherry Bartles and Suzanne helped out at the very busy club plant sales table. Note Suzanne's interesting bug pin!



Lucy Young-Ladden greeted our guests at the Registration Table.



Sandy Allen encouraged members to renew their membership and helped new members complete their paperwork.



**Directions to May Meeting:
Monroe Congregational Church
34 Church St., Monroe, CT 06468**

Via Route 15

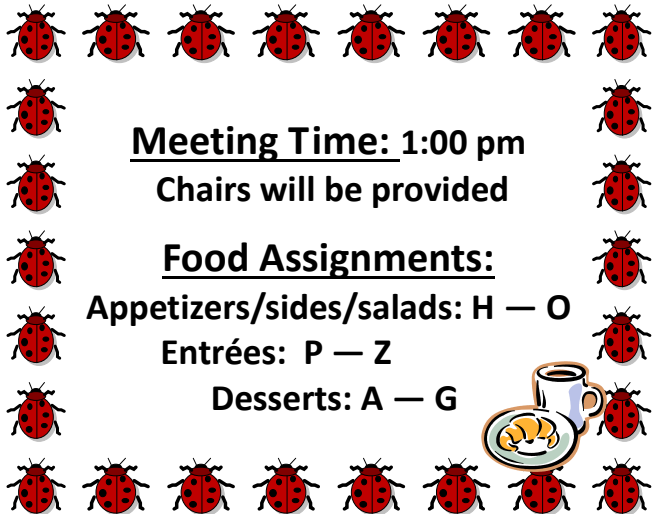
Take Exit 49N onto Route 25N. When you begin to see signs for Route 111 or signs that say "Highway ends...feet", get in the right lane. At the end of the highway, turn right at the light onto Route 111. Follow 111 to Monroe Green. Bear left onto Fan Hill Road. Go straight, through the stop sign at Church Street. Immediately turn right into MCC's parking lot.

Via Route 95

Exit 27A onto Route 25N. Follow above directions


Via Route 84

Take Exit 11 and follow Route 34 South for about 5 miles. Take a right on Route 111 towards Monroe. Follow Route 111 for about 5 miles to the Monroe town green – take a right on Church Street, just before the green and MCC is on your right.



Meeting Time: 1:00 pm
Chairs will be provided

Food Assignments:
Appetizers/sides/salads: H — O
Entrées: P — Z
Desserts: A — G



*Thank you again, to all who participated, volunteered
and attended our 36th annual show.
We couldn't have done it without you!!!*