

## President's Message



I want to thank all of you for making 2006 a great year for the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society. This newsletter highlights the past year and every member needs to take pride in our accomplishments. We are the largest affiliated society of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America and, starting in January, our Technology Committee Chair Kevin Barber will be serving a four year term on the CSSA board of directors of and I will be serving a two year term as CSSA President.

This additional responsibility will enhance my continuing leadership as your president. I am enthusiastic about what we can accomplish. We have an opportunity to do more for this community and are already making plans for new activities and projects.

- One of the first will be our Research Grant Program headed by Gerald Pine. We have been designating money over the last couple of years and have more than \$8,000 in the Research Fund. The research program should be ready to accept applications by April.
- We are still allocating a portion of rescue funds for our K thru 12 School Grants Program and for awards at the Southern Arizona Science and Engineering Fair.
- We will be the host society for the 2009 Biennial Convention of CSSA. We are already working on many aspects of this convention and there will be many committees that will need your help.
- Our Cactus and Succulent Expo III will be in May and is a major show and sale.
- We will also have more workshops, local home visits, day trips to cactus and succulents sites and more.

We have long believed that our activities should enhance Education, Information, Conservation and Discovery. We try to do a good job in all these areas and our constantly looking for ways to improve and also to partner with other interested groups in Southern Arizona. Your input and ideas are always needed and welcome.

Everyone in TCSS is important and we share many ideas in common. If you just what to come to the monthly meeting programs -- that's great. If your interest is just to help out with the rescue program -- that's great. If you just want to financially support what we do -- that's great. There is a role for everyone in TCSS and we each decide what ours is to be, and that's great!

Thank you again for a great year and Happy New Year!

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

## David Yetman Biography



David Yetman is a research social scientist at the University of Arizona, where he received his Ph.D. in philosophy in 1972. A former Pima County supervisor, his studies have focused on the peoples and plants of the state of Sonora,

Mexico. His book The Great Ones: Biogeography and Ethnobotany of Columnar Cacti will be available in the fall, 2007 from the University of Arizona Press. Other publications include Sonora: an Intimate Geography; Guarijíos: Hidden People of Northwest Mexico; and, with Thomas Van Devender, Mayo Ethnobotany: Land, History and Traditional Knowledge in Northwest Mexico. He is editor with Paul S. Martin of Gentry's Río Mayo Plants.

Yetman is host of the nationally syndicated PBS program *The Desert Speaks*. He reports that he cannot get enough of the Sonoran Desert or Latin America.

*Vonn Watkins*

## TCSS Research Program



The TCSS Board of Directors has established a committee to develop guidelines for a research grant program to be funded by TCSS for the benefit of members and Tucson-area citizens. Although the available funds are relatively

modest, the Board and the committee, comprised of Joe Frannea, John Swarbrick, and Gerald Pine, believe that by carefully selecting projects for funding, TCSS can make significant contributions to knowledge of cacti and succulents in the region.

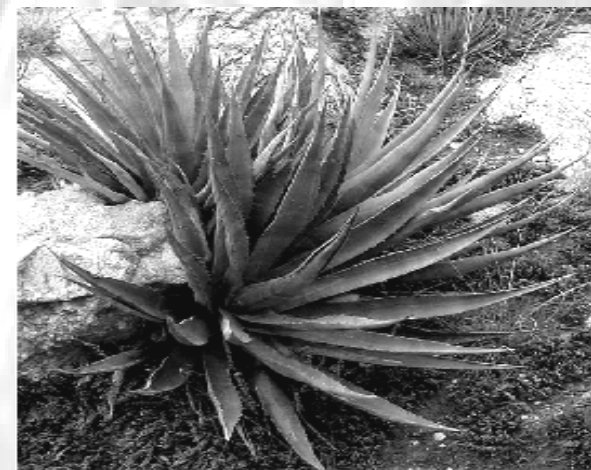
During January, Joe, John, and Gerald will be soliciting ideas from TCSS members and from local experts about how the new program should operate and areas of research that should be included. Recommendations for program guidelines will be presented to the Board in February.

If you have suggestions for the program, the committee welcomes your ideas. You can email your ideas to Gerald at [gdpine@alum.mit.edu](mailto:gdpine@alum.mit.edu) or give him a call at (520) 325-2885 evenings or weekends.

*Gerald Pine*

## Field Trips

On October 29, a trip to Reddington Pass trip was led by Matt Johnson. Several stops were made through the pass, while Matt showed us various mammillarias and agaves along with other succulents and cacti in the area.



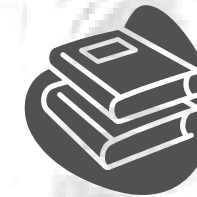
We are planning several other field trips in conjunction with the spring workshops: a nursery trip In March and a home garden visit in April. We



would welcome your suggestions for other trips this year.

*Joie Giunta*

## Library Update

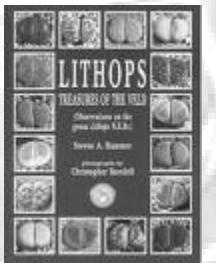


Lithops (Treasures of the Veld) by Steven A. Hammer.

This thin book is a delight. The author introduces the readers to

different varieties of lithops, their natural habitats and their cultivation needs.

The book is a publication of the British Cactus & Succulent Society. It is filled with excellent photos, maps, and drawings.



Dry Climate Gardening with Succulents compiled by the Huntington Botanical Garden

This book contains everything you need to know to design, plant and cultivate succulents in a dry climate. The book layout is very user friendly. It

illustrates each plant in a garden setting with companion plants. Each species also has a viewpoint column with comments from plant experts like Mark Dimmitt and Mary Irish.

This a beautiful book that people need in their gardening library.

Reviews by Diane Szollosi

*Joie Giunta*



# Desert Breeze

Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

January 2007

## TCSS BOARD

### Officers

President: Richard Wiedhopf  
885-6367  
Vice President: Vonn Watkins  
Secretary: Nancy Reid  
Treasurer: Joe Frannea

### Board of Directors:

Norm Dennis (2007)  
Barry McCormick (2007)  
Jack Ramsey (2007)  
Marty Harow (2007)  
Peter Hubbell (2008)  
Joie Giunta (2008)  
Keimpe Bronkhorst (2008)  
Bill Salisbury (2008)  
Dan Birt (2009)  
Chris Monrad (2009)  
Mark Sitter (2009)

CSSA Affiliate Rep: Helen Barber

Cactus Rescue: Chris Monrad  
Educational: Joe Frannea  
Free Plants: Norma Beckman  
Librarian: Joie Giunta  
Programs: Vonn Watkins  
Refreshments: Patsy Frannea  
Sales: Jack Ramsey  
Technology: Kevin Barber  
Research Grants: Gerald Pine

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

TCSS Web Page: [www.tucsoncactus.org](http://www.tucsoncactus.org)

### Next Meeting

Thursday, January 4, 2007.  
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.

## 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 10% discount



**3 1 4 1 4**  
**Cacti Rescued**  
169 Rescues Accomplished

Photos by Dale Whitt, Patsy Frannea, Cindi Garrison and Barry McCormick. Logo Artwork by Vonn Watkins

## Upcoming Schedule

- January 4, 2007 – General Meeting – David Yetman
- January 9, 2007, Tuesday 7:00 pm – Board Meeting
- February 1, 2007 – General Meeting – Mark Muradian
- February 13, 2007, Tuesday 7:00 pm – Board Meeting
- March 3rd & 4th – Cactus Sale at Fiesta de las Flores -- Foothills Mall.
- March 18, 2007, Sunday – Cactus Sale
- May 25 - 30, 2007 -- CSAA Convention, Seattle, Washington

Thursday, January 4, 2007

7:00 P.M.

David Yetman

## "The genera *Neobuxbaumia* and *Pachycereus*"

The genera *Neobuxbaumia* and *Pachycereus* contain the tallest and most massive columnar cacti as well as the most charismatic plants.



*Neobuxbaumia* is of a somewhat narrow distribution and inadequately studied. Some species are confined to one canyon in southern Mexico. The genus includes at least one,

probably more undescribed species. *Pachycereus* has become a bit of a dumping ground for monotypic genera, even if they are only vaguely related to those columnar cacti whose flesh turns black when cut, as Arthur Gibson pointed out. Both genera cry out for further research, both field and laboratory.

The David Yetman biography is on Page 2.

Please join us for this great program by David Yetman. It will be our first presentation and the start of another great year for the Tucson cactus and Succulent Society.

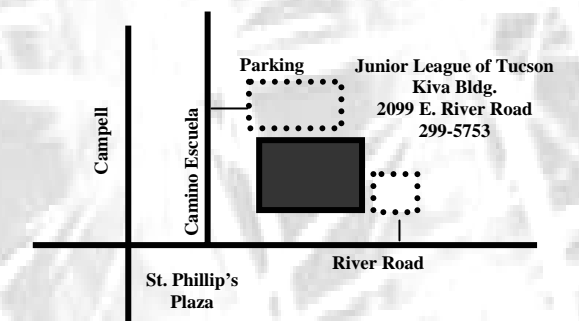
Thursday, February 1, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Mark Muradian

## "The Genus *Copiapoa* and other cacti in the Atacama Desert of western Chile"

### Meeting Place



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

## Holiday Party



Two of Santa's most capable elves, Jack Ramsey and Patsy Frannea, teamed up with volunteers, too numerous to mention, to put on a great Holiday Party. Wielding their magical shoehorns, they provided comfortable seating and scrumptious food for a record number of members. Dual serving lines whisked mountains of food to hungry holiday revelers. The gift exchange was spirited and many treasures changed hands. Thanks to all who made this annual event so enjoyable.

*Barry McCormick*

## 2007 TCSS Election Results



The results of the election for officers and board members for 2007 were announced at the annual meeting and Holiday Party.

President: Richard Wiedhopf  
Vice President: Vonn Watkins  
Secretary: Nancy Reid  
Treasurer: Joe Frannea

Board of Directors:  
Dan Birt, Chris Monrad, Mark Sitter.

As a result of the election, two vacancies were created on the board of directors. At the December board meeting the board selected Peter Hubbell and Keimpe Bronkhorst to fill the two positions that expire in 2008.

## 2006 President's Awards.

President's Awards recognizing outstanding service to the society were presented at the Holiday Party to Bill Salisbury, Dave Palzkill, and Keimpe



Bronkhorst. Recipient James Thomas will receive his award at a later date. The President's Special Service Award for outstanding service and special contributions for the success of our society was presented to George and Gail Virtes.

## Calling All Cooks

Every year at the TCSS Holiday Party we get requests for recipes for many of the delicious pot luck dishes that members bring to share. This year I promised to try to find those talented cooks to see if they might be willing to share their recipes with others in the Society.

If you would like to share your gourmet delights, please email the recipe to [TCSS@TucsonCactus.org](mailto:TCSS@TucsonCactus.org) so they can be forwarded to me. If this is not convenient, bring a copy to the next meeting and give it to me. I will work with Keimpe so that we can post them on our website for all to enjoy. Please include your name and the origin of the recipe if known.

Thanks for your help.

*Patsy Frannea*

## Grants Help Our Teachers and Students

The Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society



implemented the School Grant Program in 2002 by earmarking 25% of all cactus rescue sales profits for School Grants. This year the program was expanded to include all schools in Arizona, not just Southern Arizona

schools. When a grant request is received it is forwarded to our judging team, headed up by George and Gail Virtes, for review. If recommended for approval and approved by the TCSS Board, a check is immediately sent to the applicant.

Our grants are limited to \$400 each as they are intended to assist teachers with buying supplies and materials for Cactus & Succulent related projects. If native plants are needed for a cactus garden or classroom project, the Rescue Crew often provides cacti at nominal costs. Larger saguaros from rescues are often reserved for these grant recipients as it is expensive to buy them from nurseries.

TCSS recently awarded two monetary grants and one involving 103 cacti for a native garden. One of

the recent \$400 grants was awarded to Jim Kennedy at the Amphitheater Alternative High School for a Cactus & Succulent Garden, part of their outdoor beautification project. Students will participate in the building and care of the area and can enjoy it during lunch or use it for research activities.

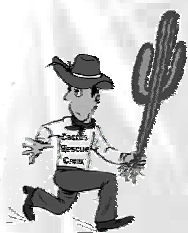
Another of the recent \$400 grants went to Lynn Eggleston from Sierra Oaks Community School in Oracle. They want a low maintenance Cactus & Succulent Entry Garden near the drop off area of the school. About 60 students will participate in creating and maintaining the area. The garden will also be used for investigating fruits for medicinal qualities.

The Vail/Rita Ranch area Desert Sky middle school, in conjunction several volunteer organizations, landscaped a 17,000 square foot area in front of the school for community usage. Many organizations contributed labor and materials to make this happen. The rescue crew removed 103 cacti from a nearby parcel where a new Vail school will be built and made them available for this project. TCSS's Dave Palzkill coordinated the planting of the cacti for the project. A barren dirt area in the front of the school and parking medians were beautified with native cacti, shrubs, and trees in one days work by hundreds of volunteers. A great community effort!

This past year our Cactus Rescue Program contributed about \$5,000 to the School Grant Program. We awarded five monetary grants totaling \$1,950 and one grant providing 103 rescue cactus. Since the inception of the program TCSS has awarded seventeen grants for a total of \$5,500. Also, several hundred rescued cacti have been provided at nominal costs for various projects. Information about our School Grant Program and Grant Request forms for teachers are posted on our web site at [TucsonCactus.org](http://TucsonCactus.org).

*Joe Frannea*

### **Ocotillo Rescue on the Rocks**



The Cactus Rescue Crew headed up Redington Road way early last month to a very lush desert area studded with saguaros and ocotillo. The developer is getting ready to cut in a road to access new home sites and wanted to save all the plants he could. He will have a professional

landscaper handle hundreds of the saguaros, relocating them on site. The area is very hilly and rocky so it is much harder to relocate the ocotillo and many are being preserved in set-aside areas.

The rescue crew, 46 strong for this rescue, worked for about four hours to remove over sixty ocotillo, fifty barrels, a few baby saguaros and many pincushions. The prize ocotillo was so huge it took four men to manhandle it onto a flatbed trailer. The viability of this ocotillo making the transplant is to be determined, but left in place it would become mulch.



Another rescue at the end of December finished up our 8th year of cactus rescue crew work. For year 2006 we saved over 6000 cacti during 28 rescues at 19 different sites. Dedication, hard work, and skill from over 200 TCSS Cactus Rescue Crew members is what makes this program so successful.

The value of saving native cacti for reintroduction into Tucson area landscapes can't be stated strongly enough. These plants are hardy and true survivors. While our rescue program has been recognized at a national level this past year from several sources, the hundreds of "Thank You" comments from residents is heartwarming.

*Joe Frannea*

### **February Workshop**

Get ready for spring. On February 15 at 7 pm we will have two hours with Greg Corman. Greg will give a presentation and slide show with questions and answers following. The location will be the Kiva room at the Junior League. The cost will be \$5.00. There will be sign up sheets at the library table or you can email me at [joietgo@yahoo.com](mailto:joietgo@yahoo.com).

*Joie Giunta*

**President's Message**



Every couple of years Tucson receives a blast of winter weather that scares all of us about the survival of our cactus and succulent plant collections.

Unfortunately, there's just not enough time between snow, hard freezes and icy rain storms that we forget all the details before the next one hits. We need to start now recording the things we should have done but didn't.

Many of the plants I really care about I put into the greenhouses and they are safe. I dread the electric bill! I have a lot of frost cloth in boxes in the



garage. I felt good knowing I had plenty. Too bad I didn't put it over sensitive plants in the yard, instead of leaving it safe in the garage. I'm sure that there are others with similar stories.



nurserymen say, "It's going to be a great spring for business".

Is this a signal about changing global weather conditions? Are we going to face these types of storms every year? What are we going to do? Or as the

In general, November 15 to April 15 plants need to be protected. We have had snow on Easter Sunday and freezes on Thanksgiving so be vigilant.

This spring, after appropriate remembrances about how beautiful the plant was last fall; write down some important information about its current condition. We will collect the information from you and summarize it in a future Desert Breeze.

Send us the following information:

- Genus, species var. etc.
- Potted or in the ground.
- How big was it?
- How long did you grow it?
- Location (North, south etc)
- How cold did it get?
- How much damage?
- What other plants nearby survived?

Send this and any other information about how you are dealing with the winter damage to our website or P.O. Box. Call it Winter 007. Seriously, this information will be useful to all us not only for our own yards and collections but also to advise others about plant survival.

Probably, you will have a number of empty pots in March and April so bring them to those meetings for giveaways or trading. It will help you forget your losses.

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

**February Workshop**

Be sure to join the workshops this season. The first in the series will be on landscaping with Greg Corman. Greg will give a slide presentation and there will be a question and answer period following.

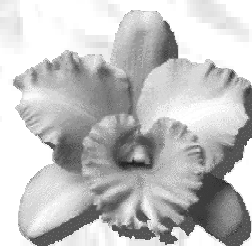
The date is Thursday, February 15, 7 PM in the Kiva room at the Junior League. There is a \$5.00 fee payable to TCSS. Mail checks to  
 TCSS  
 P.O. BOX 64759  
 Tucson, AZ 85728-4759

In March Cory Martin will give a presentation on irrigation. As always, participants are limited and workshop admission is on a first-come basis.

*Joie Giunta*

**Fiesta de las Flores Plant Show and Sale Foothills Mall**

Saturday, March 3, 2007 10 am to 5 pm.  
 Sunday, March 4, 2007 10 am to 4 pm.



Don't miss the Fiesta de las Flores plant show at the Foothills Mall. Sponsored by the Tucson Orchid Society the show will feature exhibits from many of the Tucson plant societies. Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society will:

- Have a Weird Plant Exhibit
- Sell Rescue Plants
- Promote TCSS Programs
- Sell "T" shirts

The weird plant exhibit is open to all club members. If you have a cristate, monstrous or otherwise weird plant, we would like for you to bring it to the show. Please have them in a nice clean pot and labeled with plant name if possible) and your name. Please bring to the Mall on March 3 by 8 am and pick up by 3 pm March 4.

