Trophy awards — Cactus Show 1981
Central Arizona Cactus And Succulent Society
Notes From The Records
January 1980 - December 1989

Information compiled by Lois Schneberger.
Editorial help and moral support provided by Sue Hakala
On Friday April 13, 1973, 7:30 p.m. a dozen or so individuals met at the home of Henry Treisler and voted to form a local chapter of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA), Inc., a national organization. It was decided to meet for now on the last Sunday of each month, from 2-4 p.m. Quote from the invitation from Henry that was sent to prospective members: “Our programs and speakers will be selected to help the serious grower become more proficient and knowledgeable. Our only purpose will be to enable our members to derive greater satisfaction and enjoyment from our fascinating hobby.”

In the May 29, 1977 issue of the Society’s newsletter, The Central Spine, Lee Tolleson recalls, “The very first and very informal meeting of what would evolve, without too many birth pangs, into the CACSS happened at the place that Henry Triesler shares with his plants.

I don’t think any of us knew very much about the others in attendance, except that we were all interested in cacti and other succulents. There were differences of opinion on important questions, such as whether Warner Dodd should be allowed to smoke. Once these monumental questions were settled or allowed to die from neglect, we did agree that there was a need for an organization such as the CACSS, and that we were to be it.

When Henry was finally able to silence Genevieve’s enthusiastic conversation, he proclaimed the dichotomous birth of his and Bob’s (Robert J. Moulis) brainchild, the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society.”

[See the issue of The Central Spine for more information on the founding of CACSS.]

The following text describes activities and events in the history of CACSS as found in the records of the Society, i.e., minutes of the Board and general meetings, newsletters, correspondence, etc., and cited as found in the records whenever possible.
January - December 1980

**Officers and Directors:** President – Frank Hennessey; Vice-President – John Graham; Secretary – Marilyn Fitz-Randolph; Treasurer – Martha Passwater; Directors – Fran Tolleson and Jackson Fitz-Randolph

**CSSA Affiliate Representative:** Bob Moulis

**Appointments:** Door Prizes – Warner Dodd; Newsletter Editor – Sylvia Forbes; Librarian – Chris Dezelsky; Plant Tables – Anne and Chuck Fellows; Botany Lessons – Kent Newland; Show and Sale Co-Chairs: Fran Tolleson and Emmy La Tempa

**January 20, 1980 General Meeting**

**Treasury:** Cash balance as of December 31, 1979: $696.88.

**Membership:** Active members 45 and 18 associate members.

**DBG Cactus Show:** It was approved to print $50 worth of new brochures for the cactus show.

**Name Badges:** The charge, which the organization will absorb, is $25 for the printing of the name and logo. The cost of $2.50 per badge is to be paid by each member who orders a badge.

**DBG Cactus Show:** Dr. Huckins spoke with the Board on the role of the Society in the Cactus and Succulent Show. Items of concern were payment of bills, decision-making and division of interests. It was finally decided that the Society would coordinate with the Garden in a co-operative effort to produce the show.

**January 20, 1980 General Meeting**

**Name Badges:** The idea of name badges for members was discussed. The majority was in favor.

**January 21, 1980 Correspondence from DBG Director Regarding the Show**

**DBG Cactus Show:** The show rules and classifications referenced in this letter are not in the records. New procedures are also outlined in the letter.

**February 24, 1980 Board Meeting**

**DBG Donation:** Suggestions were made for helping the Garden as a token of our appreciation for free use of the auditorium for our meetings. Suggestions included a concrete bench, a PA system for the auditorium, and paying a fee for the use of auditorium. Information will be gathered on these ideas and then Frank Hennessey will discuss the ideas with Dr. Huckins.

**February 24, 1980 General Meeting**

**Mini Botany Lesson:** Kent Newland gave a botany lesson on the characteristics and morphology of aloes.

**DBG Cactus Show:** Emmy La Tempa asked that each member sign up to distribute posters for the upcoming Garden Show. The Society has 125 posters to distribute to
nurseries, florists, banks, and trailer courts that cater to the winter visitor.

**DBG Cactus Show:** Dr. Huckins discussed the feasibility of the Society working more closely with the Garden in the management of the plant show. Such cooperation would help each organization and give more continuity to the show.

**Member Recognition:** It was announced that Kent Newland was selected to speak at the International Organization of Succulent Plant Study at its sixteenth congress.

**April 27, 1980 Field Trip and Meeting**

**Field Trip:** Vulture Peak in Wickenburg, AZ was the destination of the field trip.
May 25, 1980 Open Board Meeting

DBG Cactus Show: The purpose of the open Board meeting was to critique the previous show [March] and to determine the Society’s role in future shows. The members felt strongly that the following points needed to be considered before the next show:

• Clarify the show rules.
• Have a more efficient check-in system.
• Have a pre-orientation for the judges.
• Make a major effort to attract new members.
• Have more liaisons among various cactus societies around the state.
• Consider a novice class for the first-time person.
• Obtain a better quality of plants for the plant show.
• Organize the volunteers more efficiently.
• Develop better working relationships between the staff and the volunteers.

Considering the role of the Society in future shows, the consensus seemed to be that the Garden members, the Society, and the Garden staff would work jointly on decision-making committees. Members would volunteer for committees in which they had interests and expertise.

June 20, 1980 Board Meeting

Silent Auction: The program for the July meeting will be the second annual silent auction.

Library: President Hennessey mentioned that he had begun writing for catalogues for the Society’s library. He indicated that he would follow-up on obtaining a librarian for the Society.

June 29, 1980 General Meeting

Bylaws: Hennessey clarified the definition of “associate member”: anyone who is an immediate family member and lives in the same household as a regular member of the Society may join as an associate member. The bylaws do not limit the number of individuals who may qualify per household. The fee for associate member is $2.50 per person.

Field Trip: Dates for the Huntington Bus Trip, September 26 – 28, were announced. The trip will also include side trips to Vista, Fallbrook and other wholesale growers not normally open to the public.

DBG Cactus Show: After the program, volunteers for next year’s cactus show were solicited to serve on the following committees: Plant Sale, Rules and Registration, Operations, Public Relations, Show Preview, and Volunteer Coordination.

July 27, 1980 General Meeting

Silent Auction: Warner Dodd reported the proceeds of the May silent auction were $224.50.

September 21, 1980 General Meeting

Mini Botany Lesson: The title of Kent’s lesson was “Dispersal Mechanisms in Succulent Plants-Inherit the Earth.”
October 26, 1980 General Meeting

DBG Donation: The Society has wished to donate something to the Garden for the use of the Garden’s facilities for our meetings. Under consideration is a PA system for the auditorium the Society and the Garden hope to share the expenses.

November 16, 1980 General Meeting on a Field Trip to Tucson

Member Memorial: Frank reported that at the Board meeting on November 10 it was recommended that the Society send $50 to the DBG in memory of Kathy Corbett and to give a Kathy Corbett Award every year at the Garden’s Cactus and Succulent Show for the best in Mesembs. The cost of the trophy is not to exceed $25. The members passed the recommendation.

DBG Donation: The Board agreed to give the Desert Botanical Garden $300 toward a PA system in consideration of the Garden’s courtesy to the Society in giving us a meeting place. A motion to approve was made and passed.

January - December 1981

Officers and Directors: President – Margaret Caldwell; Vice-President – Warner Dodd; Secretary – Dr. Paul Lundin; Treasurer – Jack Taylor; and Directors: Bob Privenow, Joan Skirvin

CSSA Affiliate Representative: Frank Hennessey

Appointments: Newsletter Editor – Chuck Merbs in August

January 18, 1981 Board Meeting

Arizona Native Plant Society: A proposal from the Arizona Native Plant Society was discussed. They wished us to have a part in their “Arid Lands Plant Fair” March 14-15. Frank Hennessey volunteered to be there on the 14th with some plants.

