President’s Letter May 2003

Hello, Everybody: First of all, thanks to all of you who helped to make this year’s show bigger and better than it has been in years. Our new venue, Dorrance Hall has proven to be a winner for the exhibitors, the vendors, and public. Sure, we had logistical and other problems, but next year’s show committee has already met to meet these and future problems and to make the next show run more smoothly. Next, thanks to all of you who turned out for the open garden. We had a good crowd with plenty of food, refreshments, and interesting conversation. I hope we were able to answer all of everybody’s questions, and that everyone came away learning something new. This month you’ll get a chance to tour the DBG’s greenhouses and talk with some of the horticulture department’s staff about the plants that are raised in there. These greenhouses are not open to the public and contain plants that need the extra protection of a greenhouse or that are not able to be put out for public display. It’s been a few years since the club last did this, and there are two new greenhouse that have been added since then. See you at the meeting!

Scott

The judges examine all the entries in division 26 - Ariocarpus.
Letter from the Show Chair – April 14, 2003

We had a great Show and Sale. This was our first time in Rionnais Hall, a very large space. We filled the hall with about half show and half sale.

Of special note were the many novices who entered so many beautiful plants in the Show. I think you novices had a good time, and we look forward to your entries in years to come.

The public came in droves, and they all remarked about how much they enjoyed the Show.

The Sale was a great success. The gross take was almost twice as much as last year. Each of the vendors who sold last year and this year did much better this year. The vendors were generally quite pleased with the Sale and offered suggestions for improving next year. We are going to listen to them.

Thanks to the work of Cathy Babcock and the Desert Botanical Garden Visitor Relations staff, we were mentioned in Phoenix Home and Garden magazine, on television, on radio, and in the newspapers. This is very much better publicity than we have had before.

I awarded Chairman’s Rosettes to Gard Roper and to Nick Diomede. Gard managed the Sale. This involved a tremendous amount of work and time. Nick did the graphic work. He designed and had printed paper posters, permanent vinyl banners, and the script given to volunteers. Both those men earned their rosettes.

To those of you who didn’t go to the Show and Sale: You missed a really fun event. We look forward to an even better Show and Sale next year.

Leo A. Martin
Show Chair

CACSS Library News, March 2003

HOW DO I CHECK OUT CACSS BOOKS?

Since the CACSS no longer holds it monthly meetings in Webster Auditorium where the CACSS library is located in a locked cabinet, we need to change how we browse and check out books and journals. To see a list of the books we have please see our catalog. Paul Schueneman, the CACSS librarian, can email you a copy of the catalog (see contact information at the end of this article). Or, you can pick up a catalog from him at a CACSS meeting. Or, there’s a copy of the catalog on the CACSS website: www.centralarizonacactus.org/liblist.htm. When you would like to check out books or journals, contact Paul at least a couple of days before the next CACSS meeting and he will give the books to you there.

The CACSS Board is looking into ways to try and make it more convenient for members to browse and check out our books. So, please bear with us while we look into various alternatives.

NEW BOOKS AND JOURNALS:

- Cactus and Succulent Journal. Vol 75, March-April, 2003, No. 2, Articles of interest:
  - Observations on two newly described species of Pseudolithos from the Horn of Africa: Pseudolithos gigas M. Diolli and Pseudolithos harardhjeranlu M. Diolli. By Maurizio Dioli.
  - Propagating Boswellia nana. By Gary J. James and Joseph M. Stead.

- British Cactus & Succulent Journal. Vol 21, March 2003, No. 1, Articles of interest:
  - A special offering of Melocactus seeds.
  - What is an areole? By Gordon Rowley.
  - Echeveria – small but perfectly formed. By John Pilbeam.
  - The conservation and protection of Mammillaria albofia. By Martin Smith.
  - Succulents on stamps. By John Cox.
  - Mammillaria scheinovarana submerged. By Bill Weighman.

NEED HELP?
Contact the CACSS librarian, Paul Schueneman:
602-381-9859 (W) • 480-706-1672 (H)
Schue888@aol.com

Book Review


This book begins with a description of the desert area in the southwest and its distinguishing features including climate, soil composition, and elevation ranging from El Paso Texas to Southern California. The format of the book is a very helpful one for newcomers as well as long time residents. The difficulties of growing healthy plants in the harshness of the desert is carefully reviewed with an eye to planning what should be done each month to insure a successful garden.

There are ten chapters which cover the care of (1) annuals (2) bulbs, corms, rhizomes & tubers (3) cacti & succulents (4) fruits (5) grasses (6) perennials (7) roses (8) shrubs (9) trees (10) vegetables & herbs. Advice for monthly care is given for each plant group. Topics discussed are planning, planting, care, watering, pruning, fertilizing & pest control. Particular plants are suggested for optimum success in each of the cold hardiness zones. There is also general advice regarding soil preparation, composting, tools, fertilizers, cold weather protection, seed propagation and container gardening. A short glossary of terms will be particularly helpful for novices. Suggested sources of where more information can be found throughout the southwest with a list of special gardens in the area. An extensive bibliography is available for those who wish to dig deeper.