For questions please call 888-6137.

*Jack Ramsey*

**Volunteers Needed**

Help is needed at the March 3 & 4 Fiesta de los Flores at the Foothills Mall. Volunteers will supplement the rescue plant sales by giving Club information, giving directions to the rescue plant sale, watching over our first time Weird Plant Show, and having fun! We need two people per shift.

Shifts are 12-2 pm and 2-4 pm both Saturday and Sunday. To complete our schedule we need for Saturday: 1 person 12-2 & 1 person 2-4 and for Sunday: 2 people 12-2 & 1 person 2-4.

If you'd like more information or to sign up for a shift please email me at vol@tucsoncactus.org.

Thank you,

*Nancy Reid*

**Boyce Thompson Arboretum Bus Trip**



We will have a bus trip to Boyce Thompson Arboretum in Superior, Arizona, on Sunday, March 11, 2007. This is their Spring Plant Sale.

The Plant Sale features plants from many Arizona growers. There will be not only cactus and succulents, but also many native and other plants.

We will have a special TCSS guided garden and behind-the-scenes tour.

The gardens are open for hikes and walks. We will have lunch in the picnic area.

More Information Coming.

*Jack Ramsey.*

**Library Update**



If you didn't get a chance to get David Yetman's book "Organ Pipe Cactus" at last month's meeting, be sure to check it out this month. The book is full of pictures and information on the

Organ Pipe Cactus. It is easy reading and very informative.

"Gymnocalycium A Collector's Guide" by John Pilbeam is a descriptive book on the species. There are black and white photos showing spinage and color plates with the flowers. Between the photos and the descriptions, plants in collections should be identifiable through this book.

*Joie Giunta*

**Reserve the Dates**

On March 18 the Pima County Country Fair rescue plant sale and member plant sale will be at it's new location a Brandi Fenton Memorial Park at River Road and Alvernon.

On March 25 there will be a Garden Tour at the home of Keith and Helga Zwickl.

May 5 and 6 will be our Expo Plant Show and Sale.

*Jack Ramsey*





# Desert Breeze

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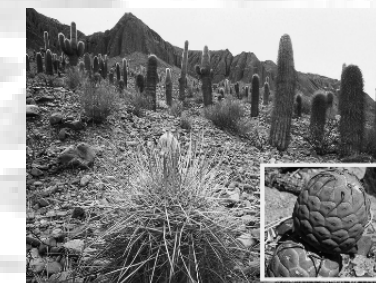
February 2007

Thursday, February 1, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Mark Muradian

## "Cactus Hunting In Northern Argentina"



This program is about a three week jaunt through northern Argentina. We started at Cordoba and traveled north to the Bolivian border. Many plants were seen from the genera *Gymnocalycium*, *Trichocereus*, *Opuntia* and *Tephrocactus*, to name a few. We traveled over 15,000 foot passes to the high Altiplano

desert, and also passed through seemingly tropical areas where bromeliads hung from trees - a very interesting trip.

Mark is a third generation fruit and grape farmer in the Fresno, California area. He has been interested in cacti and other succulents for over twenty years and currently is Vice President and Program Chairman for the Fresno Cactus and Succulent Society. About ten years ago he started to produce his own pottery for his various plants. Many others admired his pottery and liked his many designs so much that he started making various pieces to sell to others.

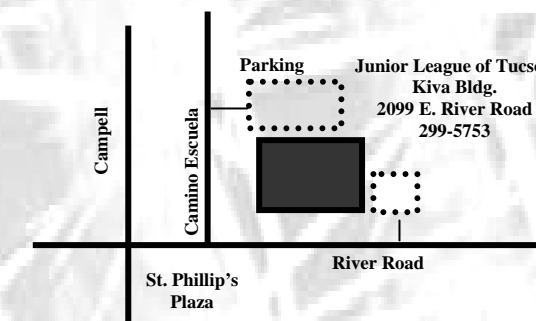
Mark has agreed to bring a variety of his pottery pieces with him. They will be on display for anyone interested in purchasing. His pottery is superb! Join us for this very special presentation and an extremely enjoyable evening!

Thursday, March 1, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Next Meeting

### Meeting Place



## 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 10% discount



**31413**  
**Cacti Rescued**  
169 Rescues Accomplished

Photos by Blair Kuropatkin and Barry McCormick. Logo Artwork by Vonn Watkins

## Upcoming Schedule

- February 1, 2007, Thursday - General Meeting: Mark Muradian
- February 13, 2007, Tuesday 7:00 pm - Board Meeting
- February 15, 2007, Thursday 7:00 pm - Spring Workshop.
- March 1, 2007, Thursday -- General Meeting
- March 3rd & 4th - Cactus Sale at Fiesta de las Flores -- Foothills Mall.
- March 11, 2007, Sunday - Boyce Thompson Bus Trip.
- March 18, 2007, Sunday - Pima County Country Fair Cactus Sale
- March 25, 2007, Sunday - Member Garden Tour - Zwickl
- May 25 - 30, 2007 -- CSSA Convention, Seattle, Washington

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Webmaster: Keimpe Bronkhorst

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Everyone is Welcome!  
Bring your friends, join in the fun,  
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Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society

7510 E. Rio Verde Rd.

Tucson, AZ 85715-3537

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3

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**Special Events Schedule**

- March 3rd & 4th Fiesta de las Flores Show and Sale at the Foothills Mall
- March 11th Bus Trip Boyce Thompson Arboretum Spring Plant Sale and Garden Tour
- March 18th Pima County Country Fair  
Rescue Plant Sale and Member Plant Sale.  
New location at Brandi Fenton Memorial Park  
3482 E. River Rd. at Alvernon and Dodge
- March 25th Member Garden Tour  
Keith and Helga Zwicky  
4205 N. Camino Del Celador
- April Hacienda Del Sol Guest Ranch Resort Spring Plant Sale
- May 5th & 6th Expo III, more later.



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



*Desert Breeze*  
March, 2007

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

March 1, 2007 at 7pm  
**"Beautiful and Amazing Crestate/Cristate  
Saguaro Cacti of Arizona"**

*Presented by Bob Cardell and Pat Hammes*

Bob Cardell and Pat Hammes started a serious effort to locate and document crested saguaros in February, 2005. At that time Bob was president of the Southern Arizona Hiking Club here in Tucson and Pat was the club treasurer. Thus they were able to finance and well afford their aptly termed Crest Quest.

Both Bob and Pat were, and still are, dedicated peak baggers. After they had climbed all the peaks on the club peak lists, they were in search of their next goal. Having noticed numerous crested saguaros during their peak bagging outings, they unconsciously started a friendly one-on-one competition; I found one more than you did, I'll find the next one, I am one up on you sort of competition. Thus was born their Crest Quest.

They have now located, photographed and documented 640 crested saguaros in Arizona. Their ultimate goal is 1000 of these beauties. Then we will find at least one more.

Bob is a retired U.S. Marine and has the time to dedicate to their ongoing search. Pat is still a working lady with the Pima County Court system so her outings are mostly restricted to weekend trips.

The tools of their trade are superior optics, great patience, sincere dedication, dogged perseverance, bullheaded tenacity, a little hiking and a lot of luck. And . . . the ongoing love of the hunt.

Of great importance also is the quality time they spend together out there in our beautiful Arizona desert. And as Pat always says I am still one up on you Bob.

Please join us for an excellent program on the great sentinels of Arizona. This is a very special presentation that everyone must see. Bob and Pat have taken on a monumental task. Please welcome them to our March meeting and be prepared for a very special night.



*Tripple crested Saguaro*



*Beautifully crested Saguaro*

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CSSA Affiliate Rep: Helen Barber

- Cactus Rescue: Chris Monrad
- Educational: Joe Frannea
- Free Plants: Norma Beckman
- Librarian: Joie Giunta
- Programs: Vonn Watkins
- Refreshments: Patsy Frannea
- Sales: Jack Ramsey
- Technology: Kevin Barber
- Research Grants: Gerald Pine
- Volunteers: Nancy Reid
- VOC@tucsoncactus.org

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

Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page: [www.tucsoncactus.org](http://www.tucsoncactus.org)  
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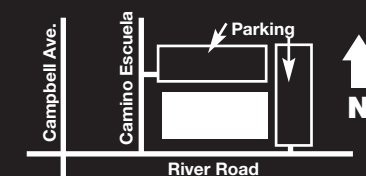
**March Refreshments**

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

Everyone is Welcome!

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

**Meetings are held on the first  
Thursday of each month.**



**Junior League of Tucson, Kiva Bldg.  
2099 E. River Road**

**Thursday, April 5, 2007  
"Southern California  
Hot Spots"**

*Presented by Joe Clements*

## President's Message



"Think local! Sense of place is a concept that is little considered in most landscapes. Try to use 75% or more Tucson basin plants for public (front yard) plantings – especially trees and accent plants. If you like exotics, save them mostly for your back yard. Be especially careful not to plant aggressive exotic plants"

These are important concepts to think about which I took from Thursday's

workshop lead by Greg Corman. We know he is right. There would be less damage to our public landscape if local plants were the predominate species. There is always something positive to learn from a very negative event like our recent freeze. Let's use "Think Local" and "Sense of Place" themes when selling the public our rescued plants and when doing our own landscapes.

Our technology committee has been working on a program that would show the user the growth habits over time of particular plant. A new comer to the desert would find it useful to know that a 1gal Agave americana planted next to a doorway will be a disaster in a short time. If you have digital photos of popular cacti and succulents at different stages of growth send them to our website. We will try to make them into growing landscape program.

The popularity and value of Saguars is again putting them at risk. We have recent cases of poaching and inappropriate land clearing for development. We are responding with solutions to some of these problems and continued dialogues with our elected officials and the public. See the story on our web site. The program which is scheduled for March will show off another rare and therefore valuable group of saguaros; the crested forms. We have been approached to help in all aspects of a project that would install microchips in a large number of these plants so that they could be identified as to the exact location from which they came. This would be an awesome deterrent. State law forbids the removing of any crested Saguaro but that may not stop the illegal trade.

The question is why not microchip other Saguars' for their owners as protection against these poachers. If this is something you would like to be involved with, email us or talk with any Board or Officer. There is a lot of planning a legal issues that must be sorted out.

Don't trim or remove materials from frost damaged plants yet. Wait for spring. You will be surprised on what will come back. Then you can trim up your plants.

There is a lot going on in March and I hope you will take advantage of these activities. If you haven't been to Boyce Thompson Arboretum this will be a great opportunity. There might even be a good wildflower display along the way.

Thanks for your support.

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

## Touring in Northern Argentina! See Cacti & More

**Sunday, October 7, - Saturday, October 20, 2007**

Progress continues on the upcoming Cactus Tour of Argentina with most of the details, such as dates, itinerary and costs, having been set. The tour participants have not yet been confirmed so anyone who might be interested in going on the tour should contact **Evelyn** or **Peter Hubbell** at 520-229-3560, or via email at

[peterhubbell@qwest.net](mailto:peterhubbell@qwest.net) or check with them at the March meetings. Tour leader, Luis Segura, suggested that the final internal airfare from Jujuy to Buenos Aires be paid six months prior as the flight fills up fast. That would mean buying tickets for that flight by Friday, March 24th. Continental Airlines has recently initiated flights to Buenos Aires from Houston offering one more choice of airlines to Argentina. Prices are competitive and Frequent Flyer seats are available.

Sue and Dick Hildreth have offered to host a gathering of prospective participants at their home in early March to review these details and for Peter and Evelyn to answer questions. There will be more information in the March Newsletter and at the February and March TCSS meetings.

*Peter and Evelyn Hubbell*

## Conservation Committee

The Board of TCSS is in the process of establishing a Conservation Committee to deal with the protection and preservation of cacti and succulents. Included will be the multiple types and separate places where the conservation of cacti and succulents occur. Also to be addressed will be the numerous laws and regulations that, although put in place with goodwill, have actually decreased the ability to conserve plants, especially, endangered species.

There are to be numerous aspects to this committee so all who wish to participate are welcome.

**If interested please contact: Peter Hubbell**  
at [peterhubbell@qwest.net](mailto:peterhubbell@qwest.net) or 229-3560.

*Peter Hubbell*

## March Workshop

The March workshop will be on "Irrigation" with Cory Martin. Cory will explain how to set up irrigation in your yard and how to use it with your plants. This workshop will go into more detail than the workshop at Sonoran VI. The workshop will be held at the Junior League on March 15 at 7 PM. The cost is \$5.00 and is limited to 25 people. **Send checks to: TCSS, P.O. BOX 64759, Tucson, AZ 85728-4759**

*Joie Giunta*

## Library

If there is a book or type of book you would like to see in the library, email me at [joietgo@yahoo.com](mailto:joietgo@yahoo.com). I'd like to see more of you taking out books, especially the more experienced collector. Also email me if you would like to make comments or write a review on any of the books you take out. I look forward to your emails.

## Cactus Rescues at a Lull

Our Cactus Rescue Program is alive and well, we just have not had any development properties ready for surplus cactus to be removed this past couple of months. New housing starts have slowed down considerably. Also, it takes a significant amount of effort to stay in touch with developers and to be able to fit into their construction plans once they get their grading approval.

We are working several potential properties and feel we will have a few rescue projects late February or early March. But, all details and approvals must come together before we can remove any plants.

*Joe Frannea*

## Fiesta de las Flores Plant Show and Sale Foothills Mall

**Saturday March 3, 2007**

10:00am - 5:00pm

**Sunday March 4, 2007**

10:00am - 4:00pm

## The TucsonCactus and Succulent Societies Wierd Plant Show

We will be selling T-Shirts, promoting TCSS programs and having a Rescue Plant Sale

The Wierd Plant Sale is open to all club members. If you have a cristate, monstrosus or otherwise Wierd plant, we would like for you to bring it to the show. Please have them in a nice clean pot, labeled with the plant name (if possible) and the name of the person showing. Please bring your Cactus to the Mall on Saturday, March 3rd by 8:00am. Please pick up your plant by 3:00pm on Sunday, March 4th. **If you would like to volunteer to help please contact Nancy Reid at 903-0245.** Those helping with the Rescue Plant Sale just show up. If you have any other questions call Jack Ramsey at 888-6137.

*Jack Ramsey*

## Bus Trip Boyce Thompson Arboretum and Spring Plant Sale

Superior Arizona

**Sunday March 11, 2007**

**Cactus and Succulent guided garden tour and a behind the seen tour Lunch will be served in the picnic area**

The Arboretums Plant Sale features plants from many growers of Arizona. They not only have Cactus and Succulents, they also have many native and other genra and species.

**MORE INFORMATION TO COME**

*Jack Ramsey*

## Pima County Country Spring Fair Sunday March 18, 2007

**Set up time: 7:30am • Sale 9:00am - 3:00pm**

### New Location

Brandi Fenton Memorial Park

3482 E. River Road

(East River Road at Alvernon and Dodge)

Any club member who wants to sell their surplus or unwanted plants may do so at this sale. The plants must be in good condition with no insects or pathogens. Each plant shall be labeled with name and Bar Code. **To obtain your Bar Code (price and Seller ID) please contact Helen Barber at [helen@barberit.com](mailto:helen@barberit.com) or call her at 529-9221.** For more information call Jack Ramsey at 888-6137.

*Jack Ramsey*

## Garden Tour

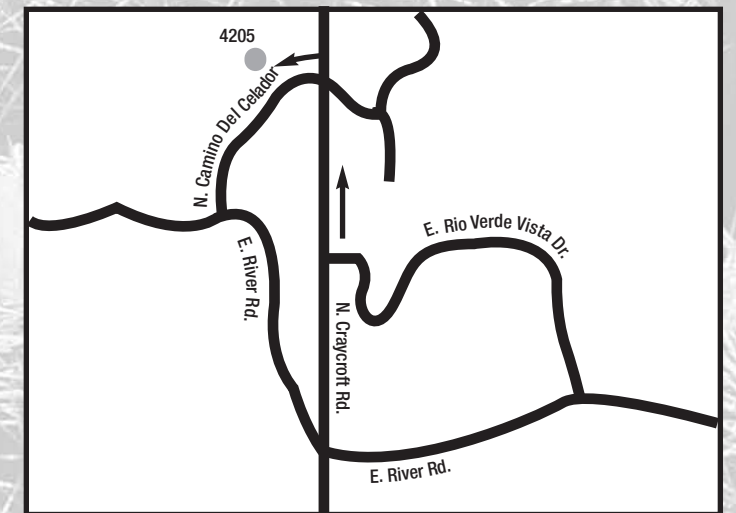
**Keith and Helga Zwicki**  
**4205 N. Camino del Celador**

**Sunday March 25th, 2007**

10:00am - 4:00pm

Keith and Helga have graciously agreed to open their garden for TCSS members to enjoy. Their garden is full of rescued plants they have latched on to. Their garden is a good exampale of how to use rescued plants. Plan to come and see this wonderful garden.

*Jack Ramsey*



## CACSS Annual Show and Sale Desert Botanical Gardens Phoenix, AZ

**Friday April 20th - 22nd, 2007**

In April the CACSS will be having it's annual judged Show and Sale at the Desert Botanical Gardens. The show is open to TCSS members to put in plant entries. Plants must be brought up to the DBG at Dorrance Hall by 7pm on April 18. Show Plant Judging occurs on the 19th. Plants entered cannot be removed until Sunday April 22, at 4:00pm.

**MORE INFORMATION TO COME**

*Doug Dawson, President CACSS*



### President's Message



It's spring in Tucson! What could be more wonderful than cool mornings, warm days and those first *Echinocereus triglochidiatus*, red flowered hedgehog, coming into bloom. The buds on all the other hedgehogs are getting ready to burst into a sea of magenta. Cacti and other succulent plants that survived the winter freezes are breaking dormancy. New growth and spectacular flowers are a clear sign of survival. Filled refuge containers remind us of those that didn't. Enjoy.



Our society also experiences the wonders of spring-Plant Sales! Our rescue crew has been very busy and has saved and offered for sale more than 1000 plants in March. More than 60 crew members attended each of 3 March rescues. Thank you so much for your hard work and caring and a special thanks to Chris Monrad who leads the rescue program and Joe and Patsy Frannea who manage the rescue crews. Thank you to Jack & Helen Ramsey who coordinate the sales and a special thanks to all of you who volunteer your time and make these efforts so successful.

