

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



Events in 2003

Happy New Year! We have a big year planned for 2003, including a new show in May. Some of the dates are tentative, and there's room for more suggestions. If you have some ideas, let Dick Wiedhopf know.

Cactus rescue and sales will continue, with the two Pima County Fairs, the El Con Plant Show February 22-23, and other sales as needed to find good homes for the plants. May 3 and 4 are the planned dates for a show at the Junior League to include plant displays, vendor sales, and demonstrations. This show, if successful, will be held every other year. A field trip to Desert Botanical Gardens in Phoenix will be arranged for March 1 or 2. Of course we will have our full schedule of meetings, with great speakers. And for those who really plan ahead, next year's Holiday Party will be on December 14!

Photo Credits: Barry McCormick, Dick Wiedhopf.

Treasurer's Report: \$22,556.83 in checking & savings; \$3705.12 belongs to the school grant program.

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



January 2003

TCSS BOARD

Officers

President: Richard Wiedhopf
885-6367

Vice President: Kevin Barber
Secretary: Lynda Ryan
Treasurer: Valarie Miller

Board of Directors:

Past-President: Vonn Watkins
Dan Birt (2003)
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Sales: Jack Ramsey
Technology: Kevin Barber

Editor: Barry McCormick
jbarrymcc@earthlink.net

Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page: www.tucsoncactus.org

Next Meeting

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

January 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.

Thursday, January 2, 2003

7:00 pm

Cory Martin

"Backroads and Big Boojums."

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

Thursday, February 6, 2003

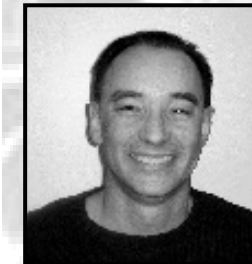
7:00 pm

Vonn Watkins

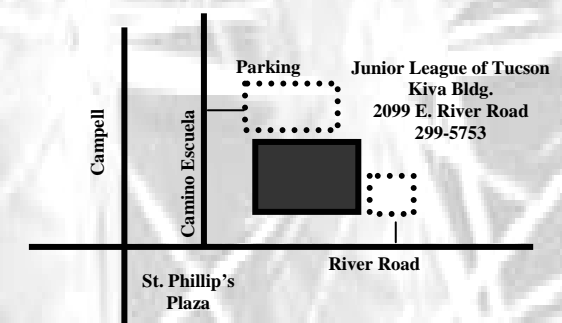
"Le Jardin Exotique de Monaco"

Vonn will talk about his recent visit to the Le Jardin Exotique de Monaco or The Exotique Garden of Monaco.

He will show approximately 40 photographs to give everyone a peek at this amazing succulent garden wonder.



Meeting Place



President's Message



Happy New Year! I hope you were able to enjoy the Holidays with friends and family. Our TCSS Holiday party was the largest ever and the first at the Junior League Facility. It is great to have space to move around. You donated \$74.00 and 130 pounds of food to the Community Food Bank. Thank you.

On December 18 at 8 pm I decided that I had procrastinated enough and I had better move those tender plants to shelter. Every year I start thinking about a structure to cover winter plants the day after the first freeze. I need to set some new goals and priorities for this new year:

1. Start planning and constructing a winter home for my plants for next year. Maybe even a summer home!
2. Visit every Nursery member and buy plants from each one. (We all need to do this) I will report on my visits throughout this year.
3. Fertilize!! Buying it and storing it in the garage has not produced the results I am looking for. I need to use it on plants.
4. Continue growing plants from seeds until I get it right.
5. Kill fewer plants than last year.
6. Determine: How many Mammillaria graminea are too many?
7. Help rescue and distribute more cacti and succulents than we did in 2002.
8. Take plant pictures and share them. (need to put my new digital camera to good use)
9. Say "Thank You" meaningfully and as often as I can to all of you for the efforts you make on behalf of this Society.
10. Finally, write the *President's Message* before the due date, at least once!!

Thank you for your support and efforts.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

Holiday Party

The annual Holiday Party was, as always, a great success – a fitting culmination of a great year. As usual, we took this opportunity to single out a few members for special awards. The greatest award of all goes to every one of us – for all the things, large and small, that added together to make this such a great year. Cactus rescue, educational grants, top caliber programs, community food drive, environmental activism, and, for all of us, our love of cactus and succulents.

President's Awards

Wendy Beall - For the life and spirit you brought to the Society and your service as Affiliate Representative and Sonoran IV Show Chairperson.

Barry McCormick - For your service on the Board of Directors, Editor of the Desert Breeze and Webmaster.

Valarie Miller - For your dedication and service as Treasurer of this Society.

Chris Monrad - For your service on the Board of Directors, Rescue Committee and School Grants Committee.

Margaret Pope - For your dedicated service on the Board of Directors, Program Committee and Chairperson of Sonoran IV.

Mark Sitter - For your service on the Board of Directors, Program Committee and Speaker.

Vonn Watkins - For your dedication and support of this Society.

Special Service Awards

Joe & Patsy Frannea - For Your Special Dedication and Outstanding Service to the Society.

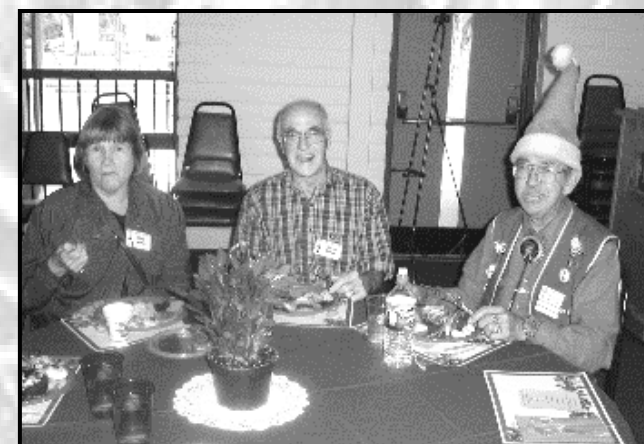
Helen & Jack Ramsey - For Your Special Dedication and Outstanding Service to the Society.

2003 Meeting Schedule

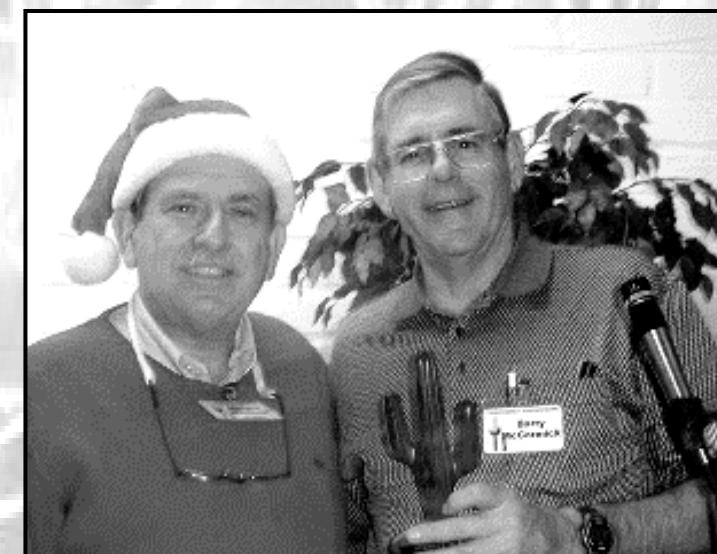
Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month except for December.

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

January 2 General Meeting, Cory Martin
February 6 General Meeting, Vonn Watkins



Holiday Party Photos. Additional pictures on the web site at <http://www.tucsoncactus.com/>





Desert Breeze

Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

February 2003

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Editor: Barry McCormick

jbarrymcc@earthlink.net

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Next Meeting

Thursday, February 6 at 7:00 pm

Junior League of Tucson

2099 E. River Road

Tucson

February Refreshments

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

Everyone is Welcome!

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and meet the cactus and succulent
community.

Thursday, February 6, 2003

7:00 pm

Vonn Watkins

"Le Jardin Exotique de Monaco"



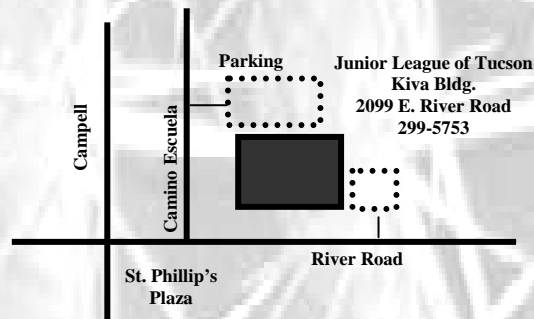
Vonn will talk about his recent visit to the Le Jardin Exotique de Monaco or The Exotic Garden of Monaco.

He will show approximately 40 photographs to give everyone a peek at this amazing succulent garden wonder.

Filled with magnificent plants in a beautiful setting, the garden is located in Monte Carlo, a truly grand city on the French Riviera. This amazing garden was structured on the side of a limestone hill and contains a variety of succulent plants landscaped onto the rock face. This public garden, which spreads across a total surface of approximately 41,000 square feet was inaugurated by Prince Louis II, and is the result of a collection of succulent plants started back in 1895.



The 2400 hours of yearly sunshine produce flowers of varied colors and shapes throughout the year.



President's Message



The Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) held its Board of Directors meeting in Mesa, Arizona on January 18 & 19. One of the purposes of this meeting was to review potential accommodations for the 2005 convention to be

held in the Phoenix area and hosted by the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society. The balance of the day was the usual business meeting of the organization. At the conclusion of this meeting newly elected officers and board members took their positions. Your TCSS president will be serving another 4-year term on the Board of CSSA. Dan Mahr, who spoke to us about Cactoblastis and Namibia is the new Vice President.



A reception was held at the home of one of the local society members who has a fantastic cacti and succulent garden and greenhouse. The few degrees difference in winter lows make a dramatic difference in the variety of plants that can be grown in the ground or left out in pots. Bursera's, aloes and euphorbias were everywhere. They were planted in spectacular raised beds or planters. This was a rare treat and has me enthusiastic about showing off member

gardens. We will plan some member garden tours.

The second day was devoted to an open and realistic analysis of missions and goals of the Society with emphasis on membership. The Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society is an affiliate member of the CSSA.



This gives us a vote on future convention sites and the ability to have our events published in the newsletter "To the Point". The editor, Carol Clapp, is one of our members. She does a outstanding job with the national newsletter.

Support (membership) for these kinds of non-profit organizations is directly related to their missions. This is quite true of our own Society. The more you do towards accomplishing your missions the greater the support. CSSA is in the process of re-emphasizing its missions and goals to increase its support among cacti and succulent enthusiasts. Your president will be chairing this effort. I hope you will share your ideas with me about CSSA.

Have you ever raised ocotillos from seed? You really need to try this. Within 2-3 day after sowing the large white seeds they germinate!! Wow. Instant gratification? Now what?

Dick Wiedhopf, President

Thursday, March 6, 2003

7:00 pm

**Libby Davison
Director, UA Campus Arboretum**

Libby Davison will do a presentation on the University of Arizona arboretum. We will discuss her proposal that our Society participate in the planting / replanting of part of their grounds with cactus and succulents.

Fiesta de las Flores Spring Flower Show and Sale

**Saturday February 22, 9 am to 9 pm
Sunday February 23, 10 am to 5 pm**

**El Con Mall
3601 East Broadway Blvd.**

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 Spring 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 our May Spring show. Jack Ramsey is taking the lead on this event; contact him and let him know how you would like to help at 888-6137.



Desert Botanical Gardens

Saturday, April 5, 2002

Mark your calendars for a field trip to Desert Botanical Gardens in Phoenix on April 5. We are arranging for a bus, and this popular event will probably fill up quickly. More details at the February meeting. We will try to have a speaker in April from the Desert Botanical Gardens, so this will be a great combination.

