Bulb: Veltheimia capensis on Farm Rooiwal, northwest of Loeriesfontein.
Photo taken by Doug Dawson in the first week of his three-week trip to Africa in May/June 2013

2013 CACSS Officers

President:                         Wayne Whipple
                                  480-460-3623
                                  w7676@msn.com
Vice-President:                   Gard Roper
                                  602-996-9745
Secretary:                        Lois Schneberger
                                  480-946-8373
                                  lschneberger@cox.net
Treasurer:                        Tom Rankin
                                  602-904-2734
                                  tomrankin@cox.net

Board of Directors

Serving through December, 2013
Cindy Capek                            623-979-9389
                                  ronluccap@gmail.com
Sue Tyrrel                             480-797-952
                                  styrel@cox.net
Joseph Miracle                        480-345-6644
                                  demiracle@cox.net
Nancy Mumpton                          480-649-1558
                                  nancy.mumpton@gmail.com
Joe Barnes                              480-883-1651
                                  barnesinaz@gmail.com

Serving through December 2014
Wendy Barrett                          602-971-5345
                                  wbarrett@cox.net
Jo Davis                               480-839-3792
Doug Dawson                            480-893-1207
                                  dawsonlithops@hotmail.com
Beth Kirkpatrick                       480-275-4833
                                  2kirks@cox.net
Mike Gallagher                         602-942-8580
                                  mgallagher26@cox.net
Dana Hiser                             480-368-8606
                                  dana2garden@aol.com
Steve Martinez                         602-688-4339
                                  altrigo2@cox.net
Dan Smith                              480-981-9648
                                  smithdans@cox.net

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>>
CACSS Program and Committee Leaders

Archivist/Historian                  Lois Schneberger
CSSA Affiliate Representative       Sue Hakala
Facebook Coordinator                Nick Diomedes
Finances-Accounting                 Tom Rankin, Ingrid Swenson
Holiday Party - December 2013       Wendy Barrett
Library                              Paul Schueneman, Marty Shahan
Membership                           Beth Kirkpatrick
Members-Keeping-In-Touch            Jo Davis
Mailed Newsletter Subscriptions    Sue Tyrrel
Newsletter                           Diana Decker
Nominations for Board Officers, Directors --
  Mike Gallagher, Dan Smith, Jackie Vasquez
October Silent Auction               Jo Davis
Plant Rescues                        Open Position
Private Plant Sales at General Meetings- Sue Tyrrel
Programs (Speakers, Workshops, Open Gardens,
  Special Interest Groups) --
  Gard Roper, Doug Dawson, Joe Miracle
Refreshments                         Cindy Capek
Show & Sale – 2013                   Sue Tyrrel
2014 Show & Sale Chair              Linda Michaelson
Website                              Beth Kirkpatrick

Telephone numbers, emails, and addresses can be found in the CACSS Member List emailed periodically to members by Beth Kirkpatrick.

Sunday, October 20 – CACSS Silent Auction

Set-up: 12:30 – 1:30 pm;
Silent Auction: at 2 pm
As usual, you’ll be given instructions on how to bid and pay for your plants.

Get those plants and cuttings ready for our Silent Auction at the Wildflower Pavilion at Desert Botanical Garden. You may also bring pottery and other items of interest.

You will need a bid sheet for each plant you bring. The bid sheet should include the name of the plant (if you know it) and two columns, one for the bid, the other for the name of the bidder. You will also need a pen or pencil to write down your bid for other members’ plants.
Monday, September 9, 2013: Here I am safe and sound at home. I just returned from CACSS Board Member Jo Davis’ house. Yes, we were out in it. We were returning to Jo’s house in Mesa when the great monsoon hit, and got in the house just in time to watch the lingering rain from Tropical Storm Lorene, a decaying storm in the Pacific Ocean, blast into the Valley.

So why were we out gadding about? For weeks, Jo and I had been planning a trip to Public Storage to place items in the CACSS storage locker and to get the timers for the CACSS October silent auction. Little did we know that we would share a major storm together.

While in the house, we watched the Davis’ backyard become a soggy bog, and water was threatening to come in under the Arcadia doors; their dry creek in the front yard was overflowing its banks for the first time in the 35 years they have lived in their house.

