Our June Presenters: Peter Breslin and Rob Romero

Echinocereus and Other Cacti and Succulents

Peter Breslin has spent much of the last 25 years exploring Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and California in search of rare, endemic, cryptic or characteristic flora and has traveled the entire length of the Baja California peninsula by car eight times in the past three years, attempting to locate, study, photograph and map as many of the cacti of that botanically rich area as possible. He has located several previously unknown populations and occurrences of some little-known and poorly understood taxa. He has published in Cactus & Co., Kakteen und Andere Sukkulenten and The Cactus and Succulent Journal. Breslin is also one of several authors working on A Field Guide to the Cacti and Other Succulents of Arizona, forthcoming from the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society. He begins study toward a Ph.D. in Environmental and Life Sciences at Arizona State University in fall of 2014.

Rob Romero is a long time cactus hobbyist that first got the bug in New Mexico in 1991 after a chance encounter with the local club’s show and sale. There he met Steven Brack of Mesa Garden and the rest is history. Rob travels periodically to see plants in habitat and is an avid grower of many genera mostly those from the southwest US and Mexico. Echinocereus are also a favorite that this month’s presentation will focus on.
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Audit Committee Mike Gallagher
CSSA Affiliate Representative Sue Hakala
Facebook Coordinator Dan Smith
Finances, Accounting Tom Rankin, Ingrid Swenson

Holiday Party-Dec. 7, 2014 Open Position
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 Jim Oravetz, Joe Barnes, Jeanne Ann Brush, Chuck Brush

October Silent Auction Mike Gallagher
Plant Rescues Open Position
Private Plant Sales at General Meetings Sue Tyrrel

Programs Deborah Mulholland
(Speakers, Workshops, Open Gardens, Special Interest Groups)

Pumice Sales Gard Roper
Refreshments Kat Hanna
Show & Sale – 2015 Sue Tyrrel
Website Beth Kirkpatrick

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

2014 Meetings

Sunday, July 27
Board Meeting 11 am
General Meeting 2 pm

Sunday, August 24
General Meeting 2 pm

(Members are welcome to attend Board Meetings in Farrington Hall)
President’s Letter
June 2014
Wayne Whipple

Congratulations to all the winners for their entries of fantastic cacti and succulents in the 2014 Show & Sale. Thanks also go to everyone who brought in their plants in support of our Society’s largest project of the year.

We are again fortunate to have this year’s Show & Sale Chair Sue Tyrrel volunteer to chair the 2015 Show and Sale, which is scheduled for next April 10-12. The Steering Committee for next year’s event already has begun working on it. As in the past, many hands will be needed for our biggest yearly event.

Mike Gallagher has volunteered to chair the October Auction that we hold every year in the Wildflower Pavilion Garden at the Desert Botanical Garden. This is an important event for the Society and is also a major fundraiser. Our members always look forward to this annual event. Thanks, Mike, for volunteering to be in charge of this auction.

Dan Smith is the new coordinator for our Facebook site. The site has been inactive, and I am sure Dan will breathe new life into it. He is a very active contributor on Facebook; he posts fantastic pictures of his adenium collection. Check them out, and you will know what to expect from him for our site.

The December 2014 Holiday party is scheduled for Sunday, December 7 at the Mountain View Park Community Center, Scottsdale. We have held the party there for the past three years. It seems to fit our needs well. We still need a member, however, to step forward to coordinate this year’s event. It is always an enjoyable party, and I am sure our members will again have a good time.

We still do not have anyone to schedule trips and organize plant rescues. If any of these activities are something you would like to spearhead, please let me know.

Know Your Desert Garden
Brian Kissinger’s column in the Saturday Arizona Republic

Brian Kissinger, director of horticulture at the Desert Botanical Garden, answers readers’ plant questions on Saturdays. To read previous columns, go to home.azcentral.com
Photos Taken by John Crummey at the May 2014 General Meeting

Lois Schneberber (left) presented the award for Best Novice Succulent in Show (2014 Show & Sale) to Rita Gosnell (right). Rita’s plant: *Euphorbia horrida*

2014 Show & Sale Committee (from left to right): Jo Davis, Chuck Brush, Nancy Mumpton, Lois Schneberger, Sue Tyrell (Chair) and Dan Smith
Members and guests look at plants available for bidding at the meeting’s silent auction.

Members who have articles to submit for the newsletter can email them to the Editor:

Contact info below

Send article and photo submissions for the Central Spine to the Editor:
Diana Decker
dianadec@cox.net  (602) 220-9825
Welcome To New Members

Anita Challis
Antje Schneider
Kyle Vanden Bosch
Janet Wise

Membership Chair:
Beth Kirkpatrick

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 to the meetings so you can carry your new plants home more easily.

Photos taken by Doug Dawson in South Africa in April and May 2013

Crassula hirtipes  May 14, 2013
Crassula alstonii  May 2013

Euphorbia fragilis, a rare Euphorbia near Kliprand  May 01, 2013
Bulb: *Veltheimia capensis* on Farm Rooiwal northwest of Loeriesfontein April/May 2013

Publication of material in the Central Spine does not imply agreement with the ideas expressed therein by any portion of the membership of the CACSS, nor does it constitute an endorsement or support for any portion of such material by the CACSS, or the Central Spine, regardless of any position or office held by the author. All such material represents a comment and/or personal opinion of the author.
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. 5.

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

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