## **TCSS OFFICERS AND BOARD**

#### Officers

President: Richard Wiedhopf Vice President: Joe Frannea Secretary: Lynda Ryan Treasurer: Valarie Miller

#### **Board of Directors:**

(terms expire December 31 of year indicated) Immediate Past-President: Vonn Watkins

Dan Birt (2003)

Marty Harow (2002)

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## **Affiliate Representative to the CSSA**

Wendy Beall

Richard Weidhopf 885-6367

#### Editor:

Barry McCormick Jbarrymcc@earthlink.net Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

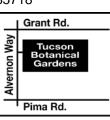
#### Web Address

TCSS Web Page www.azstarnet.com/nonprofit/tcss

## **Next Meeting**

Thursday, January 3 at 7:00 pm **Tucson Botanical Gardens** 2150 N. Alvernon Wav Tucson, AZ 85718

Everyone is Welcome! Bring your friends, join in the fun, and meet the cactus and succulent community.





January 2002

## Christmas Party a Great

By Barry McCormick

This year's Christmas Party at the Tucson Botanical Garden was enjoyed by all. Great food and company, and lots of interesting cactus and succulents marked the luncheon.

The new officers and directors, as shown in the masthead to the left, were announced by Wendy Beall.

President Vonn Watkins expressed his thanks to everybody who made the last year such a great one. Vonn presented the annual awards.



The Gold Awards for Contribution and Commitment were presented to:

Joseph Frannea Patricia Frannea Mark Sitter Jack Ramsey Chris Monrad.

Society Awards were presented to

> Richard Wiedhopf Jenny Coniglio Norma Beckman.

Special recognition was made to the plant growers who have contributed so much to the society's success:



Vonn Watkins

Dan Birt - Dan's Desert Plants Dan Bach - Bach's Nursery Gene Joseph - Plants of the Southwest Carol Scannell - Tanque Verde Greenhouse Bob & Dorothy White – B & B Cactus Farm John & Dorothy Pasek - Plantas del Sol Jon Weeks - Landscape Cacti Miles Anderson - Miles' To Go Arid Lands Greenhouses Mark & Margaret Sitter - Gecko Cactus.

A gift exchange using the "rob your neighbor"

theme was directed by Jack Ramsey. When the flurry of cactus needles died down everybody had a nice gift. Spectacular plants were also raffled off as the door prizes.

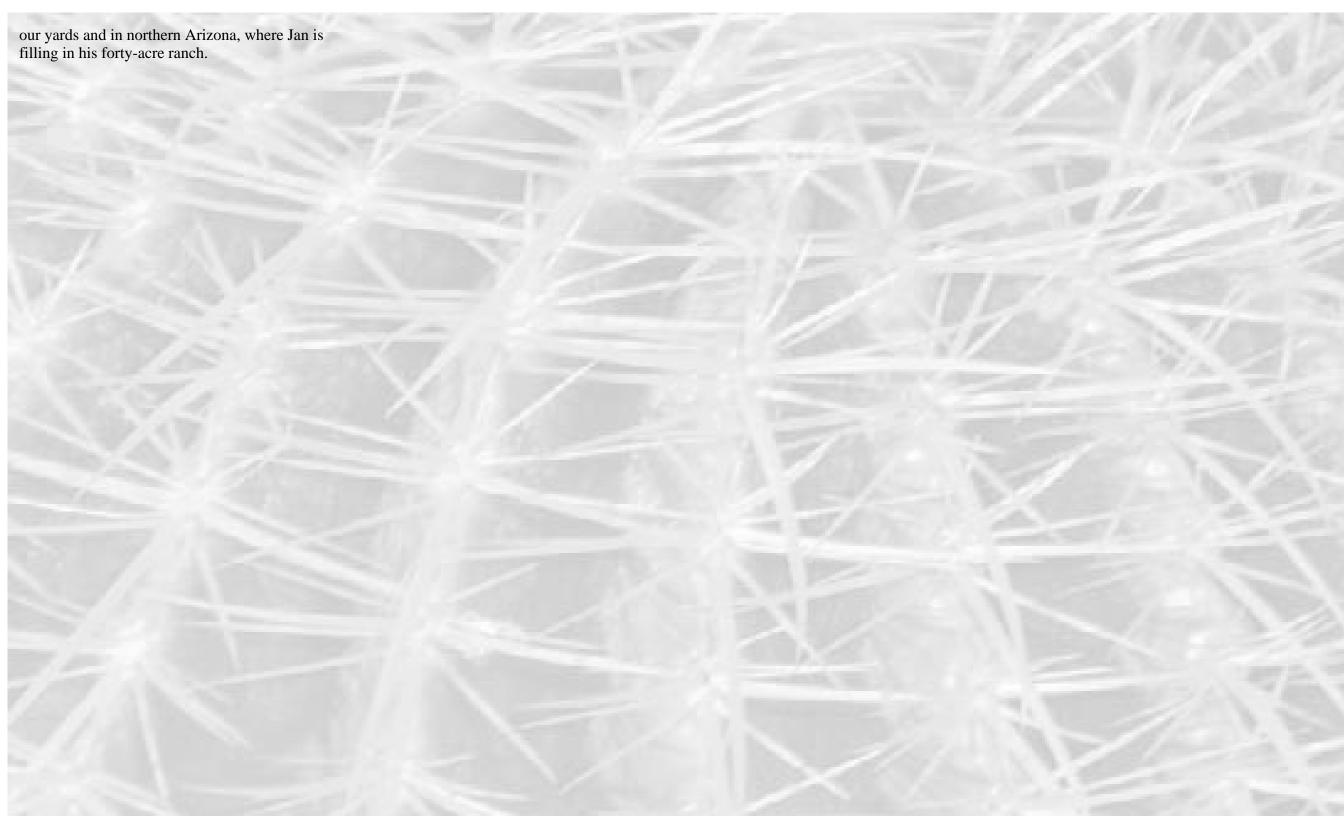
## Mojave Invasion!

The latest scheme to find new homes for salvage plants brought an invasion of Mojave Desert specialties provided by Jan Emming of Yucca, Arizona.

Variety is the spice of life, and the trade of Sonoran Echinocerus, Ferocactus and Mammillarias for Joshua trees, Yuccas, and Fire Barrels will add to the diversity in



Joshua Trees, Yuccas and Barrels arrive in Tucson. Photo by Joe Frannea



#### SAVE THE DATE!

May 3 - 5, 2002

Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society presents our Sonoran IV Conference at the Inn Suites. Participate in informative workshops with experts in their field, view living displays, find a unique specimen, dine at the Desert Museum and take part in a host of other "happenings." Don't miss this memorable event.

Register early and save \$\$\$.

Call Dick Wiedhopf for more information 885-6367

email: wiedhopf @pharmacy.arizona.edu (Watch for more details each month in the Desert Breeze)

## **Membership Survey**

You should all have received a membership survey with your annual dues renewal notice. If you haven't done so yet, please complete the survey, come to the meetings, visit our web site, and participate in the other activities that are of interest to you. Please let us know how we are doing.

Dick Wiedhopf

### 2002 Meeting Schedule

Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month except for May and December.

April 23 & 24 Flower Show, El Con Mall May 3, 4 & 5 Sonoran IV, Inn Suites December 15 Holiday Party Thursday, January 3, 2002 7:00 pm

> Tucson Botanical Gardens 2150 N. Alvernon Way

#### **David Yetman**

## The Big Ones: Columnar Cacti and the People Who Use Them

David will take us on a tour of big cactus from the U.S., Mexico, Ecuador, and Argentina, describing their importance in the lives of the native people and the lands where they grow. David was originally scheduled to speak for the club in November, but "The Desert Speaks" needed his help in Baja with a program being filmed there.

David is a research social scientist at the Southwest Center of the University of Arizona. He conducts intensive social and ecological studies of indigenous people and their lands, which includes the role of great cacti in native cultures. His research activities have taken him from the southwestern U.S. into Mexico and other points south as he investigates historic human geography. Prior to his adventures with giant cacti and indigenous people to the south, David spent 12 years on the Pima County Board of Supervisors, and was the executive director of the Tucson Audubon Society.

His books include, Where the Desert Meets the Sea: A Trader in the Land of the Seri Indians (1988), Sonora: An Intimate Geography (1996), and Scattered Round Stones: A Mayo Village in Sonora (1998). He is co-editor of Gentry's Rio Mayo Plants: The Tropical Deciduous Forest and Environs of Northwest Mexico, and The Tropical Deciduous Forest of Alamos: Biodiversity and Conservation in an Endangered Ecosystem. His latest book, Mayo Ethnobotany: Knowledge, Land, and Tradition in Northwest Mexico, was written with Thomas Van Devender and will be available in January 2002.

Be sure to attend this presentation and start the new year on a very positive note!

**Thursday, February 7, 2002** 7:00 pm

Tucson Botanical Gardens 2150 N. Alvernon Way

## **Meeting and Program**

The February meeting program subject has not been established as we go to press, but it will be a fine one, as always. The backbone of our society is our programs and activities, and we are going to have the best possible of both.

We need suggestions and ideas, so let Vonn Watkins or Richard Weidhopf know what you would like to see and do this year.



Joshua Tree, Yucca brevifolia



#### From the President

I hope all of you are having a wonderful holiday season. It has been an interesting and exciting year.

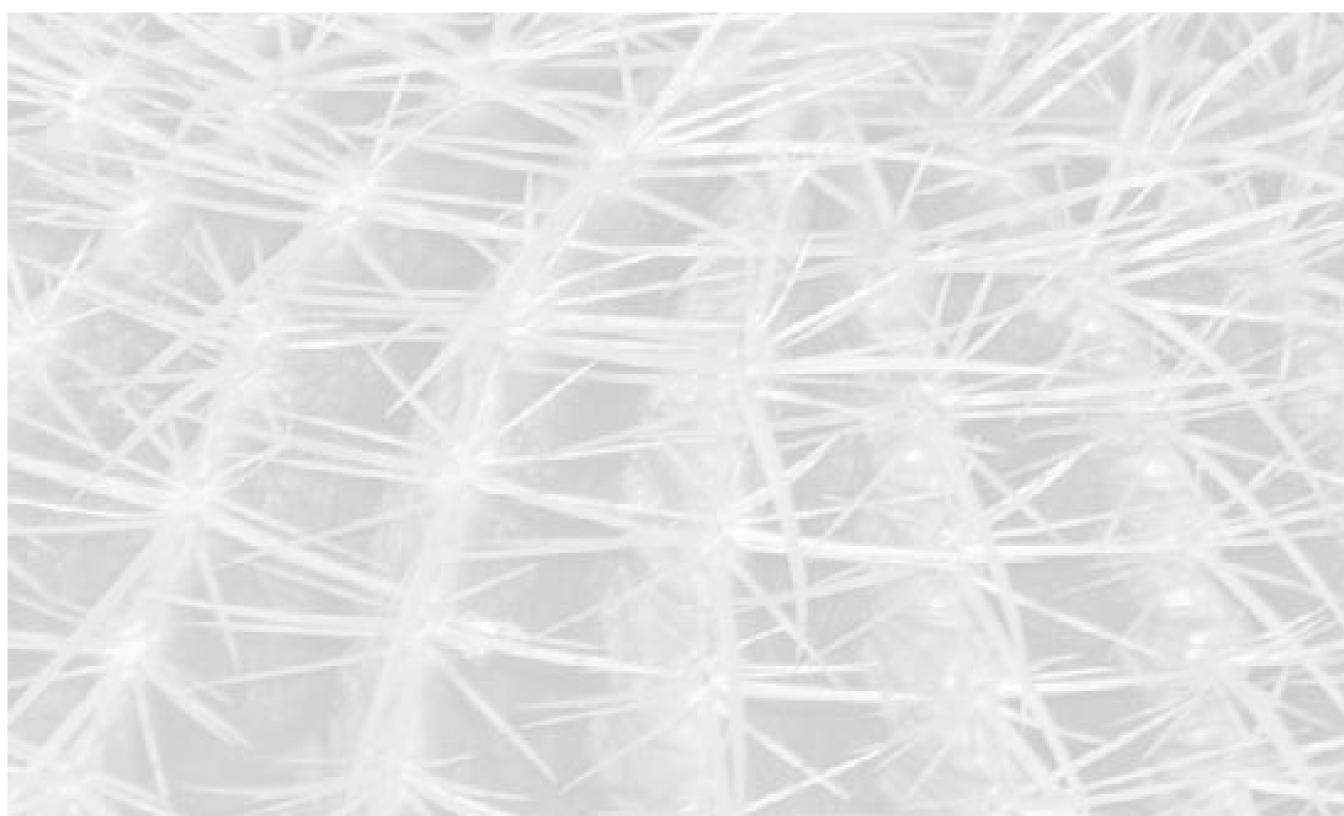
The first half of my year was consumed by being program chairman for the Cactus and Succulent Society of America convention in Los Angeles. Fortunately, every speaker was excellent, especially our folks, Mark Dimmitt and Miles Anderson. We also had a solid show of support with fourteen of our members attending the convention. After eight days in LA, I really needed a break.

