

DESERT BREEZE



Note - The following issues are not available and we would ask anyone who may be able to provide us with a copy would be appreciated. They can be emailed to the webmaster at the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society or to the President.

Year - Months Missing

2000 - Jan missing

1999 - Dec missing

1997 - Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, Nov missing

1996 - Jan, May missing

1995 - Jun, Jul, Aug missing

1994 - Aug missing

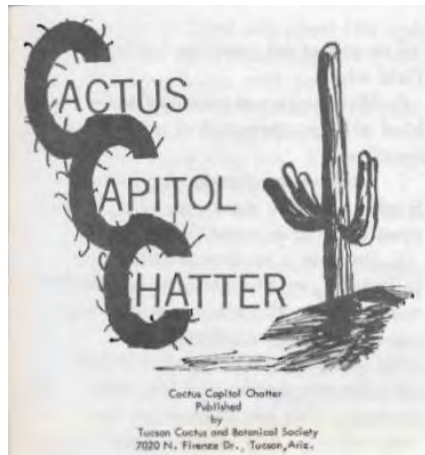
1992 - All months except Jul and Aug missing

1991 - All months missing

1990 - All months missing

1989 - All months except Jan and Feb missing

1988 - May, Sep missing



From 1965 to 1982 the Newsletter was named “Cactus Capitol Chatter”

It was published quarterly (4 issues per year)

We are missing 1982 - 3rd and 4th quarter publications

TUCSON CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
JULY, 1992 MEETING

July 8, 1992

JULY MEETING: Will be held in the Education Building of the Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2:00 PM, Sunday, July 12, 1992. Our speaker will be Michael David, who will talk on endangered species of cacti.

MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING: Miles Anderson took notes on this meeting, which are at the end of this notice. Thanks to Miles, and to Tony Burgess, the speaker, and the Desert Laboratory, which provided the setting for the meeting.

MINUTES OF THE JUNE MEETING: Secretary managed to be in a wet and chilly part of Colorado for this meeting, so has no personal report. Maybe there will be a volunteer to provide one for the next notice. Dan Birt gave a talk, which seems to have been well received, on the why's and wherefore's of names and name changes in cacti. Incidentally, there was no meeting notice in June.

REPORT ON THE BOARD MEETING OF JULY 3, 1992: Eleven of the 14 officers of the club met at Harrison Yocum's house in the evening of this unlikely date. This is a good time to list these officers, especially since secretary had a hard time remembering.

- President : Harrison Yocum 298-0930
- Past Pres.: Jeff Trevas 577-2251
- Vice Pres.: Norma Beckman 885-0669
- Secy. : Floyd Werner 325-7228
- Treasurer : Michael David 296-0122
- Board 1990-1992:
- Linda Ryan 299-2338
- Bob Schlegel 749-3568
- J.R. Trevas 577-2251
- 1991-1993: Alexander Emma 577-0277
- Helen Housman 325-7920
- Jeri Ogden 292-2965
- 1992-1994: Miles Anderson 887-2919
- Linda Benziger 881-6713
- Myrtle Ethington 887-4507

It was decided: to re-institute the free plant benefit of the club. There was some discussion about how to do this. One possibility is to purchase small flats and pot the plants ourselves, maybe keeping them for a couple of months to increase size.

To ask the membership to observe a level of decorum when a speaker is giving a presentation. We have just lost a recently joined member, partly because of the amount of conversation that takes place at the back of the room when the speaker (victim) is holding forth. We called on the president to use the gavel if necessary to change this pattern. There are plenty of quiet nooks around the Botanical Gardens where people can talk without

July, 1992, p.2

disturbing others. The hubbub apparently was heightened at the June meeting by junior members running in and out of the room, no less disturbing.

To have a Board meeting before each meeting, open to the membership.

JULY BOARD MEETING: Called for Sunday, July 12, at 1:30 PM. We don't have the room reserved but we will meet at the Porter House if it is available. Members are invited to attend, also to call any officer before the meeting to bring any matter that they think needs attention to the Board.