Spring Show and Sale

**Saturday – Sunday
May 3 & 4, 2002**

Planning is underway for our first annual (love that expression) spring show. We plan to do the show in alternate years when we don't have Sonoran. The main purpose of the show is to have fun, of course. The second purpose is to promote the Society and all of the things we do in the Society. We will have plant exhibits and plant sales, and exhibits highlighting all of our programs. Saturday night we plan on having a member's reception where all of the committees will present their

programs to the members. This is a great way to have some extra socializing and have a change to talk about our programs, and celebrate our accomplishments.

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

Cactus Rescue

Cactus Rescue has had a bit of a hiatus during the holidays and into the first part of the year. A number of potential rescue sites are being monitored and activity should pick up soon. We have a good stock of plants from last year carefully set in the ground where they are growing well for the spring sales.



Our Rescue Crew is notified on Thursdays for weekend rescues. 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.

2003 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.

February 6 General Meeting, Vonn Watkins
March 6 General Meeting, Libby Davison



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Photo credits for this issue are Joe Frannea, Dick Wiedhopf, and Barry McCormick.

Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society
7510 E. Rio Verde Rd.
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Desert Breeze

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March 2003

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Thursday, March 6 at 7:00 pm

Junior League of Tucson

2099 E. River Road

Tucson

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

Everyone is Welcome!

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community.

Thursday, March 6, 2003

7:00 pm

Libby Davison

Director, UA Campus Arboretum

Libby Davison will do a presentation on the University of Arizona arboretum, and hand out maps of the arboretum.

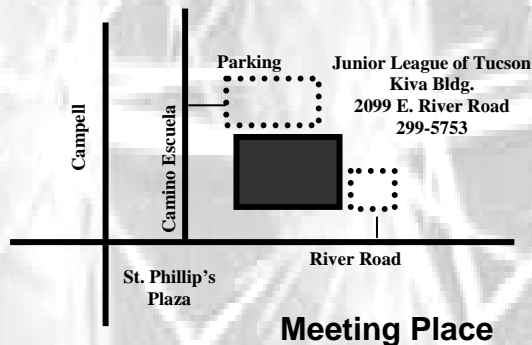
The Mission of the Campus Arboretum at The University of Arizona is to conserve, manage, enhance, and expand a vital collection of plants adapted to an active urban Sonoran Desert setting; and to showcase the historic, aesthetic, environmental, economical, and educational value of these plants within our community and the American Southwest.



We will also discuss a proposal that our Society participate in the planting / replanting of part of the arboretum grounds with cactus and succulents. This would be a great project for the Society, and could possibly provide a home for some rescued plants.

Thursday, April 3, 2003

Larry Grammer will demonstrate how to stage your plants for exhibition using decorative planters, rocks and top dressing. His results are spectacular, and he is considered to be among the best exhibitors in Southern California.



President's Message



Did you get to El Con last weekend? It was a great display of orchids, and a lot more.

I am so pleased with our presence at this show. I thank the dedicated members who manned our booth and

informed the public about our plants and our society. They also sold a few plants!

I started to think about all the plant societies and realized how unique and diverse we are. The Orchid Society deals with one family of plants. It the same for the iris, rose, African violets etc. The cactus and succulent society bring together large group of plant families with little similarity in looks, size, flower color etc. and are only linked by their succulent character. We need to build on this concept. Our strength is in diversity. The majority of our members are interested in Cacti, but we need to extol the virtues of other plant families in which our members are also very interested.

I would like to invite those members who have a particular interest in one of these families to bring to our meeting representative specimens and talk for a few minutes about how you grow your plants. If you want to show slides and provide handouts that would be great. Let me know a day or so before a meeting so we can allocate time and space.

Let's go one step further. It doesn't have to be a plant family, it could be one of the genera of cacti or even non plant material. I know we have stamp collectors, print collectors, etc. who should show off their interest in cacti and succulent within different media.

I know that you are thinking, what does he really want? Well, I do have an ulterior motive. The May 3 & 4 show and sale is coming. Your collections would make excellent educational displays to the public. I just want you to get in a little practice before May. Thanks.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

Fiesta de las Flores Spring Flower Show and Sale

The annual Fiesta de las Flores at the El Con Mall was its usual success. We made about \$300 on the combination of rescue plant sales, sales commissions, and the sale of a few small plants. We gained at least one new member and passed out a lot of literature.



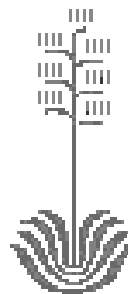
Thanks to all who helped us with the booth, including Kevin & Helen Barber, Julie Girden, Gail & George Virtes, Marty & Barbara Harrow, and Barry McCormick. Norma Beckman arranged plants for us to sell. Mark Sitter and Robbin Baza also had plants to sell.

Jack Ramsey



Desert Botanical Gardens

Saturday, April 5, 2003



Reservations are being accepted for the bus trip to the Desert Botanical Gardens. We will leave at 7:30 am from the College of Pharmacy Parking Lot at the corner of Mabel and Warren St. We will also make a stop at Magee and Oracle for those in the Northwest.

Cost is \$25 for members, \$35 for non-members, which includes lunch, drinks and snacks. The Desert Botanical Garden has kindly agreed to waive our admission fees. Reservations are needed as soon as possible so we can make final arrangements for the bus. This will be a great trip – don't miss it! Call Dick Wiedhopf at 885-6367 to reserve.

Spring Show and Sale

**Saturday – Sunday
May 3 & 4, 2003**

Planning is in full swing for our spring show. The board and show planning committee has outlined a great weekend of displays and sales. The key to enjoying this event is to participate! Enter your plants, bake some cookies, sell some rescue plants. Help at the membership booth, staff the plant motel, greet the public. Set up tables, take down tables. The opportunities for participation are endless. This is our show – we do the work – and we have the fun. So reserve the weekend for Cactus and Succulent fun! Call Barry McCormick at 299-6195 for details.

Destination Forever Ranch Plants

<http://www.destinationforeverranch.com/>

Jan Emming of Yucca, Arizona and curator of the Destination Forever Ranch is gearing up for another trip to Tucson, with plants native to the northwestern Arizona Mohave Desert in tow for sales to our members and friends.



To gauge member interest and to allow for Jan to bring down the most appropriate selection of plants, please advise Chris Monrad via email ferowiz@comcast.net or phone, 299-5623 of your choices and quantities of the following species:

Mohave yucca, *Yucca schidigera*;
Joshua Tree, *Yucca brevifolia*; and
Ferocactus acanthodes, Fire Barrel.

Quantities of these plants are likely to be limited.

Having recently purchased the inventory of a nursery in Kingman, Jan also has various high-quality saguaro, golden barrel, and Agave neomexicana available for those who may be interested. Jan will be in Tucson for the Pima County Country Fair at the Lew Sorenson Center on March 16th, or for the TCSS Show and Sale at the Junior League on May 3 & 4."

Cactus Rescue

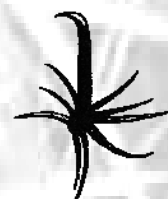
Cactus Rescue has had a bit of a hiatus during the holidays and into the first part of the year. A number of potential rescue sites are being monitored and activity should pick up soon.

Our Rescue Crew is notified on Thursdays for weekend rescues. If you are interested in being on the list, send Joe an email at cacti@earthlink.net. Come when you can and help the club and get hand selected cacti at a great price.



Happenings to the North

The Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society in Phoenix is having several noteworthy events in the next few months. You can get the full details on:



<http://www.centralarizonacactus.org>

Sunday, March 30, John Trager, Desert Collections Curator, propagator, and photographer at the Huntington Botanical Garden, will speak at 2 p.m. at the Desert Botanical Garden. On April 9 – 13 the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society will hold its annual Show and Sale, also at the Desert Botanical Garden.

Pima County Country Fair

Sunday, March 16

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



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Thursday, April 3 at 7:00 pm

Junior League of Tucson

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A to F, please bring your choice of
refreshment to the meeting.

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Thursday, April 3, 2003

7:00 pm

Larry Grammer

Larry Grammer will demonstrate how to stage your plants for exhibition using decorative planters, rocks and top dressing. Larry has an extensive cactus and succulent collection and is a very active exhibitor. His results are spectacular, and he is considered to be among the best exhibitors in Southern California.

Thursday, May 1, 2003

7:00 pm

M. Patrick Griffith

Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens

Patrick Griffith of Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens will do a short presentation on the Botanical Gardens and then discuss Opuntias and his research with them.

The Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

Presents

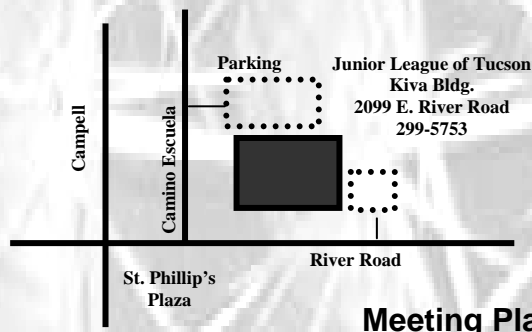
A Cactus & Succulent Exposition

Saturday, May 3

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday, May 4

10:00 am to 4:00 pm



President's Message



I want to thank all the hardy members who spent most of the rainy Sunday, March 16, at the Pima County Garden Fair helping out in our booth. Sales were brisk between downpours and we found a lot of new homes and friends for our rescued plants. Jan

Emming brought a variety of plants from his Northern Arizona garden that he has rescued and acquired. They included very nice specimens of *Echinocereus engelmannii variegatus*, *Agave neomexicana*, *Yucca schidigera*, *Ferocactus acanthodes*, Joshua trees, golden barrels and saguaros. Mark Sitter, Gecko Cactus, sold a variety of interesting cacti and succulents and educated everyone on how to grow these plants successfully.

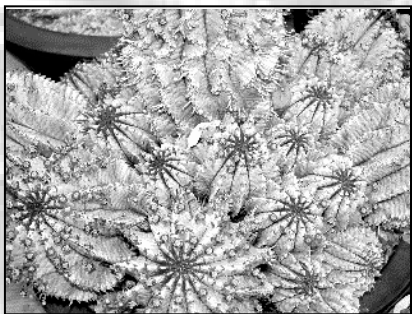
There were no complaints about the rain!

There are 4 seats left on the April 5, bus trip to the Desert Botanical Gardens and Arizona Cactus Sales.

As part of my New Years resolution, I promised myself to visit all our member's nursery operations. We are so fortunate in the Tucson area to have some of the very best growers in the world. You can check them out on our website and we will have a list at the next meeting.

Miles' To Go
6125 N. Noel Lane
(520) 682-7272

Member Miles Anderson is the owner. Miles has spoken at regular meetings, Sonoran Conferences and the last CSSA National Convention, and he has been a plant vendor at most of these events. The Nursery is tricky to find and I suggest you call first to make sure he is there and ask for directions. Of course, I didn't, so I spent about an hour on a driving tour of the area. Miles has acquired a large, diverse, collection of

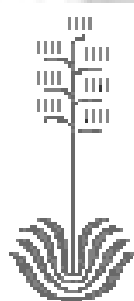


plants that he grows from seed, cuttings and grafting. His growing techniques enable him to produce larger healthy plants in a short

period of time. One these techniques is to grow seedlings and cuttings in specially prepared ground beds from April to September and then repot them for wintering. His results are convincing and it's something I am going to try. (I am sure that I will not have the same results but it will be fun.) You might also ask him about Root-Gel, a product that he has had great success with. It's a rooting hormone and fungicide in a gel preparation that sticks to the cutting.

Miles' To Go is a must for collectors.

Dick Wiedhopf, President



Desert Botanical Gardens

Saturday, April 5, 2003

A few seats are left for this bus tour.

Cost is \$25 for members, \$35 for non-members, which includes lunch, drinks and snacks. This will be a great trip – don't miss it! Call Dick Wiedhopf at 885-6367 to reserve.

Spring Show and Sale

**Saturday – Sunday
May 3 & 4, 2003**

The Spring Show and Sale is exceeding all of our expectations. We already have 11 vendors and over 20 exhibits. Publicity is underway and we expect to have a great time and hope for huge crowds of visitors.

