



Central Spine

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CENTRAL ARIZONA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

FEBRUARY 2020



Copiapoa longistaminea Photo credit: Woody Minnich

IMPORTANT FEBRUARY DATE CHANGES

Cliff and Tammy Fielding Open Garden: Saturday February 15, 2020

Monthly meeting, Woody Minnich: Sunday February 16, 2020

Be sure to visit CACSS on the web at: centralarizonacactus.org, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube at: CentralArizonaCactus, and members only at: CentralArizonaCactus Swap and Shop.

20 YEARS IN THE ATACAMA, LAND OF THE *COPIAPOAS*

Photos and Text by Wendell S. 'Woody' Minnich

Similar to the coast of Namibia, the coastal and inland regions of northern Chile, known as the Atacama, are mainly watered by amazing fogs, “the Camanchacas.” These fogged regions, in two of the driest deserts in the world, have some of the most interesting cactus and succulents to be found anywhere. The Atacama of northern Chile has an endemic genus considered by many to be one of the most dramatic to have ever evolved—the *Copiapoa*. This ancient genus is also believed to be tens of thousands of years old, and there are those who feel it might well be on its way out! The ocean currents that affect the coastal Atacama have changed considerably over the last hundreds of years, and now its only source of moisture is primarily from consistent dense fogs. Some of these areas rarely, if ever, get rain, and the plants that have evolved there live almost entirely off the heavy condensation from the Camanchaca.



Copiapoa columna alba

There are many different *Copiapoa* species ranging from small quarter-sized subterranean geophytes, to giant 1,000-year-old, 300-head mounding clusters. Thanks to Rudolf Schulz’s excellent fieldwork and his two comprehensive *Copiapoa* books, we have all been introduced to these amazing plants. Having worked with Rudolf in Chile, I can honestly say that the genus *Copiapoa* is without comparison!

Now, having visited Chile numerous times over the last 20+ years, I have become familiar with most all of the representatives of this genus. With this presentation, I hope to taxonomically introduce you to most of the *Copiapoa* species as well as show their relationships and synonyms. Along with the *Copiapoa*, we also will encounter many other genera including the *Neochilenias*, *Neoporterias*, *Eriosyces*, *Eulychnias*, *Trichocereuses*, as well as many of the other Chilean succulents. Chile also offers some of the best lunar landscapes, geologic formations, and spectacular beaches to be found in South America.

In August 2018, I had the pleasure of leading a group of 20 crazy cactophiles in seven four-wheel drive trucks. Our objectives were to see most of the fantastic plants and spectacular scenery that are to be found in this the land of the Camanchaca. Most of our group were very young adults (25-35 years), and they all wanted to see and know how us old timers (Rudolf, Woody, Ritter, and Charles) used to do our explorations to the wild and seldom seen places of Chile. Not only did we take them on very bad roads, (the kind of dusty, dirty two tracks we used to have to maneuver), we also had

them camp out in the middle of nowhere with the scorpions. No restaurants, no showers, no beds, and no bar. These camp-outs were exceptional as we could often see, without light pollution, the Southern Cross and the Magellanic Lights until the Camanchaca fog slowly blanketed our campfire discussions. What an incredible trip it was! The energy of the young people and my memories of the last 20+ years in Chile made this an epic adventure, one I will never forget. Join me at the meeting, and hopefully you'll share our exhilarating experience and the overall magic of this wonderful arid region, the Atacama.



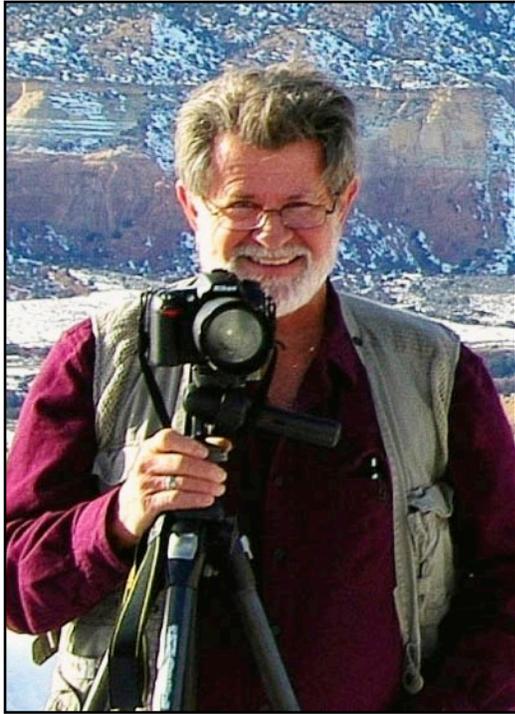
The Atacama Team 2017

MORE ABOUT WENDELL S. 'WOODY' MINNICH

Woody, as he is commonly known, grew up in the Mojave Desert and has had an attraction to desert plants and animals since the early 1950's. He has been involved with the cactus and succulent world as a grower, field explorer, club and organization leader, writer, photographer, lecturer, and presenter.