Treasury: Cash balance on December 31: $458.83.

Membership: Last year ended with 77 members (53 active and 24 associate) up from 63 in 1979.

February 21 – March 1, 1981

DBG Cactus Show: Awards given at the 34th Annual Cactus Show, Presented by the Garden and cosponsored by the Phoenix Gazette and the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society. [A booklet]

March 29, 1981 Board Meeting

DBG Cactus Show: Dr. Huckins requested that written comments on the cactus show be turned in to him by June 1.

March 29, 1981 General Meeting

DBG Cactus Show: Dr. Huckins led a spirited critique of the recent cactus show. A lively discussion as to whether or not collected plants should be admitted attracted numerous comments. Also discussed: more honorable mention ribbons; types of decorated pots;
possible deletion of the arrangements section; possible new classes-novice, etc., and recognition of seed-grown plants.

April 26, 1981 Board Meeting

Arizona Native Plant Society: It was approved that we apply for a group membership in the Society.

May 24, 1981 Board Meeting

Newsletter: It was noted that the Central Spine needed to be resumed; all of the old material has been lost. Warner Dodd will try to track it down.

May 24, 1981 General Meeting

Newsletter: Margaret Caldwell brought up the Central Spine and asked the membership for material to get it going again.

June 28, 1981 Board Meeting

Meeting Program: Frank made a motion to pay half of the expenses ($96) to bring Alfred Lau from Mexico with the Garden paying the balance. Mr. Lau was a co-presenter with Bruce Bayer, curator of the Karoo Gardens in South Africa, at the May meeting. This was approved.

July 26, 1981 Board Meeting

CSSA National Convention: Margaret Caldwell appointed a steering committee to look into hosting the 1987 convention in Phoenix.

July 26, 1981 General Meeting

Silent Auction: Several tables loaded with succulents and cacti yielded to enthusiastic but silent bidding! Our Society netted about $299 for our treasury.

August 30, 1981 Board Meeting

Field Trip: The November 8 field trip to Tucson would be a joint meeting with the Tucson Club and a visit to one plant shop.

Member Memorial: The Society has donated $15 to the DBG library fund in memory of Bill Chester.

Dues: Due to a CSSA increase, dues next year will be $20, associate $2.50.

CSSA Judging Seminar: Dr. Huckins reported on the judging seminar at the CSSA national convention. A very stringent list of criteria is required at the national level. It would be good if some of our members were accredited at that level.

September 20, 1981 Board Meeting

Plant Sale at Meeting: The president was authorized to spend up to $100 at the Huntington plant sale for door prizes for the next year. [DBG sponsored the trip.]

October 25, 1981 General Meeting

CSSA National Convention: Frank Hennessey gave a report on the 1987 national convention committee. They have decided to try to host the convention in Phoenix. Some
more preliminary work needs to be done before the final decision is made.

DBG: Victor Gass talked about DBG’s computerizing their records. He gave a history of former record-keeping from the first plant accessioned in the Garden. These are somewhat vague and cumbersome. They expect to be fully computerized by the end of this year. The computer is at ASU. All information will be easily accessible. Dr. Huckins discussed the kinds of information that can be accurately and rapidly retrieved with the system. They will also work with individual growers for research purposes, exchange, etc.

November 8, 1981 Field Trip and Meeting with the Tucson Club

Field Trip: A joint meeting with the Tucson club was held on the field trip. Following the joint meeting, it was discovered that the bus had broken down. A former president of the Tucson club invited the group to her home to wait. She had two greenhouses of unusual plants and really saved the day.

January - December 1982

Officers and Directors: President – Margaret Caldwell; Vice-President – Warner Dodd; Treasurer – Frank Hennessey; Secretary – Paul Laudin; and Directors – Bob Pribbenow and Lewis Steichman

CSSA Affiliate Representative: Joan Skirvin

Appointments: Nominations Committee: John Graham, Chair; Fran Tolleson and Oliver Luehing; Bylaws Review: Henry Triesler, Chair; Joan Skirvin and Jackson Fitz-Randolph; and Publicity, Paul Lundin.

January 17, 1982 General Meeting

Tucson Cactus and Botanical Society: The Tucson club has been invited to come to the
DBG Cactus Show and visit with our Society. Members were encouraged to turn out for the event.

**Mini Clinic:** The president announced that each general meeting would begin with a 10-15 minute presentation on some aspect of plant care. (These were referred to as mini clinics in minutes for meetings throughout the year. Topics included: March – soil mixes; April – seedlings and potting health; May – Euphorbias; June – caudiciforms; July – columnar cacti; August – Corypanthas; September – Echinocereus; October - Lithops; and November – fancy succulents. The minutes sometimes have information about the plants.)

**February 21, 1982**

DBG Cactus Show: 35th Annual Cactus Show Award, a booklet, published by the Garden. The Phoenix Gazette and the Society co-sponsored the event.

**February 1982 Notes from the Secretary**

**Field Trip:** A March trip to Lost Dutchman State Park was announced.

DBG Cactus Show: On February 21, during the Cactus Show, we entertained the Tucson club. About 30 of our members were on hand to meet with the 44 from Tucson. Our president and Dr. Huckins welcomed them and Herbert Earle gave a brief history of the DBG. This was followed by a tour of the garden, show and plant sale, ending at the Herbarium where Dr. Huckins explained its use and importance. Each guest and CACSS member received a Mammillaria as a memento.

**Treasury:** The year 1981 ended with balance of $563.37.

**March 20, 1982 General Meeting at Lost Dutchman State Park**

**Portable Library Book Case:** The Society needs a portable bookcase. Ollie Lehring volunteered to get the materials and build one. The club will pay for the materials.

**Memorial Trophy:** The Board decided to give an award at next year’s Cactus Show in the name of Martha Chester, one of our long time members who passed away just before this year’s show. The category is to be determined.

**April 25, 1982 General Meeting**

**CSSA National Convention:** A vote on hosting the 1987 convention will be taken at the May meeting. If you are not there, we will call you for your vote.

DBG Cactus Show: Suggestions were made regarding our participation in the Cactus Show. More help is needed behind-the-scenes. The same ones who do all the work are getting tired! A suggestion was made for a possible program on identifying plants in preparation for the 1983 show.

**May 23, 1982 General Meeting**

**Wesley Bolin Memorial Garden:** Margaret Caldwell presented a request from Dick Countryman for our Society to maintain the Wesley Bolin memorial Cactus Garden at the State Capital. There would be a plaque stating the involvement of the CACSS.

**CSSA National Convention:** DBG will do its best to assist us if we host the national
convention in 1987, possibly in mid-May. The CSSA would pay expenses; any profit would be split with us. We would provide logistics and labor.

**Open Gardens:** Many appreciative comments were heard on the recent open gardens. Let us have some more!

**July 27, 1982 General Meeting**

**CSSA National Convention:** We are registered with the Phoenix Convention Bureau and receiving motel literature for the convention.

**July 25, 1982 Board Meeting**

**Door Prizes:** It was announced that DBG will care for our door prize plants for the next year. [Kent Newland previously served as curator of these plants.]