It's going to take a lot of work to put this on right. The attached sheet is your opportunity to sign up to help. Please fill it out and bring it to the meeting or mail it in. We're counting on all of us.

Barry McCormick

**Help
Wanted**

Larry Grammer Workshop

Larry will do a hands-on workshop on Friday, April 4 from 9 a.m. until 11 at Plants for the Southwest. This will be a workshop on 'staging' of plants, including the use of special pots, selected top dressings and rocks. Participants can bring their own rock, pot, and/or plant, or can buy pots and plants at the nursery. Rocks and top dressings will be provided. Registration is required. The cost is \$10 per person.

Call 628-9773 for sign up and information.

Treasurer's Report

We had \$20,864 in the treasury, before the Pima County sale.

Cactus Rescue

Cactus Rescue has had a bit of a hiatus during the holidays and into the first part of the year. A number of potential rescue sites are being monitored and activity should pick up soon.

Our Rescue Crew is notified on Thursdays for weekend rescues. If you are interested in being on the list, send Joe an email at cacti@earthlink.net. Come when you can, help the club, and get hand selected cacti at a great price.



Library Project Nears Completion

Check out the new, expanded library facility at the next meeting. Four mobile library cases have been built to hold our most popular books. Four board members have agreed to bring them to each meeting, greatly increasing the books available, while sparing the back of our librarian, Jenny Coniglio.



Pima County Country Fair

The Pima County Country Fair, in spite of the weather, was another success for the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society. Our Society has a large following and they won't buy from anyone except us, because they know we have nice

plants. We sold 93 rescue plants in spite of the small crowd.

Mark Sitter was selling his ever popular well-manicured plants. Jack sold a few of his show stopping Aeoniums. Overall, the promotion of our Society was again very successful.

Jan Emming from Yucca AZ was down from the Kingman area selling his plants. This partnership was very effective, as buyers had many more varieties of rescue plants to choose from. Jan also bought all of our remaining barrels at the end of the shortened sale.

Preliminary figures show that we made \$325 in commissions and \$1026 in gross rescue sales, counting the barrels Jan took.

Thanks to all of the hard workers who showed up in such lousy weather. There were too many to name here. Thank you all very much.

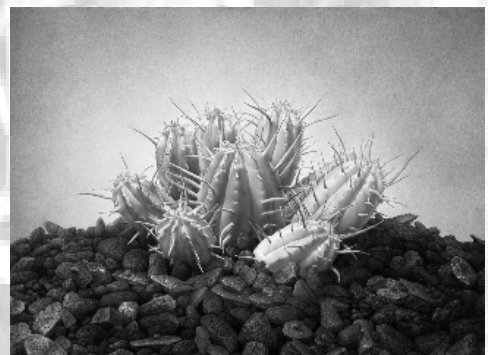
Jack Ramsey

Greenhouse Project

The three main things you need to grow cactus and succulents are sun, sun, and sun. That's why Tucson is such a great growing center. If it was only ten degrees warmer in winter and ten degrees cooler in summer, we could grow everything.

A greenhouse is the answer. I would like to start a group greenhouse project to design and build greenhouses. The goal would be an eight by ten foot greenhouse for under \$1000 in materials. Interested? Contact Barry McCormick at jbarrymcc@earthlink.net or 299-6195.

Artwork on the Web



Some interesting cactus artwork by artist Eric Wert is on the web at www.gescheidle.com.



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



Photo credits for this issue are Dick Wiedhopf and Eric Wert.

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Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

May 2003

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Next Meeting

Thursday, May 1 at 7:00 pm

Junior League of Tucson
2099 E. River Road
Tucson

May 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.

Thursday, May 1, 2003

7:00 pm

M. Patrick Griffith

Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens

Patrick Griffith of Rancho Santa Ana Botanical Gardens will do a short presentation on the Botanical Gardens and then discuss Opuntias and his research with them.

Thursday, June 5, 2003

7:00 pm

Mark Dimmitt

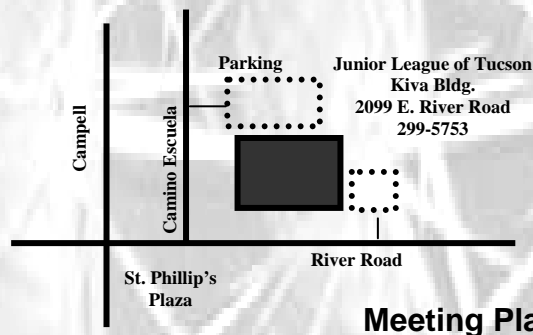
Mark Dimmitt, Natural Science Director at the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, will speak on Trichocereus.

The Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

Presents

A Cactus & Succulent Exposition

Saturday, May 3 Sunday, May 4
10:00 am to 5:00 pm 10:00 am to 4:00 pm



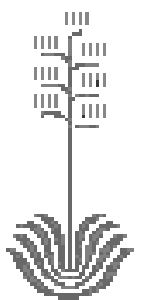
President's Message



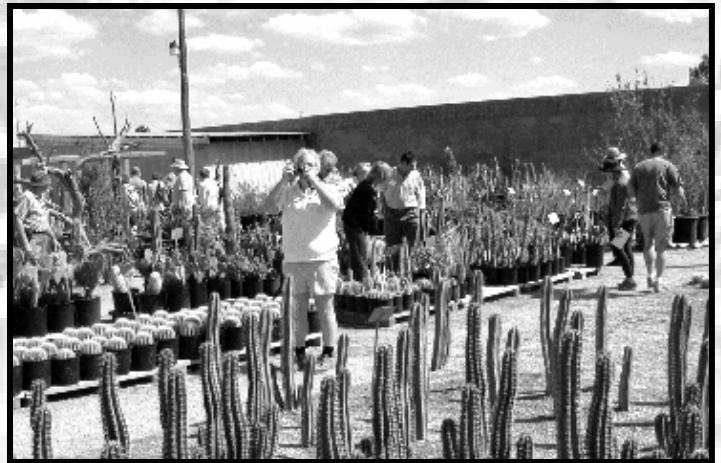
We had a great visit to the Desert Botanical Gardens on March 5, 2003. The staff and the docents at the gardens were wonderful, and it made our morning there very special.

Many of us visited their

special butterfly exhibit and were able to get very close and take a lot of pictures of these beautiful insects. We had a delicious picnic lunch and then were off to Arizona Cactus Sales. We loaded the bottom of the bus with special finds and returned to Tucson after a very full and enjoyable day. I want to thank everyone for contributing to a great trip. It was just too much fun.



Botanical Gardens. Don't forget the biennial convention is in St. Louis on June 14-19. There is still time to make your arrangements to go. The Missouri Botanical Gardens is where the first great collection of cacti and succulents in America started. It is a must see place. There will be great talks, plants etc.



Arizona Cactus Sales

After the Board meeting, several of us had a chance to tour a new part of the cactus gardens that will be opening this next year. It is the original historical cactus and succulent garden which has not ever been on public display. It is dominated by great old plants. There were numerous huge clumps of different species of Puyas (a terrestrial bromeliad) that were in bloom. The colors of these are just unbelievable. There was so much that I have never seen up close. Of course, my camera was in Tucson.

WE MUST PLAN A TRIP TO THE HUNTINGTON!

The annual show and sale of CSSA is July 3, 5 and 6th at the Huntington. This is always a great event.

May 3 and 4 will be our Cactus and Succulent Expo. It is important for you to participate. Bring at least one plant for show, bring friends to see the show and buy plants from our vendors, and give us some of your time to help with the event. If you want the full value of this society you need to take part in the activities. I want you to get your money's worth and have fun at the same time. Hope to see you there.

We are starting to plan for Sonoran V which will tentatively be held in May, 2004. It will run from Friday night to Sunday afternoon and will include workshops, talks, show, sales, meals and a lot more. This is another opportunity to get involved.

Dick Wiedhopf, President



At the Desert Botanical Garden

Jim Elliot, owner of Arizona Cactus Sales, was very kind to make a donation to the Society based on sales during our visit. The gift will be used to support student awards at next years Southern Arizona Science Fair. The Board decided to sponsor awards for the best cacti and/or succulent projects.

I have just returned from the Board of Directors meeting of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) which was held at the Huntington

Spring Show and Sale

**Saturday – Sunday
May 3 & 4, 2003**

Thanks to all of the eager volunteers for the Spring Show and Sale.

We still have a few slots left, but the response has been most gratifying. What a great club we have!

**Help
Wanted**

At the next meeting we will hand out name tags for those who are going to help. Please pick yours up. The show function and time that you have selected will be written on the back of the badge as a reminder. If you don't get your badge at the meeting, it will be waiting for you at the membership table right inside the Kiva Building door during the show.

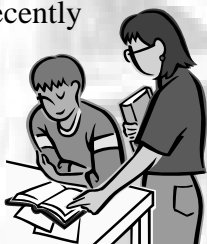
You will be able to get information on your specific tasks at the information table, or see the member in charge of your specific area:

Greeters – Barry McCormick
Membership Table – Gail Virtes
Parking Assistance – George Virtes
Plant Sitting Booth – Keith Zwickl
Refreshments – Patsy Frannea
Rescue Sales – Jack Ramsey

Barry McCormick

School Grant Program

A Bisbee Middle School teacher recently applied for and was just awarded a \$400 TCSS School Program Grant. The teacher plans to buy tools, plants, and soil enrichment materials with the grant money. Her goal is to provide students and community a hands-on setting in which to observe native Arizona plants and to educate students on the variety, uses and historical nature of the plants, while teaching conservation methods and ecological responsibility. About 220 students will have access to the research garden during school as well as numerous community members who use the facility after hours.



The Board also has added to the School Grant Program some cash incentive awards for entries in

the Southern Arizona Science Fair that feature cactus and succulents.



Science Fair Winner

Cactus Rescue

Cactus Rescue has had a bit of a hiatus during the holidays and into the first part of the year. A number of potential rescue sites are being monitored and activity should pick up soon.

Our Rescue Crew is notified on Thursdays for weekend rescues. If you are interested in being on the list, send Joe an email at cacti@earthlink.net. Come when you can, help the club, and get hand selected cacti at a great price.



Larry Grammer, April Speaker



TCSS Rescue Cacti for Sale

Lots & lots to choose from.....

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Next Meeting

Thursday, June 5 at 7:00 pm

Junior League of Tucson

2099 E. River Road

Tucson

June Refreshments

Refreshments in June will be leftovers
provided by those who baked so many
wonderful things for the Expo.

Everyone is Welcome!

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

Thursday, June 5, 2003

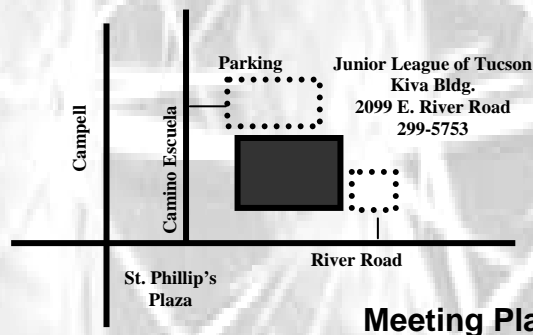
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Mark Dimmitt

Mark Dimmitt, Natural Science Director at the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, will speak on the genus *Trichocereus*. This genus, recently vacated in favor of lumping many species under *Echinopsis*, has given us a fabulous array of both day and night blooming cactus. Mark has produced more than 50 named cultivars, such as Volcanic Sunset, Yes!, Oh Wow!, and Apricot Glow. Clones of these cactus grace many of our yards, as well as the splendid display at the Desert Museum.

Mark is well known for his knowledge of the flora and fauna of the Sonoran desert, and he is currently heading up a number of research projects including a study of the Ironwood Forest National Monument. Many of us know Mark as a dedicated and prolific horticulturist specializing in the cultivation of succulents and epiphytes, especially *Adenium*, *Trichocereus*, and *Tillandsia*.