Having been a speaker all over the world, Woody is most often associated with giving presentations on his fieldwork from the places he has traveled, such as: Argentina, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Madagascar, Mexico, Namibia, New Zealand, Peru, Socotra, South Africa, the United States, and Yemen. He also is recognized for having operated the nursery Cactus Data Plants since 1975. Woody's show-quality plants are often considered one of the standards for staging and horticultural achievement. His favorite genera include: *Adenium*, *Ariocarpus*, *Astrophytum*, *Copiapoa*, *Cyphostemma*, *Fouquieria*, *Gymnocalycium*, *Lithops*, *Mammillaria*, *Melocactus*, *Pachypodium*, *Turbinicarpus*, *Uebelmannia*, and *Pachycauls*.

He has published numerous articles and reviews in various journals including for the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, and his photography is featured in many books such as: *The Copiapoa* by Schulz, *The Mammillaria Handbook* by Pilbeam, and



Woody in New Mexico

The Cactus Lexicon by Hunt and Charles. As of November 2017, he was featured as the primary photographer in the new book, *The Xerophile*. This book specializes in what the authors call, "The obsessed fieldworkers from around the world." He also is featured in electronic articles about conservation in the *MNN Mother Nature Network* and *The Guardian Newspaper*.

Woody and his wife, Kathy, live in Cedar Grove, New Mexico. He is a retired secondary school teacher of 32 years where he taught graphics, art, and architecture. In the cactus and succulent hobby, Woody is recognized for his high energy and creative spirit. As an educator, he has become an important part of the hobby and thus is an honorary life member of 11 C&S societies. With 49 years in the hobby and 64 years in the field, he has many experiences to share and numerous photos to show.

The CACSS library has a copy of *The Xerophile*.

A Great Start To 2020!

CACSS President Chris Ginkel

Our first meeting of 2020 featured renowned artist Dyana Hesson. Her talk took us through her life as she developed as an artist and included images of many of her beautiful works. Her posts of her art in our Facebook group are amongst the most popular. Thank you Dyana for sharing your passion with us.

We are in for a real treat for our February meeting when the always popular Woody Minnich will present '20 Years In The Atacama, The Land Of Copiapoa.' Woody is a wonderful speaker and during his presentation he will have you feeling as if you are out in habitat with these grand plants. Please remember that our February meeting is moved up and will be held on February 16th at 2:00 p.m. Feel free to start arriving an hour early to socialize, view items for the 'Silent Auction', or find treasures on our 'Free' tables. Woody will also be bringing plants for sale. He usually has a great variety of rare and unusual plants that many people desire to own. *Please wait until he is fully unpacked and set up before attempting to purchase plants.*

In my two paragraphs below I hope to occasionally keep including in my 'President's Message' to remind you not only about our Facebook groups but also to keep stressing our need for volunteers. We have volunteers who have a lot on their plate, and we would like to lighten their load. We also have many positions that need to be filled for our annual Show & Sale. I am excited that we will be moving forward with a rescue program headed by Lee Brownson. There are many ways to help.

If you have not done so already then please check out our group on Facebook. You can find us under CentralArizonaCactus. We currently have over 5300 worldwide members, and I feel it is one of the best cactus and succulent groups on Facebook. We also have a Facebook group called CentralArizonaCactus Swap and Shop. It is for paid members of our Society to buy, sell, and trade cactus, succulents, and related items with each other.

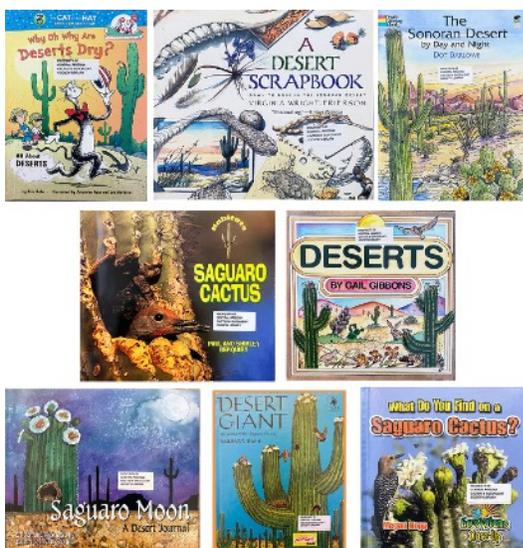
I am just one of many volunteers that contribute to making our Society great. I cannot thank enough the many volunteers who work behind the scenes to make everything run smoothly. While we do have many volunteers, more are needed. One opportunity to help will be at our annual Show and Sale. We will be needing volunteers from April 1st through April 5th. An email will be sent out to all members providing a link to sign up to volunteer. Please consider donating a small amount of your time to help during that period. Any amount would be greatly appreciated. At a very minimum please consider entering plants into the show. We can help you with any questions you may have regarding entering plants. The more entries that we have helps contribute to a great show for all. If you can't help during that period then there are also many other ways to help. Volunteers are needed at every general meeting to set up and then clean up after the meeting. Assistance is always appreciated with the silent auction. Other specific positions that need to be filled will be announced at general meetings and in the newsletter when needed. Lastly, contributions to our newsletter are always needed and appreciated. Do not hesitate to ask me, any board member, our editor, or any other volunteer how you may help.