Chris Monrad and the salvage committee effort at Saddlebrook provided that break for the rest of the year, with an opportunity to put into practice all that we know about the Sonoran Desert. Salvaging plants, seeing the diversity of cacti species, the native fauna, the desert landscape in bloom and being with dedicated members of the society really made every weekend a great experience.

You have been told how successful our activities have been this year and Vonn Watkins, who served as president, deserves the credit for this success. His leadership and dedication have been outstanding.

In this New Year, we will have a leadership team of very experienced members with a variety of expertise that will benefit our society. You will meet this team at the January meeting and find out how special they are. It will be my privilege to head this team as president. We pledge ourselves to providing you an outstanding year of activities.

Happy New Year Dick Wiedhopf



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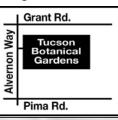
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#### **February Refreshments**

Those with family names beginning with A to F, please bring your choice of refreshments to the next meeting.

Everyone is Welcome!
Bring your friends,
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and meet the cactus and
succulent community.





February 2002



## "Five Seasons!"

## Spend time in the Sonoran Desert this May!

Special Speakers:
Dave Ferguson, Albuquerque
Botanical Gardens

Jonathan Hanson, author, Southern Arizona Nature Almanac

**John Alcock**, professor of Zoology at Arizona State University

## **Workshop Leaders & Topics**

Mark Sitter – Gecko Cactus

Butterfly Plants for Your Cactus

& Succulent Garden

Gregg Starr – Starr Nursery

Cultivating Agaves

Karen Mott – B & B Cactus Farm

Basics of Growing Cacti & Succulents

Bob Scarborough – Arizona Sonora Desert Museum Soils in the Southwest

Vicki Richards - University of Arizona

Designing a Xeriscape Garden

Jon Weeks - Owner, Landscape Cacti, Inc. Growing Astrophytum and Ariocarpus

Gene Joseph – Plants for the Southwest

Pot Culture of Cacti & Succulents

#### And much more!

For more info call Dick Wiedhopf (520) 885-6367 or email nempe@aol.com

## \$125.00 for all three days!

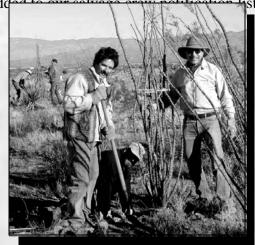
(Lodging and Food not included)

# Plant Salvage!

Plant salvage efforts at our new site near Vail find us in a different biome than last summer's Saddlebrooke work. Many ocotillos, sotols, and Datil yuccas replace the usual barrel and hedgehog salvage. There is also some unusual Echinomastus erectocentrus, which may take some skill to successfully transplant.

Mark Sitter, Doug Larsen and Kim Baker from the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum joined us, and many ocotillos are on their way to the Museum grounds.

Contact Lois Ladwig to have your name



## **Pima County Garden Fair**

Saturday, March 10, 2002 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Lew Sorensen Center 11100 E. Tanque Verde Rd.

(East on Tanque Verde on the right hand side)

The Pima County Spring and Fall Garden Fairs have given our club the opportunity to provide valuable information to many of the visitors that attend. The Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society has established a very good reputation for providing some great plants at very reasonable prices. Mark Sitter will be giving educational demonstrations as well as other much needed gardening information. You will find a great diversity of drought tolerant plants, including many natives, ready for your spring planting. Drop by and consider giving some of these plants a home.

Jack Ramsey

## 2002 Meeting Schedule

Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month except for May and December.

Board Meeting are the second Tuesday of the Month at The U of A College of Pharmacy, Room 333.

April 23 & 24 Flower Show, El Con Mall May 3, 4 & 5 Sonoran IV, Inn Suites December 15 Holiday Party

## Thursday, February 7, 2002 7:00 pm

Tucson Botanical Gardens 2150 N. Alvernon Way

**Gene Joseph** 

### Cultivation & Propagation Tips for Cacti and Other Succulent

Gene will share his professional knowledge and expertise in cultivating a beautiful and healthy collection of Cacti and other Succulents. As owner of "Plants for the Southwest," he has gathered a wealth of knowledge about growing and caring for desert plants from all over the world.

Gene is a graduate of the University of Arizona where he studied Plant Sciences. He worked for two seasons at Red Rock where he pruned pecan trees and he comments on this by saying, "did that really happen?" For seven years he worked at the best job a budding horticulturist could have - Plant Propagator at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. Since 1986 Gene has been operating a very successful business and maintaining a large collection of succulents and cacti.

Gene is one of our members who will help everyone understand more about these great plants. This will be an extremely useful presentation that everyone will enjoy. Please join us.

The March meeting program will be announced next month.

Vonn Watkins

#### (continued)

succulent plants from property set for development. Many plants are being saved and these plants need homes. The salvage committee, other club members, and friends have bought many of these plants. We need to find a location to store these salvaged plants until they are sold. Right now they are dispersed at the homes of many members and it is difficult to keep track of what's available. A central location for plant storage would be great. We know that there are liability, security and care issues. We need to solve this. We don't want to hamper the good work that the salvage committee is doing. Any thoughts?

Remember: We are a 501c-(3) tax-exempt non-profit educational organization. Gifts to our Society can be tax exempt if they meet IRS requirements. We are prepared to provide donors with appropriate documentation to meet IRS requirements. Maybe there is some land, a building etc. that you or a friend might want to get tax benefit from. It never hurts to ask.

Don't forget that when you donate plants for a silent auction, raffle, or door prize they could be tax-deductible gifts.

We need your thoughts and ideas. Call, write, or email your Board or Officers. Thank you.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

The attendance plant for the January meeting was Mammillaria haageana.



#### From the President

I would like to share with you three problems that need solutions.

Over the past year, the popularity of our monthly meetings has grown to a point that we have reached the capacity of the Porter House at The Tucson Botanical Gardens. Our January meeting had 82 in attendance. This is uncomfortable for the speaker and the attendees. There are no other venues at TBG that would meet our needs. What is the answer?

TCSS has an excellent library and librarian, Jenny Coniglio. She brings books and journals to every meeting to be checked out, but only a few of you take advantage of this. We have also been fortunate that Jane Evans and Gene Joseph (Plants for the Southwest) have allowed us to store our library at their nursery. We are in a financial position to expand our library collection. What should be the future for our library? Do you, the members, find it useful? Should we invest more money in books and journals? How do we make them more accessible to you? Tough questions need answers.

Under the leadership of Chris Monrad, a group of dedicated individuals (The Salvage Committee) works rain or shine, 110 degrees or 40 degrees, travel all over southern Arizona to salvage cacti and other *(continued)* 

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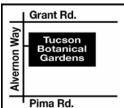
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#### **March Refreshments**

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Meetings

Thursday, March 7, 2002

7:00 pm

Tucson Botanical Gardens 2150 N. Alvernon Way

Mark Sitter

## The Beauties and the Beasts – A Tour of Baja California and Cerro Colorado.

Join Mark Sitter, Arizona Sonora Desert Museum horticulturist, on a photo journey of Spring in the Baja. Mark participated in a Desert Museum trip to catalogue the flora of Cerro Colorado, often referred to as "Succulent Hill," just south of San Ignacio in Mexico. This field work was supported, in part, by a grant from the TCSS, so this report is very timely.

Last year was a very wet year in the Baja, and Mark has captured the glorious fields of wildflowers that carpeted the hillsides. Don't miss this one!

## Thursday, April 4, 2002

Our own Meg Quinn will talk about her new book on the Cacti of Sonora, Mojave, and Chihuahua Deserts. Books will be available to be purchased and signed.



#### SPECIAL TCSS MEETING

Wednesday, March 13, 2002 7:00 pm

College of Pharmacy Auditorium Rm 325

#### Dr. Bob Barth, University of Texas

Dr. Barth will present a program on African Succulents of the Richtersveld and surrounding areas, including southern Namualand, and Ceres Karoo.

Bob is a CSSA Board Member and President of The Austin Cactus and Succulent Society. He is a professor of ornithology, a world traveler, and also runs a cactus and succulent nursery in Austin.

Don't miss this special program.

The College of Pharmacy is at the corner of Mabel and Warren. There is plenty of close free parking.

## Saturday- Sunday, April 13, 14 Fiesta de las Flores

Our society will be participating again in the annual Fiesta de las Flores. See flyer for details. More information next month on our participation.

## **Pima County Garden Fair**

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March 10 Pima County Garden Fair March 13 Special Program, African Succulents

April13 & 14 Flower Show, El Con Mall May 3, 4 & 5 Sonoran IV, Inn Suites December 15 Holiday Party



Tucson Cactus & Succulent Conference May 3, 4, 5, 2002

**Speaker Change:** Tom Wilson of the University of Arizona will be giving the workshop on Soils. A biography of Tom and a description of the workshop are given in the enclosed Sonoran IV supplement.

**Sonoran IV planning meetings.** Two more planning meetings are scheduled for Tuesday March 19 and Tuesday, April 23.

**Special attachment.** Additional information on Sonoran IV is included in the supplement pages of this newsletter. We are particularly interested in encouraging all members to bring plants to the plant show. Plants that are well grown and showy are important to make this an effective public display. We particularly want the more common plants in cultivation to be well represented. This is not just a show for the conference attendees, but for the general public as well. Now is the time to look at your collection and consider grooming and pot cleanup for your best plants. See the supplement for entry guidelines and show rules. Let's all pitch in to share our love of cactus and succulents with the public.



President's Message - Dick Wiedhopf

Thank you for your input on the issues that were raised last month. In June we will probably try another meeting place and certainly a bigger place for our holiday party. We want to continue our relations with TBG, so we might meet twice some months. One meeting would be a hands-on, practical activity at TBG and the other might deal with advanced topics or a popular speaker at a larger venue. Give this some thought and let the Board know your feelings.

At this time we have 40 people signed up for Sonoran IV. Thank you for your support. The official registration package will be out within the next two weeks. The conference portion of the activity is important but all of you can make a difference by supporting the show and sale by getting the word out to your friends and neighbors.

Lots of activity this month. Our regular meeting on March 7 features Mark Sitter on Baja; the Pima County Garden Fair is on March 10; a Board of Directors meeting is March 12. A presentation on African Succulents by Bob Barth, CSSA Board Member and President of the Austin Texas Society is on March 13; and the salvage committee will be working to salvage plants for sale at the garden fair.

We are also working on the reprinting of "The Boojum and its Home" by Robert Humphreys and growing Boojums from seeds obtained from the U of A Boojums.

Lots of good work and fun. Enjoy!

## **Sonoran IV Information**

#### **Plant Show Information**

The Plant Show Staging Committee will be accepting plants from noon until 7 p.m. on Friday, May 3rd.