A special thanks to Helga & Keith Zwickl for opening their garden to our members. What a gem!

This is also a busy time for our member nurseries and your support of them is always valued. Let them know you are a member of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society since many of them offer discounts. The most important thing is to thank them for help making Tucson the "Cactus and Succulent Capital of the US, world or Universe." You can choose which.

There are many other activities in which the society participates and you can read about those in this newsletter. It is easy to volunteer. Just contact us by letter, email, in person at meeting and events and we will get you involved. New activities include the 2009 CSSA Convention, a Research Grants program and a new Conservation Committee headed up by Peter Hubbell. Peter needs volunteers and he can be reached at 520-229-3560 or peterhubbell@qwest.net. There are more sales and rescues coming up and our Expo III in May.

There is still time to sign up for the Cactus and Succulent Society of America biennial convention in Seattle, May 25-30th. Check it out on the website CSSAinc.org. Thank you

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

### Home Show – Help Needed

TCSS will again participate in the Spring Southern Arizona Home Builders Association (SAHBA) Home Show. The three day show is Friday, Saturday, and Sunday starting on April 13th. We like to have a few door prizes to give away from our member nurseries and we need two volunteers per four hour shift for our booth, to hand out TCSS postcards and answer simple questions about native cacti and our Society.

If you can help please:

email [joe@TucsonCactus.org](mailto:joe@TucsonCactus.org) or call Joe or Patsy at 575-7126. Thanks.

*Joe Frannea*

### Expo help needed

Plans are underway for the Expo on May 5 & 6. Volunteers are needed for the following: Saturday - Setting up the Kiva room, naming unnamed plants. Both days – Cashiers, refreshments, bake sale rescue plants and setting up signs. If you are able to help on one or both of these days please email [joietgo@yahoo.com](mailto:joietgo@yahoo.com) or call 907-7950. Volunteers are also needed for publicity prior to the Expo.

*Joie Giunta*

### Library Update

Reviewed by Diane Szollosi

#### Cacti and Succulents in Habitat by Ken Preston-Mafham



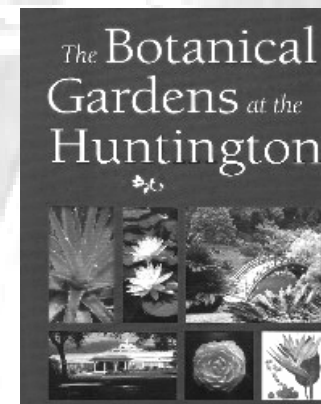
This book illustrates how easy it is to find cacti and succulents in their native habitats. The author has chosen three areas: Bolivia, SW USA and Southern Africa.

The book contains maps and locations where these plants can be found. The text is readable language and the photographs are beautifully illustrated.



#### The Botanical Gardens at the Huntington Walter Houk 1996

This is a beautifully illustrated book about these spectacular gardens, that began during Southern California's golden age of horticulture from the late nineteenth century through the 1920's and they flourish today as one of the grand garden achievements of that glorious, optimistic era.



Today the 206-acre estate has fifteen theme gardens filled with 20,000 different kinds of plants. Among the specialized gardens are roses, camellias, cactus & succulents plus subtropical plants such as bamboo palms and water lilies.

The desert and Japanese gardens are two of the most popular.

*Joie Giunta*

### Garden Tour

The garden tour March 25 was a big success with good attendance and picture perfect conditions.

The block wall enclosed patio, with pool and spa, also includes a meandering stream with water falls, ending in a koi pond, which was a perfect setting for the succulents and cacti scattered throughout.

Helga's collection of frogs, turtles and snails snuggled among the plants enhanced a beautiful and natural setting.

Keith's collection of BIG rescue plants - every one in the rescue crew knows about Keith's love of big - were located all around their one and a quarter acres. Helga and Keith have made their home site into an exotic place.

Our many, many thanks to Helga and Keith Zwickl for allowing us all to spend time in a wonderful garden of succulents and cacti!

*Helen and Jack Ramsey*

### Spruce up your Container Plants

Now is the time to start working over your prize container plants for the May Expo III display. Since Expo I the society displays have grown in size, quality, and participation. It's time to bring these treasures out from under the frost cloth, dust them off, give them their light wake-up feeding, and groom them for stardom.



Take a look at the pots, and decide if new quarters would really show off the plant. Clean off the water stains and renew the decorative topping.

Check on your tags and make sure you have the plant identified. If you have questions, we will probably be able to help when you bring it to the show. If you are bringing more than a couple, it would help our labeling process if you would email Barry McCormick at

[jbarrymcc@earthlink.net](mailto:jbarrymcc@earthlink.net)

with a tentative list so labels could be prepared in advance.

*Barry McCormick*



# Desert Breeze

Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

April 2007

Thursday, April 5, 2007  
7:00 P.M.

Joe Clements  
"Southern California Hot Spots"



Joe and his wife Susan are currently living in Claremont, California. Joe was educated at Whittier College and the University of Southern California, where he received a degree in Geology. He was employed by the Huntington Botanical Gardens as Curator of the Desert Gardens for 22 years. For the past five years he has been the Director of the Rodman Arboretum at Pitzer College. He is the coauthor of "Dry Climate Gardening." Joe has served on the CSSA board for more than 32 years since 1972. He has been president of the San Gabriel Cactus and Succulent Society several times and cochairman of that society's Study Group. For long-standing service in the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Joe has received the CSSA's Superior Service Award.

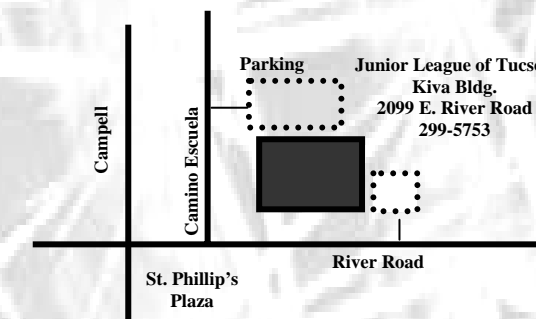
Joe's presentation is about the desert geology and plants of Southern California. He will present photos of locations within Joshua Tree National Monument, Mojave National Preserve, Borrego State Park, and surrounding areas.

Please join us to welcome Joe to our meeting for his very special presentation on some great desert locations in southern California!

**Next Meeting**  
**Thursday, May 3, 2007**  
**7:00 P.M.**

Brian Loflin, award winning freelance photographer from Austin, Texas, will present "The Cacti of Texas"

## Meeting Place

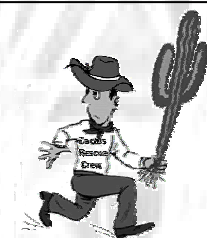


## TCSS Rescue Cacti for Sale

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 10% discount



3 2 9 0 4  
Cacti Rescued

172 Rescues Accomplished

Photos by Patsy Frannea and Barry McCormick. Logo Artwork by Vonn Watkins

## Upcoming Schedule

- April 5, 2007, Thursday - General Meeting: Joe Clements
- April 10, 2007, Tuesday 7:00 pm - Board Meeting
- April 15, 2007, Sunday 9:00 am - Hacienda del Sol Sale.
- April 22, 2007, Sunday - B & B Cactus Farm Tour.
- May 3, 2007, Thursday -- General Meeting: Brian Loflin.
- May 5 - 6, Saturday - Sunday - Expo III at Junior League.
- May 8, 2007, Tuesday 7:00 pm - Board Meeting
- May 25 - 30, 2007 -- CSSA Convention, Seattle, Washington

6



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

## TCSS BOARD

### Officers

President: Richard Wiedhopf  
885-6367  
Vice President: Vonn Watkins  
Secretary: Nancy Reid  
Treasurer: Joe Frannea

### Board of Directors:

Norm Dennis (2007)  
Barry McCormick (2007)  
Jack Ramsey (2007)  
Marty Harow (2007)  
Peter Hubbell (2008)  
Joie Giunta (2008)  
Keimpe Bronkhorst (2008)  
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### April Refreshments

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

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

## Cactus Rescue Crew in Full Swing

Our 2007 Cactus Rescue efforts started off in full force on March 3rd with 53 crew members showing up to start replenishing our inventory, digging plants for our first sale which was the same day, and getting a few cacti for their own landscapes. We have been working a 275 acre site south of the Los Realtos landfill which has hundreds of very nice barrel cactus and many nice mature and smaller ocotillos.



We have completed three cactus rescues at this site and plan a few more as we have only covered about half the acreage so far. Our large 12 foot, 5 ton, rescue trailer can handle about 200 barrels but that is often not enough for one sale. For the Pima County Country Fair, where we normally sell a lot of larger barrel cactus, one of our crew members rented and drove a large box truck to haul another 200 barrels and 25 large ocotillos. This worked well as we were able to deliver them directly to our sale site the next morning.

Members who want to participate on the Cactus Rescue Crew, please send an email to

[cactusrescue@tucsoncactus.org](mailto:cactusrescue@tucsoncactus.org)

requesting to be added to the notification list.

*Joe Frannea*

## Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society

### Annual Show & Sale – Phoenix

CACSS is having its annual show and Sale at the Desert Botanical Gardens on Friday - Sunday April 20 - 22, 2007. TCSS members may put in plant entries before 7 pm on Wednesday, April 18. Doug Dawson will bring registration forms to the April meeting. We will try to arrange a truck to have plants taken up on Wednesday – more info at the April TCSS meeting. Show rules can be found on [www.centralarizonacactus.org](http://www.centralarizonacactus.org). We should support our friends to the north, and there is much to learn from visiting their shows.

*Doug Dawson*

### April Field Trip

On April 22, from 10 am to 1 pm there will be a trip to B & B Cactus Farms. Mark Sitter will take us through the landscaped grounds as well as the greenhouses where we will see a wide variety of cactus and succulents.

I expect this to be a popular trip. There will be a limit of 25 people. A payment of \$5.00 can be made at the library table or send a check to

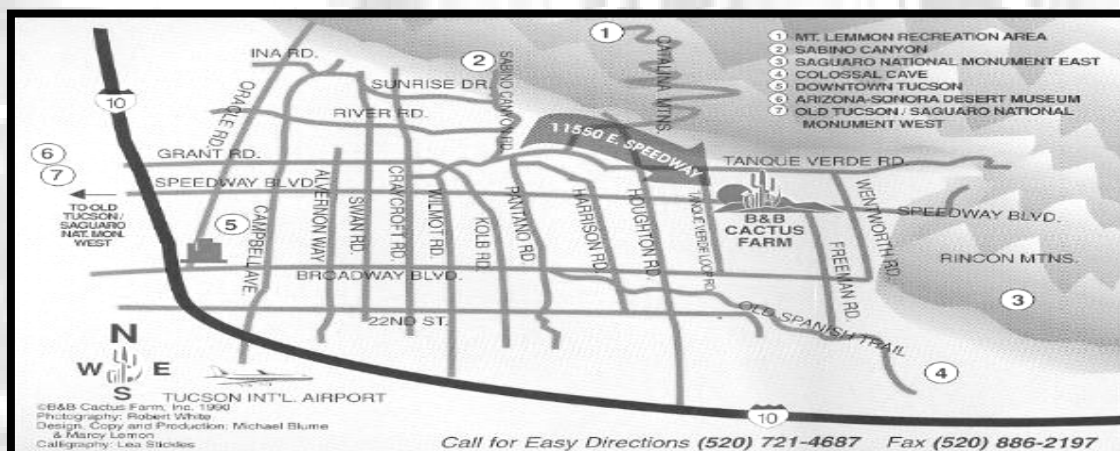
TCSS  
P.O. BOX 64759  
Tucson, AZ 85728-4759

Telephone reservations may be made, but those who have paid will have preference. Questions and reservations can be emailed to [joietgo@yahoo.com](mailto:joietgo@yahoo.com) or call Joie at 907-7050.

B & B Cactus is located at 11550 E. Speedway.

See map below

*Joie Giunta*



# TOUR of NORTHERN ARGENTINA

## Cactus, Culture & More

**Sunday, Oct. 7 through Saturday, Oct. 20, 2007**

Join us as we follow along the base of the Andes mountain range and tour Northern Argentina viewing native cactus along with a variety of local flora and fauna. On the way, we will visit impressive archaeological sites, see extraordinary geological formations, and absorb the history, arts, crafts and music of the area. Even though the main focus of the trip will be locating unique cacti in its native setting, there will be much more to experience as we travel at a relaxed pace allowing the group to take advantage of these other attractions.

The thirteen day tour will be during the Argentine spring. It will have no extended walks and will stay under 7,500 feet in altitude. Trogon Tours of Argentina, [www.trogon.com](http://www.trogon.com), will coordinate our trip. Willy Smith, noted Argentine cactus guide, will be leading it. Also planning on accompanying us is Luis Segura, one of the founders of Trogon Tours and a prominent South American birding guide.

For further information contact:

Evelyn or Peter Hubbell 520-229-3560

[evanhubbell@qwest.net](mailto:evanhubbell@qwest.net)

*Peter Hubbell*

## March Cactus Sales a Big Success

Our Rescue Cactus Sales started off a bit shaky with cacti being rescued the morning of our first



sale. This was not by design but by necessity since we did not have any properties that we could



rescue cactus from until our first sale date. Our thanks to Granite Construction Company, who made a new site available to our Rescue Crew.

Our first sale was held at the Foothills Mall, part of the Fiesta de las Flores show and sale on March 3 and 4. We sold 382 cacti, cactus gloves, T-shirts, and a few memberships bringing in a total of \$3,566 with a profit of about \$2,200.

Our second sale was at the Spring Pima County Country Fair held at the new Brandy Fenton Memorial Park, located on east River Road near Dodge. This event has previously been held at the Lew Sorrenson Center. We sold 433 cacti including 287 barrel cacti, 24 large rescued ocotillo, six seedling ocotillo in 5 gallon pots donated by Plants for the Southwest, and some



*Cholla, Hedge Hogs and Mammillaria.* Total sales were \$4,748 including \$4,332 for rescued cacti with a profit of about \$2,600.

Our next Rescued Cactus sale will be at the Hacienda del Sol Resort and Guest Ranch located just south of Sunrise Drive on Hacienda del Sol, Sunday April 15 from 9 am to 3 pm. See our web site for more details and a list of the local member nurseries that will also be selling cactus and succulents at this sale.



HACIENDA DEL SOL  
GUEST RANCH RESORT  
TUCSON, ARIZONA

*Joe Frannea*



# Desert Breeze

Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

May 2007

Thursday, May 3, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Brian and Shirley Loflin  
"The Cacti of Texas"

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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.



Brian and Shirley enjoy their passion as independent naturalists, photographers and writers. Together, they actively teach seminars and workshops in many areas of natural science and photography. As nature and travel photography tour leaders,

they conduct specialized travel events around the world, including Mexico, Costa Rica, Europe, Asia and China.

They recently completed writing, producing and photographing "Cacti of Texas", a photographic guide book to be published this year. This publication will cover 100 species.

Please join us for this very special program. It will be a special treat to experience their excellent presentation.

[Please see the full biography of Brian and Shirley Loflin inside]

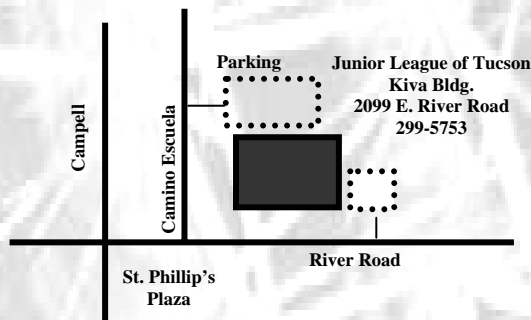
Thursday, June 7, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Gary Lyons

"The Development of The Huntington Desert Garden From  
its Beginning in 1907."

### Meeting Place



## President's Message



It is official. April 10-15, 2009 are the dates for the CSSA convention in Tucson. It will be held at the Westin La Paloma Resort. Kevin Barber is the Convention Chairman for CSSA and Vonn Watkins has been appointed by

Kevin to be the Program Chairman. Kevin will be making additional appointments for other key CSSA activities associated with the Biennial Convention. He anticipates 700-1000 participants. This convention will be open to all, especially members of affiliate societies.

There is a major role for TCSS to play. We are the host society and responsible, like any host, to make sure that attendees have a great experience. There is a long list of activities that you can help with. They will be posted on our website and also available at meetings. We will begin holding convention planning meetings in June. Look for the times and dates and come to one of our meetings.

May 5 & 6 will be our third cactus and succulent exhibition: EXPO III. The purpose is to promote our members who grow, sell, or create cactus and succulent related products, and to educate the public about the variety of plants that our members grow. This is a great opportunity for you to bring your favorite plants to show off to the public. Please join in and bring at least one plant to our show. Information about the EXPO is in this newsletter and on our website.

A special thanks to our member Andrea Marafino of D R Horton for securing a great cactus rescue site. D R Horton is protecting all the vegetation in this project except for the footprint of the home site. which is really terrific. We completed the removal of cacti from nine one-acre home sites on Saturday, April 21. The crew rescued wonderful plants including sixteen *Peniocereus*, 50+ barrels, more than 100 *Opuntia macrocentras* that would

have been lost without Andrea's concern. Thanks again to Andrea and the D R Horton management for caring.

We have launched our Research Grant Program. Check it out on the web. Thanks to Gerald Pine, Chairman, John Swarbrick and Joe Frannea for getting this grant program up and running. This adds another dimension to our list of activities. Funds from our September Good Times Auctions support this activity.

The Club Green at Ironwood Ridge High School invited us to participate in their Earth Awareness Days 2007, the 6th and 7th of April. Our conservation committee headed by Peter Hubbell manned our display and provided information about our society and what we do. Contact Peter about expanding our conservation activities.

We have grown to be a very large society with diverse interests and activities. Thank you.

