Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society  
November, 1993

This month

All aboard the bus... the roadtrip to Tucson is here! On Sunday, November 21, we will be visiting Bach's and Arid Lands.

The Society will meet at 3800 E. Thomas Rd. The bus will park in a prominent spot. Please meet the bus by 7:15am. The bus will leave Phoenix at 7:30am.

We will leave Tucson at 4pm to return to Phoenix by 6:00pm. Bus fare for the trip is $15.

Bring a brown bag lunch. We will be meeting the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society in the Saguaro National Monument--West at lunch time. The Tucson Club will be providing beverages.

Thanks to Gretchen Haukereid and Miles Anderson for arranging lunch with the club, and thanks to Fran Tolleson for working out the bus details.

Bring your fistfuls of money for a madcap day of plant shopping. And try not to fight over plants, ok?

This event will serve as the meeting for this month. There will be no board meeting during this trip.

Last week the Gallaways hosted their open garden. What a collection...extensive ferrocactus specimens, scrupulously groomed grounds, impressive beaucarnea (some of which were grown from seed) and large, robust agaves. Thanks, Doyt and Rosemary!

Too close to pretime is/was the Valley of the Sun Men's Garden Club show. I hope many of us did/will have/are participating in the show, and good luck/congratulations to those of us who did.

Last Month

Last month’s fall SILENT AUCTION was a great success! We raised lots of cash for the Society. Thanks to Paula Matney and Dan Leggett for all their hard work coordinating, and thanks to everyone who contributed plants, pots, top dressing and help with setup and cleanup. Paula and Dan might have a standing invitation to coordinate the auctions, since they do such a great job!

See the minutes of the October Board meeting for other business transacted.
CACASS SOCIAL EVENT OF YEAR

Join the friendly folks for an afternoon of fantastic feeding and friendly faces that will be sure to put you into the proper holiday spirits.

Bring a sample of your favorite holiday treat to share with about 75 of your closest friends who plan on doing the same for you.

In order to prevent you from the social embarrassment of eating with your fingers and using a paper towel as a plate, we ask that you BRING YOUR OWN TABLE SETTING. Punch, coffee, napkins and condiments will be provided by the club.

To ensure the success of this Sunday sensation, Sue and Stan Celestian will be giving you a ringy dingy on the phone. So think about what MAIN DISH, SIDE DISH, BREAD AND/OR DESSERT with which you would like to impress your friends.

As part of the festivities there will be the election of new club officers.

Immediately following the POTLUCK the club’s officers have graciously offered to lead the members in a sprint around the garden to burn off a few of the extra calories. This is optional.

This event will be held on December 12 at the Desert Botanical Garden. Exact starting time will be in next month’s newsletter (1pm, I think). The Celestians will be coordinating the food and fun, so give them a call at 853-9212 to let them know what you’ll be bringing.

That’s the food part of the party. Also at the party will be our annual election of Board Members and Officers. We need a quorum of the general membership for the elections to count, so please attend! Between food and voting (oh, and the flammable eggnog), how could you pass this up?
FROM DEBRA'S SHADEHOUSE

GO TO THE WILD PLACES! . . . I’m not talking about Sun Devil Stadium on a Saturday afternoon or the Arizona Center on Friday night. Rather, I’m talking about the national forests, monuments, historic sites and tribal lands in our backyard. Here, the specimen plants found in our collections can be seen in habitat and our natural legacy comes alive.

My brother Adam was probably the first person to help me realize what wild places were available to me as a taxpayer and citizen. As a graduate of the NAU Forestry School, he was able to trek the North Rim, explore the San Francisco Peaks and canoe the San Juan River. He taught me a lot of valuable lessons that I’ll pass along to you:

- **Get outta your car!** Driving through remote places is a great way to see a strip of land. To experience wild places, you need to smell the desert, hear the wind in the pines, sidestep a rattler and stoke a campfire. It’s easy to understand why Arizona took so long to secure from the Apache when you explore the rugged landscapes in the Chiricahua and Dragoon Mountains. You can better understand vast distances when you have walked in the Petrified Forest among the agatized logs, bone dry washes and painted mesas.

- **Camp in the national forests.** We are extremely fortunate to live where the are many national forests. They are national treasures. Adam taught me that these lands are open to camping anywhere unless posted otherwise! That means that you can pull off the road or hike into the forest to pitch your tent without having to get permission or pay a fee. Oak Creek Canyon is one exception to that general rule (it is otherwise posted!), but whole mountains, hundreds of canyons and mile after mile of dirt roads are available for your exploration and temporary housekeeping.

- **Keep your eyes and ears open for the unusual.** Adam and I once startled a dozen ringtailed coati mundi when we crossed a bend in Aravaipa Creek, a wilderness area. I had not seen this animal before except in zoos. When you leave the beaten path, wild things emerge in greater variety and numbers. Think of the tremendous thrill of seeing your first Ariocarpus in habitat or spotting wild turkey in the undergrowth or finding petroglyphs in a forgotten arroyo!

To keep a fresh perspective on my “captive” plants, I maintain a commitment to visit and temporarily live in wild places. I think that this has enhanced my appreciation of and ability to care for the plants that I grow. It also reinforces the responsibility I have to help preserve wild places for future explorers.

Being an “armchair horticulturist” is like being a couch potato... knowing just isn’t the same as experiencing.

Dedicated to our success,

Debra Korobkin
1993 CACSS President
Board Members and Officers

The nominations committee has completed its proposed slate for the 1994 Board of Directors.

President: Jim Elliott  
First VP: Electra Elliott  
Second VP: Ken Jantz  
Secretary: Laurine Gilbert  
Treasurer: Joan Skirvin  

Directors: Tim Chapman  
Fritz Hasenpusch  
Pat Korach  
Paula Matney  
Gard Roper  
Bud Terrell  
Fran Tolleson  
Henry Triesler  
Bob Welsh

Affiliate Dir: Elaine Steichman  
Past President: Debra Korobkin

This is the slate upon which the membership will vote at the December 12 meeting.

If you are interested in serving on the Board of Directors, or in being an Officer of the Society, please contact one of the members of the Nominations Committee. The committee comprises Fran Tolleson, Pat Korach and Henry Triesler. We will accept nominations on the day of the holiday party, but please have the person’s permission beforehand.

Coming up

We will be participating in the Maricopa County Home and Garden Show at the fairgrounds on January 14, 15 and 16, 1994. Many (if not most) of the exhibitors will be retail plant/garden/landscaping companies. We have been invited to participate at no charge to the Society. We’d like to do an educational exhibit and have plants for sale. Edra Drake will be coordinating this event.

Please welcome our newest member,

Susan DiFillipo

Feel free to call any of the 1993 officers or board members with questions or comments!

President, Debra Korobkin:  
Secretary, Laurine Gilbert:  
Treasurer, Linda Miller:

Happy Roadtrip!

Laurine