#### General Guidelines

- 1. If possible, avoid watering entries for at least two days before the entry date to prevent dampness on the tables.
- 2. Containers should be clean and unbroken, and as free from salt accumulation as possible.
- 3. A top dressing is recommended but not required. Top dressing will be available for free at the show if you need it.
- 4. To facilitate setup, plants should arrive at the show as early as possible on Friday, May 3rd.
- 5. Only Cacti and Succulents will be accepted for entry in the show. There are no specified plant categories.
- 6. All entries will be voted on by YOU and the public.
- 7. Anyone may enter plants in the show. You do not have to be registered for Sonoran IV to enter your plants. Ideally, each TCSS member will bring at least one plant to the show.
- 8. Any well-grown plant that is special to you is a candidate for the show. The plant does not have to be rare or unusual.

### **Show Rules**

- 1. You must have owned the plant for at least six months before the show date.
- 2. You cannot enter any plant collected in the wild.
- 3. All entries need an accompanying *Plant Show Entry Form*. You will need to provide the owner's name and phone number and botanical name of the plant. Common name is acceptable for special hybrids.

If you don't know the botanical name of your plant, someone at the show will help identify it. If you know the country of origin and flower color, provide that information also.

- 4. Basically, the entry should look attractive. Specifically, this means:
  - a. Pot size proportionate to plant size, with adequate level of soil.
  - b. No etiolation, scars, sunburn, broken spines, or broken leaves.
  - c. In a clean, intact pot that is in good condition.
  - d. Free of disease or insect infestation.
  - e. Well-groomed: no dead leaves, twigs, or extraneous debris. Seedpods are okay.
- 5. There is no limit as to the size of the plant providing you make arrangements to get it to and from the show.



Tucson Cactus & Succulent Conference May 3, 4, 5, 2002

6. You may bring as many plants as you wish. The show committee will determine if a plant is allowed as an entry according to the criteria listed. The decision of the Show Committee is final.

Wendy Beall

## **SONORAN IV Banquet**

Please join us for a very special evening at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. Mark Sitter will lead a tour of the Cactus and Succulent Garden. After the tour he will take you to the Ocotillo Café for dinner at 7:00pm. After dinner you are invited to view a Bird Illustration Exhibit in the Gallery.

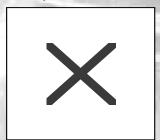
The evening at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum is optional and will cost \$38.00 per person.

### John Alcock

## "Plant-insect Interactions in the Sonora Desert in the Spring and Foresummer"

This talk will be a sampler of some of the dramatic insects and their diverse mating systems during two of the five Sonoran Desert Seasons. Each insect's mating system can only be understood in light of its interaction with a specific Sonoran Desert Plant.

John Alcock is a Regents' Professor of Biology at Arizona State University where he has taught for 30 years. He has written a number of books about the biology of the Sonoran Desert, including Sonoran Desert Spring and Sonoran Desert Summer. In a Desert Garden, another of his books, won the John Burroughs' prize for natural history writing. His current research focuses on the unusual mating system of an Australian native bee, a species he has been studying in Western Australia, which he has visited frequently since 1993. Alcock is working on a book about the biology of orchids, as illustrated by the small terrestrial orchids that occur abundantly in Western Australia.



## Roseann and Jonathan Hanson

#### "Seasons of the Sonoran Desert"

The Hansons will define the five seasons in the Sonoran Desert and discuss what is happening with the flora and fauna during each season. They will suggest places in Southern Arizona to go and enjoy these seasonal changes and happenings. Much of their talk will be based on their writings in *Southern Arizona Nature Almanac* published in 1996.

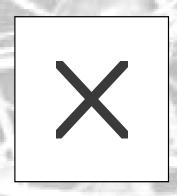
Native Tusonans Roseann and Jonathan Hanson are naturalists, conservationists, and writers specializing in natural history and outdoor recreation subjects. The Hansons studied journalism, ecology, and evolutionary biology at the University of Arizona. Together they have written over a dozen books. Their Ragged Mountain Guide To Outdoor Sports won the 1997 Outdoor Book Award and their Fifty Common Reptiles And Amphibians was cited for the Interpretive Excellence by the National Park Service in 1997. The Hansons have lived and worked together as a team for eighteen years, exploring and writing about the Sonoran Desert region and the wilds of North America from the Artic to Baja. They teach animal tracking for conservation for Sky Island Alliance in Tucson. In 2001 Roseann published The San Pedro River: A Discovery Guide. She is currently Southeast Arizona Program Director for the Sonoran Institute and Jonathan is a correspondent for Outside Magazine.

### **Tom Wilson**

#### "Soils, Succulents, and You"

Soil plays a critical role as a medium for plant growth and stability, especially for succulent plants, which usually require good drainage and nutrient-holding capacity. This is sometimes problematic as sandy soils promote drainage but do not retain nutrients, while clayey soils can retain nutrients yet impede drainage. In his workshop participants will explore ways of finding a happy balance between these factors, both in potting mixes and in the ground. We will also discuss characteristics of our local soils that provide unique challenges and benefits to growing landscape succulents.

Tom Wilson is a lecturer with the Soil, Water and Environmental Science
Department at the University of Arizona. He recently completed his dissertation soil nitrogen status in desert grassland soils and worked as a horticulturist at the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum for nine years. A long-term interest of his is growing succulents from Madagascar.



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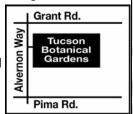
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#### **April Refreshments**

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**Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society** 

## Saturday- Sunday, April 13, 14

Saturday 9 am to 9 pm Sunday 10 am to 5 pm

El Con Mall 3601 East Broadway Blvd

#### Fiesta de las Flores

Our society will be participating again in the annual Fiesta de las Flores. Dress up your best plants for display at the El Con Mall. We want to have a good display for the public, and get in practice for our big show. Be sure to come to this show for pointers and to see how all of the other plant societies do their thing. We will need help with sales and, especially, with promotion of Sonoran IV. Jack Ramsey is taking the lead on this event; contact him and let him know how you would like to help

## Friday, May 3, 2002

6:00 pm Buffet Dinner 7:15 pm Program

Inn Suites Hotel 475 N. Granada Ave., Tucson

## Dave Ferguson – "Trials and Travels with Xerophytic Plants."

Our May meeting moves to Friday during Sonoran IV. All members are invited.

There is no cost for the dinner or program.

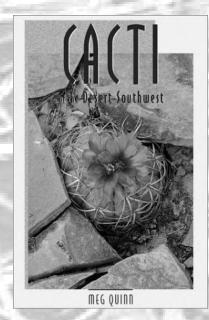
A reservation card is enclosed.

**Thursday, April 4, 2002** 7:00 pm

Tucson Botanical Gardens 2150 N. Alvernon Way

### **Meg Quinn**

Our own Meg Quinn will present a slide show and talk about identification and uses of our native cacti, based on her book, *Cacti of the Desert Southwest*. Books will be available to be purchased and signed.



Meg is the former Director of Education at the Tucson Botanical Garden. Her previous book, *Wildflowers of the Desert Southwest*, will soon be joined by a companion volume on mountain wildflowers.

## **Pima County Garden Fair**

The Pima County Spring Garden Fair was a great success for the club and for the people



Plants for Sale

who purchased excellent plants from Mark Sitter and from our salvage efforts. The public is really seeking us out as our reputation grows. At the end of the day our cupboard was bare – we barely managed to keep the plants we had promised Tohono Chul for their sale. Thanks to Mark and Margaret Sitter, Vonn Watkins, Dick Wiedhopf, Joe and Patsy Frannea, Norma Beckman, Helen Ramsey, Carl Pergam and all who helped with this sale. We grossed 40% more than last year.

Jack Ramsey

## 2002 Meeting Schedule

Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month except for May and December.

Board Meeting are the second Tuesday of the Month at The U of A College of Pharmacy, Room 333.

April 4 General Meeting – Meg Quinn April 13 & 14 Flower Show, El Con Mall May 3, 4 & 5 Sonoran IV, Inn Suites December 15 Holiday Party



Tueson Cactus & Succulent Conference May 3, 4, 5, 2002

**Speaker Addition**: Rich Dulaney will talk Sunday, May 5, from 8:30 am - 9:30 am on "Summer and Winter Rains in the Sonoran Desert."

**Sonoran IV planning meetings.** The final planning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23.

**Vendors.** One of the great features of the conference, both for the public and for the attendees, are the vendors. We are still lining up vendors, but we have some great ones already set to come.

**Plantas Del Sol** - specialty plants: Baja California Plants and Ferocactus

**Plants for the Southwest** - specialty plants: Lithops, Aloes, Euphorbias

Miles' To Go - specialty plants: Small Boojums

Mike Ellis - specialty plants: Red Caps, Crested Golden Barrel, Bursera

**Starr Nursery** - specialty plants: Mexican Agaves

**Mary Odette Books** - Old and New Botanical Books



President's Message - Dick Wiedhopf

Robert Humphrey, 97, author of "The Boojum and its Home" has passed away. He was a long-time member of the Society and a CSSA Fellow. He spoke to our group on numerous occasions and wrote several articles for our newsletter.

Thank you for your support at all the events in March. We had an excellent sale of salvaged plants at the Pima County Garden Fair. There was a lot of praise and public support for our effort to salvage and relocate cacti. The turnout was great for the two March meetings (Mark Sitter on Baja and Bob Barth on Southern Africa and Madagascar). They were excellent.

We need your continuing help and support for our future activities.

We are expanding our library committee which will review and recommend the purchase of new books and how we will make them available to you. Please let Jenny Coniglio, our library chairperson know if you would be interested in serving on her committee.

April 13 &,14 will be the Orchid and Flower Show at El Con Mall. We will show off some of our wonderful plants, invite people to the Sonoran IV show and sale at the Inn Suites, show off our salvage projects and sell some small salvage plants. Be a part of this event; contact Jack Ramsey to volunteer.

Look for the announcement of our new Web Site name. We will soon be Tucsoncactus.com.

See you April 4, for Meg Quinn. She's Great!

Dick Wiedhopf, President

## Some of the Sonoran IV Workshops

#### **Mark Sitter**

"Butterfly and Moth Plants in Your Cactus and Succulent Garden"

In this workshop Mark will not only discuss what plants will attract butterflies and moths to your cactus and succulent garden but will give you an understanding of these beautiful creatures by explaining their life histories including the necessary aspects needed to attract and have them breed in your garden. Live caterpillars will be shown along with the live plants. Plant lists for nectar and larval requirements will be provided. Let Mark take the mystery out of these fascinating "beasts."

## **Greg Starr**

"Mexican Agaves - What's New in Horticulture"

With a rich assortment of Agave species in Mexico, there are bound to be several that any enthusiast would be able to add to a collection. Greg has traveled widely in Mexico looking for and finding a number of wonderful Agave species. Legally collecting seed he has propagated many species and made them available through his nursery. In this workshop discover all you wanted to know about cultivating Agaves and them some. Greg will discuss the different inflorescence types and all the vegetative differences between the species. Taxonomy and the meaning of species names will be a hot topic. Cultivation of Agave species will be a major focus as well. Come armed with questions. Many specimens will be on hand as well as a brief slide presentation.

#### **Vonn Watkins and Mark Sitter**

"Propagation of Cacti and Succulents"

Two very knowledgeable members of the TCSS will team up to give this workshop on propagation. Vonn will begin by presenting an overview of the seed growing process. Covering all the necessary aspects of growing from seed he will give examples and a quick demonstration and talk about what the average person needs to do to propagate seed at home. He will provide information on where to get seed and the necessary equipment and supplies. Mark will then discuss propagation of cacti and succulents from divisions and cuttings as well as how to divide Agave pups and bulbils. He will also tell participants about "the only way to propagate hybrids." Incorporated into Mark's discussion will be what tools are needed as well as soil, water, fertilizer and light requirements.

#### **David Von Behren**

"From Pictures to Pixels: The basics of Digital Photography"

In this workshop two digital cameras will be discussed, the Kodak DC365 and Sony Mavica 3000. David will present an overview of digital photography with a discussion of its advantages and disadvantages and the costs. Hands-on demonstration will be given along with handout materials which will include the Basics of Composing a Good Photo.