I think we all benefitted from this much needed rain – just hope the plants do not rot in the ground.

Great job, Gard Roper, in organizing the pumice delivery to the house of Ingrid Swenson and Chris Herington in central Phoenix. We appreciate that the two sisters provided the space. Several members have volunteered to help with the disbursement of the pumice and will work on the designated Sundays for pickups.

Also, Ingrid and Chris have volunteered to host Leo Martin’s workshop on Winter Rainfall Bulbs on Saturday, September 28. See more information about the workshop on page 4. Gard is still looking for volunteers for a new Travel Committee. Please call Gard at 602-996-9745 for more information.

I hope everyone plans to participate in the silent auction on Sunday, October 20, a major fundraiser for the Society. Jo Davis is working hard to make it the best ever, and she always appreciates help. If you can assist her, please contact her at 480-839-3792. Please donate your plants for the auction and come prepared to bid. It is a fun day.

It is not too early to start thinking of the election of Officers and Directors for 2014. The Nominating Committee consists of Mike Gallagher, Dan Smith and Jackie Vasquez. If you are currently on the Board and are up for re-election this year, or have an interest in serving on the Board, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee:

Mike Gallagher, mgallagher26@cox.net or 602-942-8580; Dan Smith, smithdans@cox.net or 480-981-9648; Jackie Vasquez, vasqv@yahoo.com or 480-706-9225.

The CACSS Board of Directors will next meet at 11:00 am, just before the 2 pm General Meeting on September 29. If you are interested in becoming a new Board Member, you probably will find this meeting helpful. All members are welcome to attend any Board meeting.

Raffle Tickets at the General Meetings
$1 for one
$5 for six
Welcome To New Members
Mark Obermayer
Jerry Ronnebeck and family
Mary A Swaty and family
Matthijis Van Soest

Membership Chair:
Beth Kirkpatrick

Contact the Central Spine Editor
Diana Decker
dianadec@cox.net
(602) 220-9825
for article and photo submissions for the Central Spine.

Please Wear Your Name Tag at Monthly Meetings
Board Member Jo Davis asks members to wear their name tags at monthly meetings and other club events. Members then can more easily spot guests and talk with them about the guest’s interests and CACSS. If you need a lanyard to hang the name tag around your neck, see Jo at the meetings.

Please bring boxes with you to the meetings so you can carry your new plants home more easily.
Jo Davis

Raffle Winners at the August General meeting, August 25, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member’s name</th>
<th>Plant or pot chosen</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Steve Mack</td>
<td>Pedilanthus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Titus</td>
<td>Euphorbia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet McMillan</td>
<td>Ceramic pot made by Mike Cone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rita Gosnell</td>
<td>Ceramic pot made by Mark Maradian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cindy Capek</td>
<td>Ceramic pot made by Mark Maradian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee Brownson</td>
<td>Ceramic pot made by Mark Maradian</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Workshop: Winter Rainfall Bulbs from Seed
Saturday, September 28, 1 pm

Leo Martin is repeating his workshop, Winter Rainfall Bulbs from Seed, which was sold out in 2010. Winter-growing bulbs flower when most of our succulents are dormant, so we can enjoy gardening throughout the year. Most of them are small enough to do well in containers and have beautiful flowers. Leo will talk about growing these plants from seed, their summer dormancy, using them in the garden, and propagating them from seed.

The syllabus is available for all to download from the CACSS Web site, www.centralarizonacactus.org. It is called Winter Rainfall Bulbs from Seed. Click on "Plant Information" in the left menu, then "Growing cactus and other succulents from seed."
All materials will be included in the cost. Each participant will plant several containers of bulb seed and bulbs to take home and grow.

**Details:** There are only 25 slots available for this workshop due to space limitations. Couples may take one slot and share the seed containers between themselves. People who did not take the workshop in 2010 will be given priority. If any slots remain, people who already took the workshop in 2010 may then register. The cost will be $25. The money will cover material costs, and any left over will go into the CACSS treasury; Leo is volunteering his time.