Mark has spoken to us many times, and has never disappointed. Don't miss this presentation.



Meeting Place

President's Message



Thank you for your support of our first Cactus and Succulent Exposition. Barry McCormick, who was general chairman, did wonderful job of coordinating all the activities associated with this event. The Junior League facility

turned out to be a great venue. To all of you who chaired parts of the event and to all of you who volunteered your time-Thank you. I hope you had as much fun as I did.

What's next? Sonoran V is in the planning stages and we will have a date and place shortly. We are planning for the end of April or the first week in May 2004 as the preferred time.

Please support the Weird Plant Sale at the Tucson Botanical Gardens on June 13. From 6-8 pm there is a special member's pre-sale and you are invited to attend. If you are not a TBG member, be sure to have your TCSS membership card with you. The sale will continue on Saturday, June 14, from 8 am to 1 pm.

We are trying to put together a trip to the Huntington Botanical Gardens in coordination with the Succulent Symposium. The date is Saturday, August 30, 2004. I understand that the one-day symposium will on South American Cacti. Please let me know if you are interested in a trip to the Huntington.

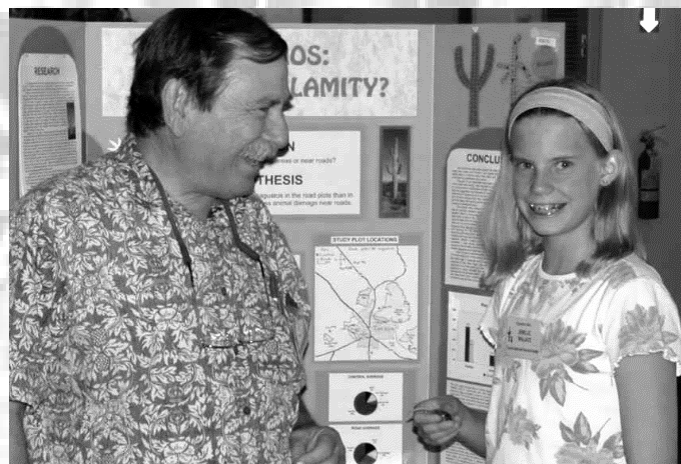
Membership in the Society continues to grow. More than 20 new members have joined during the Exposition. We welcome you and are glad you share our enthusiasm for succulent plants.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

Saguaros: A Cactus Calamity?

Part of our educational display at Exposition 2003 was a great science project by Jenelle who is an 6th grade student at St. Michael's Parish School. She is a winner from the Southern Arizona Regional Science and Engineering Fair known as SARSEF. Her project display board and research notebook were on display and Jenelle was available for part of

the Exposition to answer questions about her project. Her project question was "Are saguaros healthier in wild areas or near roads?" Her Hypothesis was "There will be more unhealthy saguaros in the road plots that in the control plots. There will be less animal damage near roads." She found part of this to be true and part wasn't so true. I hope you had a chance to talk to Jenelle or review her display to see what she discovered.



President Dick Wiedhopf presented Jenelle with a special cactus pin and gave her and her family a TCSS membership and free cactus. Mike Ellis, one of the vendors, gave her a small saguaro to raise and care for as well.

Joe Frannea

Mary Church

January 1, 1913 to May 13, 2003

From the very beginning, as a charter member, Mary was the heart and soul of the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society. Her support for this society was unwavering through good times and not so good times. She shared her knowledge, skills, volunteerism and plants with everyone. When my wife and I joined the Society thirty-three years ago, Mary was one of the first members to greet us and make us feel welcome. She was my friend, was a friend to all of us. She will be missed in our Society and in our Community.

Dick Wiedhopf

School Grant Program



Four kindergarten teachers from Amphitheater's E.C. Nash Elementary School recently applied for and were awarded a \$400 grant to build a Kinder"Garden". Nash first grade students maintain a

flower, fruit, and vegetable garden. A desert garden will give about 100 kindergarten students, as well as other students, experience and ideas about another type of garden. They plan to not only plant and maintain the garden but keep records on growth, flowers, and other observations. This is the third grant awarded this year from our Educational Outreach School Grant funds.

Joe Frannea

IRHS Cactus & Succulent Project a Success

A freshman Biology teacher at Ironwood Ridge High School (IRHS), Jim Ewing, was the first recipient of a cash grant from our Educational Outreach School Grant Program. He brought part of their Mini Desert Biome project and a brief write up to our Exposition 2003 to be part of the educational display.



He and another teacher, Mrs. Koza, and their students obtained over 300 cacti from Bach's, built light stands from PVC parts, and planted many biomes. They started in January and are finishing up this month. A successful plant sale in April yielded them \$450 which will help support next years Cactus & Succulent project. A gift TCSS

membership was given to Jim so the teachers and students could keep up with our activities and maybe help with some student level articles for our newspaper.

Joe Frannea

Cactus Rescue

Cactus Rescue leapt back into the picture with a very successful rescue in the Vail area on Saturday, May 24. About 25 members gathered for the first salvage of the year. It was satisfying that a large number of the members were new to the club, and had space to provide a home to many of the cactus. We rescued many barrels and hedgehogs, and the occasional yucca and mammillaria on the 67 acre site. All it took to get us back into the rescue business was for the temperatures to reach three digits!



We had expected to be rescuing at the new Tanque Verde School site, but the recent headline: "Tanque Verde's School Quagmire" tells it all. No telling when, or if, we will be on that fertile site.

Our Rescue Crew is notified on Thursdays for weekend rescues. If you are interested in being on the list, send Joe Frannea an email at cacti@earthlink.net. Come when you can, help the club, and get hand selected cacti at a great price.

Kudos.

To Valarie Miller, one of the winners of this year's Tucson Xeriscape Contest for her home garden of cacti and succulents. The awards were given at Tohono Chul Park May 14. Good job Valarie – that's what it's all about.

Library



Look for new books purchased recently: *Crassula - A Grower's Guide*, by Gordon Rowley and *Epiphyllum* by Leue

TCSS Rescue Cacti for

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Barrels - from 14" diameter
(about \$1 per head)



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7126

Photo credits for this issue are
Joe Franklin, Sarah McCormick
and Lark Wiedhopf

Welcome to our new
members this month. A new
roster is being prepared so we just
welcome you by name this month.

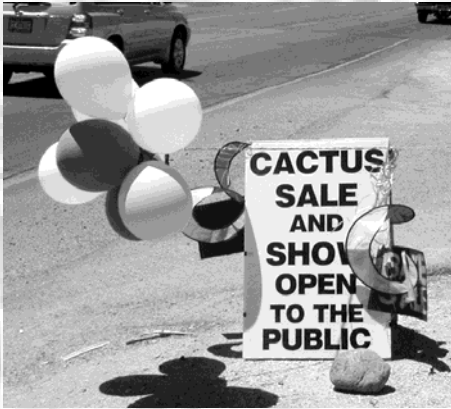


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Tucson Cactus and Succulent Expo a Resounding Success

The Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society is proud of the highly successful “first-annual” Exposition. Every aspect of this endeavor was a resounding success. We had a vision, and we brought it home!



At the top of the list of successes is the record number of members who pitched in to make it what is was. This is obviously not your typical

Society, with a small core of over-worked members and a big following of members who show up for meetings and trips. No, we all pitched in together, and we did a great job.

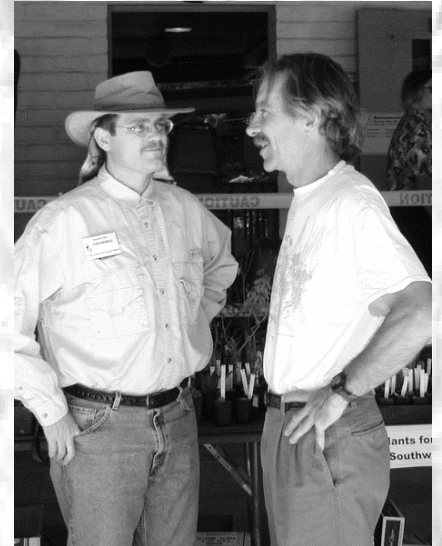
It's a hopeless task to start singling out members for recognition – some will always be missed. But I want to recognize, and thank, many of the key members who made this such a success.



It all started with Jack Ramsey, who had the vision to suggest the event. Jack admits that the final product greatly exceeded his expectations, but he was the one who got the ball rolling. The Board ratified the idea, and President Dick Wiedhopf did his usual fine job of putting it all in perspective and making those key suggestions that contributed so much – the now famous snow cone machine (Who knew how well the take-down crew would work fueled by Margarita snow cones), the Agave giveaway (and the windfall of selling his sample plant), and key publicity ideas. Barry McCormick took on the task of general coordinator, and the show took form. Jack, Barry, and Joe Frannea did the initial

site planning, and Blair Kuropatkin took on the vital task of publicity. Our purpose was two-fold: to highlight our many exciting programs and our love of cacti and succulents for ourselves, and to show ourselves off to the public, fulfilling our educational and community purposes. Publicity was the key, and Blair led a great team, with everything from posters and flyers in the Tucson libraries to the great KUAT TV spot.

The show was also notable for the integration of the vendors into the overall show. Joe Frannea marshaled the local growers, and the enthusiasm to participate was so great we had to disappoint quite a few who wanted to sell.



Most of the vendors also entered exhibits, and their show plants helped make the show such a fantastic look at the many faces of cacti and succulents.



The backbone of the effort fell to the board members, and, in many cases, board member spouses. Gail Virtes and Helen Barber organized the membership and information booth. Keith Zwickl took charge of the plant sitting booth and the free raffle. Chris Monrad handled security, and Jack Ramsey, ably assisted by Helen, doubled as the Cactus Rescue sale manager. Vonn Watkins

did the fabulous art work on the poster, the flyer, and even the post cards. Vonn also teamed with Dick Weidhopf setting up workshops and displays.



Patsy Frannea, who has done more for our good dispositions and bad waistlines than any other, took over the daunting task of providing refreshments. Linda Ryan took on the task of mounting the society display, with Dick Wiedhopf at the keyboard providing labeling, supported by Mark Dimmitt, who kept insisting that names should be spelled correctly.



This was the team who put the thing together, but it was the other 80% of the membership who showed up and made the show a success. I single out just a few who particularly caught my attention. Blair Kuropatkin, after working endless hours on publicity, rented a truck and took on the job of hauling specimen plants in from the far reaches of Tucson, and delivered them home afterwards. Even as the show was running, she was out tacking up posters at the nearby Farmer's Market. George Virtes dealt with the potentially massive traffic jam that ensued Saturday morning, and was the cornerstone of the greeting staff. Margaret Pope

ably counted the voting beans. Bill Salsbury came to do his shift as a greeter and stayed at it most of the day.



Margaret Sitter, Mark Sitter, and Laurel Cooper gave excellent demonstrations. The science fair was represented by a cactus-related exhibit and one of the Grant Program awardees had a display.

How successful was it? We had an estimated attendance of 700, and approximately 90 of our society members participated in some way. Vendor sales were excellent; the vendors were pleased. We signed up 20 new members, and made approximately \$2000, including \$1000 net rescue sales. 375 rescued cacti received a new home. We obtained the addresses of several hundred attendees to add to our mailing list for notification of future shows and sales. Most importantly, we had a great time and showed off some wonderful plants.



This show sets the standard for our shows in the future, and is a testament to the skills and hard work of all of our members.