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

## Expo Volunteers March 5 & 6, 2007

Hello everyone,

Here is your chance to help at the fun and very busy Cactus Expo Saturday and Sunday, May 5 & 6 at the Junior League (TCSS meeting location). Review the positions and contact Expo Coordinator Joie Giunta at [joietgo@yahoo.com](mailto:joietgo@yahoo.com).

Setup Saturday 8am - Breakdown Sunday 4 pm

**TRUCK DRIVERS & HELPERS:** pick up show plants from various locations; return these at end of Expo.

**CASHIERS:** 2 per shift. Training available if necessary. Shifts as follows:

Saturday 10am - 12N	12N - 2pm	2pm - 5pm
Sunday 10am - 12N	12N - 2pm	2pm - 4pm

**VOTING BEANS:** hand out and count beans to determine show winner

**GREETERS:** Welcome people and help them find their way around the sale and show area. There's always plenty to do at any given moment, and then there's the unexpected challenge!

Thank you for your help.

*Nancy Reid*

## SAHBA Spring Home & Garden Show - a Busy Place

The Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society participated for the third time with their educational 10' x 10' booth at the Southern Arizona Home Builders Association (SAHBA) Home & Garden Show. The show, featuring over 450 exhibitors, was held at the Tucson Convention Center on April 13 through 15. We did not sell cactus but answered questions and shared information about native plants, our Cactus Rescue Crew Program, and other club activities.



Our booth featured about a dozen different native cacti, information and society brochures, display photos, and door prize plants and books. We handed out about 600 of our color cactus postcards to those interested in native plants and had 263 visitors sign up for our door prizes. About half of those were interested in getting on our mailing list. The majority who visited our booth were newcomers to Tucson who were looking for landscape ideas and information about their new world of native plants called cactus.

Thanks to the 15 TCSS members who staffed our booth in four hour shifts. We received many great compliments about our Society and our Cactus Rescue Crew Program. Our door prizes were



donated by B&B Cactus Farm, Plants for the Southwest, and Rainbow Garden Bookshop, thank you. Also, a special thanks to SAHBA for providing us a space at their great Home & Garden Show

*Joe Frannea*

## School Grant In Action - Oracle, Arizona

Middle School age students, their teacher and two Cactus Rescue crew members brandished shovels, rakes, and picks to clear an area to make a small cactus and succulents garden. Lynn Eggleston, science teacher at Sierra Oaks Community School in Oracle was awarded a TCSS School grant last December. With spring weather here, she and her students were ready to get the project underway.

They plan a low maintenance cactus & succulent entry garden near the drop off area of the school. About 60 students will participate in creating and maintaining the area. The garden will also be used for investigating fruits and medicinal qualities of plants.



After about an hour of weeding and ground preparation work, the rescue cactus that they purchased with their grant money were ready to be planted along with a small tree and some native flowers. The students learned safe ways to handle cactus and planting techniques. Their elevation at the school is about 4600 feet so consideration was given as to which cacti would be able to survive their cold temperatures. The students did an excellent job under their teacher's direction and will continue to care and improve the cactus garden.

Joe Frannea photo by Patsy Frannea

## Cactus Rescue Crew in Full Swing

Cactus Rescues in April have been great, supporting our sales and giving us a chance to develop stock for later sales. Senita Elementary, continuation at Los Realtos landfill, and a small rescue at a DR Horton site have kept our volunteers busy this month. We again were able to save labor by moving cactus directly from the rescue site to the sale. Absolutely fresh!

Members who want to participate on the Cactus Rescue Crew, please send an email to

[cactusrescue@tucsoncactus.org](mailto:cactusrescue@tucsoncactus.org)

requesting to be added to the notification list.

*Barry McCormick*

## HDS Cactus Sale a BIG Success

The Spring Hacienda del Sol Guest Ranch Resort Cactus Sale held on Sunday April 15th was bigger than ever, Barrels that is. The recent cactus rescue sites had a predominance of large Barrel Cactus which customers couldn't get enough of. We sold over 250 Barrels with more than half being 14 plus inches in size and larger, some as large as 30 inches. The Cactus Rescue Crew normally does not rescue too many of the huge barrels due to their weight but these specimens were absolutely gorgeous cacti and too heartbreaking to leave behind.



Customers were eager to purchase rescued cacti including a few large Ocotillo and many nice cane and Christmas Cholla. Hedge Hogs were budding and some were in bloom, they disappeared quickly. We sold about 90 percent of the cactus we started with, a huge truck and large trailer, in the first 30 minutes and had to return to our holding area to get more for the balance of the six hour sale. Four of our member nurseries were also

at the sale selling beautiful cactus and succulents, many in bloom.

TCSS sold a total of 430 cacti, 70 pair of cactus gloves and 14 memberships to 140 customers. Rescue cactus sales brought in about \$4,800 and after tag costs and sale expenses we netted a \$2,600 profit with 25% of this to be earmarked for our Educational Outreach Program which funds awards and school grants. Thanks to about 70 Rescue Crew members who dug, tagged and loaded trucks and trailers with rescue cacti and to 25 hard working TCSS volunteers who worked feverishly Sunday morning selling, cashiering and loading cacti.

Also, a special thanks to Granite Construction Company and the Vail School District for making their properties available to the Cactus Rescue Crew Program.

*Joe Frannea*

## Plants for Expo III

Don't forget your container plants for Expo III. If you are bringing more than a couple, it would help our labeling process if you would email Barry McCormick at

[jbarrymcc@earthlink.net](mailto:jbarrymcc@earthlink.net)

with a tentative list so labels could be prepared in advance.

*Barry McCormick*

## TOUR of NORTHERN ARGENTINA

### Cactus, Culture & More

**Sunday, Oct. 7 through Saturday, Oct. 20, 2007**

The thirteen day tour will be during the Argentine spring. It will have no extended walks and will stay under 7,500 feet in altitude. Trogon Tours of Argentina, [www.trogon-tours.com](http://www.trogon-tours.com), will coordinate our trip. Willy Smith, noted Argentine cactus guide, will be leading it. Also planning on accompanying us is Luis Segura, one of the founders of Trogon Tours and a prominent South American birding guide.

For further information contact:

Evelyn or Peter Hubbell 520-229-3560

[evanhubbell@qwest.net](mailto:evanhubbell@qwest.net)

*Peter Hubbell*



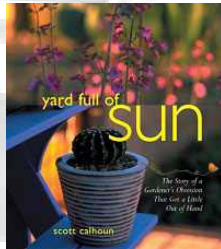
## Library Update



Among the seventeen women featured in Women of the Harvest by Holly L. Bollinger and Cathy Phillips is local grower Jana Sweets of Sticky Situation. The book introduces women who

choose to work the land and raise livestock and crops by operating small farms.

Scott Calhoun blends a little history, ideas and humor in his book Yard Full of Sun. He takes us to the beginning of building his house, creating a desert yard, recipes for prickly pear, yellow flowered plants, vines for cooling and much more.



*Joie Giunta*

## TCSS Financial Report First Quarter. 2007

This is the financial report for the first quarter of 2007. First quarter income is usually high because of annual dues collection. The 10,000 set-aside for Rescue Operations is a reserve to handle advance tag purchases for large rescues. Education and Research Funds are designated funds derived from cactus sales and fund raisers.

Income:	\$19,641
Expenses:	\$12,053
Net Income:	\$7,588

### Assets by Accounts:

General Fund:	\$18,364
Rescue Operations:	\$10,000
Educational Outreach:	\$8,695
Research Fund:	\$8,636
Total Assets	\$45,695

*Joe Frannea*

## Brian and Shirley Loflin

Brian Loflin was born in Little Rock, Arkansas and graduated from nearby Hendrix College, followed by Graduate work at the University of Arkansas. During the early years, he worked as a medical photographer and as a freelance photojournalist.

After graduation, Brian served as a U.S. Navy officer. After leaving the service Brian teamed with two partners and founded an advertising and photography production service in Denver, CO.

During his career, Brian's photographs have been published in more than 70 various national and international



magazines, books and other publications. Brian's work has also been displayed by several galleries and has won numerous awards.

Shirley, Brian's wife of 11 years, was a manager of a printing company for more than ten years and has always been professionally involved in the graphic arts. Shirley is a passionate naturalist,



artist and photographer with a keen interest in plants and birds. They recently completed the first in a series of nature guides, "Grasses of the Texas Hill Country," a well-received volume released last April by Texas A&M University Press.

Brian and Shirley enjoy their passion as independent naturalists, photographers and writers. Together, they actively teach seminars and workshops in many areas of natural science and photography. As nature and travel photography tour leaders, they conduct specialized travel events around the world, including Mexico, Costa Rica, Europe, Asia and China.

They recently completed writing, producing and photographing "Cacti of Texas", a photographic guide book to be published this year. This publication will cover 100 species.

For further information please visit Loflin Images, their web site at [www.loflin-images.com](http://www.loflin-images.com).

**3 4 1 5 4**  
**2 3**  
**Cacti Rescued**  
**175 Rescues Accomplished**

## 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 10% discount



Photos by Patsy Frannea, Kevin Barber, and Barry McCormick. Logo Artwork by Vonn Watkins

### Upcoming Schedule

- May 3, Thursday -- General Meeting: Brian Loflin.
- May 5 – 6, Saturday - Sunday – Expo III at Junior League.
- May 8, Tuesday 7:00 pm – Board Meeting
- May 25 - 30 -- CSSA Convention, Seattle, Washington
- June 7, Thursday – General Meeting: Gary Lyons
- June 8, Friday - Saturday – TBG Weird Plant Sale
- June 12, Tuesday 7:00 pm – Board Meeting
- August 19, Sunday – Blooming Barrel Sale

6



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

### President's Message



Let's talk about using common -- and not so common -- household items with your cactus and succulent plant collection. The problem, of course, is to keep others in your household from finding out what you've been using these items for. That blue stain on the plastic drink container isn't blueberry juice -- it's probably Miracle Grow, but don't tell anyone. You better wash it thoroughly, it could be toxic. The white stuff in the sieve is probably pumice or perlite, a dead giveaway that you have been "using". You know that earthy smell in the microwave is not from baked potatoes but from sterilizing soil. Buying your own equipment should obviously be considered.

The hobbyist's best friend is the big box stores like Costco, Ikea and others. I started out with a few simple tools and it has gotten out of hand. Here are a few suggestions.

A microwave oven is a cheap way to sterilize a lot of soil and containers for seed growing, plus you can warm your coffee or have a cup of soup while you're working on your plants. Make sure that you buy one big enough to fit your containers.

If you want to start a bunch of cutting or bulbils there is nothing better and cheaper than plastic cups. I use a thin pointed soldering iron to put drainage holes in the bottom of the cups. Do it outside since the melting plastic has an unpleasant odor and is toxic. It works quickly and I can do 5 or more cups at a time. For less than \$10, I have a couple of hundred pots.

Coffee filters work great in gallon containers to prevent loss of soil. If you really want to do it right buy some screening material and cut it to cover drainage holes in your pots. If you drink coffee, the Folgers containers with the built in

handle make great starting container and last forever, to my wife's dismay.

When you try to center a nice plant in a nice pot it is always difficult to rotate the pot and hold the plant etc. Just get a Lazy Susan at Ikea or elsewhere and enjoy the convenience of one handed potting and centering. While you are there, pick up some kitchen tongs, sharp knives for grafting, measuring cups, funnels, sieves and the list goes on and on. What fun.

Nylon gift bags used for wedding favors with their pink draw strings are perfect for covering seed pods on aloe and other plants so the seeds can be easily collected when the pods open. I have included a picture to show how I use them. They are available on the web or at JoAnns Fabrics in several sizes and colors.

Please share some of your ideas with us. Pictures and notes would be great.



On a more serious note, it would really be nice if you could wait until the first half of our meeting is complete before going to the refreshment tables and remember that courtesy to our guests and speakers is always expected.

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

### Expo III a Big Success

The third semi-annual TCSS Exposition held on May 5th and 6th featured a great plant show, sales by fifteen of our great member nurseries and potters/artists as well as the biggest cactus and succulent book shop. Free sno-kones were enjoyed by all as well as the educational exhibits featuring four award winning Southern Arizona

Regional Science and Engineering Fair projects by 3rd, 4th and 5th graders.



Total sales for the two day affair amounted to \$26,763 with about \$23,000 being returned to the vendors after their 15% sales commission was subtracted. TCSS Rescue Cactus sales of about 180 cacti contributed about \$2,200 to the total sales number. After all expenses, TCSS netted about \$2,400 in profit for the



Expo. All of this was possible due to our great Member nurseries and artists plus over 30 hard working TCSS volunteers who made it all happen. Almost magic!

*Joe Frannea*

### Cactus Rescue Crew Heats UP

Two Cactus Rescues in May have replenished our stock in time for the upcoming Weird Plant sale and gotten us a head start on the Blooming Barrel sale in August. We have been rescuing in far south-east Tucson, so we have been able to get some grassland succulents we don't always see.

With the success of the Expo sale we are having our usual successful year moving cactus from development areas to local landscapes.

Members who want to participate on the Cactus Rescue Crew, please send an email to

[cactusrescue@tucsoncactus.org](mailto:cactusrescue@tucsoncactus.org)

requesting to be added to the notification list.

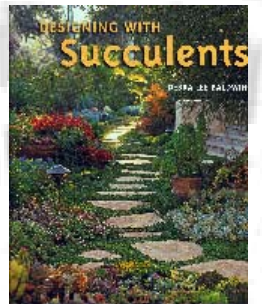
*Barry McCormick*

### Library Update



New this month is "Designing with Succulents" by Debra Lee Baldwin. With pictures on most pages, the book gives ideas on planning and designing front

yards, pathways, streetside gardens, slopes and terraces. Other chapters include colorful foliage and flowers, themed and specialty gardens, pots, wreaths, container gardens and more.



The second part of the book helps with plant selection by showing different kinds of succulents from tree

size to low growing ground covers.



Also new is the Cactus & Co. publication "Introduction to the Euphorbiaceae" by Albert Pritchard. This small booklet is only 64 pages, but gives insight to some of the species of this unique and varied family of plants.

*Joie Giunta*

### Weird Plant Sale



"Weird plants take root at the Gardens! Growers from and around Tucson will offer their oddest species for sale. Some smell like putrefied flesh, others have stalks reminiscent

of the male anatomy, and some are outrageously big or black. You won't find roses and petunias; this plant sale is dedicated to the strange and dramatic, the weird, wacky, and the bizarre!"

The Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 N. Alvernon Way, hosts their annual Weird Plant Sale on Saturday, June 9 from 8 am to noon. There will be a TBG member-only pre-sale on Friday, June 8 from 4:30 to 7:30 pm. TCSS will be selling rescue plants at the sale.

*Jack Ramsey*

**3 4 3 4 4**  
**Cacti Rescued**  
 176 Rescues Accomplished

**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 10% discount



Photos by Dick Wiedhopf, Kevin Barber, and Barry McCormick. Logo Artwork by Vonn Watkins

**Upcoming Schedule**

- June 7, Thursday – General Meeting: Gary Lyons
- June 8, Friday - Saturday – TBG Weird Plant Sale
- June 12, Tuesday 7:00 pm – Board Meeting
- July 5, Thursday – General Meeting: Greg Starr
- July 10, Tuesday 7:00 pm – Board Meeting
- August 19, Sunday – Blooming Barrel Sale
- September 1, Saturday – Huntington Succulent Symposium



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



*Desert Breeze*

Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

June 2007

Thursday, June 7, 2007

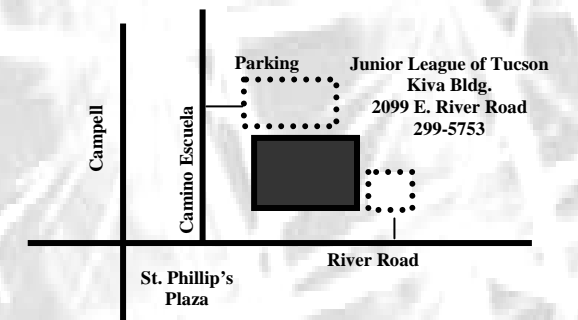
7:00 P.M.  
 Gary Lyons

"The Development of The Huntington Desert Garden From  
 its Beginning in 1907."



Thursday, July 5, 2007  
 Greg Starr – Trip to Mexico

**Meeting Place**



**TCSS BOARD**

**Officers**

President: Richard Wiedhopf  
 885-6367  
 Vice President: Vonn Watkins  
 Secretary: Nancy Reid  
 Treasurer: Joe Frannea

**Board of Directors:**

Norm Dennis (2007)  
 Barry McCormick (2007)  
 Jack Ramsey (2007)  
 Marty Harow (2007)  
 Peter Hubbell (2008)  
 Joie Giunta (2008)  
 Keimpe Bronkhorst (2008)  
 Bill Salisbury (2008)  
 Dan Birt (2009)  
 Chris Monrad (2009)  
 Mark Sitter (2009)

CSSA Affiliate Rep: Helen Barber

Cactus Rescue: Chris Monrad  
 Conservation: Peter Hubbell  
 Educational: Joe Frannea  
 Free Plants: Norma Beckman  
 Librarian: Joie Giunta  
 Programs: Vonn Watkins  
 Refreshments: Patsy Frannea  
 Sales: Jack Ramsey  
 Technology: Kevin Barber  
 Research Grants: Gerald Pine  
 Volunteers: Nancy Reid  
[VOC@tucsoncactus.org](mailto:VOC@tucsoncactus.org)

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

Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page: [www.tucsoncactus.org](http://www.tucsoncactus.org)

Webmaster: Keimpe Bronkhorst

**June 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.



# Desert Breeze

July, 2007

## Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

### TCSS BOARD

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885-6367

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Webmaster: Keimpe Bronkhorst

### July Refreshments

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

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

July 5, 2007 at 7pm  
"2006 Mexico Journey Part 3"  
Presented by Greg Starr

With apologies to the Beatles; Roll up, roll up for the Mexico Tour. You have an invitation, to make a reservation. The Magical Mexico Tour is waiting to take you away.