Spots will be reserved on a first-come first-served basis. Mail your payment of $25 to CACSS via check or call our Treasurer, Tom Rankin, to make a credit card payment. Include names of participants. If you do not have Internet access, let Leo know so he can bring a paper copy of the syllabus.

---

**OUR UPCOMING VISIT TO ARIZONA CACTUS SALES**

by Lin Leivian

On Sunday, October 13, members of our club will have the opportunity to make a private visit to one of the best cactus nurseries in our area. We will be able to go between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to see many of the growing areas as well as retail store.

Jim and Electra Elliott, founders of the nursery, and other staff will be on hand to give tours to those who are interested in a more in-depth look of the nursery operations as well as to answer questions about topics such as watering, soil and other questions that may have been puzzling you. A discount of 10% will be offered on all purchases except for saguaros and deliveries.

To give the club members an idea of what they might see, I can do no better that quote Jim: "We grow quite a lot of our own stock just as a survival procedure as you cannot count on anyone else to have plants ready of the right size, right quality, and right price. A lot of what we grow takes years to bring to size and most growers have to jump on the first buyer who offers cash instead of waiting for Arizona Cactus Sales to come buy their stuff. What this means to the club members is they will get to see a lot of plants that will eventually end up in our retail section. Right now we are growing saguaros, native barrels and hedgehogs from seed or cuttings."

Since we will be outdoors the entire time, it would be advisable to wear a hat and comfortable shoes. Jim will have cold drinking water available. There are restrooms on the property--one is accessible to those who are handicapped. Lin Leivian, who is coordinating the event, will have a list of restaurants in the immediate area in case you want to stop for lunch after your visit.

Arizona Cactus Sales is located at 1619 S. Arizona Avenue, in Chandler, south of the city center. It is easy to get there from the north by taking the 101 to Santan Freeway east to the Arizona Avenue exit and turning right. Continue south, looking for the nursery sign on your left.

For more information, email Lin at lin.leivian@cox.net, or call 480-838-5094.

---

**Volunteer for the Desert Botanical Garden Plant Sale**

*Thursday, Oct 10, 5-8 pm;  
Friday and Saturday, Oct. 11 and 12, 7 am to 5 pm;  
Sunday, October, 13, 9 am to 5 pm*

We would like to once again appeal to the CACSS members, regardless of experience, to help out at the Plant Sale, answering questions and directing people. Volunteers are needed most on Friday and Saturday mornings starting at 7, but afternoons and Sunday, any time they could come to help would be most appreciated.

There also is a need for volunteers on the Thursday evening pre-sale from 5 pm to 8 pm. Please contact Kenny Zelov at kzelov@dbg.org
Adenium Management at the Desert Botanical Garden- Volunteers in Action
By Tom Gatz (Reprinted from The Gatherings, the newsletter of the volunteers at the Desert Botanical Garden)

We hope you have been enjoying the dozen large, potted adeniums displayed throughout the Garden this summer. Several of them have blossomed through the summer and we hope more will flower in the fall months. They will be hauled back into the greenhouse sometime in November where they will be kept dry and protected from winter frost. We will bring them back out in March when the nights warm up to above 50 degrees.

Four of them are in the partial shade of a mesquite tree and greet visitors after they pass by the tour-gathering area. Three more are tucked away under the vine-covered arbor in the Center for Desert Living where they get morning sun and afternoon shade. Check out the rare, variegated-leaf specimen there. Some of the best specimens, however, are on display in the Succulent Gallery.

As you enter the Succulent Gallery, on your right you will encounter a pretty specimen of ‘Crimson Star’, my favorite Adenium obesum/swazicum hybrid, which has been covered with red flowers since June. This little guy was tested outside all of last year in less than ideal conditions where it flowered little and grew lanky in the summer shade of the Admissions Pavilion. When the hot September sun poked its head under the roof, the branches and trunk were badly sunburned, as it had not been gradually acclimated to the sun through the previous spring and summer. It somehow went on to survive our record five-nights of sub-freezing weather but most of its branches froze off. Look at it now. What a survivor. But don’t try this at home. Bring your adeniums inside and keep them completely dry in the winter and gradually acclimate them to the summer sun by bringing them out in the spring while the weather is still mild.

