

CENTRAL ARIZONA CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Meeting - Sunday 2:00 p.m., JULY 28, 1996

Webster Auditorium - Desert Botanical Garden

Board of Directors - 1:00 p.m., Archer House

Our speaker for July is Kent Newland who is employed by the City of Phoenix in Water Conservation. He makes over 60 presentations a year and will do an additional presentation for our Society on the Genus Agave. Kent's balance of botanical training and daily practical efforts on water and environmental conservation provides a unique perspective on desert plants. In past years Kent personally communicated with Dr. Howard Scott Gentry, author of AGAVES OF CONTINENTAL NORTH AMERICAN and the Desert Botanical Garden's first professional botanist and plant explorer. Careful observation of agaves in Baja California have given Kent perspective on Gentry's taxonomy. In his presentation Kent will emphasize the role of the genus agave and other desert plants in environmental and water conservation, certainly a timely topic given the extended drought in the American Southwest.

Kent is also a past president of Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society and is currently president of the Phoenix Chapter of The Arizona Native Plant Society.

Treasurer Pat Korach reported our treasury's balance as of June 30, 1996 at \$2544.83. Our total expenses for the Cactus Show in April were \$1221.91.

Librarian Frances Volz says: "Let Your Eyes Do the Walkin' in Your Library's Garden. July Meeting's Walkers:

ALOE: Journal of the Succulent Society of South Africa, v. 29, no. 1, 1992.

A synoptic review of the Genus Gasteria in 23 pp. with color illustrations.

THE CACTUS PRIMER.

Wannabee botanists get a descriptive morphology (form and structure) and physiology (organic functions.) Super glossary. My newest word: cladode=flattened stem=pad, like in Opuntia.

CACTI OF THE SOUTHWEST

Easy to follow 8 p. key to species and varieties, 151 identifications and 22 pp. of color plates.

POPULAR EXOTIC CACTI IN COLOUR

Thrill seekers have an easy to hold 6" x 8" beauty with detailed cultivation notes on 100 species. Superb full and half page photos.

Please remember the money from the birthday bank is used to purchase our library books.

Dr. Alfred Lau, premiere plant explorer and world wide authority will present a program on cactus and succulents. Invite your friends to this special opportunity.

ALSO: Jim Sudall, with DBG's full permission, has agreed to show and SELL a new line of pots at the September 15th meeting. Prices will be good and you need to think about custom ordering pot shapes and sizes that exactly fit your needs. Edra Drake, winner of the BIG trophies at our April show, says Jim's pots are a big part of her presentations. She orders pots in a set amount of dollars, and suggests members could go in together to order \$100. worth or purchase smaller orders Sept. 15th.

October 11-13, 1996 The Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society presents another chance for those of us who missed Tucson '95. A Serious and Not All Cereus Look at Cacti and Succulents of The Sonoran Desert. For information and registration:

Mary Odette, , (1-520-749-2285)
3831 N. Cherry Creek Place
Tucson AZ 85749

(Welcome to Mary, she is a new member of our Society.)

October 27, 1996 Silent Auction. Please be getting plants, pots, labels, books, seeds, supplies, etc. ready for our Fall Silent Auction. This is a really neat time for new members to find bargains and for those of us whose collections are getting out-of-hand to thin out some of our duplicates (or triplicates, etc.) Lets make it a really good event.

November 17, 1996--Dr. Anderson, Explorations in Peru.

December 15, 1995-- Christmas Party.

July 5, 6, 7, 1997 - National Cactus and Succulent Society Convention in San Diego, CA.

LAST MONTH: Kent Newland's program on the Genus Agave emphasized the use of agaves in our landscapes, but he also described the symbiotic relationship of agaves and bats, the uses of agaves for mescal, tequilla, sisal (for rope) and medicinal uses. Kent said the worst time to plant agaves is the middle of the summer; best time being fall or late winter. He described the inflorescence of Agave attenuata as a "foxtail" and that it could have 10,000 flowers on the stem. Agave parviflora doesn't die after flowering as most agaves do. Agave Arizonica, discovered by John Weber of DBG, 30 years ago could be a hybrid of toumeyana x utahensis. He said that Dr. Howard Scott Gentry spent 50 years on agaves, dividing them into 20 generic groups, 136 species, of which Arizona has 12 species.