



DESERT BREEZE

Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society

August 2022

Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society • In Person and Zoom Program Presentation • Thursday, August 4, 2022, at 7:00pm
Sky Islands Public High School, 6000 East 14th Street, Tucson, Arizona 85711
Kamikaze Botany and Other Tales of the Wild Sansevieria

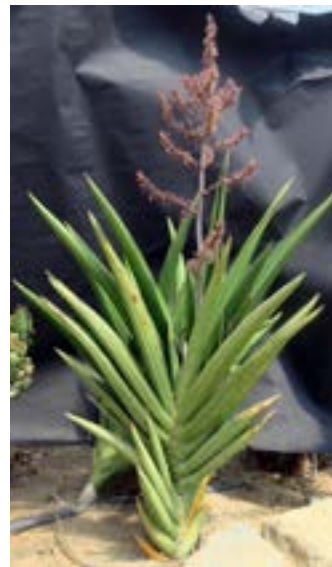
Presented by Robert H. Webb, Arid Lands Greenhouses

Kamikaze botany involves traveling long distances in uncomfortable vehicles seeking a few rare plants to photograph. Some sansevierias described long ago have been rarely visited and are not in cultivation (or widely distributed). Rather extreme measures are required to find some of these plants. This talk will discuss the results of two recent kamikaze botany trips to Tanzania and Malawi. But wait, there's more! A number of plants with locality data but not described as species have flowered recently in Tucson. These new species -- *Sansevieria malabensis*, *S. butleri*, *S. phillipsii*, and *S. disticha*, are currently in press in major journals, adding to the close to 100 species of sansevierias now known to science. Finally, Bob Webb recently collaborated with Len Newton to write a book on sansevierias entitled "The Genus *Sansevieria*: A Pictorial Guide to the Species." He will discuss the trials and tribulations of doing botany in Africa with a mind for finding new species.

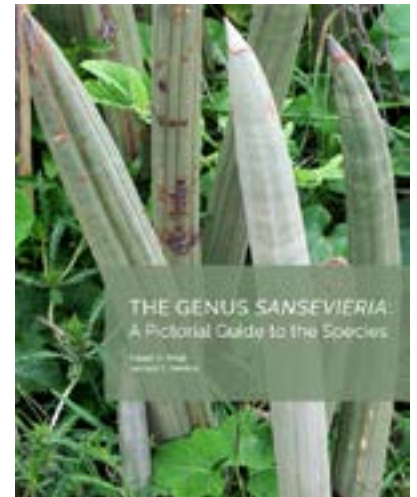


Bob Webb and Bhwire Bhitala in Arusha, Tanzania

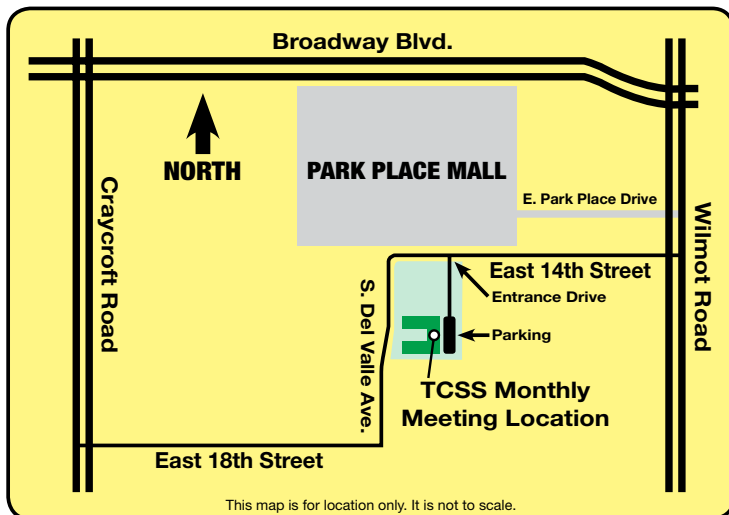
If you have been fully vaccinated for Covid-19 you are welcome to come and join us for this excellent in person presentation (masks will be required by all). This meeting will also be a Zoom program and will be an important educational and informational event you must see. Also, if using Zoom, be sure to log in to win a \$25.00 gift certificate from TCSS or choose a copy of the new 3rd edition of the Field Guide to Cacti & Other Succulents of Arizona. Plant give aways will take place at the in person meeting but that portion of the program, because of the recording, will not appear on Zoom. When leaving the live in person meeting, everyone can get a free plant offered to you by the TCSS.



Sansevieria disticha



Sansevieria Guide Book cover



Sky Islands Public High School • 6000 E. 14th St.

Thursday, September 1, 2022 at 7:00pm
**"Planning for uncertainty: conserving cacti
in a world of change"**
Presented by Michiel Pillet

**At this time, no refreshments will be
served at the August meeting**



President's Message

It's Monsoon time again. I hope you are getting more rain than I am. Any amount is wonderful.

Our next big event is the Good Time Silent Auction. This year it will be held on October 2, 2022. Let me tell you about this event that has been a part of our activities since the mid-1950s.