Come along with Greg to complete the 5000-kilometer journey we started last year, taking us through much of northern and central Mexico. You might recall that we traveled many, many miles and saw some beautiful scenery along with flowering Agaves, Echeveria, Ferocactus, Fouquieria, Mammillarias, Yuccas, and even a snake. Part 3 will cover the last leg of the trip from central Mexico through northwestern Mexico, and has in store for us, pictures of surprise, Agaves, Echinocereus, and more scenery!

Greg is still intent on studying the large and diverse Agave genus both horticulturally and taxonomically. (He promises not to put you to sleep with too much taxonomy). Greg and Jose Angel Villarreal described the amazing Whale's Tongue Agave (*Agave ovatifolia*) and is always on the lookout for other, possibly undescribed species of Agaves. Greg owns Starr Nursery, a Tucson based mail order and retail (by appointment) nursery specializing in members of the Agavaceae as well as other succulents and new to horticulture shrubs and perennials.

Please join us for the third and final leg of the 2006 Mexico adventure.



*Agave bovicornuta* west of Yecora

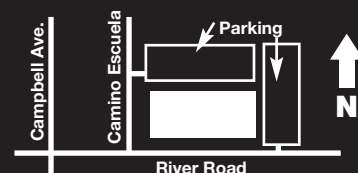


*Agave multifilifera* at Basaseachic Falls



*Agave parryi truncata*

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month.



Junior League of Tucson, Kiva Bldg.  
2099 E. River Road

## President's Message



As many of you know Barry McCormick has been the Desert Breeze editor for almost 6 years. You can see almost all his work on the website where all the newsletters and supplements have been posted. This society has been very fortunate to have

the dedication that Barry brings to this task. You just don't know how hard it is to get stories and columns on time from some folks, especially me. It just seems that the 18th of the month (things are due) seem to come earlier and earlier.

Barry informed the Board that November will be his last issue.

There is no way we can thank him enough for the quality 70 issues that he has edited. Over the next couple of months you might want to mention to him your appreciation for his contribution to our society. Thanks Barry.

I want to thank Karen Keller for editing this newsletter while Barry is out of town.

The Seattle Convention of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America was great. I am sorry that many more of you did not attend. There were about 175 attendees and a combination of wonderful speakers, plants etc for sale, a rare plant auction, 2 great trips, wonderful accommodations plus the friendly and welcoming Cascade Cactus and Succulent Society who made this convention outstanding. I hope we will be able to duplicate the efforts of the Cascade Society.

At the closing banquet, Mark Dimmitt accepted the convention gavel for our society to use in opening the 2009 convention. At the end of our convention, this will be presented to the San Diego Society which is the host for 2011.

The convention is only 22 months away so committee meeting and detailed planning will be starting soon. Your input and help is needed to make this a success.

Have a safe July 4th  
Thanks for your support.

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

## The Answer is 1,013?

In 1993 there were hardly 20 members at a meeting and probably not more than 50 in the whole society. What happened?

An amazing number of events with unexpected consequences changed TCSS hopefully for ever. In 1993, Chuck Hanson (former owner of Arid Lands Greenhouses) was president and also on the Board of Directors of CSSA. I got a call one evening from Chuck (an old friend) that Tucson was awarded the 1995 convention and asked if I would come to a meeting since I was the only one around with experience from the 1977 CSSA convention. Well it was special. Chuck had great ideas and we had great enthusiasm and 700 plus people had a wonderful time.

You take a group of enthusiastic people and ideas happen. We wanted to do more with our new found enthusiasm and experience so a team of members lead by Margaret Pope created the Sonoran Conference. We called the first one in 1996, Stuck on Tucson (I wanted to call it Tucson Stick Yourself) and it was held in the empty Foothills Mall. It was a success with new ideas, hands on workshops; podium talks, a silent auction, show & sales and great fun. We are now starting to work on Sonoran VII. Enthusiasm breeds enthusiasm.

In 1999, Chris Monrad (Monrad Engineering) was doing a school site in Oro Valley and there were a lot of cacti that was going to be bladed in the construction of this school. Chris, Lois Ladwig (now in Idaho), Vonn Watkins and I put together a plan on how to rescue these plants and got the appropriate permits and tags from the State and proceeded to do our first rescue. We attracted 8 or 9 additional members and the program started. 35,000 plants later, major news media stories, a crew of 250 volunteers and 50+ at any rescue, who would have thought.

Joe and Patsy Frannea came to a rescue at a Church site in Marana where we were rescuing and selling to church members on site. They quickly become an integral part of the rescue program as the crew chiefs and more. We use Joe's big boy toys for rescues, taking advantage of their interest in education and volunteerism which has helped to produce the school grants program, research grants program and involvement with the Southern Arizona Science and Engineering Fair (SARSEF) awards and a lot more.

## TCSS's 2007 Science Fair Winners

TCSS Special Category judges for Cactus & Succulents awarded 9 students cash prizes, certificates and honorary TCSS memberships for their very deserving science fair projects.

### Our winners were:

**“The Compass Cactus”** a project by Jacob, a home schooled 2nd grade student took First Place Honors for his project investigating whether or not barrel cacti point south.

**“Get Going Glochids”** by kindergarten student Merry from Lulu Walker Elementary evaluating the best way to get out glochids.

**“Water Usage & Storage in Desert Plants”** by Luna, a 6th grade student from St. Michaels' Parish studied by measuring the effects of different watering schedules.

**“The Effects of Prickly Pear Mucilage on Drinking Water Quality”**, 4th grader Elizabeth from Centennial Elementary researched the use of prickly pear cactus to improve drinking water.

**“Cactus Thorns Up Close and Personal”** by Peter who is in the 5th grade at Sam Hughes Elementary investigated the different types of thorns on native cacti.

**“Neighborhood Nesting”** by Alexander, a 4th grade student from Lineweaver Gate School, looked at the nesting habits of native and non-native birds in our native plants.

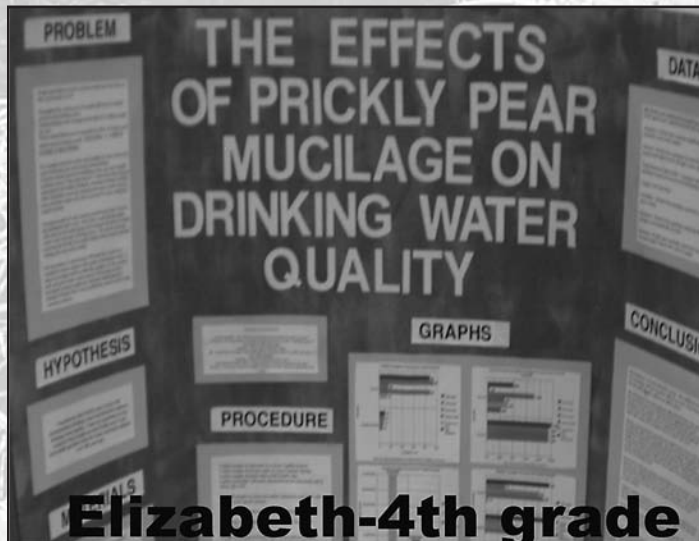
**“Homeland Security: March of the Ants”** by 4th grade student Ilan from Tucson Hebrew Academy, investigated ant activity on our native barrel cacti.

**“Saguaros on a Tangent”** by Karen, a 6th grade student from DeGrazia Elementary looked at the measurable differences between saguaros in Saguaro National Park East and West.

**“How Many Arms?”** a study and inventory of his neighborhood's saguaros by 2nd grade student Bryce from Brichta Elementary .

We were also very appreciative that Elizabeth, Peter, Alexander, Ilan, Bryce and their families took time to come to the EXPO and set up their projects for all to see.

*Patsy & Joe Frannea*



**Elizabeth-4th grade**



**Ilan-4th grade**



**Merry-Kindergarten**

## Cactus Rescues Running Full Tilt!



*Rescue Crew taking a break.*

The TCSS Cactus Rescue Crew has been busy as every and as strong as ever averaging 40 crew members participating at each rescue. The sites have been in the far east and far south Tucson areas covering long road cuts and a large parcel to be cleared.

We have had the opportunity to rescue not only our mainstay of barrels, hedge hogs and mamms but also many nice ocotillo and yuccas as



*One of our Volunteers tagging a Yucca*

well as a few queen of the nights, sotol, corypantha, and echinomastus. With the heat upon us we always start early, like 6:30 am and work for about three hours digging up cacti and then wrap up all tagging and load-out by 10 am. Crew members provide their own tools and gloves but have the opportunity to purchase plants at tag cost if they take them home with them.

You must be a paid up TCSS member to participate on the rescue crew, you can join or pay your dues at the start of a rescue. If you want to be on the Rescue Crew notification list just send an email to [CactusRescue@TucsonCactus.org](mailto:CactusRescue@TucsonCactus.org) to request such. Please specify Cactus Rescue as we maintain several email lists. Notices go out every Thursday to announce any plans for the weekend. If you want to participate on a given Cactus Rescue, you just show up at the give time and meeting location per the rescue notice.

*Joe Frannea,*

*Photos by Patsy Frannea*

## Weird Plant Sale a Success for All

TCSS participated in the two day Tucson Botanical Garden Weird Plant Sale selling mainly rescued barrels, hedge hogs, mamms, and a few ocotillo and yucca. A special thanks to thirteen TCSS members on Friday afternoon and eighteen members on Saturday morning for their work in setting up our sales area, unloading and selling plants, and talking to many customers about our rescue program and native plants. We were not able to participate in this sale last year as we did not have any rescue cacti inventory.

We set a record for sales at a Weird Plant Sale selling 294 plants for a total of \$2,331. This netted us a profit of about \$1,150 after rescue tag costs and a 25% commission of \$583 to our host. The Gardens also set a record for their most profitable Weird Plant Sale. Congratulations to Michael and all their great staff and volunteers and vendors who made this all happen.



*Rescue Sales at  
The Wierd Plant Sale*

*Joe Frannea*



That wasn't enough so Jack Ramsey with the help of Marti Harow and many others put together special events. There are tours of home gardens, botanical gardens, nurseries, Pima county country fair sales and more.

There are a lot more members that contributed and inspired new ideas and created opportunities for new members including from monthly programs, expanded features on our website, the Desert Breeze, our newsletter, etc. All of the sudden there are 1,013 of us.

The question is: How many members are in the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society today?

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

**Return trip to Wallace Gardens  
Carefree, Arizona  
Sunday, November 4, 2007  
Lunch at "The Horny Toad"**

**There will be more about this trip in the months to come.** This was a big success in November 2005 with a full bus and about 12 who drove their own cars. We had 76 members at the Lunch.

Now is the time to set this date aside and make plans to join in this trip. If you are new to the society ask your society friends about this trip. The Cost is \$40 per person which includes everything.

If you want more information call Jack Ramsey at 888-6137

*Jack Ramsey*

**Library**

**Cacti and Succulents A complete guide to species, cultivation and care** by Gideon F. Smith

This book is basic and informative for the new-comer. There are about 58 pages of cacti, giving the botanical and common name, a description, location and climate, natural habitat, number of species and symbols for cultivation. There are sections on agaves, euphorbia, mesembs and other succulents as well as information on pests and diseases and propagation.

**Desert Plants at the Huntington Botanical Gardens** by Gary Lyons covers some of the history and growth of the 100 years of the Huntington. The book has a variety of plants from agaves to stapeliads with pages of brilliant photos.

**The second DVD of the Cactus and Succulent Journal** contains Volumes 21-35 from 1959-1963. Included is a word list of unusual words in the journals, a ten-year index for 1929-1939. The PDF format allows you to make a copy of the articles.

*Joie Giunta*

**The 2nd TCSS Good Time Party And Auction  
Sunday, September 16, 2007  
12:00 - 3:00pm, Junior League of Tucson  
2099 E. River Road**

The party will be filled with Activities. Set up will begin at 12:00 noon. Action begins at 1:00pm and will include Silent and Live Auctions, \$2<sup>00</sup> plant sale, Plant Exchange, Ice Cream with toppings and lots of fun.

**Events**

Silent Auction will begin at 11:00am. There will be four separate tables. Bidding will begin on all four tables. Table 1 Biddings ends at 1:30pm, Table 2 ends at 2:00pm., Table 3 ends at 2:30pm and Table 4 ends at 3:00pm. Succulent Plants and related items are all welcome.

Live Auction will have several larger plants set aside. The bidding starts at 1:40pm and ends around 2:20pm

Plant Exchange Tables will be set up for plants and cuttings etc that members bring for exchange or give away. You leave them you take them away. They should be of quality that you would be proud to have

Plant Sales. These plants will be sold for \$2<sup>00</sup> each (all the money going to the clubs research program). The plants should be marked with plant name. This sale will begin as soon as it is set up and continues until 3:00pm.

Refreshments. Ice Cream toppings and beverages will be available from 12:00pm - 3:00pm. Donations are welcome.

By Party Day we hope you have given thought and special care to the items you plan to donate. Items (large or small) seeds, pups, offsets, seedlings, potted plants and books are all welcome. Bring your contribution to the event site between 11:30am and noon.

If you have any questions or want to volunteer call Jack Ramsey 888-6137

**3 5 5 8 4**  
**3**

**Cacti Rescued**  
**180 Rescues Accomplished**

## 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 10% discount

## Special Events Schedule

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Tuesday, July 10      | Board Meeting   |
| Thursday, August 2    | General Meeting   |
| Sunday, August 19     | Blooming Barrel Sale at Amphi Holding Area.<br>North 4th Ave and Wetmore Road |
| Saturday, September 1 | Huntington Succulent Symposium<br>San Marino, California                      |



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



# Desert Breeze

Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

August 2007

## TCSS BOARD

### Officers

President: Richard Wiedhopf  
885-6367

Vice President: Vonn Watkins

Secretary: Nancy Reid

Treasurer: Joe Frannea

### Board of Directors:

Norm Dennis (2007)

Barry McCormick (2007)

Jack Ramsey (2007)

Marty Harow (2007)

Peter Hubbell (2008)

Joie Giunta (2008)

Keimpe Bronkhorst (2008)

Bill Salisbury (2008)

Dan Birt (2009)

Chris Monrad (2009)

Mark Sitter (2009)

CSSA Affiliate Rep: Helen Barber

Cactus Rescue: Chris Monrad

Conservation: Peter Hubbell

Educational: Joe Frannea

Free Plants: Norma Beckman

Librarian: Joie Giunta

Programs: Vonn Watkins

Refreshments: Patsy Frannea

Sales: Jack Ramsey

Technology: Kevin Barber

Research Grants: Gerald Pine

Volunteers: Nancy Reid

[VOC@tucsoncactus.org](mailto:VOC@tucsoncactus.org)

**Editor:** Barry McCormick

[jbarrymcc@earthlink.net](mailto:jbarrymcc@earthlink.net)

Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page: [www.tucsoncactus.org](http://www.tucsoncactus.org)

Webmaster: Keimpe Bronkhorst

## August Refreshments

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

Everyone is Welcome!

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

Thursday, August 2, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Miles Anderson

"Cactus and Succulent Propagation"

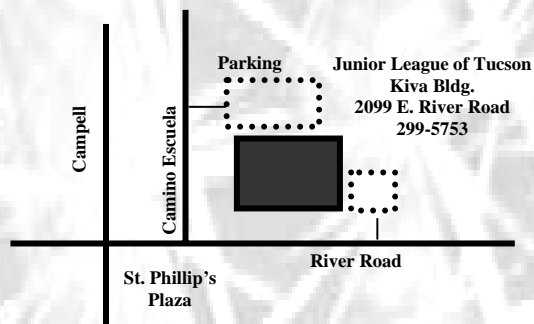
Miles Anderson, TCSS member and owner of Miles2Go Nursery, will share his experiences and knowledge on Cactus and Succulent Propagation. As the attached picture shows, Miles is proficient in many areas of propagation.



Thursday, September 6, 2007

Program to be Announced

## Meeting Place



## President's Message



The monsoon is here! We knew it was coming when the wind kicked up and the rain poured down at our July 5 meeting at the Junior League. It was the first drops of the monsoon season. Suddenly the word gets out to all of our

favorite plants and strange and wonderful things happen. I planted some rescued Ocotillo, spraying the cane at least daily. Nothing! Then the monsoon started. Almost over night green leaves appeared up and down the canes. It's magic.



Planted all around the Ocotillos are clumps of Mammillaria graminea. At the same time that the Ocotillo are doing their thing the opportunistic mamms take on a new look. They fatten up and put out a display of pinkish purple flowers circling the plant and looking like a fancy spring bonnet. It's the monsoon! All the plants have a wonderful response to the start of the summer rainy season. It's time to really enjoy the environment we live in.

This last week the monsoon got a little out of hand. A large mesquite tree is a lot smaller, a tree-type opuntia lies prostrate and many other plants show signs of the destructive force of our monsoon season. Yet, popping up all over the ground are new mesquite and Palo Verde seedlings and other positive responses to an otherwise bad storm.

The start of the monsoon means that the year is half over and it's time to start thinking about a nominations committee, new officers and board members and a second half of the year to fill with a variety of activities. Listed in this newsletter and on our website are trips, auctions, sales, home tours and our annual holiday party. You will have many opportunities to participate, so please enjoy them.

If you look carefully at the top area of our local *Ferocactus* you will see yellow buds just starting peak out from the areoles. That means that our now famous "Blooming Barrel Sale" is not far off. We save a couple of hundred rescued barrel for this event. Customers from all over southern Arizona come to pick out a barrel by their favorite flower color from pure yellow to red and everything in between. Watch for information about this event.

Finally, the 24th Huntington Symposium, takes place on September 1, 2007. It is worth a trip to the Pasadena area to visit the gardens, attend the Symposium, "One Hundred Years of Succulents" and enjoy the many other activities in the area. I will be glad to share information on places to stay, see, eat etc.

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

## Cactus Rescues Reach South and East



The Cactus Rescue Crew has been busy with several rescues at two different Tucson area properties. One on far south Wilmot and the other near Interstate 10 and the Sonoita exit. Many nice Ocotillo went home with crew members, some on top of their vehicles, some on trailers and in the back of trucks, and some in the passenger's seat if you happen to have a convertible.