#### **Gerhard Marx**

"Growing Euphorbias and Other African Succulents"

In this workshop Gerhard will be discussing the 'golden rules' of good succulent cultivation. He will demonstrate propagation techniques emphasizing those for Euphorbias and Haworthias.

## **Dave Ferguson**

"Trials and Travels with Xerophytic Plants"

Dave will discuss the plants being grown on a trial basis at the Rio Grande Botanical Garden. He will emphasize the results with cacti and succulents. Comparisons will be made between growing these plants in a dry cold climate with a cold winter verses the dry warm climate with mild winters of the Sonora Desert. What has been done in the colder climate of the Albuquerque area might be relevant to the dry cold areas in Arizona such as Bisbee, Globe, Prescott, Kingman, Page and Holbrook. Dave has traveled widely gathering plants to test in the Albuquerque climate. He will touch on the places he has visited.

Dave Ferguson has been a "plant and critter fanatic" since he was about five years old. He was born in Boulder, Colorado and lived mostly in northeast Colorado as a youngster. His first plant, a Christmas Cactus, was soon joined on a shelf by an assortment of green things. That was also about the time he stuck a prickly pear pad from the horse pasture into his yard for the first time. He majored in entomology at Colorado State University but also studied zoology, botany, horticulture, art and drafting classes. In 1982 he moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico where he worked at assorted jobs including working at nurseries growing and selling plants and seed; roofing; building; tinkering; landscaping and doing biological field surveys. In 1984 he began working with Mesa Garden in Belen, New Mexico. He has been Curator at the Rio Grand Botanical Garden in Albuquerque since 1995. He has traveled extensively in North America and Argentina studying mostly succulents and sometimes insects.

## **Society Library**

Our Society library is excellent, but severely under utilized. At the last board meeting we made a commitment to keep up the quality of books that we own, and

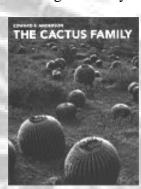
we authorized a major expenditure on books we know we should have. We are also expanding the library committee to be better able to select books for future purchase.



We wish that the library was easier to use. We are studying some ways of improving access to the books. You will find a listing of our holdings on the web site at

http://www.azstarnet.com/nonprofit/tcss/

Highlight and copy the books, click the link to the library email, and paste the title into a message to Jenny. She will bring them to



Coming Soon to your Library!

the next meeting and you can have them for the next month. A week's notice would be preferable. It's easy. Or call Jenny at 546-3684 and ask for the books. You can also remember to visit the library table at the meeting for a selection of topical books.

The club is missing a few Cactus and Succulent Journals from past years, and we need these to complete our sets for binding. If you have forgotten

that You've checked them out of the library or have copies you'd be willing to donate to the club, please contact Jenny Coniglio 546-3684.

1997 Vol. 69 #5 & 6 (Sep-Oct. & Nov-Dec.) 1998 Vol.70 #1 & #2 (Jan.-Feb. & Mar.-April) 2000 Vol. 72 #1 (Jan.-Feb.) 2001 Vol. 73 All issues are missing

Future ideas on making it easier to use the library include adding a cover picture and description to the list. Some day we may even have a home of our own for our collection.

## **Salvage Committee**

We have finished, for now, the salvage near Vail and returned to another 300 acre area

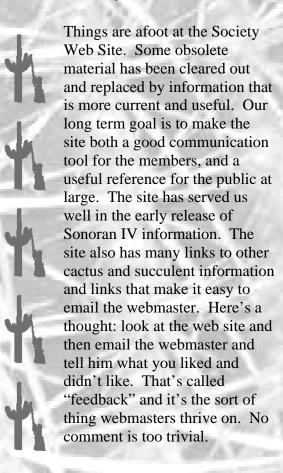


Back in the Saddle (brook) again!

at Saddlebrook. This area has very high density of nice barrels. It's a good thing we took a lot of salvage because it was in very high demand this month. Exciting developments for salvage may be underway with the Skyline Campbell Community Coalition for some development around that intersection. Interacting with the local community would add a new dimension to our efforts, create the potential for keeping salvage material near the development site, and give us some fairly high-profile advertising.

Keep your eyes open for an encore of the very successful trade of local material for northern Arizona barrels, hedgehogs, Joshua trees, and Yuccas.

## **Society Web Site**



## TCSS BOARD

#### Officers

President: Richard Wiedhopf

885-6367

Vice President: Joe Frannea Secretary: Lynda Ryan Treasurer: Valarie Miller

#### **Board of Directors:**

(terms expire December 31 of year indicated) Immediate Past-President: Vonn Watkins

Dan Birt (2003)

Marty Harow (2002)

Dick Hildreth (2004)

Peter Hubbell (2002)

Barry McCormick (2004)

Chris Monrad (2003)

Margaret Pope (2003)

Jack Ramsey (2004)

Mark Sitter (2002)

#### **Affiliate Representative to the CSSA**

Wendy Beall

**Editor:** Barry McCormick Jbarrymcc@earthlink.net

Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page www.tucsoncactus.org

### **Next Meeting**

Friday, May 3 at 7:15 pm Inn Suites Hotel 475 N. Granada Ave. Tucson

### **May Refreshments**

Free Buffet Dinner at 6:00 pm before the meeting for members. Reservations requested.

Everyone is Welcome! Bring your friends, join in the fun, and meet the cactus and succulent community.



**Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society** 

Thursday, June 6 7:00 pm J. M. "Pete" Petrie

Horticultural Specialist Boyce Thompson Arboretum"

## The Cuyo: Home of the Sand People

During Boyce Thompson's November 2000 Argentina Expedition, Director Dr. William Feldman, Desert Legume Program Research Specialist Matt Johnson, and Pete Petrie took nearly 1000 photos, largely cactus and succulents. Pete's talk will focus on the "Cuyo", the seven-province desert area of northwestern Argentina.

Pete will begin with an overview of the cultural history of the region, and compare and contrast the Monte and Chaco regions of Argentina with the Sonoran Desert of Arizona and Sonora. November in Argentina corresponds to May in Arizona, so many of these photos are of cactus in bloom. The purpose of the expedition was to gather data for the development of a Cuyo exhibit at the Arboretum, which is scheduled to open later this year.

Pete is a TCSS member, a 4th-generation Arizonan, and a 1977 graduate of ASU. He did graduate work in Mexican and southwest U.S. history, was a landscaping contractor for 15 years in Mesa, started at Boyce Thompson Arboretum in 1991, and currently is a Horticultural Specialist in cactus and succulents.

Friday, May 3, 2002 6:00 pm Buffet Dinner 7:15 pm Program

May 2002

Inn Suites Hotel 475 N. Granada Ave., Tucson

**Dave Ferguson** 

## **Trials and Travels with Xerophytic** Plants.

Dave will discuss the plants being grown on a trial basis at the Rio Grande Botanical Garden. He will emphasize the results with cacti and succulents. Comparisons will be made between growing these plants in a dry cold climate with a cold winter versus the dry warm climate with mild winters of the Sonora Desert. What has been done in the colder climate of the Albuquerque area might be relevant to the dry cold areas in Arizona such as Bisbee, Globe, Prescott, Kingman, Page and Holbrook. Dave has traveled widely gathering plants to test in the Albuquerque climate. He will touch on the places he has visited.

Our May meeting moves to Friday for Sonoran IV. All members are invited.

There is no cost to members for the dinner or program. The public is invited to the talk, which is free.

#### Fiesta de las Flores

The annual Fiesta de las Flores plant show at the El Con Mall was very successful. We sold many of our salvage plants and a few other odds and ends we had on hand. But the biggest success was the public contact we enjoyed. We



shared a booth with the Desert Museum, and the combination made for a very enjoyable time.

We want to thank all of the members who participated, including Gail and George Virtes, Julie, Peter Hubbell, Margaret Pope, Helen and Kevin Berber, Jean Lewis and Jerry Daharsh, Barry McCormick and champion plant-peddler Joe Frannea.

Jack Ramsey

### 2002 Meeting Schedule

Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month except for May and December.

Board Meeting are the second Tuesday of the Month at The U of A College of Pharmacy, Room 333.

May 3 General Meeting – Matt Johnson May 3, 4 & 5 Sonoran IV, Inn Suites June 6 General Meeting, J. M. Petrie December 15 Holiday Party



**Speaker Addition**: Matt Johnson will be our fourth major speaker. His talk will be:

We'll Take the Rain Whenever We Can Get It."

**Vendors.** One of the great features of the conference, both for the public and for the attendees, are the vendors. The following vendors will be selling.

- Arid Lands Greenhouses
- Art Pacheco
- Jimmy Ascencio
- Mary Odette Books
- Mike Ellis
- Miles to Go
- Plantas del Sol
- Plants for the Southwest
- Starr Nursery

**Plant Show.** Remember to bring your plants to the Plant Show. You can bring plants anytime between 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm Friday and pick them up around 2:30 pm Sunday. Any number of plants may be entered.



President's Message - Dick Wiedhopf

Sonoran IV is here. Remember that our May meeting is Friday evening May 3 which is also the kick-off for Sonoran IV. We will have a buffet dinner at 6:00 pm followed by our speaker. The remainder of the evening will include dessert and opening of the plant sales and show areas. This will be a great evening, full of interesting things going on. Be there.

I have recently returned from the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CCSA) board of directors meeting in St Louis. Plans are well underway for the 2003 national convention which will be hosted by Henry Shaw Cactus and Succulent Society. This will be a great convention and I encourage all of you to attend. You must be a member of CSSA -- I have enclosed a brochure describing the benefits of belonging and other activities of the society.

We have received very positive responses to our rescue (salvage) efforts. There is a group of hard-core workers who donate a great deal of time to this effort and we appreciate the benefits that the Society has received. Our membership ranks, bank account, and public awareness and appreciation are all increasing rapidly.

Your board of directors is working hard to bring you new programs and possibilities for this organization. We need your participation: We want you to be an active part of this society, so volunteer when you can. It's fun!

See you at Sonoran IV

Dick Wiedhopf, President



## SONORAN IV Call For Volunteers

Margaret Pope

We want to thank all the club members who volunteered at the April monthly meeting to help at SONORAN IV. It is a big event requiring a lot of volunteers and at this point we are short volunteers to help at the plant show. Someone must always be at the plant show to watch over the plants, hand out the little cups of beans, explain the voting process, hand out the "I voted" stickers, sell raffle tickets and generally answer questions. The plant show is open:

Saturday, May 4, 8:00 am - 4:30 pm Sunday, May 5, 8:00 am - 3:30 pm.

Because it is open concurrently with the conference we need club members who are not attending the conference to volunteer at the plant show. You can volunteer for one hour or more anytime during the above hours. The plant show is really fun. Not only are you surrounded by wonderful plants, but watching people vote by placing their ten precious pinto beans into little boxes is great fun. We hope all the club members plan to come to the show and while you are there, please consider staying an extra hour or two to work at the show. If you can help please e-mail

Wendy Beall at Wendy@ChangingYourMind.com or call her at 232-0911 and let her know what time you can be there.

We could also use a few more people to host at the workshop. This simply means collecting tickets as people enter the workshop and assisting the workshop leader. If you are attending the conference you could do this at a few of the workshops you are attending. If you can help please e-mail Margaret Pope at <a href="Mempe@aol.com">Nempe@aol.com</a> or call her at 795-1285. If you do volunteer, you will receive instructions about what to do when you register.

On Friday we need one person to help set-up the "What Is It" display/contest between 4:30 pm and 6:00 pm. If you plan to come to the buffet dinner and can come an hour-and-a-half early it would be much appreciated.

The other volunteer opportunity is to help with vendor sales while vendors are doing workshops on Saturday, May 4, from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm and Sunday, May 5, from 8:30 am - 10:30 am and 11:00 am - 1:00 am. If you can help, please contact Margaret Pope.