Over the years we have added to the day's activities to include tables of plants for sale at \$2.00, \$5.00 and \$10.00. There is also a huge selection of "free" plant related materials (pots, cuttings, potted plants, hoses, tools and you name it). There will be a selection of rescue plants (if available). Of course there are usually several silent auctions of outstanding plants to bid on. Most important is ice cream and all the toppings available to everyone at no charge of course!

This will be out of doors at Sky Island in the back parking area under shade.

How does this happen and where do all the plants etc. come from? The answer is simple; YOU.

Everyone participates in bring-in a special plant or two. It is a great time to clean up the yard a get rid of stuff you no longer want so you get new stuff you that you don't want but have to have.

This activity takes a lot of different efforts and lots of volunteers are needed. We will send out that information latter. Right now you can start potting up some plants that you will donate. Clean up pots and tools that you have no use for.

Every plant in the silent auction has a starting bid usually a dollar or two. Of course there are many with higher starting bids based on their value. If you donate an item that is more valuable than \$25.00 you have the option to receive back \$25.00 and TCSS keeps the amount over that. This is to encourage the donation of higher value more unusual or rare plants for the silent auction. Art of all kinds is also appreciated for the sale.

This is a great fun event in which all 1,821 current members can participate. Put the date on your calendar.

The final event of the year is the Holiday Party. This is a combination celebration of another great year, the official Annual Meeting of the Corporation, result of the election of officers and board members and great food and fun. More information will be coming out soon but mark your calendars for December 11, 2022.

Thank you for your continued support.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

Hybrid Meetings

Now Include a Moderator

Want to learn more about TCSS?

We will have a general discussion of activities and programs at TCSS for 1 hour prior to every monthly meeting. This a perfect way for new members to get oriented to what TCSS has to offer

Our hybrid meetings will now include a Zoom moderator to answer questions and guide the discussion about what's going on at TCSS.

How it works

If you elect to attend the monthly TCSS meeting / seminar via Zoom instead of attending in person, you may log in 1 hour early (6 pm) to participate in an informal Q&A session about anything TCSS related.

The Zoom moderator (Steve Watts) will start the meeting and begin by showing short TCSS YouTube videos until people log in to the discussion.

At that point we will take general questions or address discussion topics. Examples below;

- Program activities - when they happen, how they work, etc.
- How to become more involved either as a participant or as a volunteer
- How to create new club projects or activities in line with our mission
- How to find hidden gems on our TCSS website or YouTube channels

New Weekly TCSS Library Hours

Visit our library in person where you may browse the library and take books to a table for review before you decide to checkout the book.

This is ongoing every Wed from noon to 2:30 pm through August 2022.

Visit our online library resource database to review available titles, reserve a book or add your review of any of our books. Reviews benefit other members in selecting a good read.

[Link to TCSS Website Library Page](#)

Note - RSVP is not required, but helps us to know how many tables to set up.

Acknowledgement Of Contributions

The Names Below Represent The Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society Members And Friends Whose Donations Helped Make This Year A Success. We Extend Our Sincere Thanks For Your Support.

Steve Martinez & Family
 Deidra Ward
 Riaz Adaikkalam
 Dale & Augie Johnson
 Sue & Dick Hildreth
 Marilyn Bernzott & Jason Rochester
 Wendy Baker
 Flo Weeks
 Ann Lawrence - Fairfieldhomes
 Lindy Brigham

Education Outreach

We attended the Silver Spike Jubilee at the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum to celebrate the 1880 arrival of the first train in Tucson. Although there were fewer children than expected, Bill Holcombe was able to share information about the TCSS with some of the families. We'll be back there in December participating in their Holiday Express event with Santa and hundreds of kiddos on December 17.

During June, Patsy Frannea and other volunteers led four, plant science sessions of STEM summer camps at the Presidio San Agustin del Tucson and The Mini Time Machine Museum of Miniatures. The campers were introduced to cactus and succulents through hands-on activities, and each received a live plant to care for at home.

Currently, we're reaching out to Southern Arizona schools that host science nights and participate in SARSEF. If you would like to become involved in any of these community and educational activities, or lend some time to the Education Outreach Committee, please send a note to education@tucsoncactus.org. We welcome your participation!



TCSS MINI SALE

What started out to be a mini sale on June 25th turned into two mini sales. Prior to the sale we had several members donate potted plants to the club. So what better time to sell them then at a sale that was already scheduled. Thus in one area you could shop for rescued/hoop house plants and in another area you could shop for a variety of unusual plants, some in pots more expensive than the plant. We sold 404 plants and took in over \$11,000 – not bad for a Mini Sale. 128 plants were from the donated plants and 168 were Hoop House plants (believe it or not, some members come to the sales just for HH plants) the rest were a combination of saguaros, barrels, hedge hogs, ocotillo, and bundles of ocotillo canes. For those of you that do not know what the Hoop House plants are, they are plants that have been given to the club that would not survive at Pima Prickly Park or plants that PPP has an abundance of. Cathy Robson pots these plants up then with her magical green thumb keeps them alive until a sale rolls around. Some Thursday morning when you are at the park, stop by and Cathy will show you just what she does. I would like to thank everyone that came out to shop as well as all the volunteers that helped to make this another successful sale for TCSS. Hope to see YOU at the next sale. Crystal Cannon TCSS Sales Coordinator/ Board Member

Instructions To Join The TCSS Zoom Meeting on July 7, 2022

If you have a laptop or other device where you can enter a web site address enter

<https://bit.ly/tcssmm>

Copy this into your browser address line or just click on it.