MILES ANDERSON'S REPORT ON THE MAY MEETING:

MINUTES OF THE MAY MEETING: Tony Burgess, the Coordinator of the Desert Laboratory, gave an insightful look into the workings of the Lab. and an overview of the ecology of *Carnegie gigantea*, the giant saguaro, and its relationships with other plants. He also presented a slide show of populations of saguaros, their changes over the years and the climatic requirements of cactus-like plants.

A: The Desert Laboratory was founded by McDougall at Tumamoc Hill Reserve. The Reserve is owned by the U of A and run by both the U of A and the U.S.G.S. The reserve was fenced to prevent cattle grazing in 1907. Originally 20 - 10 meter X 10 meter plots were staked and the existing plants on them were cataloged. Of the 20 original plots, the locations of only 12 remain known. This makes these the oldest plots observed and recorded in this manner in the world. The conclusion at this point is that the old theory of an undisturbed desert area reaching a static equilibrium is wrong. The in order for the desert to maintain its diversity it must have periods of drought, intense heat, cold, and occasional adequate water. These and other factors, in different combinations, select for different species of plants and animals. Some populations rise in numbers while others fall, eventually to rise again.

B: *Carnegie gigantea*, the giant saguaro, is the most northern ceroid (tall growing) cactus. This seems to be because of its relative cold hardiness and multiple pollinators. It was originally thought that the main pollinators of the saguaro were bats. However, the saguaro produces nectar not only at night, but during the day, when its flowers visited by several birds, bees, and other insects. In order for a saguaro to survive from seed it needs a series of specific occurrences to take place.

1. The year before the seed germinates there must be a killing drought to lower the rodent population.
2. The seed must germinate in a niche where it will not be subject to intense exposure by heat, cold, or being eaten. The seedlings often use a "nurse plant" such as a palo verde tree to provide this protection. (When the saguaro matures, its ability to take up moisture quickly often leads to the death of the nurse plant.)

3. The summer the seed is produced there must be rainfall every 7-10 days to keep the seedling from desiccating.

4. The following winter must be mild without a killing frost. A saguaro that reaches maturity will produce 3000 seeds per year. 1/2 of a million seeds in a lifetime. Of these seeds only a few will make it to maturity. From photographs taken of portions of the Saguaro National Monument in the early 1900s by Ray Turner, the rise and fall of saguaro populations was apparent. When the mature saguaros cause the death of nurse plants or overgrazing removes the niches for seedling saguaros, and the aged saguaros eventually die, the area becomes virtually void of saguaros until the trees return and the cycle begins again. It is thought that the tree/saguaro cycle takes from 150-400 years. Although no study has been done that long.

Statistical study of the occurrence of cacti and cactus-like plants to show that while they do come from deserts, the climate is cooler than average in the summer, warmer than average in the winter, and not subject to terrible droughts.

Project for members of the club.

The occurrence of plants in the Sonoran Desert needs more study and will receive with the funding available. Individual members are making careful notes about the presence of species of plants and the animals associated with them, the time of year, and the location these observations were made can prove invaluable, particularly in the Tucson area. Many areas in and around Tucson have not been studied adequately and with development, what originally grew there will never be recorded. With observations such as these the complexities of the desert will become closer to being understood.

ARID LANDS GREENHOUSES offers a 20% discount to club members. Many thanks to Chuck Hansen.

Thanks to Dan Bach of Bach's Cactus Nursery, Inc. for the plants provided for the sale.

TREASURERS REPORT The club raised \$1514.95 from the sale, not counting \$102.00 from Dan Burt. The current balance in savings(?) is 4662.36.

Respectfully submitted,



Floyd Werner, Secy.

TUCSON CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
AUGUST, 1992 MEETING

August 4, 1992

AUGUST MEETING: Will be held in the Education Building of the Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2:00 PM, Sunday, August 9, 1992. Our speaker will be Sandy Pederson, of the Tucson Water Department, who will speak on the subject of using the Central Arizona Project water that will soon be flowing from Tucson taps for watering plants.

AUGUST BOARD MEETING: Called for Sunday, August 9, at 1:30 PM, at the PORTER HOUSE. Members are invited to attend if they have anything to bring to the Board, also to call any officer before the meeting to bring any matter that they think needs attention to the Board.