**CSSA National Convention:** Frank Hennessey reported that ASU could possibly be used for the 1987 convention.

**July 25, 1982 General Meeting**

**Silent Auction:** Plant sales amounted to $300.85 for our Society treasury.

**DBG Cactus Show:** Dr. Huckins would like to encourage everyone to bring suggestions for improving the Cactus Show to the August meeting. Ideas and opinions relating to qualifications for exhibiting as a novice will be appreciated.

**August 19, 1982 Board Meeting**

**Brochure:** Among the items discussed was the design of the Society’s new brochure.

**August 29, 1982 General Meeting**

**DBG Cactus Show:** Dr. Huckins led a discussion on the Cactus Show. One topic that drew lot of comments was the status of the novice category. Many suggestions were made which will be considered by the staff.

**September 26, 1982 Board Meeting**

**DBG Donation:** It was noted that that the DBG is in need of strollers for visitor use. Frank Hennessey was authorized to investigate and purchase two strollers as a gift to the DBG from our Society. DBG has provided the use of their facilities for our meetings for several years.

**October 31, 1982 General Meeting**

**New Plant:** John Graham gave a fascinating talk on a possible new plant he has discovered. He found the plant in the K of A Game Preserve in 1990, and has not been able to get a positive identification from several botanists. It is probably an Echinomastus sp. It was found with E. johnstonii. John brought in plants for us to see. It was very interesting to learn about all the details and difficulties involved with a previously unknown plant. We wish John luck as he pursues his search.

**December 19, 1982 Central Spine**

**CSSA National Convention:** CSSA Convention, 1982: “Impressions [of the convention]” by Joan Skirvin, p. 5-6.

**Founding Member:** “Kent Newland” by Vera Gamet, p. 7-10.

**Field Trip:** “Safari VI [report on the California trip]” by M. Caldwell, p. 13-14.

**December 19, 1982 Holiday Party**

**DBG Cactus Show:** Werner Dodd has asked that we all volunteer for the show. We will need help in all areas. Let us all extend ourselves as much as we can to make this show bigger and better. We do a good job with this show and it is a treat for the public and all involved.

**Treasury:** Cash in the bank at Jan 1, 1982: $563.57. Balance on hand at the end of the year: $438.69.

**January - December 1983**

**Officers and Directors:** President – Warner Dodd; Vice-President – Jerome Daub; Treasurer – Jack Taylor; Secretary – Vikki Bone; Directors – Oliver Luehing and Mike Gallagher

**CSSA Affiliate Representative:** Victor Gass

**Appointments:** Newsletter Editor--Lewis Steichman; Librarian – Marilyn Fitz-Randolph

**January 29, 1983 Board Meeting**

**Memorial Trophy:** It was decided in an executive meeting to award a trophy for the Asclepiadaceae division in honor of Martha Chester.

**January 29 1983 General Meeting Published after the DBG Cactus Show**

**CSSA National Convention:** All members were reminded that the National Convention will be held here in 1987 the first weekend of June. ASU will be the center of activities. Paul Johnson from the CSSA is the co-coordinator. While CSSA handles much of the organization for the convention, we, the local organization, are responsible for banquets, free time activities, tours, etc. There will be help from the Tucson Chapter and Boyce Thompson.

**Treasury:** Opening balance on January 1, 1984: $497.87.

**February 1983**

**DBG Cactus Show:** A compilation of plant entries for 1981 – 83 shows.

**March 27, 1983 General Meeting**

**CACSS Flower Show:** Our first annual CACSS Flower Show will be our next meeting on April 24, 1983. Please refer to Dr. Huckins’ letter dated March 28. Thanks Charles for setting this out for us. Please may we have 100% participation!

**CACSS Cactus Show:** It was suggested that we have a new category and award for master growers and their prize-winning specimen plants. The Cactus Show registration committee will firm this up. A suggestion was made for more room and better plant display
areas to overcome the crowded conditions. Mr. Fitz-Randolph had a great suggestion: Have the public participate in the show by voting for three plants, collections, arrangements, etc. that they found most interesting. The votes could be tabulated each day and an award given for the three that got the most votes. A suggestion was made for members to propagate unusual plants for the DBG to have available for its sales. It was noted that, except for a few people, the Society was poorly represented as volunteers for the show and sale. Let us do better next year as we do help sponsor the show and we collect most of the ribbons. The talks on the patio were well received. Thanks Frank Hennessey for your time and knowledge. Victor Gass passed around a list of plants that were not well represented in the show. Victor gave a critique of the show: It was a record year in all areas but attendance. There were 66 exhibitors, 35 novices, 41 entrants, and 940 plants. Cacti were not as well represented as succulents. Judges will be asked to discuss the show and plants.

**People's Choice Award at Show:** Suggestion by Jackson Fitz-Randolph to have the public participate in the show, see item above.

**March 28, 1984 Correspondence from Charles A. Huckins to CACSS Members**

**CACSS Flower Show:** Letter from Huckins referenced in March 27 Board Meeting outlines particulars for the first flower show including the prizes to be awarded.

**April 24, 1983 General Meeting**

**CSSA National Convention:** A letter was sent to CSSA requesting the 1985 convention to be held in Phoenix.

**DBG Flower Show:** Plants were received in the a.m. We were all busy carrying and arranging the plants in the auditorium. It was a great first show, 21 exhibitors and 384 plants. The winners are listed in the minutes of the meeting. The public was very impressed, and the cameras were clicking all over the place.

**May 22, 1983 General Meeting**

**CSSA National Convention:** Henry Triesler will present our bid for the 1987 bi-annual convention at the St. Lewis meeting.

**DBG Cactus Show:** Margaret Caldwell [former two-term president] expressed concerns of some of the members. If the CACSS is to continue as co-sponsors of the Cactus Show, we will all have to pitch in and do more to support the show other than enter plants. The volunteer records show that a few members are doing all the work. Let’s all see if we can do more and earn our co-sponsor title before we lose it.

**Society History:** May 27, 1983 marks the 10th anniversary of the CACSS. It would be nice to have a contribution to the Central Spine by the original members

**Bylaws:** We discussed Article 1, B of the CACSS Bylaws. “The purpose of the Society shall be to foster, disseminate and advance the knowledge and propagation of cacti and other succulents; to support the DBG and other organizations of similar purpose; and to support conservation programs aimed at protecting succulent plants.” We need any ideas and areas where you feel we can be more responsive to the DBG.
Monthly Meeting: Due to the heat and the noisy evaporative cooler in the auditorium, Marilyn and Jackson Fitz-Randolph have invited us to hold the next meeting at their home.

Library: Marilyn Fitz-Randolph has a problem. Our library consists of two books. Marilyn is far too qualified to have this continue. It was suggested that we start a birthday donation fund. On your birthday, you donate a penny for each year. If this proves embarrassing, a dollar or so would keep us all guessing. In addition, we could buy some books from our treasury.

June 27, 1983 General Meeting

CSSA National Convention: Henry Triesler gave us a treat as he described the happenings at the convention in St. Lewis. No decision has been made on the 1987 Convention 1987. It is between San Jose and Phoenix.

August 28, 1983 General Meeting

Silent Auction: The July auction was a success with 8 tables full of plants, over 400 plants and $367.10 was earned for the treasury.

Membership: We need to increase our membership. Please bring suggestions to the next meeting.

September 25, 1983 General Meeting

DBG Donation: It was suggested that we purchase an American Flag for the Desert Botanical Garden. Sizes and prices are being checked.

Newsletter: Lew Steichman has not received articles for the Central Spine. Please participate in this program. Contact Lew ASAP or we will not have a newsletter.

DBG Director: Dr. Huckins and Til will be leaving the club and the Desert Botanical Garden in December. He will be the new executive director of the American Horticultural Society, headquartered in Mount Vernon, Virginia.