## **Treasurer's Report**

Valerie Miller

Current Assets April 8, 2002

Checking	\$918.42
Savings	\$17,055.98
Accounts Receivable	\$253.70
Other	\$150.00
Total	\$18,378.14

#### **Culture Corner**

Barry McCormick

## What Exactly Are Pachypodiums?

Pachypodiums are members of the large botanical family called Apocynaceae. This family consists of over 175 genera and includes such familiar plants as the periwinkle, oleander, adenium, and the plumeria or frangipani. All of these ornamentals are highly valued for their beautiful flowers, Pachypodiums being no exception. Even small plants will amaze you with their prolific floral display.

#### What Do I Need To Grow Them



Pachypodiums are robust succulents that rapidly respond to their growing environment and therefore require high light levels to keep them in check. A few hours of direct light each day and a minimum temperature of 55 degrees F. will keep them happy. They will grow well indoors on a sunny window sill, outdoors during the

warmer months, and in a greenhouse where both of these conditions are easily met. Most growers new to this genus are often amazed at the amount of water required.

## Where Can I Buy Pachypodiums?

Several of the growers at Sonoran IV will likely have Pachypodiums for sale. Many of us got Pachypodium lealii as a gift plant at a meeting last year. Http://www.highlandsucculents.com/ is the web site that supplied this culture information -- they sell plants by mail.

## **Society Library**

Jenny Cogliano, Librarian

We have received the first of the new books for our library. They include:

"Agaves, Yucca and Related Plants; A Gardener's Guide" by G & M Irish



New in the Library!

"The Cactus Family" by Ted Anderson

"Echilocereus" by Blum, Lange, Rischler, & Rutow

"Echinocereus - Special Issue of Cactus & Co." by L. Di Martino

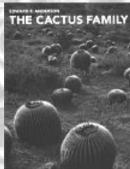
"Mammillaria" by John Philbeam

"Succulents - The (New)

Illustrated Dictionary", Vol 1 & 2 by Sajeva & Costanzo

"Vygies" by van Jaarsveld & Pienaar

Order these books from our web site or call Jenny at 546-3684 and ask for the books. She will bring them to the next meeting and you can have them for the



New in the Library!



next month. Remember to visit the library table at the meeting for a selection of topical books.

## Cactus and Succulent Rescue Committee

Chris Monrad, Chair

We have decided to abandon cactus salvage in favor of cactus rescue. This would make us rescuers, instead of scavengers. It is thought that the change will make the spine wounds less painful.

The rescue activities (and successes) continue at a brisk pace. With Joe Frannea effectively standing in for traveling Chris Monrad, we had two recent salvages and two corresponding sales.

On March 23 and 24 we salvaged at Westcor's La Encantada site (Skyline at Campbell). Six and seven people, respectively, turned out for those two days, and salvaged 395 plants. We had a record turnout of seventeen people on Saturday, April 6, at Saddlebrooke. We rescued 259 cacti, which were available for the sale for Skyline-Campbell area residents.

Most of the plants were sold at Joe Frannea's the next day. We sold 296 cacti in about six hours. We estimate that about 100 people came by. We handed out a lot of brochures about planting and care. All were most



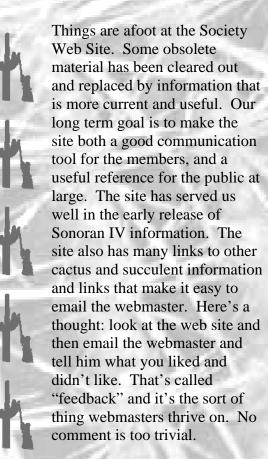
Back in the Saddle (brooke) again!

appreciative of our salvage efforts! We have received fantastic press and several new members as a result of the Westcor rescue.

Additional plants were sold at the Fiesta de las Flores show at the El Con Mall on April 13 and 14.

## **Society Web Site**

Barry McCormick, Webmaster



**June 2002** 

Thursday, June 6 7:00 pm J. M. "Pete" Petrie

Horticultural Specialist Boyce Thompson Arboretum'

## The Cuyo: Home of the Sand People

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November in Argentina
corresponds to May in
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photos are of cactus in
bloom. The purpose of the



Rare Echinopsis leucotricha crest, San Juan, Argentina (M. Johnson).

expedition was to gather data for the development of a Cuyo exhibit at the Arboretum, which is scheduled to open later this year.

Pete is a TCSS member, a fourth-generation Arizonan, and a 1977 graduate of ASU. He did graduate work in Mexican and southwest U. S. history, was a landscaping contractor for fifteen years in Mesa, started at Boyce Thompson Arboretum in 1991, and currently is a Horticultural Specialist in cactus and succulents.

## TCSS BOARD

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Vice President: Joe Frannea Secretary: Lynda Ryan Treasurer: Valarie Miller

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(terms expire Dec 31 of year indicated)
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#### CSSA Affiliate Representative Wendy Beall

Mark Sitter (2002)

Editor: Barry McCormick jbarrymcc@earthlink.net Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page www.tucsoncactus.org

#### **Next Meeting**

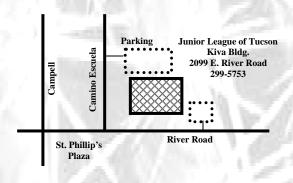
Thursday, June 6 at 7:00 pm Junior League of Tucson 2099 E. River Road Tucson

#### **June Refreshments**

Those with family names beginning with T to Z, please bring your choice of refreshment to the meeting.

Everyone is Welcome!
Bring your friends, join in the fun, and meet the cactus and succulent community.

## **New Meeting Place**





## President's Message

Just one more **THANK YOU** to everyone who made Sonoran IV so terrific. I hope you will be a part of Sonoran V in 2004. Please let me know any comments you have about Sonoran IV or ideas for Sonoran V. We need your input.

New ideas and activities are what make this Society function. Your Board of Directors has authorized the use of recent donations to establish grants to Amphi, Vail and TUSD school districts. These are the districts which have worked with us on the rescue of plants. Our vision is to award grants for a project dealing with aspects of cacti, succulents and related subjects. We will keep this grant program going by using a portion of the income from the sale of rescued plants.

We will announce the first committee meeting shortly. If you would like to participate in the development of this program, please contact me.

Don't forget that the meeting place has changed to the Junior League Facility. Unfortunately, we have outgrown the space at TBG. The Board will evaluate this meeting space and any other suggestions until we can find a more permanent home.

The **Weird Plant sale** will be coming up on Saturday Morning, June 15. We will be selling rescued plants. We will need volunteers to: cashier, carry plants out, provide information, and sell. We will need you from times ranging from 7 am to 2 pm. Please contact me or sign up at the meeting.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

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Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month except for December.

Board Meetings are the second Tuesday of the Month at The U of A College of Pharmacy, Room 333.

June 6 General Meeting, J. M. Petrie

December 15 Holiday Party



Members of the SONORAN IV Committee thank the

following people for their help in making the conference, plant show, plant sales, silent auction and raffle a success:

Joyce Abbot-Park Barbara Harow Carol Otteson Kevin Barber Marty Harow Helen Ramsey Joan Raphael Debbie Boyink Evelyn Hubbell Peter Hubbell Linda Ryan Joe Campbell Laurel Cooper **Doris King** Margaret Sitter Jerry Daharsh Joe King Sandra Thompson Dolly de la Pointe **Bobette Levy** Avivia Tirosh George Dodd Gail Virtes Jean Lewis George Virtes Jane Evans Sheila McGinnis Patsy Frannea Val Miller Helga Zwickl Julie Girden Chris Monrad

If we have forgotten anyone we apologize but please know the help of each and everyone of you who volunteered was greatly appreciated. Special thanks go to Dan Birt for bringing in display plants and the Saguaro Exhibit and to Barry McCormick for keeping everyone informed about SONORAN IV through the newsletter and web site updates.

One of the goals of SONORAN IV was to get more of the general public to participate in the Plant Sales, Plant Show and Raffle. That goal was accomplished largely through the effort of our publicity person, Sheila McGinnis. Another special thank you to Chris Monrad who arranged for extra lighting in the sales area and to the following vendors who participated in the plant sales:

Jim Ascencio Arid Lands Greenhouses Art Pacheco Plantas del Sol Starr Nursery **July 2002** 

Thursday, July 11 7:00 pm

#### Matthew B. Johnson

Program Manager and Curator, Desert Legume Program University of Arizona

### Trees of Sonora, Mexico

The state of Sonora, Mexico, is known for its rich diversity of plants. Sonora is a meeting place for temperate and tropical floras and the wide range of habitats from sea level to 9,000 feet elevation, from coastal mangrove swamps to pine-clad mountains, deserts, and the northernmost tropical forests in the western hemisphere, accounts for this diversity. Of the estimated 5,000 species in the state, 285 are trees. Among these are a number of succulent species. The Sonoran trees include the cardón cactus, the most massive cactus in the world, spectacular flowering trees from the tropics such as the amapas and

buttercup tree, succulent-stemmed burseras, a mainland outpost of boojum trees, stately bald cypress, immense fig trees, and canyons where palms mingle with pines and

Take a photographic journey south of the border to learn about some of the fascinating trees that grow in this beautiful region.

tropical oaks.

Trees of Sonora, Mexico, by Richard Felger and Matthew B. Johnson, Oxford University Press.

Trees of Sonora is packed with natural history and botanical information including extensive original descriptions, identification keys and ethnobotanical data. This work is copiously illustrated by Matt Johnson.

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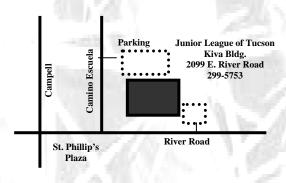
Thursday, July at 7:00 pm Junior League of Tucson 2099 E. River Road Tucson

#### **July Refreshments**

Those with family names beginning with A to F, please bring your choice of refreshment to the meeting.

Everyone is Welcome!
Bring your friends, join in the fun, and meet the cactus and succulent community.

## **Meeting Place**





## **President's Message**

It is hard to believe that a year has gone by since the Cactus and Succulent Society of America Convention in Los Angeles. I repeat here what I said to the convention on July 4, 2001.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that



among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Enjoy July 4th and we will see you on July 11th at our new meeting place, the Junior League Facility at 2099 River Road (just east of Campbell). This facility gives us an opportunity to expand our meeting activities. I invite any of you to bring plants for sale or trade or show before the meeting. Please use the round table in the back of the room for sale or trade. Show material will use rectangular tables in the front sides of the room. Pre-meeting social activity can start at 6:30PM. This will be great fun.

Our activities: Sonoran IV, plant rescue, Weird Plant Sale, Pima County Garden sales have all had a positive effect on our treasury. A six-month statement of finances will be available for review at the meeting. Every member needs to be proud of the success of this society.

Thanks to all who helped out at the Weird Plant Sale. It was hot!!

Dick Wiedhopf, President

#### **2002 Meeting Schedule**

Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month except for December.

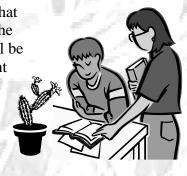
Board Meetings are the second Tuesday of the Month at The U of A College of Pharmacy, Room 333.

July 11 General Meeting, Matt Johnson
December 15 Holiday Party

## Educational Grant Program Announced

Your board is moving ahead with the K thru12 grants to teachers. A \$1500 donation from Exxon / Mobil has been received to kick off the program. A committee is being formed and will be meeting shortly to work out the details. If you would like to serve please contact our VP Joe Frannea.

The Board also decided that 25% of the profits from the sale of rescued plants will be used to continue this grant program. If you or anyone you know would like to make a donation to this grant program, it is tax deductible and very much appreciated.



Dick Wiedhopf, President

## The University of Arizona Arboretum

The University of Arizona Arboretum will be dedicated this fall and plans for an expanded Cactus Garden are moving forward. We want to be a part of these activities and I have been representing you at informal planning meetings.

Our other interest is to dedicate a new or existing Boojum in honor of our long time member and friend, Dr. Robert Humphreys. If you know of the existence of a large boojum that could be purchased, please let me know. We are also trying

to get his book "The Boojum and It's Home" republished by the UA Press. I will have signups at the meeting, if you are interested in a copy.