MINUTES OF JULY MEETING: Michael David gave a review of endangered cacti in Arizona, and more specifically the laws and regulations protecting them. Within Arizona there is the Native Plants Act, administered by the Arizona Department of Agriculture (formerly Ag and Hort), federally the Endangered Species Act, administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and internationally the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). A lively discussion of what is permitted and what isn't followed, and particularly the role of propagation in ensuring the survival of endangered species .

The balance in the treasury is about \$4256.00.

The free plant was Mammillaria apozolensis, which can take full sun and Tucson's winter. The plants were grown from seed at Bach's Nursery. Offsets to form clumps to 8" in diameter. A fairly mature specimen was introduced as the first meeting raffle prize, and brought a good return to the treasury from \$1.00 tickets.

FROM THE JULY BOARD MEETING: Norma Beckman reported that we will be able to have as large a show as we want next year at Park Mall, but should have it designed by October 22. We have the Porter House reserved for our Christmas meeting. We need volunteers to pick up free plants (in flats) and repot them well before the meeting at which they will be given away. Miles Anderson will provide computer-generated labels for them on short notice, but prefers better notice.

SURVEY TO SEE WHETHER THERE IS A TIME WHEN MORE OF OUR MEMBERS, AND NEW MEMBERS, CAN MEET:

There was considerable discussion at the June Board meeting about finding a time when more of our members can meet on a regular basis. Sundays afternoons are quite satisfactory for the people who attend now, but some members, including some on the Board, have conflicts. Members with young children have to disrupt a weekend each month to attend. So we are canvassing the membership, as well as everybody who has been in the club during the past few years, to see whether there isn't an evening that would be better.

THE TIME WOULD BE 7:30 PM ON THE EVENING SELECTED, WITH THE

PLAN TO LIMIT ALL ASPECTS OF THE MEETING TO 90 MINUTES, WITH THE PROGRAM COMING BEFORE THE BUSINESS PART OF THE MEETING.

For those who don't drive at night or who might want to carpool, here is a list of present and recent members who live in the Tucson area, by ZIP:

WILLIAM MCCORD FAMILY P O BOX 186 VAIL 85641 622-7670

CARLA BAKER 8100 N MOUNTAIN AV TUCSON 85704 297-4411
DOROTHY CHRISTENSEN 1961 W KHAIBAR PL TUCSON 85704 297-5128
MARY FAHM 6805 N ANDREA DORIA TUCSON 85704
RAYMOND O. AND ANITA HAGERTY 5215 N. PUEBLO VILLAS DRIVE TUCSON
85704 690-1419
MARJORIE A. JORDEN 6861 KENANNA TUCSON 85704
CRAIG SCOFIELD FAMILY 340 W PLACITA DE LA POZA TUCSON 85704
742-7250
ARLENE SWEEDLER 1260 W PANORAMA RD TUCSON 85704 742-0473
JANICE TAKESSIAN 1050 W SAN MIGUEL CIRCLE TUCSON 85704 297-1748

MILES ANDERSON 1552 W MIRACLE MILE 48 TUCSON 85705 887-2919
MYRTLE ETHINGTON 3490 N IROQUOIS AV TUCSON 85705 887-4507
GENE JOSEPH & JANE EVANS 2945 N FONTANA TUCSON 85705 792-1592

MARIE & MARCIE SCHULIEN 1401 E NEVADA DR TUCSON 85706 294-5547

NORMA BECKMAN 201 S AV DE LA VISTA TUCSON 85710 885-0669
PHYLLIS MEADE 2007 AV DEL SOL TUCSON 85710 745-9350

DAN AND CATHY ARNIT 4418 E LINDEN TUCSON 85712 881-8648
LINDA BENZIGER 4225 E FAIRMOUNT TUCSON 85712 881-6713
DAN BIRT 1517 N BEVERLY BLVD TUCSON 85712 325-4967
STEVEN E. CARPENTER 2431 N ORCHARD TUCSON 85712 323-6608
TERRY ERISMAN 5817 E HELEN ST TUCSON 85712 886-5747
PEGGY GREENE 4942 E GLENN TUCSON 85712
HELEN HOUSMAN 1232 N SWAN RD TUCSON 85712 325-7920
JAN A. JORDEN 1162 N SYCAMORE TUCSON 85712 795-8457
HELEN KING 1604 N CATALINA TUCSON 85712 325-8629
ALICE SPROGE 5514 E. PIMA TUCSON 85712 721-8092
HARRISON YOCUM 1628 N JEFFERSON TUCSON 85712 298-0930