October 30, 1983 General Meeting

DBG Donation: The club will purchase a 5 x 8 foot American flag with the DBG for use of the auditorium.

November 20, 1983 General Meeting

DBG Director: Dr. Huckins thanked us for the American flag that now waves over the gift shop. He wished us success and thanked us for the good support we give the DBG.

December 11, 1983 Holiday Meeting


January - December 1984

Officers and Directors: President: - Victor Gass; Vice-President – James Robbin; Secretary – Marilyn Fitz-Randolph; Treasurer – Mike Gallagher; Directors – Marvin Williams and Paul Elias

CSSA Affiliate Representative: Frank Hennessey
**Appointments:** Newsletter Editor – Vera Gamet.

**January 29, 1984 General Meeting**

**CSSA National Convention:** All members were reminded that the national convention would be held here in 1987 the first week in June. ASU will be the center of activities. Paul Johnson from the CSSA is the co-coordinator. While CSSA handles much of the organization for this convention, we, the local organization, are responsible for banquets, free time activities, tours, etc. There will be help from the Tucson club and Boyce Thompson Arboretum.

**37th Annual Cactus Show February 25 – March 6, 1984 Competition Rules**

**DBG Cactus Show:** Show co-sponsored by the Phoenix Gazette & Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society.
March 25, 1984 Board Meeting

DBG Cactus Show: Next year there will be three new categories: (1) a trophy for children in honor of Jack Taylor, (2) a section for variegated plants and (3) a section for hybrids. Various topics discussed included the judges’ questioning the names of some plants, moving the agaves to a better place, judges setting their own rules, scores be given to prize winners, and the possibility of an awards banquet.

Member Survey: A questionnaire on members’ expectations for the Society was distributed. Copies will be mailed to all members not present.

Hello Phoenix Festival: The Society had a booth at the festival at the Plaza. Brochures for the Society were distributed and plants were sold. A committee is needed to act on such events and organize a booth. Jackson Fitz-Randolph offered to chair such a committee and the first event will be April 7 when the Arid Land Plant Show is held at Boyce Thompson Arboretum.

Society History: Marilyn Fitz-Randolph is compiling a history of the Society for its ten-year anniversary. She read excerpts to the members. It was suggested that this might comprise a major portion of the next Central Spine.

Treasury: Mike Gallagher reported $570.51 in the treasury.

April 25, 1984

CACSS Flower Show: Beautiful blooms were on display in the lath house on April 25. The winner with most families was Vikkie Bone.

June 24, 1984 General Meeting

Newsletter: The first copy of the Central Spine for 1984 was prepared and distributed by Vera Gamet. She hopes to get out another issue before the end of the year.

Plant Sale at General Meeting: It was decided to try the sale of plants by the membership at each meeting, with the members bringing named plants, cuttings or offsets, priced for sale, with 75% to the member and 25% to the Society. This is not to conflict with the annual silent auction. The first sale was held at the June meeting.

July 1984 The Central Spine


Member recognition: “Stan Jones and His Cactus House” by Vera Gamet, p. 4.

July 29, 1984 General Meeting

Treasury: Mike Gallagher, treasurer, reported the Society made $6.59 from plant sales at the June meeting, and that there is now $499 in the treasury.

Membership Survey: The results of the membership survey were distributed to those present. Most people joined the Society for its programs and to learn more about cacti and succulents. The major dislike was lack of equal participation by all members leaving too few people to do the majority of the work. Other areas of concern were recruitment of more members and a chance to have more general discussion among members. One item the
members were interested in pursuing was the writing and publishing of a small booklet on growing plants in the Southwest.

**Soil Medium:** Victor Gass announced that the DBG would be selling pumice to members. The pumice will be available for purchase in two weeks.

### August 26, 1984 General Meeting

**General Meeting:** The meeting was spirited in spite of handicaps [in Webster Auditorium]. The new lights lit the room well but also seemed to generate heat and, as usual, the air-conditioning distorted and muffled the voices of members. Victor Gass, president, presided.

**Boyce Thompson Arboretum:** The secretary read a letter by Jackson Fitz-Randolph in which he explained the frustrations of plant buyers at Boyce Thompson because their collection is not arranged by taxonomical groups. Dr. Feldman’s reply stated that a portion of the resale area will be arranged along taxonomic grounds to meet the needs of collectors.

**CSSA National Convention:** An update was given on the plans for the 1987 convention.

**Society History:** Marilyn Fitz-Randolph suggested that we have a pictorial history of the club. Bring your cameras to meetings and functions. Then donate the pictures to a Society scrapbook.

**Publication:** The members again discussed the possibility of writing a booklet on care and cultivation of cactus and succulents.

**Plant Sale at General Meeting:** Marvin Williams reports that the plant sale improves every month. The Club bought some plants and has already met expenses on those. In July, total sales were $46.65 with the Society getting $38.85, and in August, sales were $57 with $27.75 to the Society. Bring plants you want to sell and also come early to the meeting to browse and buy.

### October 1, 1984 The Central Spine

**Society History:** “History of CACSS 1977-1980,” by Marilyn Fitz-Randolph, p. 1-4. Note: a correction was made to history printed in March newsletter. Margaret Caldwell’s name was omitted from list of founding or charter members.

**Founding Member:** “Henry Triesler, Cactophile,” by Vera Gamet, p. 5.

### October 28, 1984 General Meeting

**Silent Auction:** The program was the silent auction. It seemed very successful as members stalked around the tables, pencils poised to keep their bid high.

### December 1984 The Central Spine

**Society History:** ‘History of CACSS” by Marilyn Fitz-Randolph, p. 1-2.

**Cactus:** “Cactus, Cactuses, Cacti” by Margaret Caldwell, p.3. [Remarks on the dearth of cactus in recent cactus shows.]

### December 16, 1984 Holiday Meeting

**Treasury:** Ending balance of $764.34 on 12-31-84.
January - December 1985

Officers and Directors: President – Margaret Caldwell; Vice-President – Stan Jones; Secretary – Charlene Berke; Treasurer – Marvin Williams and Directors – Fred Kaspar and Ed LeMay

CSSA Affiliate Representative: Frank Hennessey

Appointments: Newsletter Editor – Vera Gamet

The 38th Annual Cactus Show & Sale, February 16 to February 24

DBG Cactus Show: Announcement for the show co-sponsored by the Phoenix Gazette & Central Arizona Cactus and Society.

January 27, 1985 General Meeting

DBG Cactus Show: The subject of “silent judges” (who will not make any comments) to observe the judges of the show was discussed. It was decided that two people would be chosen from the sign-up list.

Treasury: Beginning balance on January 1, 1985: $764.34.

February 16 – February 24 38th Annual Cactus Show

DBG Cactus Show: “Competition Rules”. Show co-sponsored by the Phoenix Gazette &
Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society.

March 16, 1985 General Meeting at Boyce Thompson Arboretum

Cactus Rescue: Victor Gass has been looking for volunteers to go down to Ajo on a salvaging trip that following Tuesday.

May 1985 The Central Spine


Founding Member: A short biography of Kent Newland, p. 2.

July 19, 1985 Special Evening Meeting in Webster Auditorium

Meeting Program: “Namibia: the Land Between the Deserts” by David Hardy of South Africa.

DBG Succulent House: The DBG is in the process of planning to re-do the Succulent House and they would like to tap our vast resources of knowledge. What succulents can you recommend that would do well in the existing succulent house? What plants have you grown successfully and in what specific conditions? Could you physically or financially help or donate some plants? Could the Society take this on as a project?