U of A Arboretum

Dick Wiedhopf, President

#### **TBG Weird Plant Sale**

Tucson Cactus and Succulint Society participated in Tucson Botanical Garden's Weird Plant Sale on



TCSS Sale Booth

Saturday, June 15th. About a dozen TCSS members sold our "Cactus Rescue Crew" plants and cholla wood. The turnout for the show was not as heavy as last year but we had a good crowd.

We sold Barrels from two inches to fourteen inches in diameter (singles to five headed ones) and hedge hogs from single to twenty heads. Large cholla wood was popular and such nice pieces were much appreciated. We also signed up three new members and handed out over a 150 brochures on how to plant cactus and TCSS club information.

Our total sales for 102 cacti and 12 large pieces of cholla wood was \$918 with 25% being donated to TBG. We also donated a five-headed barrel for a raffle plant.

Joe Frannea

### TCSS "Cactus Rescue Crew"

The Cactus Rescue Crew volunteers have been busy at Saddlebrooke, a retirement community north of Tucson. The crew started working this new 300 acre parcel in March and has made nine trips to-date to rescue over 1,600 cacti, volunteering over 400

hours of work. This area is rich in barrels, cholla, prickly pear, and hedge

hog cactus with a few mammalaria.



Some of the chollas are literally trees towering over 7 feet tall. Lots of nice cholla wood skeletons have been harvested for club members and for sale. Five

large
crested
barrel
cactus have
been
rescued
with two of
them being
donated to
the Arizona
Sonoran
Desert

Museum



Joe Frannea with "tree" cholla

where hundreds of people will be able to view them daily.

Not all crew members are able to do the heavy digging or carrying of larger plants but make significant contributions by locating cactus and tagging cactus with the Arizona Native Plant tags which must be affixed to every plant before being transported from the site. We all have a good time sharing knowledge and getting to know each other.



Rescued Ocotillo at home and well despite drought.

Plans are to continue rescue operations through the summer on some Saturdays or Sundays starting at 6:30 am and finishing by 10 to avoid the heat. We notify the crew members by Email or phone of the location and time of the rescue operation. If you are a TCSS member and would like to join our crew, call Chris Monrad (299-5623) or Joe Frannea (575-7126). Many crew members can only work one or two weekends a month due to other conflicts, that's fine. Come join us and get first pick on great native cactus at a great price.

Joe Frannea



Thanks to the members who have supplied photos of Sonoran IV. We will feature them in upcoming months to remind us what a great job was done on this conference.

In the last newsletter the following vendors were somehow omitted from our thank you to vendors who participated in the plant sales at SONORAN IV: Mike Ellis, Plants for the Southwest, Mary Odette Books and TCSS Rescue Plants Crew. Plant sales were the best we have ever had at any of the Sonoran Conferences. Participants were particularly happy with the selection of plants available as well as books and pottery.

Margaret Pope



## **Treasurer's Report**

Valerie Miller

Current Assets June 8, 2002

Checking	\$188.12
Savings	\$20,113.71
Accounts Receivable	-\$31.26
Other	\$150.00
Liabilities	-96.70
Total	\$20,323,87





#### Credits

Photo credits for this issue are Joe Frannea, Chris Monrad, Margaret Sitter, Jack Ramsey and Barry McCormick. The editor thanks all of the contributors for their timely and helpful input. The monthly deadline is the 18<sup>th</sup> of the month.



August 2002

Thursday, August 1 7:00 pm

## Jan Emming

#### CREATING A NEW BOTANICAL GARDEN IN THE DESERT

Officers
President: Richard Wiedhopf
885-6367

TCSS BOARD

Vice President: Joe Frannea Secretary: Lynda Ryan Treasurer: Valarie Miller

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#### CSSA Affiliate Representative Wendy Beall

Editor: Barry McCormick jbarrymcc@earthlink.net Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page www.tucsoncactus.org

#### **Next Meeting**

Thursday, August 1 at 7:00 pm Junior League of Tucson 2099 E. River Road Tucson

#### **August Refreshments**

Those with family names beginning with G to M, please bring your choice of refreshment to the meeting.

Everyone is Welcome!
Bring your friends, join in the fun, and meet the cactus and succulent community.

In 1999, Jan Emming moved from Colorado to Yucca, Arizona (Mohave County), to pursue his long-held dream: the creation of a new desert botanical garden and living center. After an extensive search, he settled upon 40 acres in the transition zone between the Mojave and Sonoran Deserts in northwestern Arizona.

Since then, Jan has done extensive plant salvage work, rescuing Joshua trees, red barrel cactus, ocotillos and other desert plants from the path of development in the area. This work has advanced his project, which he has named Destination: Forever Ranch and

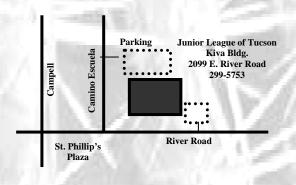


Gardens (D:FR). Large numbers of valuable desert plants have been moved to the ranch, or traded for alternative materials not available from the wild.

Many TCSS members will recall getting plants from Jan last December, when a trade was arranged. Surplus Joshua trees, Mojave yuccas, and red barrel cactus available in his area of Arizona were exchanged for fishhook barrels and hedgehog cacti salvaged by TCSS members. Jan will discuss some of the practical aspects of caring for newly-transplanted Joshua trees and yuccas, as well as show slides of the D:FR property and its surroundings, with an accompanying discussion of the practical aspects of creating a brandnew desert botanical garden from the ground up. Please join us for what promises to be an interesting evening on a variety of topics of concern to desert plant lovers everywhere.

You can also visit Jan's website at www.destinationforeverranch.com

## **Meeting Place**





## **President's Message**

The next venture for this society will be the creation of interactive programs for the education of members, friends and the public. We have a number of very talented members, especially in the area of technology. We also have knowledge about all aspects of growing cactus and succulents in our Sonoran Desert region. I have been talking about combining these talents to produce computer based programs that will be of special interest to us.

One of the first programs needs to be the cacti and succulents of the Tucson area. This will be a great learning experience for everyone and could easily expand to include the common cultivated species. Golden barrels, aloe x saponaria, agave americana and large spineless prickly pear are common and thrive in our climate but certainly represent vegetation from around the world.

You can help. First of all we need the definitive list of genus, species and hybrids that are found native or are commonly grown in the Tucson area. Bring your list to the next meeting or e-mail it to me at *tucsoncactus* @comcast.net. The next step will be to acquire slides and digital photos of growing plants, close-ups and especially flowers. If you are interested in this project please let me know so you may be included on the committee.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

#### 2002 Meeting Schedule

Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month except for December.

Board Meetings are the second Tuesday of the Month at The U of A College of Pharmacy, Room 333.

August 1 General Meeting, Jan Emming

December 15 Holiday Party

#### **Educational Grant Program**

The Educational Grant Committee is being kicked off and will be in place for the upcoming school year. The program will make small cash grants to teachers, K thru 12, to fund activities or projects pertaining to Cactus and Succulents. Joe Frannea is chairing the committee, which will meet in the next few weeks. This will be an ongoing program; we will have money to award grants each school year.

We will initially work with the five schools where we have rescued cacti prior to construction.

Teachers will be given grant guidelines by September.
By mid October the Educational Grant
Committee will review the proposals, and award grants in early December. We hope to have about \$3,000 to grant.



We will dedicate all or part of our May meeting for teachers and students to present an overview and results of their grant projects. Funding of the program comes from donations specifically designated for the Educational Grant Program and 25% of the Cactus Rescue proceeds. For more information, or to join the committee, contact Joe Frannea at 575-7126. Donations may be made to the treasurer; designate the Educational Grant Program.

Joe Frannea

## The Huntington Botanical Gardens 19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SUCCULENT PLANTS SYMPOSIUM

Africa- Finding the Lost Continent.

August 31 (Saturday) 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Symposium \$70 Saturday dinner \$25 Luncheon included in fee.

Deadline August 28th

Registration: (626) 405-3504



## Shocking!

Even when you know it is going to happen, it's still a shock. Recently the rescue crew was dismayed to inspect the huge graded area where we had recently



Saddlebrooke Grading

been digging cactus. Where did it all go? Into mountains of crushed and shredded vegetation! Cactus lived here; now people will. The



Mountain of Vegetation

Saddlebrooke developer is certainly one of the best with regard to the amount of plants they reuse in their landscaping, and they are very cooperative with our rescue efforts. But this was a stark reminder of why our work is important – we set about our rescue that day with a renewed sense of purpose.

Barry McCormick

### TCSS "Cactus Rescue Crew"

The Cactus Rescue Crew continues to attract new volunteers. All TCSS members are welcome. The crew continues its rescue work at Saddlebrooke, a retirement community north of Tucson. Some earth moving has begun, but lots of areas are still untouched. We start at 6:30 AM, to avoid the heat, and work for about three hours.

It takes about half of our time to find and dig the cacti, and about half to collect and tag. Wheelbarrows come in handy to collect the plants and haul to a central point for tagging. Dick Wiedhopf chooses to use his motorized version of a wheelbarrow to make collection a little easier. Every plant must have an Arizona Native Plant tag attached before it can leave the property. Tags for cacti smaller than 8 inches cost 50 cents each, most others cost \$4 -- Saguaro tags cost \$6. Rescue Crew members can dig and take cacti for tag costs for planting on their own property.

Two other sites are being lined up for rescue operations. One is the SW corner of Skyline and Campbell. This is just south of the La Encantada shopping center site we were at last March, now under construction.

This new site has some nice Cholla cactus which will only be dug for interested TCSS members since they are 4 to 5 feet tall and hard to handle.



Chris says "it looks much like Arbuscula, but is not quite as dense -- the branches are a little more organized. The stems are probably 3/4" diameter when hydrated. It is very lime green and southern-Mexico/tropical looking". We may be at this site as early as July 27. Please call Joe Frannea (575-7126) if you are interested in one of these chollas.

The other potential site is northeast of River Road and First Ave. This site has small saguaros, and lots of the purple prickly pear (Santa Rita) cactus. This site may be available as early as August 3.

Our Rescue Crew is notified on Thursdays for the weekend rescue. If you are interested in being on the list, send Joe an email at *frannea@prodigy.net*. Many crew members can only work one weekend a month. Come when you can and help the club and get hand selected cacti at a great price.

Joe Frannea

TCSS Rescue Cacti For Sale Lots & lots to choose from....

Barrels - from 2" to 14" diameter (about \$1 per inch) Hedgehogs - from 1 to 20 heads (about \$1 per head)

TCSS Club Members receive a 15% discount Call Joe or Patsy if interested 575-7126

## Joshua Trees, Yuccas, etc. for Sale!

Jan Emming can bring a limited number of Joshua Trees, Yuccas, Saguaros, etc. to be sold prior to the meeting on August 1st. He would like for TCSS members to buy these plants and give them a good Tucson home. Please contact Jan and make arrangements. Jan Emming, General Manager Destination:Forev er Ranch and Gardens www.destinationf oreverranch.com janemming@citlin k.net (928) 766 -2597

Photo credits for this issue are Joe Frannea, Jan Emming, and Barry McCormick.

Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society 7510 E. Rio Verde Rd. Tucson, AZ 85715-3537

September 2002

## TCSS BOARD

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#### CSSA Affiliate Representative Wendy Beall

Editor: Barry McCormick jbarrymcc@earthlink.net Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page www.tucsoncactus.org

#### **Next Meeting**

Thursday, September 5 at 7:00 pm Junior League of Tucson 2099 E. River Road Tucson

#### **September Refreshments**

Those with family names beginning with N to S, please bring your choice of refreshment to the meeting.

Everyone is Welcome!
Bring your friends, join in the fun, and meet the cactus and succulent community.

Thursday, September 5, 2002 7:00 pm

#### **Mark Dimmitt**

Director of Natural History Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum

#### **ADENIUMS**

The popularity of Adeniums in Tucson has surged in the last couple of decades, in large part because of Mark Dimmitt's twenty-year

obsession. Few of us who have admired the wonderful specimen of Mark's cultivar "Crimson Star" at the Desert Museum have fully escaped this obsession.