Nearby the ‘Crimson Star’ is a larger adenium in a stout square pot with amazing convoluted, raised and swollen roots. So far it only has produced a few pink flowers. The prize specimen, however, is the huge, red-flowered adenium in a big blue pot at the southeast corner of the Succulent Gallery. This magnificent specimen, certainly many years old, was generously donated to the Garden by director Ken Schutz who acquired it as a large specimen about 12 years ago, and it flowers almost continuously.

You may wonder where these great specimens have been all these years. While some of the smaller specimens have been recently donated, most of the larger adeniums have been off exhibit, hidden from public view in the greenhouses, some for almost 30 years, primarily due to the significant effort needed to move...
them. However, greenhouses are not ideal for adeniums in the summer months. They actually thrive outside in the summer heat and sun where they grow better and are less prone to the various pests that infest them in the greenhouse. So when Brandi Eide became the curator of agaves, aloes and all things succulent that are not cactus, she decided to share the Garden’s growing adenium collection with the Garden visitors. First she recruited several volunteers including Dan Smith, Calvin Rogers, Larry Soller, and Cathy Schoonmaker to pot them up into big, glazed pots and raise them up to display their interesting, twisted, swollen root structure. Over the past two years we trimmed them up to remove any pest-infested or spindly branches and began to fertilize them twice a month during the summer with a low nitrogen fertilizer to encourage flowering. We have been watering them deeply twice a week during the hot months (adeniums in smaller pots appreciated water more often than this).

Garden volunteer Cathy Schoonmaker prepares to raise this big specimen up to display the swollen roots. The upper exposed feeder roots will be removed to give the specimen a “cleaner” appearance.

The biggest task of all, however, occurs twice each year, when these enormous pots must be carefully hauled back and forth from the greenhouse on handcarts. This challenging task is embraced enthusiastically (well, sort of) by the fearless, Friday agave volunteers under Brandi’s firm but gentle guidance. Without their efforts, and Brandi’s leadership, these adeniums would likely still be languishing year-round in the greenhouse. Thank you Brandi and the volunteers (including CACSS members) for giving us color in the Garden during the hot, summer months when little else is in bloom.

**Note:** Since this article was written, Brandi has moved on to a new position at UC Berkeley Botanical Garden as a museum scientist caring for the Australasian Collection and assisting with the California Collection. We really miss her.
By now, most members of the CACSS know that this is the 40th anniversary of the founding of our organization. It is also the 38th birthday of the first club newsletter, The Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter.

When Lois Schneberger, secretary and archivist/historian of the CACSS, asked me to write a retrospective about the founding of our club, especially its newsletter, I hesitantly agreed. Next, I wondered what I had agreed to do. And later, after reviewing 40 years of activities, I was afraid that I might be writing a history book. Don't worry; this will be a condensed version.

Where were you 40 years ago? The year was 1973. Do you remember what you were doing or where you were living? Maybe you were starting a career, a family, a graduate degree. Did you ever imagine that you would become part of a group dedicated to learning about growing cactus and succulents? Could you tell the difference between an aloe and an agave? Fortunately for many of us, there were people in 1970's Phoenix excited to learn more about growing these plants in a dry, hot desert. Thanks to them The Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society was founded here in Phoenix in May, 1973.

A Collaborative Effort

The CACSS grew out of the dreams of a small group of people who wanted to create an organization that would support their interests in growing cacti and succulents and provide serious educational opportunities. They did not want to be primarily a social or service group, but records show they knew how to have a good time. They were members of a group that met at the Desert Botanical Garden and called themselves the Cactomaniacs.

Conversations between two of those members, Robert Moulis and Henry Triesler, Jr., led to a decision to go ahead and consider starting a new club that eventually became the CACSS. In 1973, 11 founding members voted to form a local chapter of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. Early meetings were held, just as today, from 2-4 PM on the last Sunday of the month. Members met in their homes so they could enjoy each
other’s gardens. Our chapter has grown since then and, with a current membership of 350, home meetings are not an option. We meet, thanks to the generosity of the Desert Botanical Garden, in Dorrance Hall (and previously in Webster Auditorium) and we still share visits to members gardens at “open garden” events.

