

Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society
May, 1993 Newsletter



THIS MONTH

MONTHLY MEETING

Note that the May meeting will be on Sunday, May 23, one week earlier than usual, to accommodate the Memorial Day weekend.

Our May meeting will be held at 2pm in Webster Auditorium. Our topic is Behind the Scenes at the Desert Botanical Garden, hosted by CACSS members Cathy Babcock and Michael Chamberland. Cathy and Michael, who are also employees of the Garden, will take us on a walking tour of some of the non-public areas at the DBG. They will show us the propagation areas and explain the collection, identification and growing methods used by the Horticulture staff. This should prove to be an interesting and informative meeting. Meet at the Webster Auditorium for the general business meeting; the tour will commence after that. Wear comfortable walking shoes and a hat, and consider bringing something to drink.

The Board of Directors' meeting will be held at 1pm in the Archer House before the regular monthly meeting. All members are invited to attend.

Take a look at From Debra's Shadehouse later in this newsletter.

If anyone would like to contribute articles for the newsletter or the Spine, call me at 831-2477. Articles for the newsletter can come to me at anytime. Articles for the June Spine need to be sent to Vera Gamet by the end of May. Let's get those poetic, scientific and artistic ideas on paper to share with your fellow members.

Please welcome the following new members:

Herbert and Dolores Gottschlich
20008 N. 82nd St.

John Leslie
333 W. 1st St.

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Note the following renewal:

Rodrick G. McGill

Welcome back!

And, note the following update:

Norma Beckman's phone number is:

Please update your directories with all this info.

LAST MONTH

Doug Dawson presented a lecture and workshop on plants' binomial nomenclature entitled "An Amateur's View of How Plants Get Their Names." Doug gave us an understanding of the evolution of the classification system, and helped us to understand some of the commonly used Latin words. He provided us with some nifty tips sheets, and then we broke into groups to name some hypothetical plants. Thanks, Doug!

Pat and Sam Korach hosted a lovely open garden last month. Their garden shows a lot of attention to detail and a love of their plants. It was fun to see the aerial photo of the house before-Korach to compare. Their pet opuntia dragon was in full color for the event. Thanks, Pat and Sam!

The idea of Society t-shirts or polo shirts was put before the membership; we are in favor of pursuing the idea. No commitment is required at this time. The Board will report back with ideas at a future date.

Edra Drake would like to thank everyone who contributed plants for the Extension Show and the Floriade Show. These contributions made each of the shows a success.

We were saddened to hear that Dr. Howard Gentry, noted authority on Agaves, passed away recently. A condolence card was sent on behalf of the membership to Mrs. Gentry. If you would like to send a card yourself, her address is Mrs. Marie Gentry, 5585 E. Lee St., Tucson, AZ 85712.

COMING NEXT MONTH

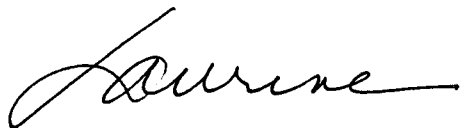
SILENT AUCTION I

Included in this newsletter is a flyer announcing a silent auction at Larry Fischer's home on June 13. A silent auction is always a great opportunity to add to your collection! Note that the directions to Larry's house say to turn on Apollo; Apollo is about 5 blocks south of Southern, and make sure you turn there, or you will go over the canal and get all botched up. Come out to Larry's garden and have some fun in a bidding war!

SILENT AUCTION II

Our regular June meeting will be a silent auction as well. Start thinking now what plants you'd like to contribute. Remember that tools, plant tags and pots (and any other Cactus and Succulent related material) are welcome as well as plants. We always need egg timers and helpers to set up, accept money and take down. Contact Paula Matney for more info and to volunteer.

See you at the meeting!



FROM DEBRA'S SHADEHOUSE

I recently hosted the president of another large city cactus and succulent club during his vacation swing through Arizona. We ended up on a botanizing trip to the Rim Country north of Strawberry where we found budding *Coryphantha vivipara* var. *arizonica*, blooming *Echinocereus triglochidiatus* and an agave (whose Latin name escapes me).

The wonder of discovery is a form of self renewal. I encourage all of you to get out and find cacti and succulent in habitat. The thrill of spotting identifiable plants in the wild is unforgettable. You will gain new perspectives on understanding the unique life zones and ecosystems found in Arizona. And the beauty of our grand state fills the heart and the eye.

Here are some personal, helpful hints about botanizing in Arizona...

1. Public lands are usually open lands to explore. The National Forests and Parks are yours to wander in. Unlike some other states (notably Texas), Arizona has huge public tracts available for wandering.
2. Don't poach! The plants that you'll see cannot have a better home than where they grew up. Leave them alone for your children and grandchildren to find and enjoy. The only exceptions would be plants that are already uprooted or are directly threatened by animal or manmade dangers (javelina damage and road grading are the most common).
3. Get good maps. Forest Service and U.S. Geologic Survey maps are the most useful and detailed for road and topographic information. Wide World of Maps in metro Phoenix has a superb selection at competitive prices.
4. Be wise outside. Carry water and other basic survival gear in your vehicle and backpack as necessary and let someone know where you'll be before you leave for the great outdoors. A note left inside the windshield of your vehicle noting your direction and departure time can also be important.
5. Take photos. Relying on memory is tricky. It is usually difficult to remember spine structure, plant color, flower characteristics and other botanizing info when you get home. Taking pictures makes sense and leaves you with great souvenirs of your adventures.

Enjoy our state! Then come back to the Society to share your adventures.



Dedicated to our success,

Debra Korobkin
CACSS '93 President