Crew participation is strong with about 30 to 40 members showing up for any given rescue. We typically work from 6:30 to 9:30 am to avoid the heat and can save 300 to 350 plants in this time. About a third of the plants are purchased by crew members and end up in their landscapes, their

common areas, church landscapes or sometimes in a neighbor's yard. We have also just implemented a policy for those who wish to buy extra plants at a rescue for resale purposes. Purchase details for crew members are sent with the rescue notices that go out each Thursday to the Rescue Crew notification list. If you are not currently on the Cactus Rescue notification list and would like to be, send me an email addressed to:

CactusRescue@TucsonCactus.org  
and ask to be on the Cactus Rescue Notification list.

Joe Frannea

### Blooming Barrel Sale – August 19th



The TCSS annual blooming barrel sale is scheduled to occur on Sunday, August 19 from 9 am to 3 pm. The sale will be held at the Fourth Avenue holding site just south of Wetmore Road,

at 4342 N. 4th Ave. We expect many Barrel Cacti, *Ferrocactus wislizeni* will be in full bloom so you can choose your favorite color. We will also have hedge hogs, Christmas cholla, *Opuntia*



*macrocentra*, prickly pear, and a few other cacti.

TCSS Members receive a 10% discount on rescue cacti. The sale is open to the public so tell your friends.

Setup will start at 8 am and sales start at 9 am. We can always use help with selling and loading plants so come help if you can. Call Joe or Patsy, 575-7126 if you have any questions.

Joe Frannea

### TCSS Good Time Party and Auction

Sunday, September 16, 2007  
12:00 - 3:00 pm.

The party will be filled with activities. Set up will begin at 12:00 noon. Action begins at 1:00 pm and will include silent and live auctions, \$2.00 plant sale, plant exchange, ice cream with toppings and lots of fun.



Jack Ramsey

### Return trip to Wallace Gardens Carefree, Arizona

Sunday, November 4, 2007  
Lunch at "The Horny Toad"



Now is the time to set this date aside and make plans to join in this trip. If you are new to the society ask your society friends about this trip. The cost is \$40 per person which includes everything.

If you want more information call Jack Ramsey at 888-6137.

Jack Ramsey

### Board Meeting Scheduling Note

The TCSS board meets on the second Tuesday of the month. On most months, the meeting immediately follows the general meeting; this month it is a week later. All members are welcome to attend the board meeting. The next few meetings will deal with the appointment of a nominating committee and the nominations for next year's officers and board members.

If you would like to learn a bit more about how our society functions, consider attending a board meeting. Information is on our web site. While not necessary, you might email Dick Wiedhopf at [wiedhopf@pharmacy.arizona.edu](mailto:wiedhopf@pharmacy.arizona.edu) so enough handouts can be prepared.

Barry McCormick

## Library Update

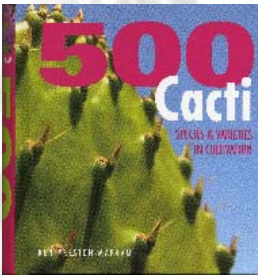


I am taking some of the older books out of circulation. You can refer to the listing on our web site, and if there is something you are interested in, send an email to me at [library@tucsoncactus.org](mailto:library@tucsoncactus.org) and I'll bring it in.

New books:

### 500 Cacti

by Ken Preston-Mafham



This book contains some cacti not found in most books. Most of the pictures are good and can be used for identification. There is a brief paragraph for each picture and a data section covering form,

spines, flowers and distribution.

## World Succulent Plants Colour Illustrated Dictionary

by Tony Sato

With over 280 pages of exceptional photography, this book will make identifying a wide range of succulents easy. There is a short descriptive sentence accompanying each photo.



*Joie Giunta*

## TCSS Financial Report First Half, 2007

This is the financial report for the first half of 2007. We usually have higher income for the first half of the year because dues are collected early in the year.

Major Categories:	Income	Expenses	Net
Dues, Newsletter,			
Meetings, General:	\$13,269	\$10,795	\$ 2,474
Rescue Cactus Prog:	\$21,213	\$16,442	\$ 4,771
Expo, commissions:	\$24,389	\$20,260	\$ 4,129
Donations, Grants:	\$1,153	\$ 1,150	\$3
Totals	\$60,024	\$48,647	\$11,377
Assets by Funds:			
General Fund:	\$20,127		
Rescue Operations:	\$10,000		
Educational Outreach:	\$10,765		
Research Fund:	\$8,636		
Total Assets:	\$49,528		

The \$10,000 set-aside for Rescue Crew Operations provides for large tag purchases and other rescue expenses. Education and Research Funds are monies specifically earmarked for these programs. \$633 was moved from the Rescue Cactus Program to the Educational Outreach Fund.

For comments or questions regarding this report contact Joe Frannea, Treasurer, email: [Joe@TucsonCactus.org](mailto:Joe@TucsonCactus.org)

## THE RESCUE CREW

The early morning sun has risen over the Rincons but is still hiding behind a cloud and a cool breeze blows across the desert as the cars and trucks start filing in at 6:00 am. We've come from all over the Tucson area, some fifty miles or more, to help rescue cactus. Last weekend there were even members from the Phoenix area who made the trek down I-10 to join us.

Our diversity is wide. Some of us are young, others retired. Engineer, welder, teacher, horticulturist, researcher, doctor, accountant, landscape designer, student, computer analyst, truck driver, housewife, pharmacist, artist, stock analyst, construction worker, comptroller, park ranger, retired military, psychologist, auto mechanic – we could be anybody. All arrive with shovels, picks, gloves and wheelbarrows ready to hit the terrain. This July morning thirty-nine members have signed in and are gathered around the transport trailer ready to get their instructions for the morning rescue.

What brings us all together is our love of this desert and its wonderful native plants. Many volunteers enjoy hunting new treasures for their collections; a group of neighbors skip their golf game and come regularly to find new plants for their common areas. An enthusiastic landscape designer finds specimens for her latest installation, someone is collecting baby ocotillos for an ocotillo forest. One member has quite the eye for finding the elusive "Queen of the Night". He'll spend hours digging them and then generously share them with the other volunteers.



Generosity and teamwork are traits that all of our crew members seem to share. We work tirelessly weekend after weekend saving as many plants as possible. We always make sure that TCSS has enough inventory for our public sales first and then share with each other. Each contributes how they can, digging, lifting, tagging, boxing and loading. We get hot, tired and thirsty and then pay for the plants that we decide to take home with a smile. Many of us seldom take anything home. We just want to save native plants and enjoy being out in the beautiful desert.

Thanks Rescue Crew .... We are the best!!!

*Patsy Frannea*

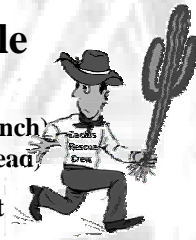
**3 6 4 2 4**  
**3**  
**Cacti Rescued**  
**183 Rescues Accomplished**

## 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 10% discount



Photos by Patsy Frannea, Joe Frannea, and Barry McCormick. Logo Artwork by Vonn Watkins

### Upcoming Schedule

- August 2, Thursday – General Meeting: Miles Anderson
- August 14, Tuesday 7:00 pm – Board Meeting
- August 19, Sunday – Blooming Barrel Sale
- September 1, Saturday – Huntington Succulent Symposium
- October 21, Sunday – Pima County Country Fair Sale
- December 9, Sunday – Annual Holiday Party



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





# Desert Breeze

Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

September 2007

Thursday, September 6, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Gene Joseph

"Plant Sex in the City – and the County Too."

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885-6367

Vice President: Vonn Watkins

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Dan Birt (2009)

Chris Monrad (2009)

Mark Sitter (2009)

CSSA Affiliate Rep: Helen Barber

Cactus Rescue: Chris Monrad

Conservation: Peter Hubbell

Educational: Joe Frannea

Free Plants: Norma Beckman

Librarian: Joie Giunta

Programs: Vonn Watkins

Refreshments: Patsy Frannea

Sales: Jack Ramsey

Technology: Kevin Barber

Research Grants: Gerald Pine

Volunteers: Nancy Reid

Volunteer@tucsoncactus.org

**Editor:** Barry McCormick

jbarrymcc@earthlink.net

Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page: www.tucsoncactus.org

Webmaster: Keimpe Bronkhorst

## September 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.



The Well-equipped Pollinator

This presentation will promote the local seed production of succulents and cacti by amateur growers. It is a logical 'next step' in growing these plants and will afford the hobbyist an opportunity to closely observe and learn more about these great plants. With minimal tools necessary and a small amount of time, an individual can focus on a group of plants (Euphorbias or Pachypodiums or Mammillarias) or even a single species (*Pseudolithos miguertinus* or *Euphorbia bupleurifolia* or *Echinocereus viridiflorus v. canus*), producing hundreds, or even

thousands, of seeds on just a few plants in your back yard. If successful, seedlings can be sold or traded to our local growers. Pollinating tools and techniques, insect exclusion, seed collecting, cleaning and storing methods and suggested species will be discussed.

[See Gene Joseph Biography inside]

Please welcome Gene as our September guest speaker and plan on attending this very important educational presentation.

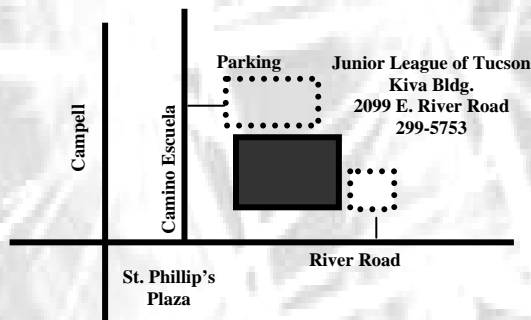
Thursday, October 4, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Cory Martin

"A Garden of Eden in Our Own Backyard."

## Meeting Place



### President's Message



One of the traditions of this Society is the September "Good Time" Silent Auction. I am not sure when it started but I recall attending when I first joined in the early 1970s. It was great fun then and it is even better now. This is an

opportunity to increase your collection and share some of your special plants with the other 1,068 members of the society. There are free plant tables and \$2.00 tables outside plus ice cream and cookies. Inside will be multiple silent auctions and a live auction for really special donated plants. Three of the plants that will be available come from our last rescue. There are two very large *Escobaria vivipara var. bisbeeana* (*Coryphantha*) clusters and a spectacular *Echinomastus* specimen. There is more information about this event in this newsletter and on our web site. This is a wonderful time to share with each other our enjoyment of this hobby. Bring a friend -- everyone is welcome.

Also in this newsletter is information about the September 23 home tour of Doug Hall and Dael Kaufman, and information about our trip to the Wallace Gardens in Scottsdale.

A nominations committee was elected at the August board meeting and is seeking nominees for officers, four board of director positions and the CSSA affiliate representative. This is your opportunity to become active in the planning, organizing and directing the activities of the society. The nominations committee members are Joie Giunta, Mark Sitter and Chris Monrad.



My college roommate wrote me recently from Sacramento, CA about a cactus that was in stress at their home. I made a few suggestions but I think he went too far on implementing them.

### In Memoriam

Douglas Keith, who recently joined the Society, has passed away August 1, 2007. The family has generously asked that donations in his memory be made to the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society-Cactus Rescue Program.

We thank the following for their donations.

Wayne Evans Insurance Agency, Yucaipa, CA  
Eric and Marilyn Anderson, Alameda, Ca

### Donation

The Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society expresses its thanks and appreciation for a \$400 donation from the Resources Law Group, Sacramento, CA for support of our School Grant Program.

We are grateful to Rory Baker, former Southern Arizona resident who presented the information to their Charitable Contributions Committee.

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

### Cactus Rescue Treasures

One of the thrills in walking native desert acreage looking for cacti to rescue is to keep an eye out for a great or unusual specimen or to find a real treasure. Three such plants were recently found in the Vail area at a new housing development site where we were rescuing cacti in road cut areas.

Two of the plants are wonderful specimens of *Coryphantha vivipara variety bisbeeana*. The larger one is about 12 inches in diameter with 22 heads as shown in the photo. We have only found



a few of these plants over the years with so many heads. The third plant that is a real treasure is a huge *Echinomastus erectocentrus*, about 5 inches in diameter and 10 inches tall. This is by far the largest one that we have ever found.

These three plants have been potted and will be donated by the Cactus Rescue Crew for the TCCS Good Times Silent Auction so you can have a chance to own them. See details about the auction in this newsletter or on our web site.

Another great find at this site were many small seedling Ocotillo, ranging from one inch tall to about 12 inches. Many of these were sold at the recent Blooming Barrel sale. The large Ocotillo that we rescued were so heavily leafed out that you could not see the canes. It is amazing to see how native plants respond to the monsoon season.

*Joe Frannea*

### **Blooming Barrel Sale, No Bulls**

It might as well been the running of the bulls. Just a few minutes before the official 9 am start time of the annual Sunday Blooming Barrel Sale, a welcome and instructions were given, the yellow



**9:10 AM - Sale well under way**

tape was dropped, and customers rushed in to claim their favorite blooming Barrel Cactus or other plant.

Twenty six TCCS members showed up early and made quick work to set up the sale in about thirty minutes as anxious customers gathered. Many of the cacti were already at the Fourth Avenue holding site but a Saturday cactus rescue delivered more barrels, hedgehogs, a few yuccas and thirteen large ocotillos in full leaf. More barrels, hedgehogs, and mamms were brought to the sale Sunday morning from the other holding area. A total of 550 plants were sold to 110 customers in two hours which was just about everything at the site except for a few prickly pear and small hedgehogs.

We apologize to those who came later and the sale was sold out. We have no way to know the demand and we do have a limited supply as all the

cacti sold are rescue plants. We will remind customers in the future to come early for best selection since the inventory may sell out quickly.



**11:00 AM - Almost all Cacti Sold, no Barrels**

Fishhook barrel cactus are the main staple at our sales; we sold 343 bringing in over \$4,000. Our total sales were \$6,139 which included 35 pair of cactus gloves and 11 new memberships. After cactus tag expenses and advertising, we netted about \$3,700. One fourth of this will be used for our Educational Outreach and School Grants program.

A special thanks to all our customers for supporting our efforts and a big thanks to all the TCCS members who helped set up, sell, load cactus and take down the sale..

*Joe Frannea*

### **Speaker Biography: Gene Joseph**

Gene has a degree in Plant Sciences from the University of Arizona and graduated in 1985. He was plant propagator at the Desert Museum, where he focused his energies on Sonoran Desert plants. Gene says "I knew where I was by what I was growing and if it was Sonoran, I was at work." "If it was not, I was at home." Gene's collection at home forced him to quit the Desert Museum and move to Jane's flower shop where he continued to maintain his collection under the guise of being in business.

Today Gene Joseph and Jane Evans own Living Stones Nursery & Plants for the Southwest, located at 50 E. Blacklidge, Tucson, Arizona 85705. They specialize in succulent plants and cacti from around the world, but also grow some of the interesting and uncommon desert shrubs, wildflowers and trees, mainly from our region here in the southwest.

## “Goodbye to the Heat” Good Time Party

Sunday, September 16, 2007

12:00 noon to 3:00 pm. at the Junior League



This party day will be filled with activities: live and silent auctions, member plant sale and exchange, refreshments, and plenty of

fellowship.

We will start setting up at 11:00 am so the party can start at noon. Bring your plant donations for the auction, plants for the \$2.00 sale table, and plants and cuttings for the give away table. Remember that the auction can include plant-related books, artwork, pots, tools, etc.

What could be better for a Goodbye to the Heat party than an old fashioned ice cream social. We'll have everything – just bring your appetites.

The auctions are the core of this event and help us raise money for our research grant program. Our member-growers are always very generous, but our own contributions are the most important part. Look through your collections for some nice plants you can part with for a good cause. You might consider putting them in nice pots to add to their attractiveness. Everything is welcome. We will have four separate silent auction tables spaced through the afternoon, beginning at 1:00 pm.

Some of the best plants will be set aside for the live auction. This is always an exciting event as the urge to acquire great succulents expresses itself in spirited bidding.

We'll need volunteers for setup and cleanup, and to help with the auctions and sales. Come, help, and have fun.

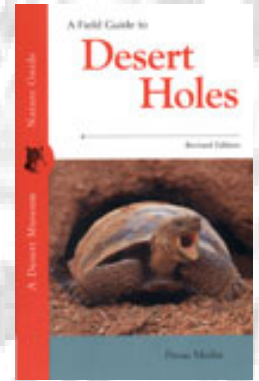
*Jack Ramsey*

## Library Update



A Field Guide to Desert Holes by Pinau Merlin is arranged by the hole sizes, whether it's a depression, mound, elevated hole or borrowed or modified. Each section has the possible builders, description of the hole and a natural history of the builder. There are 16 color pages of various animals as well as black and white drawings, some showing tracks of the animal. An informative book that is easy to read.

Moon Handbooks BAJA by Joe Cummings is a good book for anyone planning a trip to Baja. The introduction covers geography, climate, flora, fauna, history government and the people. Northern, Central Baja and the Cape regions are covered separately. Another section



covers recreation, entertainment accommodations, camping, food, drink health and safety, holidays, festivals and events. This book was printed in 2003, so some things may have changed, especially pricing. I checked out some of the internet sites listed and they still exist, so you should be able to verify a lot of the information..