The first president of the society was Henry Triesler, who wrote in an invitation to recruit new members that “Our only purpose will be to enable our members to derive greater satisfaction and enjoyment from our fascinating hobby.”

Their purpose and goals included plans to learn more about growing cacti and succulents and they took those goals very seriously. In a 1977 newsletter, it was written that “Kent Newland, from Superior, presented a course of study called ‘Study Group, A Taxonomic Recognition Survey of the Cactaceae or everything you have always wanted to know about the cactus family but were afraid to ask.’” Using study notes, slides (no PowerPoint), and live plants that Kent brought from Superior, members began their scholarly efforts.

Time for a Newsletter

At a board meeting in July of 1975, Charles Merbs, president of the CACSS, suggested that the group start a newsletter. He offered to start and edit it until it became established. He served as editor for three years until Sylvia Forbes took over in 1979.

That first issue of “The Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society Newsletter” was distributed before the September 28, 1975, general meeting. This first edition was four pages, typewritten, reproduced, stapled and illustrated on the cover page with drawings of potted cacti and succulents. Five members of the club wrote articles with news about a trip to Baja California, a sabbatical year in Hallsands, England, and growing plants under fluorescent lights.
This historic edition is in the club’s archives and can be seen online.
Be sure to look for the invitation for any Male to enter the Cactus and Succulent section in the Valley of the Sun Men’s Garden Club’s Fall Garden Show. Well, yes, that was 38 years ago!

It didn’t take long to realize that a newsletter needs a good name and appropriate logo. Members were asked to “give the problem some thoughtful consideration.” (January, 1979) The name Central Spine was suggested by W. Hubert Earle. Hubert Earle was the director of the Desert Botanical Garden from 1957-1976 and also a founding member of the CACSS. Choosing a logo was more challenging. There was consensus that it should feature spine clusters with a prominent central spine. Members submitted their drawings and eventually the group settled on a winning drawing.

It is hard to review the content of over three decades of newsletters. There is a treasure chest full of information available to anyone willing to search the archives and read previous newsletters. You can find most of these older newsletters on the society website. Just go to the home page, centralarizonacactus.org, and click on the link to newsletters.

These past newsletters will introduce you to the people you see around you at monthly meetings. There are wonderful personal profiles of club members.

In addition to scientific information, older newsletters have poetry, some thought-provoking quotations and tales of battles with bugs and nasty critters. There are instructions on building a lath house and highlights of trips to visit specialized growers (to buy more plants, of course). Every president of the CACSS wrote a monthly column. To get you started on your trip back through time, here is a small sampling of what you will find in previous newsletters.

If you are in need of a little humor, read Jim Elliott’s September 2006 story about “The Monster That Ate Sun City West – Pachycereus weberi.”

If you need a little help in dealing with those pesky insects that like to munch on our plants, check out Sue Hakala’s advice on achieving a balance of nature! Start with “Black Widow Spiders” found in the June 2005 issue.


Would you like to take a trip? Are you broke? Then take an armchair tour of Baja California, South Africa, Madagascar, Chile or any of many places fellow members have traveled. Their adventures are all there in the Central Spine.

Do you think you work hard propagating plants? In 1977, members grew 1,084 organ pipe cactus seedlings for table favors to be used at the CSSA meeting in Tucson.

Are you ready for a little feminist history lesson? Read the December 1982 article about 22 women botanists and plant enthusiasts who collected and studied plants in Arizona from 1875-1970. They had noteworthy botanical careers as authors and collectors. One of them, Gertrude Webster, was one of the founders of the DBG.

Times change and so do newsletters. In 1995 Stan and Joan Skirvin became editors. Stan described himself as “a computer junkie” and wrote that “I can bring the advantages of typography and layout which Desk Top (sic) Publishing makes accessible to ordinary folks.” (December 1994). The electronic age has made it possible to publish and deliver the Central Spine online, directly to our inboxes. For those unable to receive a copy electronically, snail mail is still available. A big advantage to online publishing is that we can see beautiful full-color photos of plants on our home screens. These superb photos are a help to novices who want to advance their plant identification skills.