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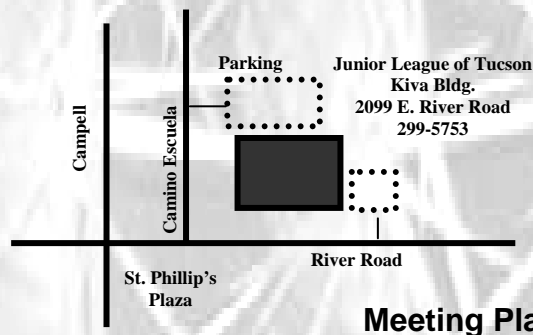
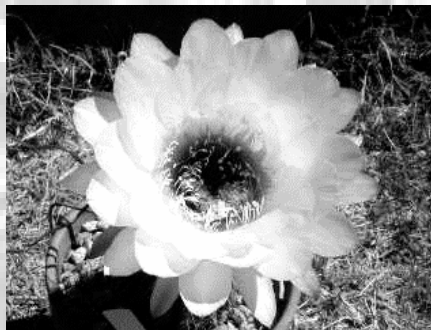
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turned out to be a great venue. To all of you who chaired parts of the event and to all of you who volunteered your time-Thank you. I hope you had as much fun as I did.

What's next? Sonoran V is in the planning stages and we will have a date and place shortly. We are planning for the end of April or the first week in May 2004 as the preferred time.

Please support the Weird Plant Sale at the Tucson Botanical Gardens on June 13. From 6-8 pm there is a special member's pre-sale and you are invited to attend. If you are not a TBG member, be sure to have your TCSS membership card with you. The sale will continue on Saturday, June 14, from 8 am to 1 pm.

We are trying to put together a trip to the Huntington Botanical Gardens in coordination with the Succulent Symposium. The date is Saturday, August 30, 2004. I understand that the one-day symposium will on South American Cacti. Please let me know if you are interested in a trip to the Huntington.

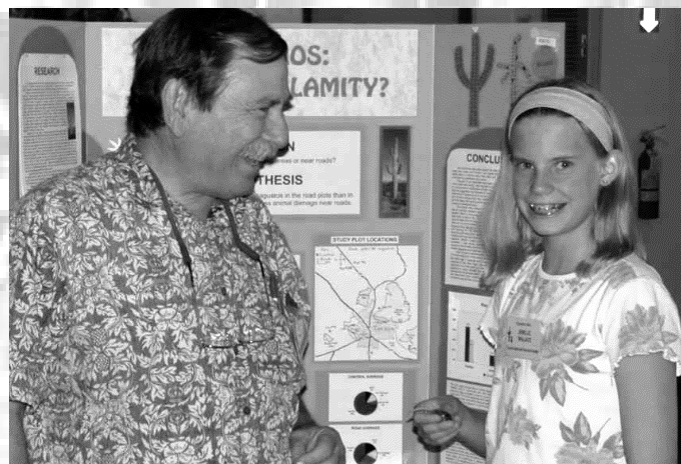
Membership in the Society continues to grow. More than 20 new members have joined during the Exposition. We welcome you and are glad you share our enthusiasm for succulent plants.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

Saguaros: A Cactus Calamity?

Part of our educational display at Exposition 2003 was a great science project by Jenelle who is an 6th grade student at St. Michael's Parish School. She is a winner from the Southern Arizona Regional Science and Engineering Fair known as SARSEF. Her project display board and research notebook were on display and Jenelle was available for part of

the Exposition to answer questions about her project. Her project question was "Are saguaros healthier in wild areas or near roads?" Her Hypothesis was "There will be more unhealthy saguaros in the road plots that in the control plots. There will be less animal damage near roads." She found part of this to be true and part wasn't so true. I hope you had a chance to talk to Jenelle or review her display to see what she discovered.



President Dick Wiedhopf presented Jenelle with a special cactus pin and gave her and her family a TCSS membership and free cactus. Mike Ellis, one of the vendors, gave her a small saguaro to raise and care for as well.

Joe Frannea

Mary Church

January 1, 1913 to May 13, 2003

From the very beginning, as a charter member, Mary was the heart and soul of the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society. Her support for this society was unwavering through good times and not so good times. She shared her knowledge, skills, volunteerism and plants with everyone. When my wife and I joined the Society thirty-three years ago, Mary was one of the first members to greet us and make us feel welcome. She was my friend, was a friend to all of us. She will be missed in our Society and in our Community.

Dick Wiedhopf

School Grant Program



Four kindergarten teachers from Amphitheater's E.C. Nash Elementary School recently applied for and were awarded a \$400 grant to build a Kinder"Garden". Nash first grade students maintain a

flower, fruit, and vegetable garden. A desert garden will give about 100 kindergarten students, as well as other students, experience and ideas about another type of garden. They plan to not only plant and maintain the garden but keep records on growth, flowers, and other observations. This is the third grant awarded this year from our Educational Outreach School Grant funds.

Joe Frannea

IRHS Cactus & Succulent Project a Success

A freshman Biology teacher at Ironwood Ridge High School (IRHS), Jim Ewing, was the first recipient of a cash grant from our Educational Outreach School Grant Program. He brought part of their Mini Desert Biome project and a brief write up to our Exposition 2003 to be part of the educational display.



He and another teacher, Mrs. Koza, and their students obtained over 300 cacti from Bach's, built light stands from PVC parts, and planted many biomes. They started in January and are finishing up this month. A successful plant sale in April yielded them \$450 which will help support next years Cactus & Succulent project. A gift TCSS

membership was given to Jim so the teachers and students could keep up with our activities and maybe help with some student level articles for our newspaper.

Joe Frannea

Cactus Rescue

Cactus Rescue leapt back into the picture with a very successful rescue in the Vail area on Saturday, May 24. About 25 members gathered for the first salvage of the year. It was satisfying that a large number of the members were new to the club, and had space to provide a home to many of the cactus. We rescued many barrels and hedgehogs, and the occasional yucca and mammillaria on the 67 acre site. All it took to get us back into the rescue business was for the temperatures to reach three digits!



We had expected to be rescuing at the new Tanque Verde School site, but the recent headline: "Tanque Verde's School Quagmire" tells it all. No telling when, or if, we will be on that fertile site.

Our Rescue Crew is notified on Thursdays for weekend rescues. If you are interested in being on the list, send Joe Frannea an email at cacti@earthlink.net. Come when you can, help the club, and get hand selected cacti at a great price.

Kudos.

To Valarie Miller, one of the winners of this year's Tucson Xeriscape Contest for her home garden of cacti and succulents. The awards were given at Tohono Chul Park May 14. Good job Valarie – that's what it's all about.

Library



Look for new books purchased recently: *Crassula - A Grower's Guide*, by Gordon Rowley and *Epiphyllum* by Leue

TCSS Rescue Cacti for

Lots & lots to choose from.....

Barrels - from 4" to 14" diameter
(about \$2 per head)



Hedgehogs – from 1 to 20 heads
(about \$1 per head)

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

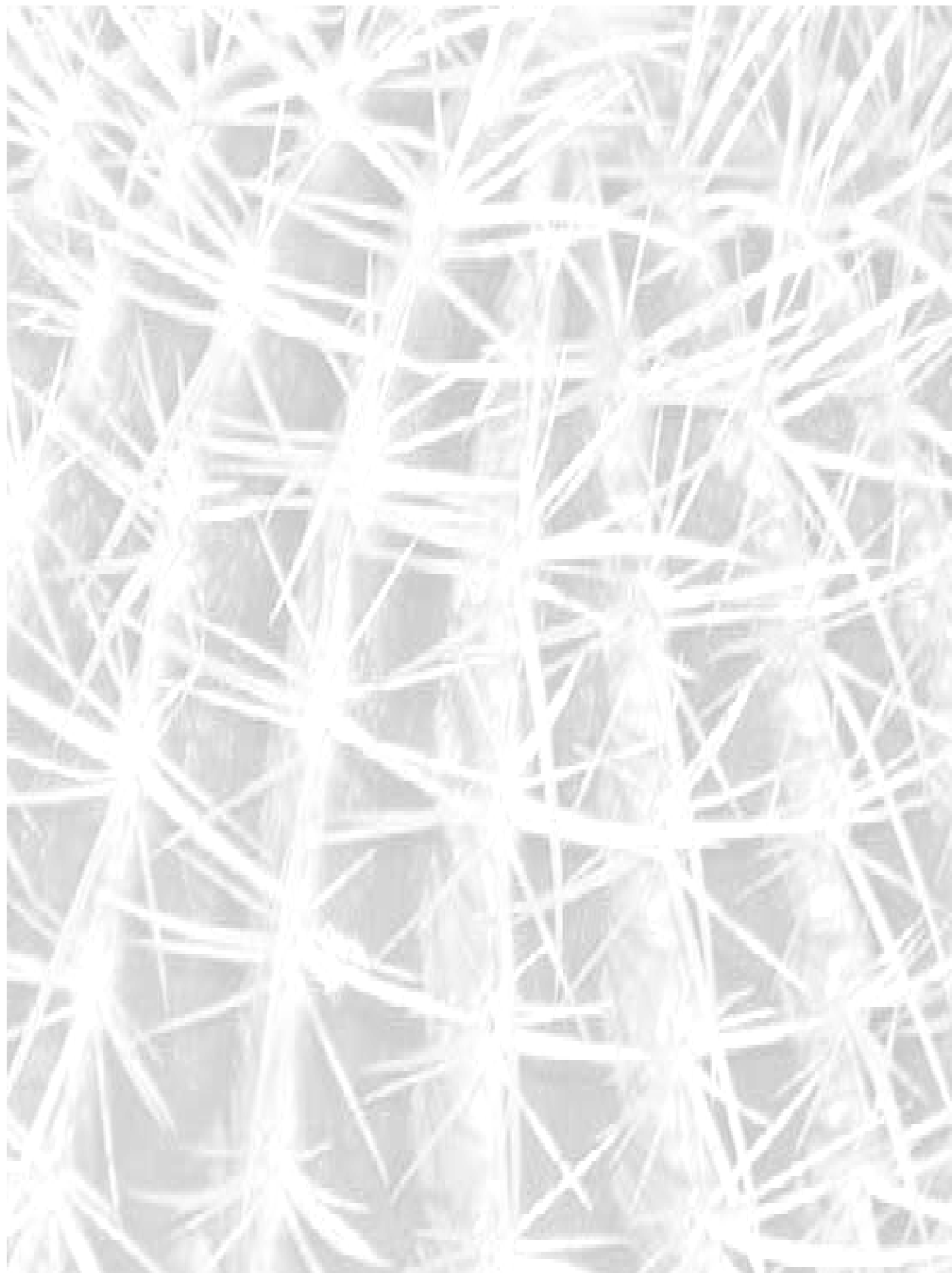
Photo credits for this issue are
Joe Franklin, Sarah McCormick
and Lark Wiedhopf

Welcome to our new
members this month. A new
roster is being prepared so we just
welcome you by name this month.



Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society
7510 E. Rio Verde Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85715-353







Desert Breeze

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August 2003

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jbarrymcc@earthlink.net

Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page: www.tucsoncactus.org

Next Meeting

Thursday, August 7 at 7:00 pm

Junior League of Tucson

2099 E. River Road

Tucson

August 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.

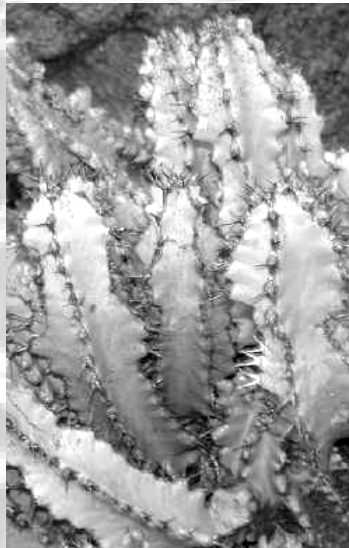
Thursday, August 7, 2003

7:00 pm

Anthon Ellert

Euphorbias of Zimbabwe

Join Anthon Ellert for a tour of the succulent Euphorbias of Zimbabwe. Anthon was a long time resident of Zimbabwe before moving to Tucson and is very knowledgeable on the succulent flora of the region. The Euphorbias from this part of Africa are truly unique and interesting.