August 1985 The Central Spine


Plant Care: “Some Observations on Winter” by Joan Skirvin, p. 4-5 with drawings by Lorraine Jones.

Gymnocalycium: “Gymnocalycium Habitat and Winter Culture” by Mike Goodson, p. 6.

August 25, 1985 General Meeting

DBG Cactus Show: Victor Gass talked about the changes and the issue of growers entering as individuals. Many people feel that by letting growers enter that we have a better quality and wider variety of plants.

DBG Director: Margaret Caldwell introduced the Dr. Robert Bruening, new director of the Garden to the Society.

December 1985 The Central Spine


December 15, 1985 Holiday Meeting


January - December 1986

Officers and Directors: President – Marvin Williams; Vice-President – Fred Kaspar; Secretary – Elaine Taylor Steichman; Treasurer – Skippy Burbick; and Directors: Jackson Fitz-Randolph Glenda Temple

CSSA Affiliate Representative: Mike Gallagher
Appointments: Newsletter Editor – Vera Gamet; Librarian – Marilyn Fitz- Randolph; Historian - Marilyn Fitz-Randolph; and Publicity – Dorothy O’Rourke

January 3, 1986 Board Meeting

Treasury: There was a balance of $373.99 at the end of 1985. The birthday money given was $15.63.

DBG Cactus Show: Robert Bruening, Director of the DBG, asked Victor Gass to tell us about the exciting new plan for the cactus show: a tent for housing our plants for the show. We all agreed that we would like to see this tried. Bob reported on research and other

January 25, 1986 Board Meeting

Historian: President Williams stated we needed a historian. Marilyn Fitz-Randolph, the Librarian accepted this position

CACSS Property: The following is a list of our current property: 35mm projector and cord; 3-4 carrousels; 1 bookcase; 1 bank; and 2 Lucite holders for membership blanks. The bookcase houses the Society’s library held by the librarian in their home.

CSSA National Convention: Jackson Fitz-Randolph suggested we help grow plants for convention. The ones Stan Jones has are ready.

Publicity: It was noted that we need a publicity chair.

CACSS Seed Bank: Mike Gallagher will start a seed bank for use by our Society members.

January 26, 1986 General Meeting

CSSA National Convention: is time to repot our convention plants. We are having a “flat planting” get-together at Carefree Cactus Gardens, March 15. Bring a sack lunch and come have a good time.

DBG Cactus Show: Dr. Bob Bruening, DBG director and Volunteer Coordinator Lynn Bowenkamp discussed the upcoming cactus show to be held for the first time in a tent, outlining where it will be located and. Our help is requested to make this a successful show. Victor Gass talked about show registration, judges and handed out posters for distribution.

March 1986 The Central Spine


Founding Member: “How She Got Him Into It---By Himself” by Phil Hennessey, p. 4.


March 23, 1986 Board Meeting

Bylaws: The audit of the books for 1985 was approved. The auditor wanted to know why there are different membership fees. We will have two fees in the future: $20 per member and $2.50 for associates. We will no longer have a pro-rated fee.

March 23, 1986 General Meeting

Membership: President Kaspar announced that we now had 66 members and 32 associate
DBG Cactus Show: Fred Kaspar opened the discussion on the Cactus Show. There were many suggestions. Submit any ideas in writing to the secretary to be published later. Dr. Bruening was asked to bring the Garden’s recommendations to the board. The submissions in the records are identified as Documents A – D.

Document A: 1) Why are aloes judged differently than other plants? It’s hard to measure rosette size. Why not create pot size category. 2) Could we have clean plastic on both sides of the tent? 3) Some succulent locations resulted in sunburn and a lot of shock. 4) Maybe some shade cloth could be used on the side. 5) Date has been discussed previously. Consensus was we need the show later (March). 6) Change divisions; too many plants in each division. Divide Parodias and Weingartens; Rebutias and Lobivias as the division is too heavy. 7) Member seconded previous point. 8) There is now more room in tent so why can’t we have more divisions? 9) Look again at number of plants per household. 10) Increase number of plants per household. 11) If plants are watered during the show, do it off table. 12) Could we put novice plants together for the judges (in one section)? 13) Better check-in needed. Plants not entered in book were taken into tent. Registrar cannot check the plants. Need more experts. 14) Cards and plants did not match. Check more carefully on entry. 15) How do we handle people coming in with incorrectly named plants? 16) Be more specific on dish garden content. There should be at least three different kinds per dish or planter. 17) Isn’t there a rule about exhibitors being in show tent prior to entering their plants or afterwards?

Document B: 1) Tent sides blow and hit plants. Could they be tied down when open for airflow? 2) Could we use more clear plastic for better light? Could cacti be placed on the south side? Late Sunday afternoon should not burn them. 3) Exhibitors who water plants during the show should remove them from the burlap. Water and soil stain burlap. 4) We must have better control of plants entering show. Many plants were entered in wrong categories. One person needed just to check and see if plant and card are suitable for class and division as it is entered. 5) More CACSS members are needed on registration days. 6) Rewrite Section Class N three or more species per dish garden. 7) Rewrite Section V Class D is this individual specimen or planter? All dish gardens and planters should state more than three species per planter and dish garden. 8) Rules should be very clear that all cards MUST BE FILLED OUT PRIOR TO REGISTRATION. Maybe we could have a separate table just for people needing help or a separate day to do identifying. We still need to be more helpful and courteous. 9) For better and faster judging, place all novice plants in each division together so judges can have better viewing since these are judged against each other. 10) Could we use the wooden burlap center table dividers as we did in the past shows in the auditorium? It is easier to judge as plants do not run into plants on the next table and it sets the plants off better for overall pleasing look. 11) Need larger tent. [I] did see one that was all white at a car show in Scottsdale. 12) Need all around better participation by Society members for over all show. Still just a handful of people doing all the work, and it seems to be the same ones each year. More mistakes happen when we have to rely on inexperienced volunteers to do the work. 13) Are judges instructed as to
what the Garden and Society want regarding judging? Are plants to be judged as hard
grown or soft? 14) No plant with wrong name should win a blue ribbon. 15) No plant
entered in wrong Class and Division should win a blue ribbon. 16) Miniature aloes should
remain being judged by rosette size not pot size. 17) Should we try to implement any more
anonymous questions from last year’s survey?

**Document C:** One complaint at our last meeting was about plants being placed in the
wrong division. This can happen, but it’s no one’s fault. However, a rule should be **held**
to. If this happens, this plant cannot be judged against those correctly placed, and the
judges should be so informed! If a plant has an incorrect name on it, the judges should be
informed, and that plant should not be given a ribbon, whether it is a novice or advanced.
We have been strongly advised that a novice is one who has never won a blue ribbon,
and not necessarily a beginner. If a beginner’s class is wanted in order to encourage
newcomers, we should set up a beginner’s class. It is not fair to place that incorrectly
named plant in competition when we are so strongly advised that each plant must have
its proper name, whether in the novice or advanced class. We would like to hope that our
judges would recognize a note or correction, if we had an incorrect name on a plant.

**Document D:** This document includes suggested revisions for rules in the 40th Annual
Cactus Show. Section V. Decorative Planters and Class B. Dish Gardens – containers to 14
inches in diameter: entries must have more than one variety of plant per container. Division
1. Cacti. 2. Succulents other than cacti. 3. Cacti and other succulents. Class C. Patio dish
gardens--containers larger than 14 inches in diameter: must have more than one variety
of plant per container. Cacti and other succulents. Class D. Hanging planters – cacti,
succulents or both.