Although the look of the newsletter has changed over time, the original intent to share information with plant enthusiasts continues. The Central Spine provides a remarkable education, thanks to the regular contributors who share the scientific know-how we need to deal with the challenges of growing plants in the desert. There
are some outstanding articles on growing, caring for, propagating, and displaying plants. Some of the experts in the society who wrote these articles include Leo Martin, Scott McMahon, Tom Gatz, Jim Elliott, Doug Dawson and Bob Torrest.

The newsletter widens our connections with other cactus lovers. It keep us informed about the cactus world outside of Phoenix and reminds us of meetings and events which we can attend. We can find out about the latest books being published, sources of plants and seeds, and information about where to buy the best pottery for our prized plants.

Some of our members go far beyond their job responsibilities. Leo Martin was president of the club from 2000-2002. During that time, while searching for a new editor, Leo managed, by himself, to edit, write, and publish the Central Spine, in addition to his presidential duties. Many thanks to Leo for keeping the newsletter going at that time. Be sure to check the online newsletter archives to see all the excellent articles Leo has contributed to the Central Spine. You will receive a good education.

Editing a monthly newsletter is no easy assignment. It involves soliciting articles, editing and proofing copy, doing layout and planning for photos. It is a job that is never done because once an issue is published, work starts again for the next month. Those people who do this month after month with the pressures of deadlines in their lives deserve a big THANK YOU from all of us who enjoy finding that newsletter in our inboxes. This newsletter has been published for 38 years! Take a look at the photos of some of our past editors. Thank them when you see them. Can you believe that Vera Gamet edited the newsletter for 11 years? Diana Decker, our current editor, is the latest in this long list of people who have made all this possible. Thank you, Diana.

**A Salute to Editors**

**Central Spine**

**1975-2013**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1975-1978</th>
<th>Charles Merbs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1979-1980</td>
<td>Charles Merbs; Sylvia Forbes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Charles Merbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Vera Gamet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Lou Steichman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984-1994</td>
<td>Vera Gamet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Stan and Joan Skirvin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>Central Spine not published</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-2000</td>
<td>Leo Martin; Nick Diomede</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Leo Martin; Jim Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Leo Martin; Joe Orazio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>Joe Orazio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Galyn Jensen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-2008</td>
<td>Cynthia Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009-2010</td>
<td>Laurence Garvie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2013</td>
<td>Diana Decker</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Joan Skirvin (left) and Diana Decker. Joan, together with her husband, Stan, edited the newsletter in 1995. Joan also contributed as a writer. She has been a member of the CACSS for an amazing 39 years! Diana has served as newsletter editor for the past three years. Photo by Chuck Brush

For 38 years, many writers and editors have kept the Central Spine going and it is worth remembering that contributions have always been welcome from any members who want to submit an article. So don't just sit there reading. Get busy working on your ideas.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLANT QUESTIONS???  WHOM TO CONTACT!!!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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. Find contact information on p. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For now, the list is simply alphabetical with principal interests. When more members add their information, the list will be cross-referenced by topic.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**DOUG DAWSON**
480-893-1207
dawsonlithops@hotmail.com
Specializations include Growing from Seed, Flora of Namibia, Lithops, other Mesembs, Melocactus, Miniature Cacti and Succulents of Arizona.

**MIKE GALLAGHER**
602-942-8580
mgallagher26@cox.net
Specializations include Aloes, Haworthias, Columnar Cacti, and *Turbinicarpus*.

**DEAN PATRICK**
480-759-0312
desertpatrick@cox.net
Specialization in softwood stem-cuttings, plant division and seed starting (rooting cacti, agave and aloe).
STEVE PLATH
623-915-7615
revegdude1@juno.com
Specializations include General Propagation and Desert Revegetation, Ariocarpus, Astrophytum, Cyphostemma, Echinocereus, Fouquieria, Thelocactus.

DAN SMITH
480.981.9648
smithdans@cox.net
Specializes in adeniums. raising adeniums from seed, grafting and adenium culture in general

BOB TORREST
480-994-3868
robertst9114@msn.com
Specializations include Desert Landscaping, Unusual (including Rare Fruit) Trees and Shrubs, Aloes, Agaves, Columnar Cacti, Trichocereus, and Opuntia.