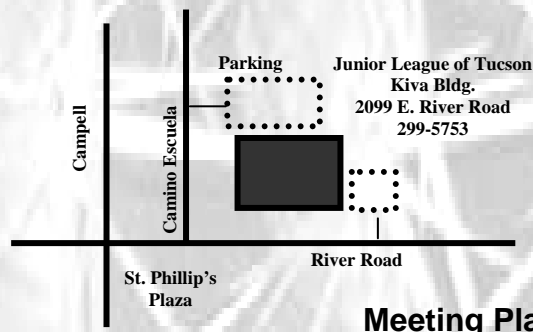


Euphorbia memoralis



Euphorbia persistentifolia

September Program will be Dylan Hannon on Succulents of Socotra



Meeting Place

President's Message



Last week you should have received an announcement about the Huntington's 20th Succulent Plants Symposium. I hope many of you will take this opportunity to attend all the Symposium events (including dinner) and spend another day at this and other

Botanical Gardens in the area with other members of the Tucson Society. We want to coordinate activities with those attending so be sure to send your reply to Gail Virtes. I want to be able to share photos and experiences of this trip at our September meeting.

SONORAN V - THE BAJA

Please note that the correct dates are April 30 to May 2, 2004 at the Inn Suites Hotel. Friday night, May 2 will be a dinner for all members and vendors, speakers, workshop leader and conference

registrants followed by a kick-off speaker. We will open the sales and show areas at the end of the program as a special pre-sale event. We have purchased a bar code reading cash register that will be used at this event (hopefully).

Saturday, May 1, 2004 will feature speakers, workshops, silent auction, and a special gourmet dinner using cacti and succulents. This will be an exciting and tasty event. The conference will end on Sunday, May 2 with speakers, workshops, and a final luncheon with a closing speaker.

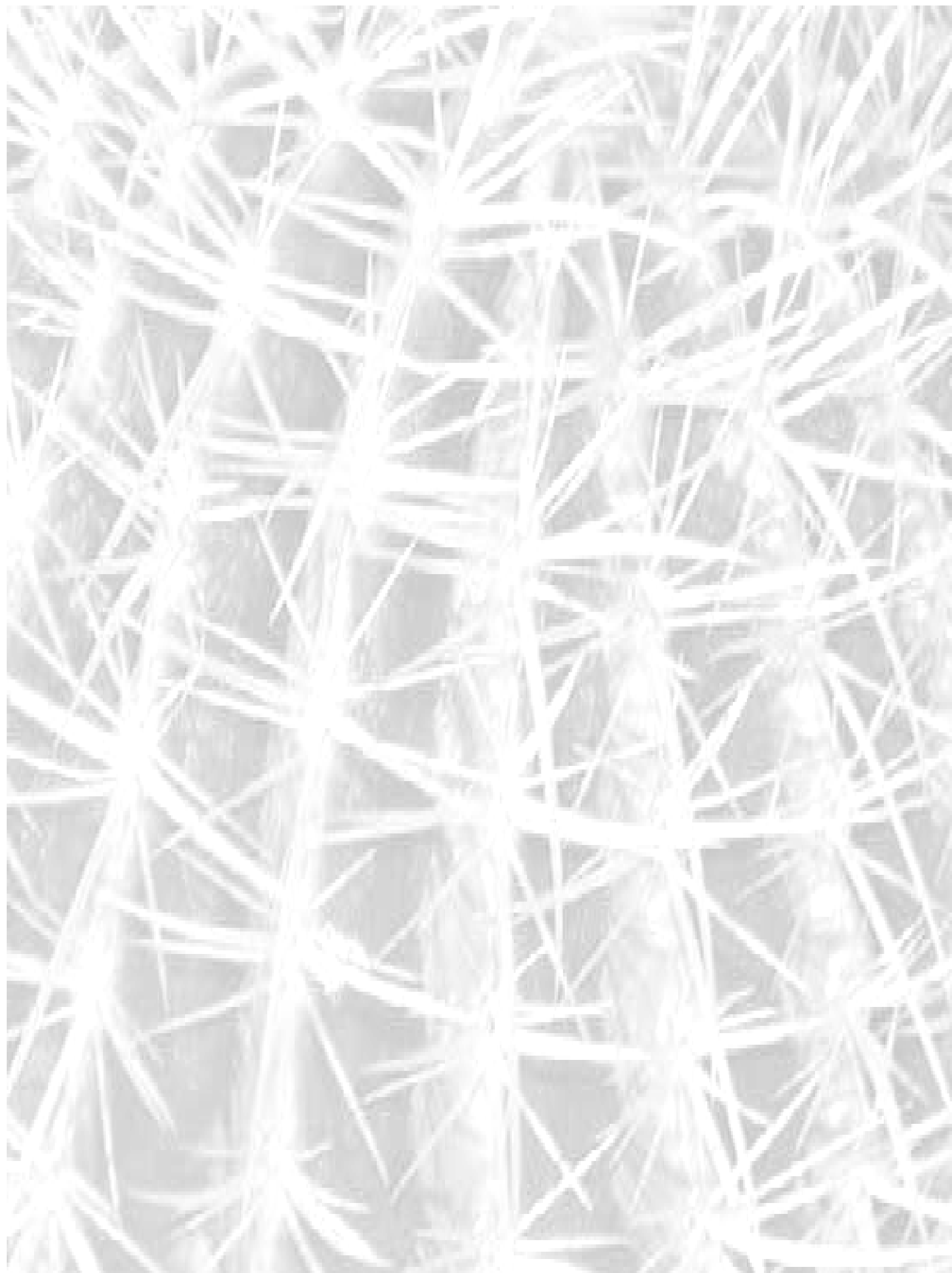
The conference activities are being planned now. Do you want to help? At the next Board of Directors meeting we will be appointing committee chairs and conference coordinator(s). We will send everyone a list of activities and committees in which you can take an active part either in planning or helping at the conference.

Thank you for your continued support of our activities.

Dick Wiedhopf

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Thursday, September 4 at 7:00 pm
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2099 E. River Road
Tucson

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T to Z, please bring your choice of
refreshment to the meeting.

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community.

Thursday, September 4, 2003

7:00 pm

Dylan Hannon

Plant Propagator, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden "A Natural History of Socotra"

The September 4th program will be presented by Dylan Hannon. Dylan is a plant propagator at both Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden and the Huntington Botanical Gardens and has also written articles for the Cactus and Succulent Journal on some of his travels.



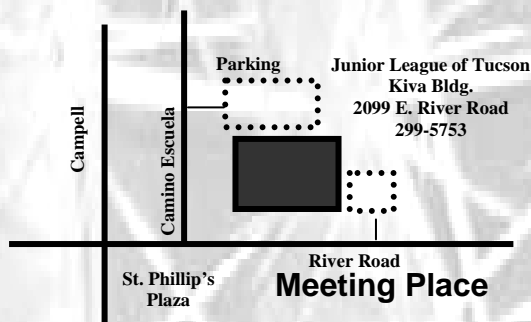
The island of Socotra has long been fabled as a source of frankincense (*Boswellia* species), dragon's blood (*Dracaena cinnabari*) and bitter aloes (*Aloe perryi*). During two recent expeditions to the island, which is administered by Yemen, Dylan has

photographed many of the plants, including enormous adeniums, cucumber trees (*Dendrosicyos*), dragon trees, *Dorstenia gigas*, stapeliads and many others. He will also focus on the people and natural history of this beautiful and remote Socotra, literally translated from Sanskrit as "Island of Bliss"

To learn more about Socotra and view some beautiful pictures, visit
<http://www.friendsofsocotra.org/photos.htm>.

Thursday, October 2, 2003

Richard Felger, Director of The Drylands Institute, will give a presentation on the Ethnobotany of Sonoran Desert Cactus



President's Message



Summer is almost over! Soon our focus will turn to preparing for fall planting, re-potting and over-wintering our plants. No matter how I try to control myself, there always seem to be more plants to worry about. The reason I mention this is that

November 15 (the day that we use for the potential first frost) is quickly approaching and I usually forget to do anything about my tender plants until November 16.

In the next couple of meetings we will make time to hear some fall and wintering suggestions. I hope they will be helpful. We will put the best ones on our website and in the Desert Breeze. If you have questions or answers, please let us know! The areas we want to cover are planting, re-potting, frost protection, structure building and associated activities.

Of course an important activity this fall is attending plant sales. We will keep you up-to-date and post them on our website. Our local member growers produce many of the plants that are at these sales and they always appreciate your support.

We have purchased two scanning cash registers for use at all our plant sales. We know this will be a great convenience to buyers and sellers and look forward to their use. If you would like to be trained to help out at our sales using these new devices, please contact Kevin Barber (our vice president).

At the next board meeting we will be electing a nominations committee who will prepare a slate of officers and board members to be announced at the November meeting. At that time nominations from the floor for any officer or board member will be accepted. The ballots go out in late November and the winners announced at the annual meeting which is part of the December 14 Holiday Party. If there is a need for a run-off election, it will take place at the annual meeting.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

Sonoran V

Sonoran V is only eight months away. The dates are Friday, April 30 to Sunday, May 2 at the Inn Suites Hotel. We will have a tentative schedule of events in the October issue of the Desert Breeze.

Technology Committee Update

If you haven't visited the TCSS web site recently please do so. (www.tucsoncactus.org). This is your site and we are steadily enhancing it. You will find a lot of new information. We have created an expanding database of cactus and succulents that are commonly grown in Tucson with pictures and cultivation information. It will eventually cover over 100 varieties. We are also busy adding more



pictures of each plant in a "more information" page attached to each plant entry.

We have also added a "latest news" page to provide for breaking news that we would

like to communicate to the organization. Check it out often to make sure you stay up on all the interesting activities that the TCSS is involved in this year. Soon we will be adding a food section so get those recipes ready! In addition Vonn Watkins is working on creating a diseases and pests page.

You can help in two important ways. We need more pictures of each plant to add to the information pages. We are looking for images that show the various stages and ages of the plants and also pictures of the plants in bloom. We would also like to create links to quality web sites containing information about Cactus and Succulents that would be interesting to most of our readers. If you have some favorite sites please send them to tcss@tucsoncactus.org for consideration to be added to our site.

We welcome any suggestions or feedback concerning the site. If you think something is missing or simply have an idea for new content please don't hesitate to send email to tcss@tucsoncactus.org.

Kevin Barber

Rescue a Big Success

Thirty-seven eager volunteers showed up early Saturday morning on August 16 at Skyline and Campbell for our first rescue opportunity this summer, and only our second outing this year. We worked diligently for several hours on nine acres of steep, rocky terrain, digging up plants before the development site grading. It didn't take long for all of the new recruits to learn the basics, and discover some underused muscles.



The specimens on this site were in beautiful condition after recent rains and rescue crew members were fortunate to have the opportunity to remove so many from harms way so that the plants will continue to be

enjoyed. Ocotillo, barrels in bloom and several pincushion size plants are ready to take up residence in new landscapes around Tucson. Most of the barrels on this property were exceptionally large and required lots of muscle power by three to four people using a carpet sling to haul them out of the site and load them into vehicles for transport. We have several of these large specimens in our rescue holding nursery. Call Joe or Patsy at 575-7126 if interested.

The weather cooperated for the rescue and rains a few days before helped loosen the soil but the jackhammer was beneficial to help coax the larger ocotillo out of their rocky hillside home. A total of 35 ocotillo, 50 barrels, 45 pincushion size cacti, and one large hedgehog were rescued. All of the ocotillo and many of the barrels went home with Rescue Crew members who volunteered over 150

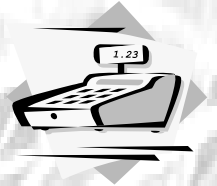


hours of work to save these plants. Other prospective sites are being reviewed. Rescue notices are emailed to Rescue Crew members on Thursday if there is a rescue the following weekend.

Joe & Patsy Frannea

Financial Details

Our treasury continues to maintain a healthy balance of about \$21,000. Final gross sales figures from the spring show and sale were \$15,694.63, making our profit from the event about \$2000. While profit was far from our main purpose in having the show, it certainly helps us maintain our projects and programs.