**April 27, 1986 Board Meeting**

**Newsletter:** The president read a letter from the newsletter editor. We would like the issue
date to put on the cover and continue having them put out at the meeting.

**Donation:** The Huntington Symposium is scheduled on September 20. They are asking
for a contribution. We will take it to the membership with the suggestion that each member
donate $1.

**May 18, 1986 Board Meeting**

**Dues:** The increase in dues was discussed. It was recommended we increase them to
$25.00 per year for members and leave the associate member at $2.50. Motion passed.

**Bylaws:** The Board also recommended we strike the sentence in the bylaws on prorating
the dues. This will take a vote of the members.

**Treasury:** Balance in treasury: $291.96.

**May 18, 1986 General Meeting**

**Bylaws:** The secretary read Article III, Section C of the bylaws: “For some members dues
will be prorated according to the schedule adopted by the Board.” Due to all members
receiving all copies of the Journal, even those joining the last half of the year, it is no longer
needed in the bylaws. Motion was made to delete the sentence from the Bylaws. It passed.
CSSA National Convention: Fran Tolleson, the Director of the Convention, is working hard as is her committee of members getting things lined up. To make this the best convention ever and it will take all of us, as this is a BIG job. As you are asked, please accept some job. This is the responsibility of our whole Society. Please clear your calendars now for next June 19-26 and start thinking CSSA Convention. Let us make this fun as we plan and work together. Monthly updates will be given.

June 29, 1986 General Meeting

Silent Auction: Do not forget to be getting your plant contributions ready and save your money to buy. This is the only money raiser for the Society.

July 1986 The Central Spine

Coryphantha: Two articles: “In Search of Coryphantha: an Introduction” by Margaret Caldwell, p. 1-2 and “In Search of Coryphantha: Excerpts from an Account of a Plant Hunting Trip” by Barcia Bremmer, p. 3-4

July 27, 1986 Board Meeting

Photography: Dottie O’Rourke announced there would be a barrel camera shoot on August 9th at 10:00 at the Tom Mix Memorial Park, Florence, Arizona.

August 24, 1986 Board Meeting

Treasury: The silent auction raised a record amount of $473 for our treasury.

September 3, 1986 Special Board Meeting

DBG Cactus Show: The 40th Annual Cactus Show rules were reviewed and the 7 changes already made from previous shows were noted. Motions passed include 1) Show should be co-chaired by a representative from the DBG and CACSS. 2) In point structure drop Nomenclature then other points be reapportioned. 3) Investigate moving arrangements from show at some future date. 4) Change ownership of plant to one year. 5) In Section I change household to exhibitor. 6) Aloes should be judged by pot size like Agavaceae. 7) In Section III have 3 entries per exhibitor. 8) A CACSS rep and a rep from DBG meet before the end of May to discuss possible changes for the future. [See minutes for discussion points.]

Treasury: We have $646.81

September 28, 1986 Board Meeting

CSSA National Convention: How can we make money at the convention: sell T-shirts, jewelry, plants? We need a convention coordinator. Marvin Williams will discuss our position with Fran Tolleson, Convention Chair.

October, 1986 The Central Spine


October 26, 1986 Board Meeting

Library: It was a bulging “Birthday Apple” can so it was opened and provided $25.25. It was moved and approved by the Board to add $10.25 [to previously donated funds] from the treasury and purchase Encyclopedia of Cactus by Gullman, Golt and Grover.
November 23, 1986 Board Meeting

**Honorarium:** It was decided to give Mark Dimmitt an honorarium of $100 for speaking to us today.

December 14, Holiday Meeting

**Treasury:** Balance as of December 31, 1986: $890.81.

**Cactus Theft:** Henry Treisler, VP of CSSA, gave the report that several people we all know have been levied large fines for cactus collecting illegally.

### January - December 1987

**Officers and Directors:** President – Marvin Williams; Vice-President – Fred Kaspar; Secretary – Glenda Temple; Treasurer – Skippy Burbick; Directors – Jackson Fitz-Randolph and Lewis Steichman; and Past President – Marvin Williams

**CSSA Affiliate Representative:** Mike Gallagher

**Appointments:** Newsletter Editor – Vera Gamat; Librarian – Marilyn Fitz-Randolph; Historian – Marilyn Fitz-Randolph; and Publicity – Dorothy O’ Rourke

January 1987 The Central Spine

**Seed Propagation:** “The Seed Collecting Year” by John & Pat Graham, p. 2-5.

**CACSS History:** “Highlights of the CACSS Year 1986,” by Elaine Steichman, p. 6.

January 25, 1987 General Meeting

**CSSA National Convention:** It was announced that a check for $250 was being sent to Peter Hushek so he can start working on ordering t-shirts, pins, etc. for the convention.

February 14 – 22, 1987

**DBG Cactus Show:** The 40th Annual Cactus Show Competition Rules presented by the Desert Botanical Garden and co-sponsored by the Phoenix Gazette and the Society.

March 29, 1987

**Publicity:** Vera Gamet volunteered to write a monthly column for the paper to inform people that CACSS exists, and to give garden tips for growing cactus and succulents.

**DBG Cactus Show:** Suggestions that were made and discussed for future cactus shows were: 1) Select a later date for the show. A target date of March 2 or 9 for the 1988 show was discussed. 2) Move plants from near the flaps. 3) Signs provided by sponsors should have something stating they are a sponsor as well as their name. 4) The white tent was a better idea than the blue and white striped tent. 5) Taking meter readings inside tent was a good idea. 6) Do not count blue ribbon points on flower arrangements towards trophy points. 7) Do not have Garden Club judge Group 5. 8) Separate horticulture section from flower arrangement beauty section. 9) We should be keeping a record of new exhibitors. 10. Have exhibitors be novices for a longer period? 11) Hold classes to increase knowledge on growing plants to enter show. 12) Have lectures on identifying plants, propagating plants and growing plants. 13) Have three groups for showing plants: novice, intermediate and
open. 14) More ribbons should be given out. 15) Recognition for rare plants should be given. 16) A good turn over of judges is needed to keep a variety of judges and opinions of what they feel is important changed regularly. 17) Judges should come from CACSS a list.

Member Recognition: CACSS would like to give Jim and Electra Elliott and Stan Jones a special thank-you for potting and “mothering” plants that are sent to us by growers from out-of-state for our convention. We would also like to thank Jim and Electra Elliott for a very interesting presentation. It was especially interesting to see the plants as well as to hear about them. We know it took extra trouble to bring plants to the Garden for us to see and we do appreciate it.

April, 1987 The Central Spine

Haworthia: Two articles: “Observations and Ramblings of an Avid Haworthia Fan” p. 1-2; and “Haworthia Leaf Propagation” by Bob Wagner of House Plants Unlimited, p. 3.

Botanists: “Dr. George Engelmann, Botanist Supreme” by Very Gamet, p.3-4.

April 26, 1987 General Meeting

Newsletter: The Board voted to have The Central Spine published quarterly instead of every other month.

May 31, 1987 General Meeting

Acknowledgement: CACSS is sending a big thank-you to Jim Baker of Baker’s Nursery for his $100 general contribution to CACSS, and to thank everyone who has lent money to the
Society or paid in advance for items to help with expenses for the Convention.

June 1987 Communication to Members

General Meeting: There will also be a culture discussion. Please bring your successes as well as your failures so we can all learn from everyone’s experience, etc. [Assumption is made that this document was sent to the membership after the convention.]