*Joie Giunta*

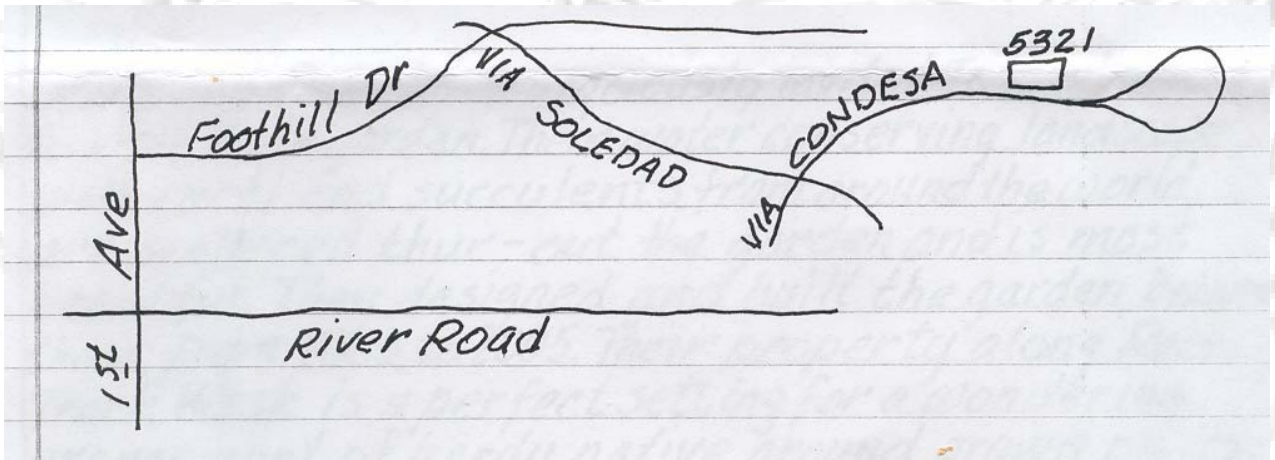
## September Garden Tour

Doug Hall and Dael Kaufman have graciously invited TCSS members to visit their garden on Sunday, September 23, from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Their water-conserving landscape garden features cacti and succulents from around the world and is most beautiful. They designed and built the garden from 2003 to 2005. Their property along Race Track Wash is a perfect setting for a wonderful arrangement of hardy native ground grown plants. The native rocks and boulders add to the charm of the perfectly positioned plants, and add additional local shade and moisture retention for the plants. The backyard is situated around a naturalistic swimming pool and a densely planted pond, surrounded by plantings evoking the mid-altitude Oak Woodlands of Southeast Arizona and Sonora. You will be surprised at the thriving number and variety of plant genera and species, both hardy and tender.

Directions: From River Road and First Avenue go north on First one block. Turn right on Foothill Drive and follow to Via Sodedad. Turn right on Via Soledad and continue to Via Condesa. Turn left and their home is at 5321, on the left side. There is a map on the next page.

*Jack Ramsey*



### Sycamore Canyon Field Trip

We are planning a trip to Sycamore Canyon in October 14 with Cory Martin. The cost of the trip is \$5.00. We will meet at the Starbucks at I-19 and Irvington at 7:00 am.



Sycamore Canyon is a North/ South running canyon; along the Arizona Mexico border, four miles long, as a crow flies. Temperatures are warm and humid with a perennial stream to soak your feet in. Vegetation is a mix of Sonoran Desert, Desert Grasslands and Sonoran Thornscrub. The canyons North/ South orientation makes it a funnel for wildlife including the famous Trogon, a much sought after bird from the tropics, and numerous other beauties including a plethora of butterflies during the month of October. The hike will focus on the Goodings Preserve, which is the upper half of the canyon. Depending on how much is active, the hike will last up to six hours not including drive time. Terrain is relatively flat with the occasional boulder hop. I would rate this hike at easy to moderate. Proper hiking attire required, hat, water, sunscreen, insect repellent etc.

Cory will be speaking at the October meeting. Sign up at the library table during the break in September and October or send your check to:

Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society  
P. O. Box 64759  
Tucson AZ 85728-4759

This trip is limited to 12 people.

*Joie Giunta*

### Return trip to Wallace Gardens Carefree, Arizona

**Sunday, November 4, 2007**  
**Lunch at "The Horny Toad"**



Don't miss out on this great excursion. Use the enclosed form to make your reservations before the trip sells out.

*Jack Ramsey*

### Foothill Mall Plant Sale and Show

**Saturday & Sunday, September 22 & 23**  
**10:00 am to 5:00 pm**

We will be selling rescue plants in conjunction with the Tucson African Violet society show. All sales will be inside. Setup will begin at 9:00 am Saturday. Those of you who wish to help please contact Nancy Reid at 903-0245 or [desertreid @ yahoo dot com](mailto:desertreid@yahoo.com).

All plants will be rescue plants except a few plants on consignment.

*Jack Ramsey*

**3 6 6 3 4**  
**2**  
**Cacti Rescued**  
184 Rescues Accomplished

## 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 10% discount



Photos by Joe Frannea, and Barry McCormick. Logo Artwork by Vonn Watkins

### Upcoming Schedule

- September 6, Thursday – General Meeting: Gene Joseph
- September 11, Tuesday 7:00 pm – Board Meeting
- September 16, Sunday 12:00 noon – Good Time Party
- September 22 & 23, Saturday & Sunday – Foothill Mall Sale
- October 4, Thursday -- General Meeting: Cory Martin.
- October 21, Sunday – Pima County Country Fair Sale
- November 4, Sunday –Wallace Gardens Tour
- December 9, Sunday – Annual Holiday Party

6



Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society

7510 E. Rio Verde Rd.

Tucson, AZ 85715-3537



# Desert Breeze

Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

October 2007

Thursday, October 4, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Cory Martin

"A Garden of Eden in Our Own Backyard."

## TCSS BOARD

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885-6367

Vice President: Vonn Watkins

Secretary: Nancy Reid

Treasurer: Joe Frannea

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Norm Dennis (2007)

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Free Plants: Norma Beckman

Librarian: Joie Giunta

Programs: Vonn Watkins

Refreshments: Patsy Frannea

Sales: Jack Ramsey

Technology: Kevin Barber

Research Grants: Gerald Pine

Volunteers: Nancy Reid

Volunteer@tucsoncactus.org

**Editor:** Barry McCormick

jbarrymcc@earthlink.net

Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page: www.tucsoncactus.org

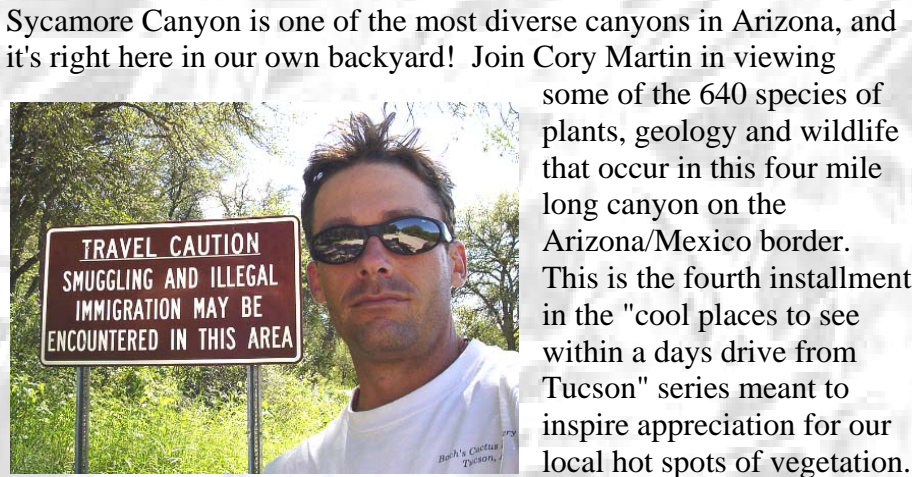
Webmaster: Keimpe Bronkhorst

## October 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.



Sycamore Canyon is one of the most diverse canyons in Arizona, and it's right here in our own backyard! Join Cory Martin in viewing some of the 640 species of plants, geology and wildlife that occur in this four mile long canyon on the Arizona/Mexico border. This is the fourth installment in the "cool places to see within a days drive from Tucson" series meant to inspire appreciation for our local hot spots of vegetation.

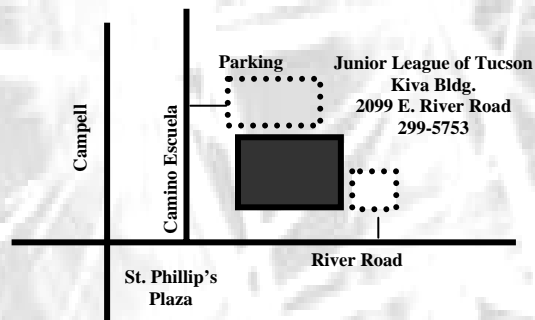
Cory got his start in the plant community at Bach's Cactus Nursery twelve years ago. After four years in wholesale and retail, Cory moved on to The Arizona Sonora Desert Museum. Joining the Botany Department at the ASDM as a horticulturist, he spent seven years caring for many different exhibits including but not limited to the Boojums and the Cactus Garden. Cory has spent the past year and a half as Horticulture Manager for Miraval Resort and Spa managing a crew of six and thirty acres of maintained property. Cory also likes to search out plants in habitat in his free time.

We welcome Cory as our October guest speaker. Don't miss this special journey to a great location along the border of Arizona and Mexico.

Thursday, November 1, 2007

General Meeting

## Meeting Place



President's Message



Here are some of the fall garden activities that you should attend. All of these organizations need our support. Also, check out all of our activities highlighted in this newsletter. This is a very busy season.

**Desert Botanical Gardens-Phoenix**

The Desert Botanical Garden Plant Sale is a one-stop shopping experience featuring the largest variety of arid-adapted plants available in one location. Garden volunteers, horticulturists, and professional landscape designers are all on hand to answer questions, assist in plant selections, and offer advice. Purchase pottery and other delightful garden accessories from specialty retailers and visit the Farmer's Market.

Garden members' preview: Friday October 12 from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm. Open to the Public: Saturday October 13 from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Sunday October 14 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm.

**Boyce Thompson Arboretum – Superior, AZ Fall Plant Sale**

October 5-21, daily during business hours from 8:00 am. to 5:00 pm.

Our popular annual Fall Plant Sale opens to the public on Saturday, October 6, and Arboretum annual members are invited to shop one day early to enjoy special 20% discounts and the widest selection of plants during our "members only preview day" Friday, October 5. Autumn is the time to plant herbs and also a great season to begin your Spring flower garden; stock up during this annual fundraiser, which helps support education and conservation programs here at the Arboretum. Staff horticulturists and Master Gardener volunteers will be here to offer advice and answer your plant questions.

**Tucson Botanical Gardens**

Saturday, September 29, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Annual fall plant sale featuring a large variety of xeriscape plants, cacti and succulents. Also, look for a wide variety of herbs to compliment your fall planting needs. Docents will be available to answer landscaping questions. Plant sale is free. Cost of gardens admission: Adults \$7, Children 4 –12 \$3, Children 3 and younger Free. Members Only Sale: Friday, September 28, Noon to 6:00 pm.

**Tohono Chul Fall Plant Sale**

October 11, 13&14 - Plant sale (October 11 is members only). Penstemon Pandemonium!

**Desert Survivors-Fall Sale**

Members Presale, September 29th, Saturday, 8am-5pm (20% off of all plants for members)

General Public Sale, October 6th & 7th, Saturday (8:00 am-5:00 pm) & Sunday (10:00 am-5:00 pm) (10% off all plants, with 20% off for members)

Featured Plants: *Amorpha fruticosa* (Indigo bush), *Cathestecum erectum* (False Gramma Grass), *Albizia sinaloensis* (Sinaloa silk tree) - these will be beautiful 15 gallon specimens available in small numbers, and one other really cool plant to be named later.

Thank you for all your support.

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

**Pima County Country Fair Sale**



Sunday, October 21, 2007 at Brandi Fenton Memorial Park, 3482 E. River Road, River Road at Alvernon. 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.

This sale, featuring rescue plants, is presented by the TCSS cactus rescue program. A portion of the proceeds go to the School grant program. Club members wishing to sell surplus plants at the sale please contact Jack Ramsey at 888-6137. The plants must be identified with plant name and seller's name and price. Please, no cuttings or unpotted plants. Any questions call Jack Ramsey.

*Jack Ramsey*



## “Goodbye to the Heat” Good Time Party



The Second Good Time Party was another successful event for 2007.

There were more plants than ever available at the \$2 and free tables.

174 items were donated, ten of which were used in the live auction. The total amount collected was \$2367. Expenses of \$540 left \$1825 for the research fund.



The ice cream was very popular, and the toppings were delicious. I want to thank very much all who pitched in and got things done. And thanks to those who donated the items that were auctioned, sold, and given away.

Thank you and thank you, again and again.

*Jack Ramsey*

## Garden Tour

Those of you who missed the garden tour on September 23 sure missed a garden to die for. Doug and Dael's garden ranks among the best in Arizona and maybe the world. Their collection of

plants had everyone in awe – they couldn't believe it. Agave's Aloe's, many species of Cereus, Echinocactus, Ehinopsis, Mammillarias, Opuntias, Euphorbias, Yuccas, to name a few were neatly and artistically

placed among the rocks and boulders. Small and large pots were everywhere with specimens of all



kinds of plants. The pathways down into the wash were loaded with plants, native and non-native. The water features were made to look as if they had always been there and the pool tied it all together. The attention paid to this garden makes it what it is. Doug and Dael, thank you for letting TCSS visit your garden and letting Helen and me take part in the tour.

*Jack Ramsey*

## Library Update

*Pachyforms II Bonsai Succulents* by Phillippe de Vosjoli, Rudy Lime

This book covers everything needed to grow a bonsai form of pachyforms, from choosing plants, pots, training and care of the various species. It is loaded with pictures of plants mostly in pots with a few growing naturally.

Harrison Yocum has given the library a copy of his autobiography. If you ever spent a few minutes talking with Harrison, you know what a fascinating man he is. This booklet covers his life from birth to the time of his presidency in TCSS.

*Joie Giunta*

## Sycamore Canyon Field Trip

The field trip to Sycamore Canyon with Cory Martin in October is full. If you didn't sign up, but would like to go, you can leave your name and phone number at the library table during the break. If there are any cancellations, you will be notified on a first come basis.

*Joie Giunta*

## Return trip to Wallace Gardens Carefree, Arizona

**Sunday, November 4, 2007**

There are seats available on the bus so get your reservations in as soon as possible! Your reservation form was in your September Desert Breeze, or is available on the Club's web page.

*Jack Ramsey*



**3 6 6 3 4**  
**2**  
**Cacti Rescued**  
184 Rescues Accomplished

## 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 10% discount



Photos by John Durham and Barry McCormick. Logo Artwork by Vonn Watkins

### Upcoming Schedule

- October 4, Thursday -- General Meeting: Cory Martin.
- October 9, Tuesday 7:00 pm – Board Meeting
- October 21, Sunday – Pima County Country Fair Sale
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7510 E. Rio Verde Rd.  
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# Desert Breeze

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runbunny@cox.net

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Webmaster: Keimpe Bronkhorst

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

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

Thursday, November 1, 2007

7:00 P.M.

Kelly Griffin

"A Visit to Madagascar."



Be prepared for an exciting journey to Madagascar with Kelly Griffin, curator of xerophytic plants at Rancho Soledad Nurseries. Kelly spent a month traveling the countryside looking at the flora and fauna. He found plenty of both ...Lemurs, Aloes, Chameleons, Kalanchoes, Snakes, Alluaudias, Palms and Pachypodiums. Madagascar is a beautiful and very friendly, albeit extremely poor, country.

Kelly is the curator of xerophytic plants at Rancho Soledad Nurseries in Rancho Santa Fe, California, one of the largest nurseries in Southern California specializing in rare and unusual palms,



cycads and succulents from around the world.



Please attend this amazing program on one of the most magical, yet endangered, environments on earth.

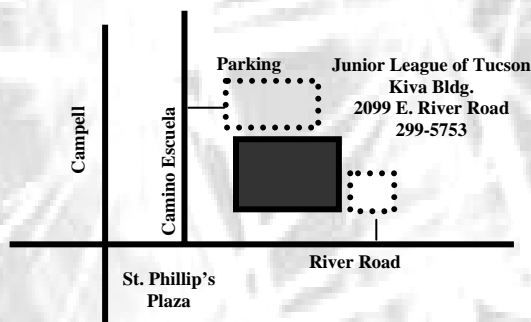
Sunday December 9, 2007

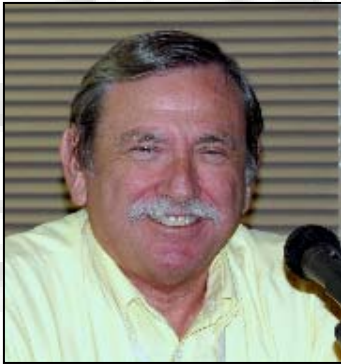
12 Noon to 3 pm

Annual Holiday Party

No General Meeting in December

### Meeting Place

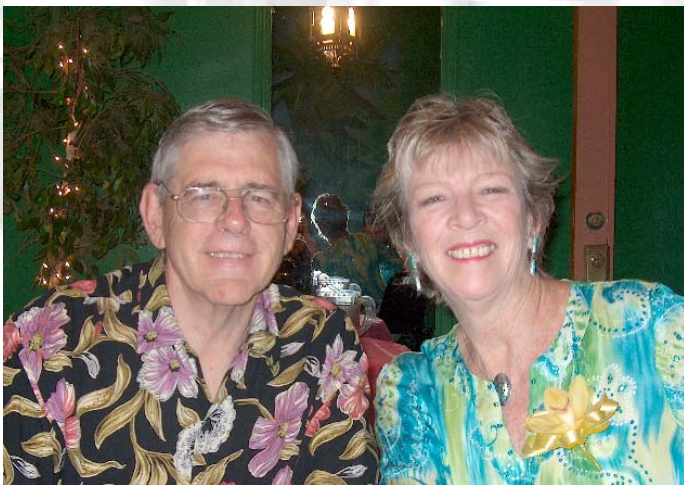




I remember a meeting at the Tucson Botanical Gardens about seven or so years ago when the call went out for a new editor for our newsletter “The Desert Breeze”. A hand went up and a note was

made of the name and the rest is history. Barry McCormick has produced more than seventy newsletters in his tenure as editor. Over this period of time he has innovated the production, introduced year-end color specials, created a full color on-line edition and made you aware of all the happenings of TCSS. He has encouraged everyone to contribute articles, pictures and other information and he has put them together for the benefit of all.

This is his last newsletter. There are no words to express the commitment he has fulfilled to this society and how grateful we all are for a job extremely well done except: THANK YOU BARRY.