We have made quite a number of valuable additions to our society assets recently, including a very high tech video projector, scanning cash registers to support our sales, tables and equipment to aid in cactus rescue, and some very valuable additions to our library.

Our first-cut budget for Sonoran V of \$20,730 is more comfortable with our current financial picture.

Greenhouse Project

We are still interested in a project to design a simple, inexpensive greenhouse that members could build to protect some of the more tender cactus and succulents.



The goal would be an 8x10 foot greenhouse for under \$1000 in materials. Interested? Contact Barry McCormick at jbarrymcc@earthlink.net or 299-6195.

2003 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.

October 2 General Meeting, Richard Felger
October 19 TCSS Plant Sale
November 6 General Meeting, Phil Favel
December 14 Annual Holiday Party

Photo credits for this issue are Joe Frannea, Barry McCormick, Friends of Socotra.



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)

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October 2003

Thursday, October 2, 2003

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**Richard Felger
Drylands Institute**

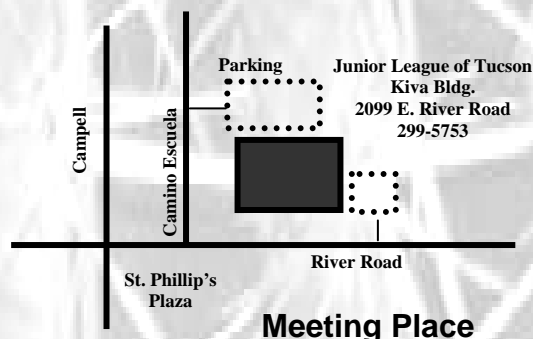
"South American and Sonoran Desert Connection "

Richard Felger will discuss the South American deserts and the Sonoran Desert connection. Why the differences and why the similarities.

Richard Felger has studied natural history in arid regions worldwide and is the founder and executive director of Drylands Institute in Tucson. He is co-author, with Mary Beck Moser, of *People of the Desert and Sea: Ethnobotany of the Seri Indians*, (U of A Press). Recent books include *Flora of the Gran Desierto and Río Colorado of northwestern Mexico*, (U of A Press), *Cactaceas de Sonora, México* with Rafaela Paredes and Tom Van Devender, (Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum), and *Trees of Sonora, Mexico* with Matt Johnson and Michael Wilson, (Oxford University Press). Forthcoming books include: *Biodiversity, Ecosystems, and Conservation in northern Mexico*, co-edited with Jean-Luc Cartron and Gerardo Ceballos, (Oxford University Press) and a much-expanded edition of *Dry Borders* co-edited with Bill Broyles, (University of Utah Press).



Richard will have some of his books available for sale at discount prices and will be ready to sign them.



President's Message



This is one of the busiest times of the year for Cacti and Succulent enthusiasts. A list of all the plant sales in October is on our web site (Tucsoncactus.org). If you don't have access to the web be sure to visit both the Tucson Botanical Gardens and Tohono Chul on October

4 and 5. Boyce Thompson Arboretum October 10-27, Desert Botanical Gardens October 17, 18 and 19 and the Pima County Country Fair on October 19 (we are there). If you want to sell at our both on the 19th, you must contact Jack Ramsey for details.

Nominations for Officers and Board Members will be announced at our November meeting and nomination from the floor we be accepted with the approval of the nominee at that meeting. If you are interested in any position please contact me for details and further information.

Sonoran V is moving forward very quickly. We are delighted to announce that Jon Rebman from the San Diego Natural History Museum has committed to speak. Some members were fortunate to hear him at the St Louis CSSA Convention and knew that he would be someone that all of you would enjoy. We have also received a commitment from Rainbow Garden Bookshop that they will be a vendor at the conference. This will be the first time since 1995 that they will be selling in Tucson. This will be a great opportunity for everyone in Southern Arizona and all our friends in the Phoenix area to acquire the latest books and more. We are also making plans for an Art Show on May 2 as part of the conference.

The conference will be limited to 100 participants and members of the TCSS will have an opportunity to reserve a spot prior to the general announcement to the public. You will receive a special mailing in the next month or so. There is also a special registration fee and payment plan for members. Remember the dates: April 30, May 1 and May 2.

In addition to our school grants program, the Board has approved the use of some of the gift money we are receiving for research grants. The process for these grants is being developed now.

Thank you all for your support and enthusiasm.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

Pima County Country Fair

Saturday, October 19, 2003

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. Jan Emming of Destination Forever Ranch will again be selling with us. Drop by and consider giving some of these plants a home.

Jack Ramsey



Tucson Botanical Garden Sale



Fall Plant Sale: At this huge plant extravaganza, find a great diversity of drought tolerant plants, including many natives, available for Tucson's prime planting time. October 4 and 5, 2003.

Tohono Chul Park Sale



During The October 4 and 5 Fall Plant Sale, the Greenhouses nearly doubles its inventory to offer you a variety of arid plants, trees, shrubs and wildflowers at special prices.

Sonoran V "The Baja"

The Sonoran conference is a biennial event put on by the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society solely for the entertainment and education of – us! It is our conference, where we bring together the speakers, workshops, and sales and displays that we want to see. It is not associated with the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, or any other group. It is a great opportunity to immerse ourselves for a weekend in the world of cacti and succulents. It is our local Tucson event.

Building on our great success at hosting the most successful Cactus and Succulent Society of America conference ever held, the conference format was conceived by Margaret Pope, Mary Odette, Linda Burback and Dick Wiedhopf. The first conference was held in 1996 at the Foothills Mall and utilized empty store fronts. It was great fun and the value of speakers united by a theme, associated with workshops for all level of expertise, a show, silent auction and sales proved



to be a great concept. We decided to hold the conference on even years, since in the alternate years we had the Cactus and Succulent Society of America convention to attend.

Although new features and refinements have been made to each succeeding conference, the original format has been largely maintained. The concept is to keep the conference small (no more than 100 registrants) so that workshops can be interactive and questions easily dealt with within the allotted time.

This is a great opportunity to learn and share information. We do allow visitors to attend the conference, but only after we have assured ourselves that all of our own members who want

to attend have had a chance to. It will be interesting to see if the unprecedented growth of our society in the last two years means we have to turn some



members away. We may have to adjust the format in future years; if the demand is too great this year we may have to make adjustments as we go.

So make your reservations early so we can see how things are shaping up. Some of the features of the conference are:

The Friday, April 30 event will be in place of our regular May meeting. The speaker will be presenting the kickoff lecture for the conference. Dinner will be paid for by the Society for all members.

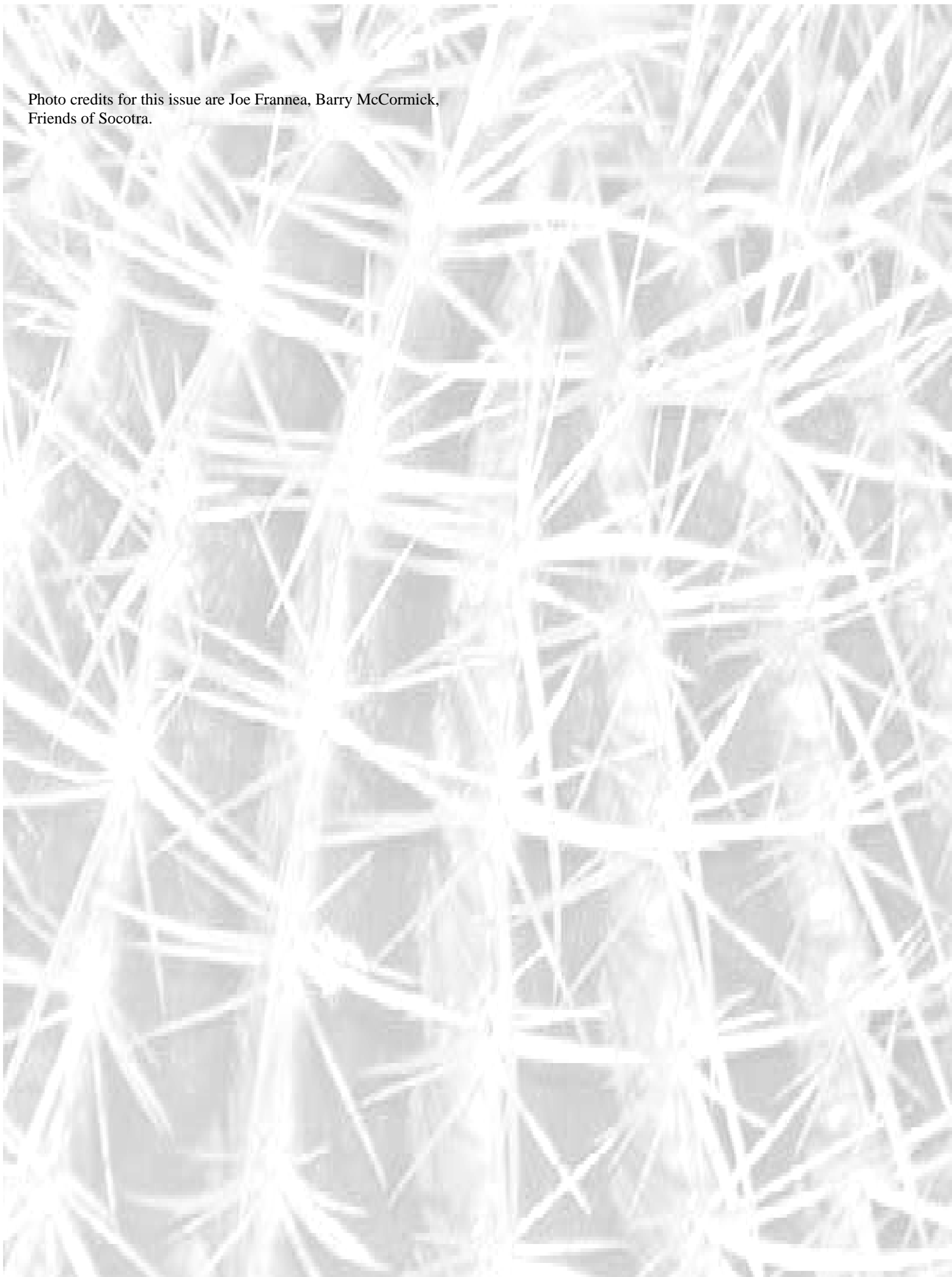
Lectures and workshops are scheduled on Saturday and Sunday. Several simultaneous events allow the participants to tailor their day to their particular interests. Workshops are repeated so that workshop groups can be kept small. In addition to the lectures and workshops, the show and sales areas will be open to the public. The public portion of the event will be similar to this year's Spring Expo, although it will be held at the Inn Suites Hotel.

We are adding an emphasis on foods made from cacti to the Saturday banquet, and hosting a cacti and succulent art show on Sunday.

This is our event, and it is designed for all of us from the interested beginner to the most advanced hobbyist. So mark down April 30 to May 2, 2004 on your calendar, and don't miss your spot in this great event.

Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society member Denny Ladwig died suddenly on September 22. Our sincere sympathy and concern go to Lois and all their family. Burial took place in Wisconsin.

Photo credits for this issue are Joe Frannea, Barry McCormick,
Friends of Socotra.





TCSS Rescue Cacti for Sale

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Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page: www.tucsoncactus.org

Next Meeting

Thursday, November 6 at 7:00 pm

Junior League of Tucson

2099 E. River Road

Tucson

November 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.