Mark will present a program with two parts. The first part will describe the several species as they are currently understood, with information on their different growth forms, flowers, and cultural needs. Then he will show the improvements that breeders around the world have produced in recent years.



Crimson Star

## Thursday, October 3, 2002 Dan Mahr

University of Wisconsin - Madison

Dan will be hosted by TCSS for two talks on October 3, 2002.

"The Famed Cactus Moth: Its History and Potential Threat to the Desert Southwest", 3:30 pm at the College of Pharmacy

"Namibia: Land of Succulent Extremes", regular meeting time.

## **Meeting Place**





## President's Message

The Cactus and Succulent Society of America

I am almost done with my first four-year term on the Board of Directors of CSSA and am running for re-election to a second term starting in 2003. This has been a great experience and has given me an opportunity to let everyone know about the great things we do in Tucson.

CSSA started in 1929 in Los Angeles, California. The Society provided new knowledge about the culture of cacti and succulent plants. It has had a long association with the Huntington Botanical Gardens and recently has been given space for a permanent home for the CSSA Library.

Today, there are about 100 affiliate societies and members in all states and territories plus about 80 countries. The CSSA Journal, which started in July 1929, is the best in the world. It gives great scientific and practical information and the photography is spectacular. If you haven't looked at a journal contact our librarian, Jenny Coniglio.

CSSA holds a biennial convention. The next one will be in St. Louis, June 22-26, 2003. You must be a member to attend but it is well worth it. We had over 10 members at the Los Angeles convention last year. They returned with new knowledge and a lot of new plants and books. I hope there will be a lot of us in St. Louis.

It is easy to join CSSA. Just go to their web site at Cssainc.org to get a membership application.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

#### **New Address**

Our new official mailing address is: Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society PO Box 64759 Tucson, AZ 85728-4759

#### **Educational Grant Program**

The School Grant Program is in full swing with the TCSS brochure and grant request form being completed. Chris Monrad is heading up the Schools team and contacted the heads of education for Vail, TUSD, and Amphi Districts who will be eligible to participate in our program for this kick-off year. We have almost \$3,000 in our treasury earmarked for the School Grant program.

George and Gail Virtes are heading up the School Grant judging team. Judges are being selected and

will review all grant request proposals and decide which are worthy of funding. Judging will begin in mid October after the grant requests are due back from the schools to TCSS.



Funding for this program comes from donations to TCSS specifically designated for the School Grant Program and 25% of the Cactus Rescue proceeds. Send donations to TCSS. Contact Joe Frannea for questions or suggestions (575-7126).

Joe Frannea

#### **2002 Meeting Schedule**

Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month except for December.

Board Meetings are the second Tuesday of the Month at The U of A College of Pharmacy, Room 333.

September 5, - General Meeting, Mark Dimmitt October 3, - 3:30 pm Dan Mahr October 3 - General Meeting Dan Mahr

December 15 Holiday Party

## **Technology Committee Formed**

Kevin Barber has accepted the chairmanship of a new committee to use computer technology to generate interest in and share knowledge about cactus & succulents growing in the Tucson area. We will have a report on this committee next month.

## **TCSS "Cactus Rescue Crew"**

Record size Cactus Rescue Crews of 12 to 13 volunteers have been showing up for our rescues. Recently we ventured back to Saddlebrooke to get more barrels and hedge hog cacti. We have rescued over 2,300 cacti at this site. Grading has started so we have limited access to this site.

New Rescue Crew member Mark McMahon put his pick-up truck to the test with a 600 pound barrel which was over four and a half feet tall and about two feet in diameter. Took most of the crew shown in the photo to get it into his truck but is now happily relocated to his home.



One of the multi-headed barrels (about 20 heads) was donated by the Rescue Crew to the Tucson Botanical Gardens. It was delivered August 14 and now has a great new home under a large creosote bush in their

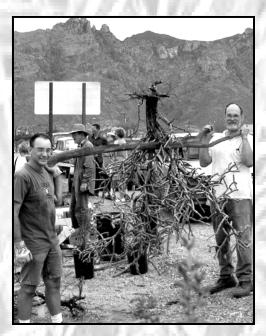
cactus garden. A large group of children passed by just after it was planted and were excited to see such a weird barrel cactus. We may never get agreement on the exact number of heads on this cactus as everyone seems to see it a little differently.



On the last Sunday in July, the Cactus Rescue Crew saved 200 Mammillaria and 20 large Cholla cacti from the SW corner of Skyline and Campbell. Some of the Mamms, which were in full bloom, were given as free plants at the August TCSS club meeting. Innovative ways were devised by the crew to haul the large

Chollas without damaging them or breaking off too many branches. We may be able to get back into this site later for more rescue.

The Rescue Crew recently made three trips to a D.R. Horton housing development NE of River Road and First Ave. It proved to be a bit of a challenge to get access to one of the ridges since the jeep trail recently



washed out. Wheelbarrows were pushed up and down steep slopes to get to the cactus and they were stashed in a safe place for later pick-up once the bulldozer cut in a new road. This area was rich in saguaros and a few nice ocotillos as well as Santa Rita Prickly Pear and lots of barrels and mamms. We had limited time, about one week, to get in before the grading. We collected 323 cacti including 44 saguaros, 21 ocotillo, 50 large barrels, 11 hedge hogs, 10 prickly pear, 2 cholla, and 185 smaller cacti.

Joe Frannea

### **Cactus Rescue Plant Sale a Great Success**

A plant Sale on Sunday-August 25 at Joe & Patsy Frannea's house was a great success. We grossed \$3,520 and gave 310 plants a new home. Again, many thanks to Joe and Patsy for the generous use of their property for storage and sales, and their massive effort in making these sales such a success. Our next sale will be October 13 at the Pima County Fair.

Barry McCormick

TCSS Rescue Cacti For Sale Lots & lots to choose from....

Barrels - from 2" to 14" diameter (about \$1 per inch) Hedgehogs - from 1 to 20 heads (about \$1 per head)

TCSS Club Members receive a 15% discount Call Joe or Patsy if interested 575-7126

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October 2002

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#### **October Refreshments**

Those with family names beginning with T to Z, please bring your choice of refreshment to the meeting.

Everyone is Welcome!
Bring your friends, join in the fun, and meet the cactus and succulent community.

## Thursday, October 3, 2002 3:30 pm Dan Mahr

University of Wisconsin - Madison

Dr. Daniel L. Mahr, Professor of Entomology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is our featured speaker for October. Dan is currently a member of the board of CSSA and is running for Vice President. He chairs the Research Committee and the Field Trip Committee of CSSA.

Dan will give two presentations, both at the Junior League meeting hall. The first, at 3:30 pm, will be on cactoblastis. This insect, which was used to eliminate invasive prickly pear species in Australia in the last century, is now a potential invader and threat to cactus plants in the United States and Mexico. Dan has taken a lead role in understanding and tracking this problem, and we are pleased to have him in Tucson. There will be ample time at this afternoon presentation for questions.



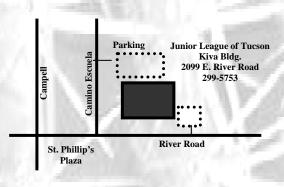
Following the presentation there will be light refreshments.

Our regular meeting is at 7:00 pm and Dan will take us on his travels to Namibia. Dan has recently returned from a trip to this area. Initially, he was taking a group to Madagascar but the political problems there made the trip impossible. Dan is an engaging speaker with wonderful slides. Don't miss this one.

In November, we will hear Jon Weeks with a presentation titled:

Underutilized Cactus Species.

## **Meeting Place**





## President's Message

In the last couple of weeks the Arizona Daily Star has published front-page pictures and stories about

cacti. One story was about the 40-foot saguaro that was moved and is now showing signs of new roots and another expressed concern about the Pima pineapple cactus potentially being damaged by illegal border crossings. The Boojums at the University



also were featured. A few years ago these topics would not have made the headlines or even rated a mention in the press.



I interpret this to mean that we, the botanical oriented societies, have done some good work. It takes time and education, education, education to make an impact on our community and region. We have been successful but

we must continue this work and educate newcomers and those who have been here for a long time but still don't get it. It is more important we educate and inspire a new generation of citizens who care about the environment and understand how nature, people, development and progress can work together.

Our Educational School Grant Program can make a difference. Joe and Patsy Frannea kicked off the idea with their directed gifts from their former employer and Chris Monrad has made the grants program part of his rescue committee's activity by dedicating 25% of the proceeds from the sales of rescued plants. Several members have stepped forward and made contributions to support this effort without being solicited but knowing that this is an important effort. I thank these members specifically because they show how ideas and efforts translate into real action on our endeavors.

We are focused on issues that we know and care about and have great fun in sharing this.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

## **Educational School Grant Program**

Brochures and grant request application forms have been sent to Vail, TUSD, and Amphi Districts. Grant requests from teachers are due back to TCSS by October 15th. George and Gail Virtes are putting a judging team together to

review the requests and to rank them. TCSS monies earmarked for the School Grant Program from donations and 25% of Rescue Cacti sales, will be used to fund worthy grant requests (from



\$50 to \$400 per request). Grants will be awarded to teachers the first week in December.

More details about the Educational School Grant Program can be found on our TCSS web site www.TucsonCactus.org.

Joe Frannea

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Board Meetings are the second Tuesday of the Month at The U of A College of Pharmacy, Room 333.

October 3, - 3:30 pm Dan Mahr October 3 - General Meeting Dan Mahr

December 15 Holiday Party

## **Pima County Country Fair**

Saturday, October 13, 2002 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Lew Sorensen Center 11100 E. Tanque Verde Rd.

(East on Tanque Verde on the right hand side)

The Pima County Spring and Fall Country Fairs have given our club the opportunity to provide valuable information to many of the visitors that attend, and to sell salvaged and member plants to the public. The Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society has established a very good reputation for providing some great plants at very reasonable prices. You will find a great diversity of drought tolerant plants, including many natives, ready for your garden. Drop by and consider giving some of these plants a home.

Jack Ramsey

#### **TCSS "Cactus Rescue Crew"**

Activities for the past month have been limited to selling hundreds of rescued cacti on hand. A few new prospects for rescue operations are being pursued but nothing is available right now. One misconception about our rescue mission is that we always want to get our share of plants from properties to be developed. But actually, we encourage others who can rescue plants commercially or otherwise to save as many cacti as possible and our Cactus Rescue Crew volunteers will work properties and cacti that are not profitable for others. Our goal is to try and help save every cactus destined for a land fill.



We have started a waiting list for cacti that are in high demand -- saguaros and ocotillos. Call Joe Frannea (575-7126) if you want to be added to this wait list. At our August 25<sup>th</sup> sale we had 25 small saguaros (under two feet) and six large ocotillos. A numbering system was used at the sale to ration out these cacti. About 125 people came to the sale, most arrived early to get the best selections, purchasing over 310 cacti. Most of the barrels were in bloom so it was a rare opportunity to pick colors of choice.

Seventeen TCSS members helped set-up, cashiered, handed out brochures, and loaded up cars and trucks. Thanks to Jack and Helen Ramsey, Lois and Denny Ladwig, Kevin and Helen Barber, Gail and George Virtes, Keith and Helga Zwickl, Dick Wiedhopf, Barry McCormick, Vonn Watkins, Julie Girden, Carl



Pergam, and Patsy Frannea for helping make the sale a huge success.

The Rescue Crew will be selling cacti at the Pima County Garden Fair to be held October 13, 10 am to 4 pm at the Lew Sorenson site, 11100 E. Tanque Verde Road.

Joe Frannea

TCSS Rescue Cacti for Sale Lots & lots to choose from....

Barrels - from 2" to 14" diameter (about \$1 per inch) Hedgehogs – from 1 to 20 heads (about \$1 per head)

TCSS Club Members receive a 15% discount Call Joe or Patsy if interested 575-7126



## Fall Plant Sale! Oct 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>

B & B Cactus Farm has overgrown its greenhouses. TCSS Club Members take advantage of this exclusive presale for savings of at least 50% off normal retail prices. Sale includes an abundant variety of 2"- 10" items as well as selected yard plants.