Continued on next page...
Thank You to Our Vendors...

The Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society
would like to thank the following vendors for making
our 2003 Show and Sale a tremendous success:

Mike Cone
Baobab Pottery, Cave Creek, Arizona
makepots@hotmail.com

Distinctive ceramic planting containers and humorous
garden monsters. See Mike’s work in the
Desert Botanical Garden Gift Shop. E-mail Mike
for a schedule of exhibitions or for commissions.

Cactus Data Plants
9607 Ave S-12
Little Rock CA 93543
661-944-2784
www.cactus-mall.com/cactusdataplants
Woody Minnich is a favorite speaker.

Julie Turk
Juliette Plants, Glendale, Arizona
julietplants@earthlink.net

Artfully staged cactus and succulent arrangements
for the home or garden. See Julie’s work in the
Desert Botanical Garden Gift Shop.

Steve Holmes
Lithic Vision
LITHICVISION@aol.com

Planting vessels and fountains: molded reproductions
of carefully-selected Sonoran Desert rock and
stone formations. Dramatic containers for
Echinocereus and other rock dwellers. See Steve’s
work in the Desert Botanical Garden Gift Shop.

Plantas del Sol
6175 North Noel Lane
Tucson AZ 85743
520-682-8883

Hard-to-find cactus and succulents, many from Baja
California. Spectacular Ferocactus. We visited John
and Dorothy Pasek on the March buying trip.

Rainbow Valley Nursery
E-mail for a list of garden fairs they will attend.
rainbowvalleynsy@aol.com
520-424-3464

Rosette succulents and more for the Arizona
deserts and home arrangements.

Rio Grande Cactus
By appointment
2188 NM Hwy 1
Socorro, NM 87801
(505) 835-0687
riograndecactii@hotmail.com
www.riogrande-cactii.com

Winter-hardy cacti for the West and Southwest:
Coryphantha, Echinocereus, Escobaria, Opuntia,
and more. Always a high point of the Denver C&S
show.

Smith-Poore Farms
623-533-0926

Copper vessels for planting and display, and rustic
decorative objects, in verdigris and brilliant finishes.

Starr Nursery, Tucson
3340 West Ruthann Road
Tucson, AZ, 85745
(520) 743-7052
http://starr-nursery.com

Unusual, hardy, and hard-to-find Agave species for
landscape and specimen use. Do you know Greg
Starr and Agave pelona? You should.

Sticky Situation
4545 West Camino Pintoresco
Tucson AZ 85745
(520) 743-9761 or send email to
Visit@StickySituation.com
www.stickySituation.com

Cactus and succulents in tremendous variety for
the collector.

Jim Sudal Pottery
http://home.att.net/~jasudal

Well-known and highly-favored local ceramic artist.
See Jim’s work in the Desert Botanical Garden Gift
Shop.

Xerophytic Design
www.xerophyticdesign.com/

Unusual collectible and landscape plants, and mod-
ern landscape design.

Open Garden

Saturday May 17, 2003, 1-4 P.M. Jim
Davis and Russ Hintz invite you to their
adjoining gardens at lots 134 and 135
in Sun Garden MHP at 8301 N. 103rd
Ave., Peoria. Please bring a beverage
or snack to share; refreshments will be
in Jim’s home, lot 134. Phone number
(623) 583-3901.

Please, only members of Central
Arizona Cactus & Succulent Society
and Phoenix Bonsai society. This event
is not otherwise open to the public.

Parking options may be limited, so you
might want to park along the greenbelt
on the Park entrance road east of the
mailboxes and then walk up the one
block street to our gardens. You’ll see
the chain link fence and white gate at
Lot 135 as you walk up the street.

Continued from pervious page.

Book Review Continued...

Mary Irish is a well-known horticultural
expert on desert gardening. She has written
articles in a variety of journals and maga-
zines and has authored several books. Her
professional experience is comprehensive
with numerous appearances on radio, TV, in
lecture halls and class rooms. She served as
Director of Public Horticulture at the
Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix. Her
writing style is clear and sometimes even
enchancing as the truth of her love of desert
plants shines through. This book should be
on the ‘potting bench’ of every would-be
desert gardening fan.

Muriel Beroza
Upcoming Events - CALENDAR

General meetings are at 2:00 pm unless otherwise noted. Board meetings are one hour earlier. Members are welcome to attend board meetings.

May 18, 2003 Guided Tour of DBG Greenhouses, Dorrance Hall
June 29, 2003 CACSS Member Gard Roper - Agave, Dorrance Hall
July 27, 2003 Pete Petrie: Argentina, Dorrance Hall
August 24, 2003 CACSS Board Member Doug Dawson - CSSA Tour to Richtersveld & South Africa
September 28, 2003 CSSA President Duke Benadom - Echinocereus of Mexico, Dorrance Hall
October 26, 2003 Silent Auction of Member's Plants, Dorrance Hall
November 23, 2003 Leo Martin - Convention report, Dorrance Hall
December 7, 2003 Holiday Party 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., Webster Auditorium

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE!

The deadline for material submission for the next issue of Central Spine is:

June 8, 2003

Please make a note of this!

CACSS
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