Thursday, November 6, 2003

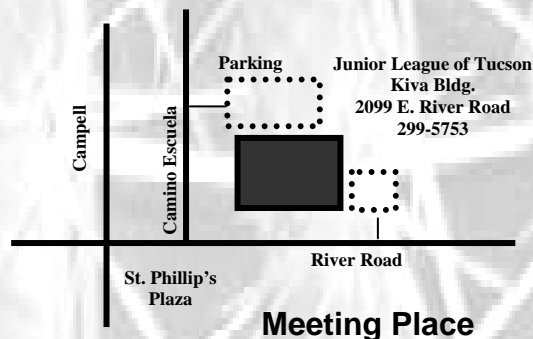
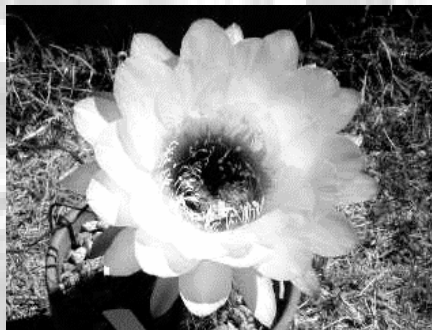
7:00 pm

Mark Dimmitt

Mark Dimmitt, Natural Science Director at the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, will speak on the genus *Trichocereus*. This genus, recently vacated in favor of lumping many species under *Echinopsis*, has given us a fabulous array of both day and night blooming cactus. Mark has produced more than 50 named cultivars, such as Volcanic Sunset, Yes!, Oh Wow!, and Apricot Glow. Clones of these cactus grace many of our yards, as well as the splendid display at the Desert Museum.

Mark is well known for his knowledge of the flora and fauna of the Sonoran desert, and he is currently heading up a number of research projects including a study of the Ironwood Forest National Monument. Many of us know Mark as a dedicated and prolific horticulturist specializing in the cultivation of succulents and epiphytes, especially *Adenium*, *Trichocereus*, and *Tillandsia*.

Mark has spoken to us many times, and has never disappointed. Don't miss this presentation.



President's Message



This is one of the busiest times of the year for Cacti and Succulent enthusiasts. A list of all the plant sales in October is on our web site (Tucsoncactus.org). If you don't have internet access, consider visiting the Tucson Botanical Gardens and Tohono Chul on October 4

and 5, Boyce Thompson Arboretum October 10-27, Desert Botanical Gardens October 17, 18 and 19 and the Pima County Country Fair on October 19 (we are there). If you want to sell at our booth on the 19th, please contact Jack Ramsey for details.

Nominations for Officers and Board Members will be announced at our November meeting and nomination from the floor will be accepted with the approval of the nominee. If you are interested in any position please contact me for details and further information.

Sonoran V is moving forward very quickly. We are delighted to announce that Jon Rebman from the San Diego Natural History Museum has committed to speak. Some members were fortunate to hear him at the St Louis CSSA Convention and knew that he would be someone that all of you would enjoy. We have also received a commitment from Rainbow Garden Bookshop that they will be a vendor at the conference. This will be the first time since 1995 that they will be selling in Tucson. This will be a great opportunity for everyone in Southern Arizona and all our friends from the Phoenix area to acquire the latest books and more. We are also making plans for an Art Show on May 2 as part of the conference.

The conference will be limited to 100 participants and members of the TCSS will have an opportunity to reserve a spot prior to the public announcement. You will receive a special mailing in the next month or so. There is also a special registration fee and

payment plan for members. Remember the dates: April 30, May 1 and May 2.

In addition to our school grants program, the Board has approved the use of some of the gift money we are receiving for research grants. The process for these grants is being developed now.

Thank you all for your support and enthusiasm.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

Annual Holiday Party Sunday, December 14, 2003

12:00 noon

Pima County Country Fair

Saturday, October 19, 2003

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. Jan Emming of Destination Forever Ranch will again be selling with us. Drop by and consider giving some of these plants a home.

Jack Ramsey

Sonoran V "The Baja"

The Sonoran conference is a biennial event put on by the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society solely for the entertainment and education of – us! It is our conference, and we bring together the speakers, workshops, sales, and displays that we want to see. It is a great opportunity to immerse ourselves for a weekend in the world of cacti and succulents. It is our local Tucson event.

Building on our great success at hosting the most successful Cactus and Succulent Society of America conference ever held, the conference format was conceived by Margaret Pope, Mary Odette, Linda Burback and Dick Wiedhopf. The first conference was held in 1996 at the Foothills Mall and utilized empty store fronts. It was great fun and the value of speakers united by a theme, associated with workshops for all level of expertise, a show, silent auction and sales proved to be a great concept. We decided to hold the conference on even years, since in the alternate years we had the Cactus and Succulent Society of America convention to attend.

Although new features and refinements have been made to each succeeding conference, the original format has been largely maintained. The concept is to keep the conference small (no more than 100 registrants) so that workshops can be interactive and questions easily dealt with within the allotted time.

This is a great opportunity to learn and share information. We do allow visitors to attend the conference, but only after we have assured ourselves that all of our own members who want to attend have had a chance to. The unprecedented growth of our society in the last two years may mean that not all interested members can attend. We may have to adjust the format in future years; if we know the demand is too great early enough we may be able to make adjustments this year.

Please make your reservations early so we can see how things are shaping up. Some of the features of the conference are:

The Friday, April 30 event will be in place of our regular May meeting. The speaker will be presenting the kickoff lecture for the conference.

Dinner for all members will be paid for by the Society.

Lectures and workshops are scheduled on Saturday and Sunday. Several simultaneous events allow the participants to tailor their day to their particular interests. Workshops are repeated so that workshop groups can be kept small. In addition to the lectures and workshops, the show and sales areas will be open to the public. The public portion of the event will be similar to this year's Spring Expo, although it will be held at the Inn Suites Hotel.

We are adding an emphasis on foods made from cacti to the Saturday banquet, and hosting a cacti and succulent art show on Sunday.

This is our event, and it is designed to interest all of us, from the beginner to the most advanced hobbyist. Mark April 30 to May 2, 2004 on your calendar, and don't miss your spot in this event.

2003 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.

November 6 General Meeting
December 14 Annual Holiday Party



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



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





Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

December 2003

TCSS BOARD

Officers

President: Richard Wiedhopf
885-6367

Vice President: Kevin Barber
Secretary: Lynda Ryan
Treasurer: Valarie Miller

Board of Directors:

Past-President: Vonn Watkins
Dan Birt (2003)
Chris Monrad (2003)
Keith Zwickl (2003)
Gail Virtes (2004)
Barry McCormick (2004)
Jack Ramsey (2004)
Joe Frannea (2005)
Marty Harow (2005)
Peter Hubbell (2005)
CSSA Affiliate Rep: Helen Barber

Cactus Rescue: Chris Monrad
Educational: Joe Frannea
Free Plants: Norma Beckman
Librarian: Jenny Coniglio
Programs: Kevin Barber
Refreshments: Patsy Frannea
Sales: Jack Ramsey
Technology: Kevin Barber

Editor: Barry McCormick
jbarrymcc@earthlink.net

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Next Meeting

Sunday December 14 at noon
Junior League of Tucson
2099 E. River Road
Tucson

Best of the Holidays to All Holiday Party this Month

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

Sunday, December 14, 2003

12:00 Noon

Holiday Party & Gift Exchange

Don't forget our Holiday Party. Turkey, Ham, Rolls Drinks and tableware will be provided. Bring your favorite hot or cold side dish or dessert, with serving utensils.

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

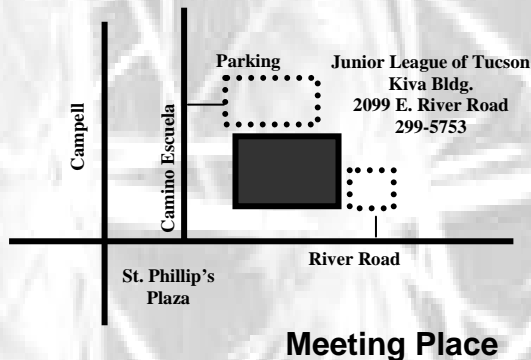
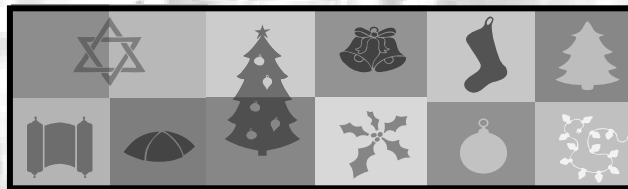
You also can bring canned food or make a Holiday donation to the food bank. Room setup will start at 11:00 am.

To participate in the gift exchange bring a plant or plant related wrapped gift of at least \$5.00 value. If you bring a gift, you get a gift.

Thursday, January 8, 2003

Mark McMahon: Cacti of Bolivia

Note that the January meeting date is the 8th.



President's Message

This year our Society achieved its best relations in our 44-history. In newspapers, on television and radio on the Internet the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society had the opportunity to tell our story. We also had the opportunity to speak with several professional groups and share our rescue program activities with them. In the next few months we will be meeting with elected officials and other community leaders to clearly articulate the benefits of rescuing native cacti and succulents and how this bridges between the environmental concerns of many residents and the development needs of our community.

We need to be proud of the fact that 12,000 plants have been rescued and returned to Arizona communities. This process has enabled our society to invest in educational outreach through our school grants program, engage great speakers at monthly meetings and excite a lot of new members to take a real interest in the study of cacti and other succulent plants. We will also be initiating a research grant program to add to our activities this year.

A lot of interesting activities will be happening in the next year or so. April 30, 2004 to May 2, 2004 is Sonoran V, our unique regional conference, which features "The Baja" as its theme. This conference is



has
public
year

and

has

designed to benefit beginners and professionals and specifically for the benefit of TCSS members. It is a place to learn not just about the plants of Baja but also how to stage a conference, show and sale. This is a great event to be part of.

In August of 2005, The Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) will have its biennial convention in Scottsdale. This is a must for our society members and we will be looking for ways to help underwrite attendance at that meeting. You must be a member of CSSA to attend. The programs will bring together a worldwide group of experts who will share their knowledge about Cacti and Succulents.

Also in 2005 will be our second plant exposition. This year's event was fabulous. I know we learned a lot and will make the next one even better.

Your participation in any or all these activities is what makes them happen and makes them fun. Soon you will be receiving a membership renewal form and an opportunity to get involved. Be sure to check off the activities that you might want to be involved in.

I hope you can attend the Holiday Party and don't forget to bring some help for the food bank. Our next regular meeting will be January 8, 2004.

Finally, thank you for making this year so much fun.

I wish all of you the most joyous of holidays and a Happy New Year.

Dick Wiedhopf, President



**The Officers and Board of
Directors of the Tucson Cactus and
Succulent Society congratulate the
membership on a great year and
wish all members and friends of the
Society a happy Holiday Season
and a prosperous New Year.**



Rescue Crew Responds

Seventy-two acres on the South West corner of La Canada and Tangerine are destined for a new residential development to be called Rancho Verde. The town of Oro Valley was instrumental in lining up the TCSS Rescue Crew with the developer, Monterey Homes, so native cacti not covered by the Native Plant Protection Ordinance (NPPO) could be rescued. We were given very short notice and responded within five days to do a site survey, get all the paperwork completed, acquire tags, and perform the rescue operations before heavy equipment moved on site to begin construction.



On top of the short notice it was the Thanksgiving week so that posed extra challenges and we had a limited Rescue Crew. But, in spite of all this we had twelve crew members on Saturday and eleven members on Sunday, putting in about 100 hours of rescue work to rescue 445 cacti. The Hedgehogs and Christmas Cholla were some of the largest and choicest we have encountered and there were many barrels and Mammillaria as well.



Joe admires a many-headed specimen

A couple of special barrels were encountered but we did not have the time or resources to deal with them with such a short rescue period. The best we could do was to take a few photos to share with others. The property has hundreds of small saguaros and the

developer will see that all these are saved. There were also several large Saguaros, two Ocotillo and a several Yucca that the developer will relocate on site. About 30% of the 72 acres is designated as native save areas and will be left undisturbed. Rescue Crew members each used detailed maps to be sure we stayed out of these areas.



Mark & Patsy sadly bid farewell to a heritage cactus.
We can't save them all!

If you are interested in purchasing any of these rescued cacti (some of the Hedgehogs are 10 inches tall with 5 to 7 heads) call Joe or Patsy at 575-7126.

Joe & Patsy Frannea

New TCSS Logo

Vonn Watkins has designed a new logo for the Society.





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Photos by Joe Frannea.

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