July 26, 1987 Board Meeting

DBG Cactus Show: More discussion was held regarding our response to Dr. Breuning’s letter from the DBG. [Letter not in the records.] Lew and Elaine Steichman went to the show and sale at Huntington Gardens and suggested that we have our show and sale with the Garden Festival and give 12% of our sales to DBG. Until our response is given to the DBG, we are going to continue along the lines of having a sale and show at another location. Frank Hennessey is checking out other clubs and locations where we might be able to hold the show and sale. Shopping malls are also going to be checked out.

Plant Sale at Meeting: Fred suggested we might want to consider purchasing plants on consignment from other growers for our meeting sale and door prize. We need to have someone volunteer to take care of the plants and check out prices for the project.

July 26, 1987 General Meeting

CSSA National Convention: Great news on the sale of shirts, pins, and other jewelry at the convention, CACSS made a profit of $665.12. There are still pins and shirts available if anyone is interested in purchasing them.

Library: CACSS was able to purchase five new books with a combination of $24.12 from the birthday apple and from the sale of plants that were donated to be sold at the convention.

Donation: A contribution for $428.00 was sent to the CSSA Research Committee in memory of Jackson Fitz-Randolph for agave research. Again, thank you to everyone who contributed.

DBG Cactus Show: Dr. Bruenig, DBG director has announced that the plant show will be held March 2 through 6, 1988. Plants may be brought in February 28 and 29 and judging will be done on March 1.

Memorial Trophy: Vikkie Bone announced that there would be a new trophy presented at the show in memory of Ed Storms who passed away shortly after the convention.

August 30, 1987 General Meeting

Silent Auction: The auction was a success. Approximately $640 dollars was made for the Society.

September 11, 1987 Correspondence

Acknowledgement: A letter was sent to Bach’s Greenhouse Cactus Nursery thanking them for the contribution of approximately 350 barrel cacti and 350 grafted cacti in June 1987.

September 27, 1987 General Meeting
CSSA National Convention: Marvin Williams showed the group a plaque the Society received for hosting the 1987 National Convention. Marvin will have the plaque in his possession if anyone would like to see it.

Field Trip: A November 15 bus trip to Tucson was announced.

October 1987 The Central Spine


Dish Gardens: “Dish Gardens” by Lewis Steichman, p.3-4.

Plant Pests: “My War with the Mealybugs” by Judy Johnson, p. 6.

November 22, 1987 General Meeting

Officers: A slate was presented to the membership. A short biography for candidates was published in the minutes of the meeting.

Dues: Dues are due: $25 per individual and $2.50 per affiliate.

December 13, 1987 Holiday Meeting

Treasury: Balance on December 31, 1987: $2,134.60.

January - December 1988

Officers and Directors: President – Fred Kaspar; Vice-President – Stephen Stempleski; Secretary – Glenda Temple; Treasurer – Lew Steichman; and Directors Sherry Hermann and James Oravetz

CSSA Affiliate Representative: Frank Hennessey

Appointments: Newsletter Editor – Vera Gamet; Librarian – Marilyn Fitz-Randolph; Historian - Marilyn Fitz Randolph; Publicity and Social Chair – Dorothy O'Rouke; Bylaws – Jim Oravetz; and Ombudsman – Sherry Hermann

January 1988 The Central Spine


January 31, 1988 Field Trip and General Meeting

Field Trip: A trip to Boyce Thompson was suggested for our April meeting.

CACSS Cactus Sale: A spring plant sell at one of the shopping malls was discussed and more information will be presented at our March meeting.

Plant of the Month: Mike Gallagher has agreed to be the coordinator for the plant of the month. Mike will be looking for information on particular groups of plants from our members. Please give him any help that you can.

March 5, 1988 Scottsdale Progress [Newspaper]

Member Recognition: “3 Scottsdale Residents Champions at Annual Cactus Show and
Sale”. [Elaine and Lewis Steichman and James Oravetz]

March 14, 1988 Board Meeting

DBG Cactus Show: Dr. Robert Bruenig, Garden Director, was present and discussed several concerns with respect to the relationship between the Society and the Garden and situations that arose at the Cactus Show [March 2-6]. It was pointed out that it is difficult for the Garden to work with complaints from our Society when one person makes a complaint and another person in the Society complains about just the opposite. We will be working on resolving this problem by having someone report to the Garden things we would like changed in the Show. Hopefully, some of these concerns have been ironed out. Lew Steichman will be working with the Society and the Garden to help things run more smoothly at the next show.

March 20, 1988 Board Meeting

Non-Profit Organization Status: Lew Steichman asked about taxpayer identification number for being an official non-profit organization. After a discussion, it was decided to forget this for now.

March 20, 1988 General Meeting

DBG Cactus Show: Any comments regarding the Show be made in writing and submitted to Lew Steichman. He will be working with the Society and the Garden for the next show.

Bylaws: Jim Oravetz volunteered to be the chair for a committee to revise and update the bylaws for the Society.

Ombudsman: Sherry Herman will act as ombudsman taking complaints from members to the Board. This is a new undertaking to avoid problems within the Society. In order for this to work, we will need everyone’s cooperation in keeping Sherry informed when someone feels there is a problem.

March 20 1988 Board Meeting

Non-Profit Organization Status: Lew Steichman asked about taxpayer identification number for being an official non-profit organization. After a discussion, it was decided to forget this for now.

DBG Donation: Cathy Stempleski is checking on strollers to be given as a thank you to the Garden for the Society’s use of the auditorium for our meetings.

April 1988 The Central Spine

Society History: “How it All Began” by Frank Hennessey, p.1-3.

Dudleyas: “Dudleyas” by Sol Kleinman, p. 3

Lithops: “Lithops” by unknown author, p. 4-5.

April 23, 1988 General Meeting and Field Trip to Boyce Thompson Arboretum

DBG Project: Larry Fischer will be giving a report on a CACSS Garden at the Desert Botanical Garden. Any suggestions or recommendations will be appreciated.

May 22, 1988 General Meeting
Donation: CACSS donated two strollers to the Desert Botanical Garden as a thank-you for using Webster Auditorium to hold our meetings in each month.

DBG Project: Due to changes at the Desert Botanical Garden, the suggestion of having a continuing project for our Society at the DBG has been shelved for now.

Arizona Native Plant Society: [Given the shelving of the project] it has been suggested the Society work with the Arizona Native Plant Society to plant and take care of an area the City of Phoenix would like to have work done on. The Board and officers would like input from the membership on this. It will be our responsibility and obligation to follow through on this if we decide to go ahead with the project and your help will be needed!

June 24, 1988 Correspondence from Dr. Robert Breunig, Executive Director, DBG:

Regarding the DBG Cactus Show, the Board of Trustees “Program Committee felt that after forty-one years it was time to look at the Cactus Show. The Program Committee feels that the Cactus Show in its present format is too narrow in focus and should expanded in concept to include other kinds of activities. It was also determined that we are not doing enough to highlight the rich succulent collections now on display within the Garden itself.”

DBG Cactus Festival: “The committee has recommended, therefore, that the Cactus Show be renamed the Cactus Festival, and that it be expanded to include such things as: special tours of the Garden’s cactus collection; events for children and other special audiences; lectures by cactus specialists; classes on cactus horticulture; and other kinds of educationally --- oriented and fun --- events geared to appeal to a wider audience. As part of the Festival, we propose to include a display of specimen cactus/succulents grown by cactus/succulent collectors.”

“The major goal of the exhibit would be to teach people about the wide diversity of a cactus/succulent species, to education them about cactus/succulent horticulture and the need to conserve the rarest plants.”