If this does not work and for all other types of devices see our Zoom Meeting Instructions page on our web site. It is

https://tcss.wildapricot.org/resources/pdf_files/ZoomInstructions.pdf

You can also find a link to it by going to our August Meeting notice information on the web.

TCSS BOARD

Officers (ending December 31, 2022)

President: Richard Wiedhopf • president@Tucsoncactus.org

Vice President: Vonn Watkins • vp@Tucsoncactus.org

Secretary: Monica Wnuk

secretary@tucsoncactus.org

Treasurer: Cathy Robson

treasurer@Tucsoncactus.org

Board of Directors:

(terms expire December 31 of year indicated)

Brian Vandervoet

Brad Haeckel (2022)

Penny Miller (2022)

Steve Watts (2022)

Donna Ellis (2023)

Janice Johnson (2023)

Kris Thompson (2023)

Austin Martin (2023)

Crystal Cannon (2024)

Linda Heisley (2024)

Kermie Hodge (2024)

Robert Villa (2024)

CSSA Affiliate Rep:

Bill Holcombe (2023)

Cactus Rescue: Donna Ellis

cactus@Tucsoncactus.org

Education: Kris Thompson • education@Tucsoncactus.org

Free Plants: Donna Ellis • plants@Tucsoncactus.org

Florilegium: Cindy Hartwell • art@Tucsoncactus.org

Garden Tours: Patsy Frannea • tours@Tucsoncactus.org

Librarian: Brad Haeckel • librarian@Tucsoncactus.org

Prickly Park: • park@Tucsoncactus.org

Programs: Vonn Watkins • programs@Tucsoncactus.org

Refreshments: Patsy Frannea • refreshments@Tucsoncactus.org

Technology: technology@Tucsoncactus.org

Research: Doug Rowsell • research@Tucsoncactus.org

Field Trips/tours: Rob Romero • trips@Tucsoncactus.org

Vendor Coordinator: Dale Johnson • vendors@tucsoncactus.org

Plant Sales: Crystal Cannon • sales@tucsoncactus.org

Field Guide Sales: Susan Durham & John Durham

books@tucsoncactus.org

Conservation: Thomas Staudt

conservation@tucsoncactus.org

Newsletter Editor: Karen Keller • editor@tucsoncactus.org

Deadline for newsletter text or photos:

Thursday, August 25 by 4:00pm

TCSS Web Page:

www.tucsoncactus.org

Webmaster: Barb Watts • webmaster@Tucsoncactus.org

For general information and questions related to

TCSS, email TCSS@TucsonCactus.org

or call (520) 256-2447 during business hours.

Everyone is Welcome!

Bring your friends, join in the fun and meet
the cactus and succulent community.

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Cacti Rescued - Since 1999

617 Rescues - 47,369 Volunteer Hours (updated 01-01-22)

Please see our Website Calendar for the next rescued cactus sale. They are scheduled at various times during the year based on our inventory.

TCSS Club Members receive a 10% discount

We need your "Eyes and Ears" to help us find new Cactus Rescue sites. Please email us as much information as you can from new project signs or from other sources to **Site@TucsonCactus.org**. Attach a photo of the sign if you can. Note, we do not remove plants from residences.

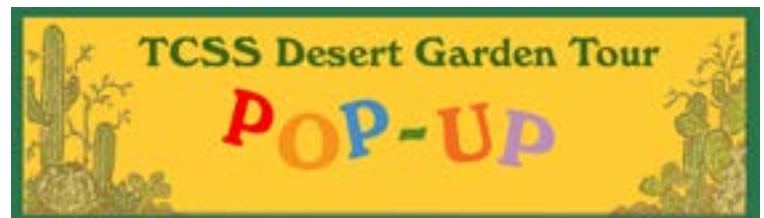
August, 2022

Thursday, August 4, 2022 at 7:00pm

Kamikaze Botany and Other Tales of the Wild Sansevieria
Presented by Robert H. Webb, Arid Lands Greenhouses

Tuesday, August 9, at 7:00pm

Teleconference Board Meeting



We are all looking forward to Fall 2022 and cooler weather when our desert gardens find refuge from summer's high temperatures and become the perfect outdoor living spaces. Our TCSS Garden Tour committee is now accepting applications from any member who would like to share their personal landscape with other members by hosting a Fall TCSS Desert Garden Pop-Up Tour. You can pick any Saturday this Fall that hasn't been spoken for to showcase your garden so that your fellow members can enjoy what you have created and learn from your experience. If you go to this link on our website https://tcss.wildapricot.org/resources/pdf_files/Popup_Tour_Application.pdf

you will find a pdf form that is "clickable" so you can fill it in, save and then email the file or save and print then mail. Either Email to: GardenTours@TucsonCactus.org

or Mail to TCSS, PO Box 64759, Tucson, AZ 85728-4759.