11550 E. Speedway. Closed Sunday and Wednesday. For more information, e-mail Chris at BBCactus@cox.net or call (520) 721-4687.

Photo credits for this issue are Joe Frannea.

Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society 7510 E. Rio Verde Rd. Tucson, AZ 85715-3537

November 2002

### TCSS BOARD

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President: Richard Wiedhopf 885-6367 Vice President: Joe Frannea Secretary: Lynda Ryan Treasurer: Valarie Miller

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(terms expire Dec 31 of year indicated)
Past-President: Vonn Watkins
Dan Birt (2003)
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#### CSSA Affiliate Representative Wendy Beall

Editor: Barry McCormick jbarrymcc@earthlink.net Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page www.tucsoncactus.org

#### **Next Meeting**

Thursday, November 7 at 7:00 pm Junior League of Tucson 2099 E. River Road Tucson

#### **November Refreshments**

Those with family names beginning with A to F, please bring your choice of refreshment to the meeting.

Everyone is Welcome!
Bring your friends, join in the fun, and meet the cactus and succulent community.

## Thursday, November 7, 2002 7:00 pm Jon Weeks New Landscape Cacti for Tucson

For November, Jon Weeks will do a presentation on New Landscape Cacti for Growing in Tucson. He may have some plants to sell.

\*\*\*\*\*\*

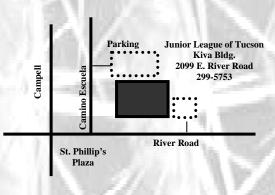
## **Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society Holiday Party & Gift Exchange**

December 15, 2002 Junior League Building 2099 River Road Set-up ---11:00 am Dinner ---12:00 noon

See poster insert



## **Meeting Place**





## **President's Message**

On the last weekend in October a group of dedicated members of the Rescue Committee spent two full days at a rescue site in the Vail School District. Other activities were set aside; this was a special request that we could not turn down.

More than 60 Coryphantha scheeri var. robustispina, the protected "Pima Pineapple Cactus", were identified, dug, moved and safely replanted on site, so that proposed school construction could begin on time. We had only that weekend to accomplish



Pima Pineapple Cactus

this task. In 14 hours, we took care of the Coryphanthas, and rescued 50+ very large ocotillos, 60 barrels, 40 hedgehogs and 250 cacti of pincushion size.

This dedication and commitment deserves all of our recognition and appreciation. Over twenty members spent one or two days at the site doing what we all love.

Tempting as it was to take some Pima Pineapple Cactus, it is very important that we maintain an outstanding reputation for our rescue program by obeying all laws regarding native plants. Everyone should be aware of the State Native Plant laws and their requirements. We will be providing a link on our website for native plant laws so that you will be completely informed.

The Rescue Committee participants are exhausted (I know I am) but feel great about the job we did. We have a large inventory of plants for members (special price) and the public (a great price). The ocotillos will go fast, but there are lots of beautiful hedgehogs for great spring color and wonderful barrels in all sizes and a few Mammillarias.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

## **Educational School Grant Program**

The deadline for grant requests has been extended. We have experienced some difficulty in getting our information through the administrative levels of the schools and to the teachers who would write the grant requests.

More details about the Educational School

Grant Program can be found on our TCSS web site www.TucsonCactus.org.

Joe Frannea

## **Technology Committee**

The newly formed Technology Committee is up and running! We have held two meetings and accomplished a great deal. Our mission is to generate interest in and share knowledge about cactus and succulents growing in the Tucson area. Our target audience will be those who are new to understanding and appreciating Cactus and Succulents, "old timers" of the Tucson area that don't really understand or appreciate C&S, and children.

We have discussed a number of possible projects and have begun work on two. The first is a database of the 'top 50' cactus and succulent plants that commonly grow or are grown in the Tucson area. We are in the process of creating this list, emphasizing plants that are commonly seen and cultivated in landscapes or in habitat. We will be building a database of information about each plant with emphasis on practical information that can help people plant, care for and appreciate them. We will also be including in this database a number of images of each plant species with examples of landscape use, flowering, habit, unusual characteristics, etc. We expect this information to be shared / delivered via the web, as well as on CD. Denny Ladwig has already developed a web accessible database that we have started loading with information and pictures of our initial plant list. The second project is a series of multimedia

presentations on specific topics, delivered on DVD or CD format that can be played on a computer or a standard DVD player. The first one of these will be a *Welcome to Tucson* presentation of about 10 to 15 minutes in length that will include an overview of the Tucson area, types of desert vegetation, and general information on watering and caring for the plants.

Members of the group include: Dick Wiedhopf, Joe Frannea, John and Laura Gilkey, Mark McMahon, Vonn Watkins, Lois and Denny Ladwig, Helen and Kevin Barber and Laurance Fahrney.

We will soon be looking for help from any of our members who can create and review some of the specific information that we want to deliver in our first couple of products. We will also be soliciting photographs of plants for use in our various projects. If you are interested in joining us, please talk to one of the members of the group.

## Pima County Country Fair Saturday, October 13, 2002

The Pima County Country Fair plant sale, held October 13, 2002 at the Lew Sorensen Center on east Tanque Verde Road, was a day well spent promoting TCSS programs to Fair Growers.



We had lots of helpers this year who were: Kevin and Helen Barber, Joe and Patricia Frannea, Paul Federico and Ann Grodzicki, Julie Girden, Lois Ladwig, Chris Monrad, Helen Ramsey and George and Gail Virtes. I, as Chairman of this event, want to thank each

TCSS Rescue Cacti for Sale
Lots & lots to choose from.....

Barrels - from 2" to 14" diameter (about \$1 per inch)

and everyone for all their work and effort in

maki ng it a

## Treasurer's Report - Valarie Miller

 Current Assets - October 17, 2002

 Checking & Savings
 \$17340.79

 Grant
 \$3622.27

 Total
 \$21963.06

good day. Also I want to thank all the TCSS members who to buy and visit. TCSS members who donated plants included:

Julie Girden, Dan Birt, Barry McCormick and Jack Ramsey. Also Robbin Baza, Mike Ellis and Jerry Miller sold plants.

The sales were not up to our past standards, but we did manage to make \$497.90, which will add to our Educational Grant Program Fund.

Jack Ramsey

## **Beverly Jean White**

Beverly Jean White, Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society member, died on October 29, 2002. She was born and raised in the Cleveland, Ohio area. She was her high school valedictorian. She attended Heidelberg College, and the need for nurses in World War II drew her into nursing. She moved to Tucson in 1972 and finished her nursing career at Tucson Medical Center. It was her great love of the Tucson desertscape that inspired her, and her husband Bob, to found B & B Cactus Farm in the mid-1970's, which remained her greatest interest.

She is survived by her husband, Robert White; her daughter, Janice Funk; her son, Douglas Gobeille; and her grandchildren, James and Jeffrey Gobeille. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Botanical Gardens of Tucson in her memory. We in the Society will miss Bev.

Hedge '0 heads

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Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society 7510 E. Rio Verde Rd. Tucson, AZ 85715-3537



## **Cactus Rescue Crew Back in Full Swing**

After several weeks of inactivity the crew is back in full swing with a couple of properties needing rescue. Saddlebrooke is cutting in a new road across some hills lush with ocotillo. The crew showed up in force Sunday,



October 20th to work mainly on rescuing ocotillo, some as tall as sixteen feet. A total of 41 were harvested in about three hours with a little bit of help from a jack-hammer for the rocky soil. But there was a lot of hand pick activity, shovel work and sawing of roots to uproot these magnificent plants. A couple more weekends are planned for this site if construction doesn't progress too quickly and get them first. We have a waiting list of sixteen people from prior plant sales for ocotillo.

Another Vail school site located off of Houghton south of the freeway required a fast-reaction rescue effort

described in the President's column this month. We rescued 384 plants plus Tom Barron was able to take some

barrels and a few hedgehogs to plant at the State Building in downtown Tucson (plants from State land going to a State Building, great!), thanks Tom. Also, about 60 endangered Pima Pineapple cactus were relocated to a safe location on the property. These are about the size of a baseball and pups are about the size of golf balls.

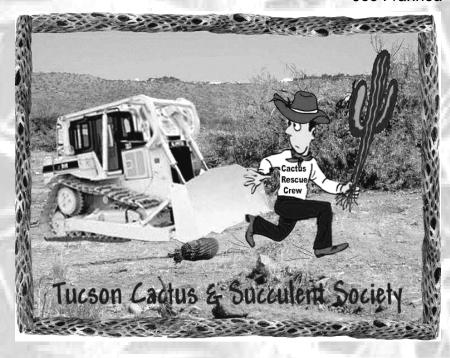


In the near future we will continue to rescue cacti



at Saddlebrooke. There are two areas we can rescue. One is the original area we worked on a year ago (permit renewed) and the other is the new road cut (Catalina Hills Drive) where we rescued ocotillo and a few other plants previously.

Joe Frannea



## Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society Holiday Party & Gift Exchange

December 15, 2002 Junior League Building 2099 River Road Set-up ---11:00 am Dinner ---12:00 noon

The Society will provide the Turkey, Ham, Rolls, Condiments, Tableware and Drinks (coffee, punch, soft drinks). You will provide your favorite recipe (enough for 10+ servings) Hot or Cold Salads, Starches, Vegetables, Desserts (please bring serving dish and serving utensils)

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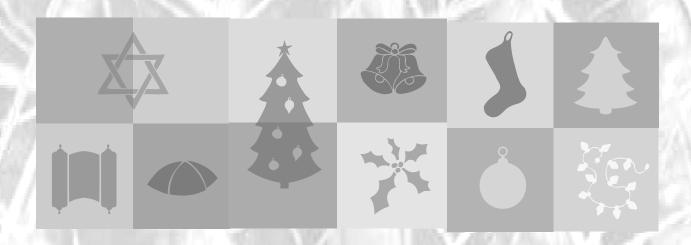
We have had a great year, let make it special for others.

Please bring canned food or donations to Food Bank

## **Gift Exchange**

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There will be election results, awards and door prizes. We will be requesting an RSVP in our next mailing



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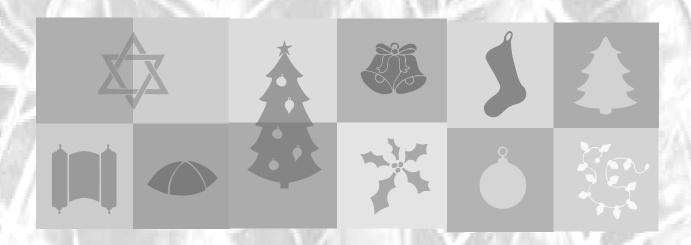
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#### **Next Meeting**

Thursday, January 2 at 7:00 pm Junior League of Tucson 2099 E. River Road Tucson

#### **December Refreshments** Enjoy the Holiday Party

Everyone is Welcome!
Bring your friends, join in the fun, and meet the cactus and succulent community.

## **Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society Holiday Party & Gift Exchange**

Sunday, December 15, 2002 Junior League Building 2099 River Road Set-up ---11:30 am Dinner ---12:00 noon

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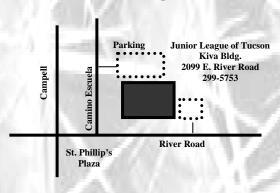
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# Thursday, January 2, 2003 7:00 pm Cory Martin Baja California

Baja California is a xenophiles garden of Eden. If you haven't been there (or even if you have) this is the opportunity to see "Backroads and Big Boojums."

This slide show will cover the most recent trip taken by the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum Cerro Colorado flora team. This just happens to include re-finding the "Big Boojum" of Montevideo Canyon. The presentation will consist of roughly 150 images and will be presented by ASDM Horticulturist Cory Martin. Cory worked in wholesale and retail at Bach's Cactus Nursery for three years and has been with the museum for the past three years.

Join him to revel in the beauty and enchantment of Baja

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