“We want very much to continue the association with the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society and I hope that club members will accept our invitation to participate in such a display. While we wish to recognize excellence in horticulture, the committee felt that the Garden should not continue to sponsor a competition. This derives from the feeling that the competitive aspects of the event sometimes overshadow the educational aspects.” …

“The Garden has enjoyed the on-going association with the Central Cactus and Succulent and we want to strengthen that association by working on new projects together. We have discussed working with the society on new research, education and display programs and I hope that these discussions will continue and that we can forge an expanded relationship in the future. The Desert Botanical Garden has a strong commitment to the Cactaceae and other succulents and we want to work with others who share our passion for these remarkable plants. …”

June 26, 1988 Board Meeting

DBG Cactus Festival: The Society Board discussed the letter from the DBG director about changes in the show. The main complaints were the following: 1. With or without
competition in the show, the main concern expressed by the members is being able to
displaying their plants. 2. Because plants are out of dormancy and blooming, it was agreed
that the last two weeks of March or the weekend before Easter would be the best time for
the show. 3. Some members feel it is not worth the time and effort involved to bring plants to
the Garden for display without competition. 4. Members no longer wish to be a co-sponsor
of the show because in the past they have not had much say as to the rules of the show,
plant qualifications for the show, time of show or, where plants were located. 5. Feelings
were expressed that the Garden did not work with CACSS on propagation or education in
the past, and members do not care to participate in these areas now that the format of their
show is being changed. [Check the minutes for additional remarks.]

It was discussed and voted on that competition is still wanted by members, and the best
time for show would be the middle of March or the weekend before Easter. CACSS does
not wish to be a co-sponsor with DBG of the show. We will be checking with Tucson but
participating with us for a competitive show.

June 26, 1988 Field Trip and General Meeting at Arizona Cactus Sales

DBG Cactus Show: CACSS received a letter from Dr. Breunig letting us know the Board
of Trustees Program Committee has reviewed all special events at the Garden. The
Committee made recommendations and feels the Cactus Show in its present format is too
narrow in focus, and should be expanded in concept to include other kinds of activities. It
also determined that the succulent collections now on display within the Garden are not
highlighted enough. They have recommended that the Cactus Show be renamed the
Cactus Festival and be expanded to include special tours of the Garden’s cactus collection,
events for children and special audiences, lectures by cactus specialists, classes on cactus
horticulture and other educationally-oriented and fun events geared to appeal to a wider
audience. As a part of the Festival, they propose to include a display of specimen plants
grown by individual collectors. The major goal of the exhibit would be to teach people
about the wide diversity of cactus and succulent horticulture and the need to conserve the
rarest plants. CACSS is invited to participate in this display. While the Garden wishes to
recognize excellence in horticulture, the committee felt the Garden should not continue to
sponsor a competition. This feeling is that the competitive aspects of the event sometimes
overshadow the educational aspect. The Garden plans to hold the Cactus Festival in mid-
April to coincide with the peak blooming time. Dr. Breunig also thanked CACSS for the very
welcome addition of the two infant strollers to the Garden.

June 26, 1988 General Meeting

DBG Cactus Festival: [A report was given to the membership on the letter received from
Dr. Breunig.]

July 31, 1988 General Meeting

Cactus Rescue: A field trip was made on August 13 to Green Valley, Arizona, to check on
plants that are in an area the mines are planning to use as a spill area. The growers had
already been in most of the area and that may be the reason we only located a few cacti. It
does not appear this area would be good place for CACSS to salvage. The good news is
we were told of an area that was purchased by Caterpillar south of the mining area where there is more vegetation. Glenda Temple spoke to a man from Caterpillar and he said they would let us know before they do any clearing for roadways in mid-October so we can check this area also. I hope that there will be more cacti in this area. The man from the mines seemed to feel that there are “a lot” more cacti in that area. [Date of trip is Aug, yet minutes are from the July meeting.]

September 25, 1988 General Meeting

Treasurer: Over $525.00 was raised for CACSS at the silent auction.

October 10, 1988 Committee Meeting [Planning Committee for Upcoming Show & Sale]

CACSS Show: Fred Kaspar repeated that the chance of a show at the Desert Botanical Garden at any time in 1989 was out. [Reports were made on various locations checked out by members.]

October 30, 1988 Board Meeting

CACSS Show & Sale: The Board unanimously decided on the Tri-City Mall. Sherry Herman and Lew Steichman collaborated on writing the proposal to submit to T.C.M. Board, by November 7, as their board will meet Nov. 8, and consider our proposal. “Stay with horticulture show” is recommendation of the board. This eliminates non-living plants, such as arrangements, button arrangements, etc.

October 30, 1988 General Meeting

CACSS Show & Sale: Tri-City Mall in Mesa has been decided as the location of show and sale scheduled for Wednesday March 29 through Sunday, April 2. Since members have voted to have the show and sale, please remember that your help will be needed to present this show and sale.

Monthly Meeting Program: John Trager, program presenter, has an honorarium fee request of $100 plus travel expenses. Treasurer will pay him $150 today.

November 1, 1988 Correspondence to Board of Tri-City Mall

CACSS Show & Sale: Letter requesting permission to hold the show & sale in the Mall.

November 20, 1988 General Meeting

Field Trip: Thank-you to Jim and Electra Elliott for hosting the November CACSS meeting at their nursery.

CACSS Show & Sale: We now have a confirmation for the CACSS Show and Sale to be held from March 29 to April 2, 1998 at Tri-City Mall. Lew Steichman is chair for the show. Committees are being formed now and you will probably hear from one of the committee heads asking for your help on one or more of the committees.

Holiday Party: If you have volunteered to bring a dessert, please don’t forget to bring it.

Membership: As a good Samaritan, would anyone be interested in help the new members by composing a list of soil mixtures and culture suggestions that are good and work in Phoenix, Arizona? This would be a big help to our new members in finding their own soil
mixture and culture to keep their interest going in their collections even if they do lose a plant along the way. Losing plants is how we fine tune what soil mix and culture work best for each of us.

January - December 1989

Officers and Directors: President – Jim Oravetz; Vice-President - Warner Dodd; Secretary – Neville Jantz; Treasurer – Lewis Steichman; and Directors – Henry Triesler and Larry Fischer

CSSA Affiliate Representative: Marvin Williams

Appointments: Newsletter Editor – Vera Gamet; Librarian and Historian – Joan Skirvin and Publicity – Dorothy O’Rourke

January 1989 The Central Spine

Dish Garden: “Don’t Expect That Christmas Dish Garden to Last Forever” by Lewis Steichman, p. 3-4.

January 1989 Minutes of the December Holiday Party

CACSS Show & Sale: A special board meeting was held Jan. 14, 1989 at Frank Hennessey’s home. Three board members and nine members were in attendance. The primary topic was the show which had been planned for the end of March at Tri-City-Mall. There have been some unforeseen costs which could make putting on the show financially devastating for the Society. The Board’s recommendation will be presented for discussion at the January meeting. [NOTE: No other minutes for the year 1989 can be found in the records.]

April 1989 The Central Spine

DBG: “A Toast to Fifty Years of the DBG, in Research Service, Education, Conservation. We Are Pleased to be Part of Your Celebration and Look Forward With You to the Future” p. 1 [Carton]


July 1989 The Central Spine


October 1989 Letter of Understanding DBG and CACSS

DBG Propagation and Conservation Program: The document establishes a propagation and conservation program at the DBG.

December 1989 The Central Spine


Harry Johnson: “A Visit With a Legend” by Stan Skirvin, p. 4-5