You should know that the newsletter is just the tip of the iceberg. Our Expo, which completed its third biannual celebration, was initiated by Barry. He recruited his partner Blair Kuropatkin to do publicity and even drive a truck to pick up show plants. Together they have made this plant show and sale and extraordinary success. Barry has

made sure that every plant in our shows is correctly labeled with the current name and spelling utilizing his computer skills and a large database he helped develop. This is an under appreciated task but so important to the education of the public who view our shows.

Blair has also been able to get television and print coverage of our rescue and neighborhood and sales activities. Many of our members learned about the TCSS through her ability to get this publicity for us.

For a number of years Barry's old trailer was visible at our rescue sites helping to transport and store plants for future sales. He also took a lot of photos of the early rescues for the newsletter

Barry has served on the Board of Directors for the last six years and helped guide this organization through this very large growth spurt. He has decided not to run for re-election. This doesn't mean that he will not be involved but his monthly commitments will be lessened.

Every organization needs dedicated volunteers and Barry has been one and encouraged so many others to do the same.

Personally and on behalf of all the members of TCSS thank you again for all you have contributed to this Society.

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

## Housing Development Down – Cactus Rescues Down



Our Cactus Rescue Program has been very slow for the past several months with only a few rescues. This is largely due to the housing market slowing so much with many new development projects being put on hold. We are trying to reach out a little more to areas and projects that we have probably missed. It takes a very proactive approach to be sure developers, landscape architects, governments, and others who have a hand in new developments are aware of our all

volunteer program and to continually follow-up with them. There is no cost to the developer to participate, just a little time to get us in their development loop.

We welcome Noe Mayotte, one of our regular rescue crew members, to our efforts to follow up on leads and be proactive with developers and governments to snag a few more rescue opportunities. Always remembering, that we do not want to remove cactus from any site unless they are destined for the landfill or the mulcher. We do not remove plants from individual residences but encourage unwanted cacti to be relocated. Don't forget that cholla are a primary nesting habitat for native birds.

Our last rescue was in the Vail area to remove cacti from a 60 foot wide by 1200 feet long area that will be cleared to add an additional natural gas pipeline. This area was rich with Ocotillo from 6 inches tall to 12 feet. There were hundreds of *Yucca arizonica* and several nice Sotol, Desert spoon, many too large for us to hand dig or haul. The medium size ones were fairly easy to dig and handle if properly prepared, see photo. This technique avoids many cuts to the legs and arms and allows easy access to dig up the shallow roots once the bottom leaves are trimmed.



We are gathering a few rescue cacti for the Hacienda del Sol Sale on Sunday, November 11, and hope to have a rescue the day before to be able to bring fresh plants directly to the sale. See our web site for last minute details regarding plants we plan to have at the sale. Details about our Cactus Rescues go out via email every Thursday.

*Joe Frannea*

## Sycamore Canyon Field Trip



Good choice! Cory is delightful beyond words and was a wonderful guide into Sycamore Canyon. He took plenty of time to discuss plants, animals, and the Canyon itself. We saw a white belted kingfisher, red tailed hawk, lots of beautiful butterflies, hundreds of Arizona Chub in fabulous pools as well as many interesting water bugs, dragon flies, cute little rock toads, a young tarantula, and \*!boing!!! a black tailed rattle snake... in fact I nearly stepped on it!



We left our meeting point around 7:10 am. We waited for two missing members, but left without them. With Cory, there were 11 of us. We got back to our vehicles after 3 pm.

I recommend Cory for future hikes. He is easy going and good with everyone, knowledgeable of the territory and LOVES being in our Sonoran desert! He provided a plant list of the Canyon to all.

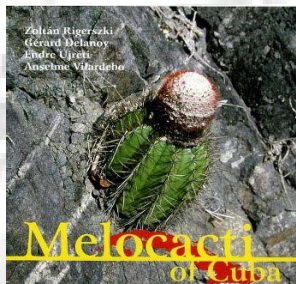
*Nancy Reid*

## Library Update



**Rhipsalis & Lepismium** by Frank Supplie. This small book has a lot of information covering the culture, propagation, pests, diseases and more. The pictures will make identification easy.

**Melocacti of Cuba** gives comprehensive descriptions of the species found in Cuba. There is information on the geography, climate and phytogeography as well as pictures, not only of melocactus, but the countryside and other cacti.



Any books taken out this month will not be due back until January.

*Joie Giunta*



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*Nancy Reid*



### Pima County Country Fair Sale



The Pima County Country Fair Sale on October 21 was unique because we did not have our usual supply of rescue plants. But we made do with some alternatives and we all had a good time.

## Thank you

The President's message is very kind. I have enjoyed editing the newsletter very much, but feel it is healthy for an organization to have things change. And six years is a long time.

One reason the newsletter has been so enjoyable is the support I have had from the members who contribute the material. My mantra has been simple: editors edit. While I have occasion taken pen in hand to add a small detail or flesh out a sketchy report, the material in the newsletter has been contributed by many people. In fact, one of my editorial goals is to have as many people contribute as possible.

The four cornerstones of each issue are the Monthly program description, ably assembled by Vonn Watkins; the President's column by Dick Wiedhopf; the Cactus Rescue reports by Joe Frannea, and the library column by Joie Giunta. Building on these articles are the event and sales reports from Jack Ramsey and Nancy Reid. Over the years many others have contributed; all this support makes it very easy. I have edited quite a

few newsletters; never have I had such an easy job getting contributions.

Current technology has made the job easier as well. Much of the material comes to me in a form that can just be pasted together; almost everything comes by email. I email the final file to Kinko's; and the first time I see a printed newsletter is when it reaches my mailbox.

How is this magic performed? Through the skill and perseverance of our president, Dick Wiedhopf. Dick picks up the printed issue at the printer, deals with delays and assembly problems, prints and applies the mailing labels, stamps the 700 or so copies, and hand carries them to the downtown post office from which they reach our mailbox, sometimes within hours. That's where the real work is.

One final, very important thank you – to my successor, Karen Keller. Karen has actually done several issues this year, when my travels absolutely conflicted with publication dates. Best wishes to Karen, who will bring a fresh new perspective to the Desert Breeze.

*Barry McCormick*

## TCSS Financial Report First Three Quarters of 2007

This is the financial report for the first nine months of 2007. The \$10,000 set-aside for Rescue Crew Operations is necessary to ensure working monies for large tag purchases and other rescue expenses. Education and Research Funds are designated monies specifically earmarked for these programs. Rescue Cactus Program Expenses include \$1,633 donated to the Educational Outreach Fund.

Major Categories:	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Net</u>
Dues, Newsletters, Meetings, misc.:	\$13,486	\$17,486	\$(4,000)
Rescue Cactus Prog: Expo, Silent Auction, Trips, Commissions:	\$30,209	\$20,488	\$ 9,721
Donations, Grants:	\$29,494	\$21,132	\$ 8,362
Totals	<u>\$76,184</u>	<u>\$61,256</u>	<u>\$14,928</u>

Assets by Funds:	
General Fund:	\$25,609
Rescue Operations:	\$10,000
Educational Outreach:	\$ 9,790
Research Fund:	<u>\$ 7,636</u>
Total Assets:	<u>\$53,035</u>

For comments or questions contact Joe Frannea, Treasurer, email: [Joe@TucsonCactus.org](mailto:Joe@TucsonCactus.org)

**3 6 8 0 4**  
**2**

**Cacti Rescued**  
**186 Rescues Accomplished**

## **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 10% discount**



Photos by John Durham and Barry McCormick. Logo Artwork by Vonn Watkins

### **Upcoming Schedule**

- November 2, Thursday -- General Meeting: Kelly Griffin.
- November 4, Sunday --Wallace Gardens Tour
- November 13, Tuesday 7:00 pm – Board Meeting
- November 11, Sunday --Hacienda del Sol Plant Sale
- December 9, Sunday – Annual Holiday Party
- January 3, Thursday – General Meeting
- January 8, Tuesday 7:00 pm – Board Meeting







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December 2007

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Free Plants: Norma Beckman  
Librarian: Joie Giunta  
Programs: Vonn Watkins  
Refreshments: Patsy Frannea  
Sales: Jack Ramsey  
Technology: Kevin Barber  
Research Grants: Gerald Pine  
Volunteers: Nancy Reid  
VOC@tucsoncactus.org

Editor: Karen Keller  
runbunny@cox.net

Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page:

[www.tucsoncactus.org](http://www.tucsoncactus.org)

Webmaster: Keimpe Bronkhorst

## January Potluck

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

Everyone is Welcome!

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

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

**Where:** Junior League Facility 2099 E River Road  
**Setup:** 10.30 AM till 11.45 AM  
**Lunch:** 12.00 NOON

The Society will provide Turkey, Ham, Shrimp, Condiments, Tableware, and Drinks (Coffee, Punch, Water).

You will provide your favorite recipe (enough for 10+ servings). Hot or Cold. Salads, Starches, Vegetables, Desserts. Please bring a serving dish and serving utensils.

This has been a great year! Let's make it special for others as well. Please bring donations, preferably dollars, for the Tucson Food Bank.

**Gift Exchange:** Everyone can participate by (cleverly) wrapping a plant or plant related gift of at least \$8.00 value. If you bring a gift, you get a gift, and we have a fun way to distribute the gifts.

**Meeting:** Additionally there will be a short Annual Meeting, Election Results, Awards and Table prizes.

**Please RSVP using the form you got in the mail, OR write your name, number of people attending, and the kind of food you will bring (salad, starch, vegetable, dessert) on a piece of paper and send it to: Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society P.O. Box 64759 Tucson, AZ 85728-4759**

January 3, 2008 at 7pm

## Success and Failures with Succulent Plants, "A View from the Bench"

*Presented by Mark Fryer*

Mark is a member of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

**Meetings are held on the first  
Thursday of each month.**



**Junior League of Tucson, Kiva Bldg.  
2099 E. River Road**

## President's Message



We have a membership of more than 1100 this year. We are the largest local cactus and succulent society in the world and we are inviting the world to visit us at the Biennial Convention of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. This is planned to start in Tucson April 10, 2009. That's only 16 months away. A lot of work has been going on

behind the scenes with facilities, programs and sales. Starting in January you can become a part of the TCSS portion of the convention. We are the host society and as the host we want to make all our guests feel welcome. Lots of information will be on our website and in this newsletter about convention committees and activities. We will make this convention great only if you are part of it!

Recently, you have received information in the mail about renewing your membership, a ballot for the election of Officers and Board of Directors and our Holiday Party information. I hope you will renew your membership, vote and attend the party.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the other officers, Board Members, committee chairs and everyone who has volunteered at an event. You have made this a terrific year.

Jack Ramsey, Norm Dennis and Barry McCormick have decided not to run for re-election to the Board of Directors. In the last newsletter I talked about Barry leaving the editors position and all his accomplishment both as editor and board member. His knowledge and input will be missed.

Jack Ramsey is a name and face all of you know. He greets you at the door of our monthly meetings, handles the raffles and door prizes, organizes events like garden nursery and home tours and along with his wife Helen, manages many of our sales. He has also been responsible for our many years of participation in the Pima County Country Fair. I know Jack will continue to contribute his talent to TCSS. Thanks Jack for all you have done and all the hours you have contributed to this society.

Norm Dennis organized and started our mid-month spring and fall workshops. His first workshop was so successful that he had to repeat it several times so everyone could be included. He has provided us with a marvelous library of mammillaria photos on our website and his background as a science teacher has been extremely valuable for education and research grant efforts. Norm will also continue helping out where needed. Thank you Norm for all that you do.

**Don't forget SONORAN VII will take place on May 9,10 & 11, 2008. Happy Holidays and have a great New Year.**

*Dick Wiedhopf, Presiden*

## Another Successful Sale

A beautiful historic setting, great weather, freshly rescued native cacti and four of Tucson's best cactus and succulent growers came together in perfect harmony on November 11th to make our Fall Sale at Hacienda del Sol Guest Ranch Resort a big success. By the time our rescue crew had unloaded hundreds of plants, a large crowd of customers were eagerly waiting to select their favorites to take home, and within minutes after opening at 9 AM, the crew had to restock with what barrels were left in our hold area. It is very satisfying to know that so many homeowners treasure our rescued plants and are anxious to put them into their landscapes. As always, kudos to the hard working volunteers who labored the day before the sale, to rescue so many plants from two separate sites. One site was rich with barrels and hedgehogs, and the other site was heavy with exceptional mammillaria and hedge hogs. The diversity gave our customers a good selection of rescued plants, and up in Hacienda del Sol's beautifully landscaped patio, they could select from a wide variety of special cactus and succulent brought in by some of our member nurseries. Extra thanks go to those nurseries, to the great group of members who came to help at the sale, and of course to the owners of Hacienda del Sol for supporting our rescue program.

One special perfectly formed crested barrel about two feet tall was rescued and donated by TCSS for Hacienda's cactus garden so their guests could see this one in a thousand cacti. Rescue sales by 19 volunteers included 363 cacti bringing in \$3,114 with a profit of about \$1,800. Our Educational Outreach Program which includes our school grant program will receive 25% of our profits. Check our web site for the next sale date in the Spring.

*Patsy and Joe Frannea*

## How Many Rescue Crew Members Does It Take To Move A Barrel Cactus?

More than six, if the cactus weighs over 500 pounds! On a recent cactus rescue a magnificent double headed barrel cactus was found with each head about four feet tall. One of the heads had a smaller barrel head on top with the other half being crested, truly a unique barrel. Its' demise was discussed amongst a few crew members and with the land to be bladed in a few days it was decided to rescue the one with the unique crest





on the top. As digging began to expose the roots, it was discovered that the cactus had one root base in the middle and each head grew out to the side and then up about four feet tall. One four foot tall barrel

requires a couple of people and a specially rigged dolly with oversize wheels and a ramp to get it into a pickup truck. But with two parallel heads this technique won't work and the weight being double and the possibility of letting it fall or twisting it may break the single base and ruin the whole thing.

Some of our rescues are like going to the dog pound, you want to save every one and give each one of them a good home. The more we talked the more we convinced ourselves that somehow this cactus needed to be saved so we decided to give it a go. We continued to dig around the base cutting the main roots and gently lowering it down to the ground onto 3 large cactus carrying slings. The slings were specially made for TCSS with heavy web strap handles. Once on the ground we decided to see if moving it was a possibility. Six strong crew members grabbed the handles for a test lift to see if we could get it off the ground. We could, but only a few inches. This cactus was 500 pounds plus. We knew we couldn't lift it high enough to get it into a pick up bed so now what do we do to transport it off site? Safety always come



first so we needed a simple and safe solution.

Luckily there was a two foot high berm just a few feet away so we shuffled it to the top and backed the truck to the berm to load it straight into the bed. This would be great, but wait, now it will take an army to off load it and plant it so where does it go? The simple answer was "somewhere close by" so the crew that just loaded it could plant it.

The site we were working was Granite Construction sand and gravel operation. We had started a small cactus garden next to their field office last March so we decided to add this great specimen to the existing garden of

other barrels, ocotillo, chollas, hedgehogs, saguaros and queen of the night. This went smoothly and 30 minutes later the cactus had a new home.

A special thanks to Novak Environmental and Granite Construction for letting us on their site to remove over 1,100 great barrels and 1,600 other cacti including 40 Queen of the Night over the past ten months. It should be noted that mining operations are exempt from native plant laws, so it is great to have businesses that go the extra mile to save native plants. Granite has certainly done this.



*Joe Frannea*

## Meet the New Editor

Greetings, I have been asked to introduce myself. My name is Karen Keller and I was born and raised in Zurich, Switzerland where I attended The American International School of Zurich. After graduating, I got a BFA degree in Graphic Design at The Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore Maryland. I was not sure whether or not I wanted to pursue a career in the States of Switzerland, so I decided to return to Switzerland where I worked for several ad agencies. After working for two years in Switzerland, I decided it was time to spread my wings. When my brother was married in Tucson I got a glimpse of the area and fell in love with Tucson. It gave me the opportunity to do the things I enjoy such as running, hiking and enjoying the natural surroundings. I now call Tucson my home and work for Tucson Newspapers as a graphic designer as well as freelance on the side.

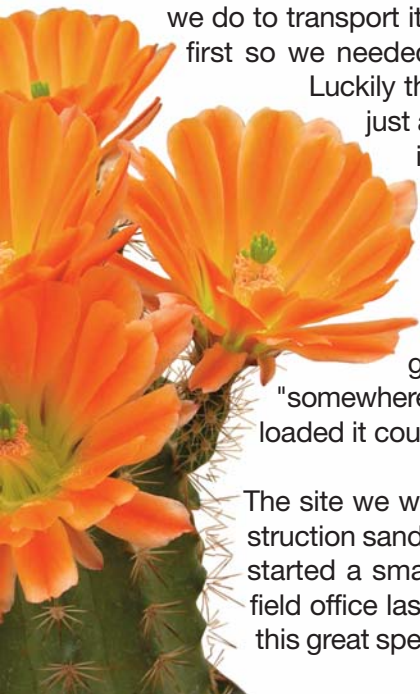
In the new year I plan to revamp the newsletter to make it more reader friendly. Hopefully this gives you a brief biography of myself. I can be reached via email at [runbunny@cox.net](mailto:runbunny@cox.net).

*Karen Keller*

## Library Update

As usual, there will be no library this December. All books taken out in November do not have to be returned until January. If you have any books that are overdue, please return them in January or if you are unable to make the meeting, call me at **907-7950** or email at [joietgo@yahoo.com](mailto:joietgo@yahoo.com) to make arrangements for getting the books back into circulation. Thanks and I look forward to seeing you at the christmas party.

*Joie Giunta*



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**Cacti Rescued**  
189 Rescues Accomplished

**TCSS Rescue Cacti for Sale**  
Visit our next Sale for selections

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 10% discount

**DECEMBER 2007**  
Sunday December 9

No General Meeting this month  
12:00 Noon to 3:00pm  
Annual Holiday Party at the Junior League of Tucson

**JANUARY 2008**  
Thursday January 3

7:00pm  
General Meeting and Presentation by Mark Fryer:  
Success and Failures with Succulent Plants,  
"A View from the Bench"

Tuesday, January 8

7:00pm  
Board meeting at the U of A College of Pharmacy



Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society  
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