**CACSS Show and Sale**
**April 20, 21 & 22**
**Dorrance Hall and Boppart Patio**
**Desert Botanical Garden**

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**Aloe gariepensis**

Located east of Springbok, South Africa Sept. 22, 2009 on a farm named Areb.

In the background you see the wide expanses of Bushmanland.

I took the photo from an inselberg on the west end of Bushmanland.

An inselberg is the term used for a mountain somewhat dramatically rising from the surrounding flat land and is botanically an island (insel) mountain (berg) in that area. The flora in such an area is usually different from the flora in the surrounding flatter terrain.

In some places in the US, especially out west where we have more mountainous areas, we have inselbegs and small higher outcrops we call sky islands. Usually the flora on them is more pristine since cattle can't trample the plants.

Doug Dawson
May Newsletter Deadline: May 12, 2012

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Welcome New Members

John Brandon
Mary Pearl Wostl

Membership Chair Beth Kirkpatrick

2012 Meeting Schedule

CACSS Show and Sale
Friday April 20, 9 am to 5 pm
Saturday, 21, 9 am to 5 pm
Sunday, 22, 9 am to 4 pm
Dorrance Hall and Boppart Courtyard

Sunday, May 20, 2 pm
(note date—4th Sunday, not 5th Sunday)
Steve Martinez and Doug Dawson:
Our Adventures in Namibia
Dorrance Hall

June-November 2012
Meeting Dates
Sunday, June 24
Sunday, July 29
Sunday, August 26
Sunday, September 30
Sunday October 14 -- Plant Sale
Sunday, November 25

President’s Letter
Well, there are less than two weeks left before our Show and Sale begins, so it’s time make the final decisions on what plants to bring, and to make sure they are all cleaned up and pretty.

I am told we will have a few television spots on one of the channels, so this is really a good way to show off our Club and get the word out about this wonderful hobby. I know this is not for everyone, but I am convinced that there are way more than the 250 or so enthusiasts that belong to our group hiding out there somewhere in the 4.5 million people in the Phoenix metro area. Bring in some of your beautiful plants for display; this is our showcase event for the year.

On another note, there was tremendous response for our upcoming California trip, but there are still a few seats available. Be sure to contact our treasurer if you would like to reserve a spot as I am sure this will be another great, fun outing.

Lastly, thanks in advance to all of you who will volunteer to help out at the Show and Sale! Remember, no general meeting this month, so see you at the Show and Sale,

Steve M.
Our Judges for the 2012 Show
By Gard Roper

We feel very fortunate to have the 2012 selection of judges.

**Succulent judges are Julie Plath and Cliff Fielding.**

Julie was a judge the 2011 show. She is a nursery co-owner, has a master’s degree in horticulture, and has lifetime experience working with plants. Julie’s presentation of plants is one of the best in our society. She is always ready to help us improve our skills.

Cliff is an extraordinary grower, as demonstrated by his first place point total in several recent shows. His last open garden also showcased his fine, detailed perception of plants. Cliff can see all details of a plant in a few seconds, which is a good trait for a show judge.

**Cactus judges are Raul Puente-Martinez and Mike Gallagher.**

Raul is the Curator of Living Collections at the Desert Botanical Garden. His journal publications include “The Evolution of Growth Forms in *Cactaceae*.” He also has published material on taxonomic revisions for genus *Opuntia* and genus *Napolae*. (Find details at www.dbg.org.)

Mike joined the CACSS in 1983 and is one of our true generalists. Mike has substantial knowledge in most genera of desert plants and is a great help in identifying different desert plants. His pharmacy background has contributed to his capacity to master detailed knowledge of many different plant groups.

When judges enter a plant in a division, they do not judge in that division. Other judges then make the decision. Our show rules divide plants into useful categories for judging. Having the best of our members as judges has improved the reliability of judging.

Verbal and written comments from judges often include tips on how we can all grow plants in a better manner. We will share useful comments from judges in future newsletters.

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“Gardening is a mood, and my mood is one of intimacy not splendor.”
Edward, Duke of Windsor

*Life Magazine, 1956* Contributed by Wayne Whipple
Dyckia ‘Arizona’ on Martha and Steve Goode’s patio. The plant began blooming on Feb. 14 and continues to bloom.

Photo by Steve Goode
First steps to gardening

By Dean Patrick

I first saw this garden feature (above) at the Tohono Chul Park in Tucson about six years ago during my first visit to the park. During another visit, I realized this item would be fun to build and went home to see if I could locate a spot in my garden to develop this display. It was not a real task as I have general contractor experience and an architectural education.

I started to collect some of the basic items and my summer fun was about to start. I spent most of that summer laying concrete block and cutting stringers (the wood part that supports the steps) for the stairway. Finding the related parts, stone treads and decorative items for the resers was the most challenging part of it. Stringers are the wood part that supports the steps, risers are the part that your toe hits if you are in a hurry. I wanted it to look as close to the original as possible.
It is completely correct and as strong as the stairway in any house. Truly a fun project. The lizards love to play on it.

Stairs in Dean Patrick’s garden

If you have questions for Dean about his stairway, you’ll find his contact information below in PLANT QUESTIONS?? WHOM TO CONTACT!!!

**Binomial Nomenclature Workshop Participants Create New Plant Name**

Twelve participants enjoyed Doug Dawson’s March workshop on naming plants. Doug explained the history of creating Latin plant names, from before Carl Linnaeus to post-Linnaeus. Then in groups of four, participants practiced creating names, using the worksheets Doug provided. The first names are the genus and species in italics, followed by descriptions of the plant, all in Latin. An example is *Mammillaria striatus florae*. The translation is Mammillaria with striped flowers. At the end of the workshop, Doug asked if any group had created a new plant name. One participant immediately raised his hand and shared the name his group created. All participants agreed that it was a great name for a plant.

**Dawsonii mirabilis sinilis**

Translation:

Dawson marvelous old, white hair
Many CACSS members have experience with different kinds of succulent plants. I hope they will add their names to the following list. Call or e-mail Diana Decker, Central Spine editor. (See contact information above.)

For now the list is simply alphabetical with principal interests. When more members add their information, the list will be cross-referenced by topic.

DOUG DAWSON
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Specializations include Aloes, Haworthias, Columnar Cacti, and Turbinicarpus.

DEAN PATRICK
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Specializations include General Propagation and Desert Revegetation, Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Cyphostemma, Echinocereus, Fouquieria, Thelocactus, .

BOB TORREST
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Specializations include Desert Landscaping, Unusual (including Rare Fruit) Trees and Shrubs, Aloes, Agaves, Columnar Cacti, Trichocereus, and Opuntia.