ESTHER DRUMMOND 7745 E MANOR PL TUCSON 85715 885-0586
ALEXANDER EMMA 5425 N MOCCASIN TRAIL TUCSON 85715 577-0277
BETTY AND DAVID HUSTON 4682 N VIA ZURBURAN TUCSON 85715
WILLIAM A. PLUEMER 4581 N ARROYO VACIO TUCSON 85715 299-9015
SUE SMITH 8151 E BELLEVUE TUCSON 85715 886-9942
DICK WIEDHOPF FAMILY 7510 E RIO VERDE DR TUCSON 85715 885-6367
JOHN P. WILLERTON 2848 N LA CIENEGA DR TUCSON 85715 298-4381

JEAN CAIN 328 S COUNTRY CLUB TUCSON 85716 881-2683
PIERRE FISCHER 3438 N FAIRMOUNT TUCSON 85716 795-6583
PEGGY HITNER 3839 CALLE ENSENADA TUCSON 85716 327-1179
ALAN MYRLEBUST FAMILY 2712 E. DRACHMAN TUCSON 85716
MICKEY L. REED & CARLA SINGER 3719 E BELLEVUE NO 1 TUCSON 85716
322-5982

TUCSON CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
OCTOBER, 1992 MEETING

October 4, 1992

OCTOBER MEETING: Our October meeting will be held at 2 PM, Sunday, October 11, in the Education Building of Tucson Botanical Gardens. Member Chuck Hanson will give an illustrated lecture on the Richtersveld and Namibia, in southern Africa famous for their succulent plants. We have reason to suspect that at least a few of these plants will be featured.

BOARD MEETING: We will try to have a board meeting before the regular meeting, starting at 1:30, in the patio behind the Porter Building unless there is a wedding going on. If that is the case, try the area near the buildings used for Native Seed Search, next to the cactus garden. We really need to have a meeting before November. Harrison Yocum said he would not be able to attend this meeting, so Norma Beckman will be in charge.

SEPTEMBER MEETING: The silent auction went well with a few volunteered tables added to the ones available at the Gardens. Treasurer Michael David reports that we made \$269.00. Chuck Hanson contributed some outstanding plants from his operation, and Miles Anderson from his. Mary Church, Dan Birt, and Helen Housman more than did their part, as usual. If I have missed somebody, chew on me a little after the meeting. I didn't get there early enough to see all the plants come in.

OTHER PLANT SALES: Chuck Hanson is holding his annual fall sale at Arid Lands Greenhouses, 3560 W. Bilby Road, promising 20-75% reductions. As members we get 20% all the time, but 75% is serious markdown. Sale runs Saturday, October 10 and Monday-Saturday, October 12-17. If you have never been there, call Chuck at 883-9404 and he'll direct you. Or ask him at the meeting.

Desert Survivors is also holding its sale October 10-11, from 8:00 to 4:00, at 1020 W. 22nd St. Information on this one at 884-8806. This sale has always been strong on drought-tolerant shrubs and trees, but there's a bit of everything, for outdoor planting.

DEATH OF FORMER MEMBER PAUL HENSHAW: Betty Blackburn sent me the clipping some time ago but I forgot to put it in at the right time. Paul Henshaw died June 9, 1992 at the age of 89, in Sun City. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, a daughter, a son, two brothers and grandchildren. The Henshaws were in Tucson well before my time in the club, but Betty writes that Paul did a lot for us. She asked whether we have a copy of Paul's book and, I must confess, I don't think so.

Yr. obdt. svt.

Floyd Werner
Floyd Werner, Secy.