I look forward to seeing all of you throughout the year.

Sincerely, Chris Ginkel

LIBRARY NOTES

by Nancy Mumpton



Our CACSS library now has a collection of children's books on the Sonoran desert of Arizona, including cactus, other succulents, animals, etc. that can be checked out. The library has had requests for this material in the past so we have purchased some books for the collection. While these books are especially written for younger readers, if you want quick, easily understandable information on these topics, the books work for adults as well.

If you have children or grandchildren, what a terrific way to introduce them to our desert environment and build their interest in the place where we all live.

HOT POTS: CONTAINER GARDENING IN THE ARID SOUTHWEST

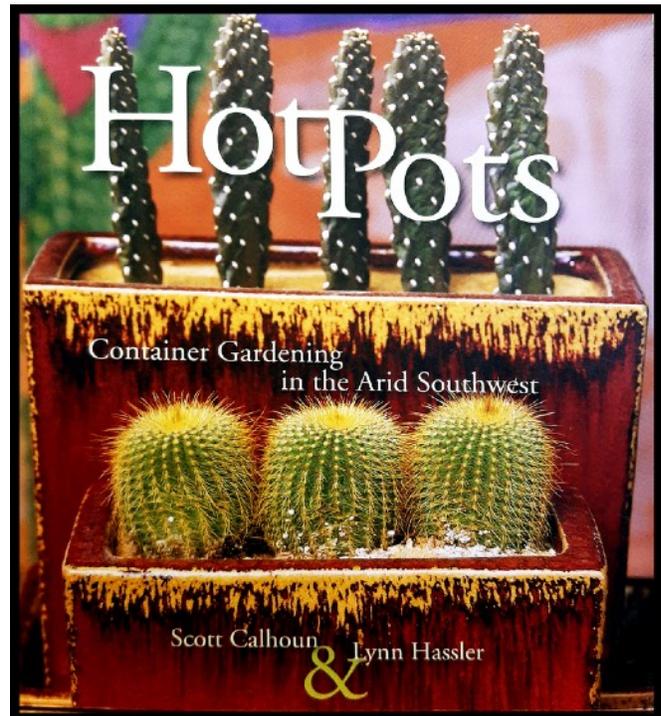
Co-authored by Scott Calhoun and Lynn Hassler, reviewed by Chris Willis

If you enjoy container gardening, this is the book for you. *Hot Pots* contains just about everything you'd want to know about growing plants suitable to our climate in some type of container. Don't skip the book's introduction. These six pages explain the advantages, along with some disadvantages, of growing plants in containers here in the arid Southwest. It helps to be reminded of the basics, such as when to water and when to fertilize your pots during the year. Under the heading "Light," the gardener is reminded to look at the color of a plant's leaf for a hint of its sun tolerance.

Chapter 1 is about selecting pots. Here the reader will find helpful descriptions of different types of container material. Some of these containers breathe and some do not. Terra-cotta, ceramic, plastic, metal, wood, stone, cast concrete, and hypertufa, along with strawberry jars, Talavera pottery, and recycled items are discussed. This chapter also offers helpful hints for moving heavy containers. On page 28, the authors discuss the best ways to provide drainage in the bottom of a container.

Chapter 2 is all about designing with your containers. I appreciate the advice to arrange pots by colors. The book also recommends that gardeners not display plants in black plastic nursery pots. I found the information about mono-potting and staging specimen plants to be most helpful. Pay special attention to these suggestions before you enter your favorite plants in the CACSS Annual Show and Sale. Also included in this chapter are pot placement suggestions for entry areas, narrow walkways, corners, around pools, plus other areas on your property. Here and throughout the book, you will find helpful photographs that illustrate the authors' advice.

Chapter 3 discusses sculptural plants and is the longest chapter in the book. These important plants include cactus, succulents, palms, and others that have interesting silhouettes combined with drought tolerance. The authors suggest that these plants give the garden the best bang for the buck. Special culture for sculptural plants includes a discussion of best watering and fertilizing practices. Included in this chapter is a seven-page chart of recommended sculptural plants, large and small. The authors present the mature height and width, cold hardiness, pot size needed, and container design notes for each of the plants in the chart. This chapter also features a large section describing other plant material, including bulbs, perennials, tiny vines, herbs, and vegetables that, when potted, can add



interest, color and diversity to your landscape. The authors note which of these plants attract hummingbirds and butterflies. Toward the chapter's end is a helpful list of what to plant for seasonal color. Check out page 74 for a crazy planter idea. I'm not certain my HOA would approve.

Chapter 4 contains what you need to know about the correct soil medium for containers. The authors explain that we can't expect a healthy plant without a good planting medium. As stated in the book, this medium needs to drain well, be absorbent, lightweight, and be disease and pest free. Information on potting mix ingredients is included. What soil mixes do the experts use? That information is available here.

Chapter 5 offers good advice for the care of your potted plants. Topics include watering, benefits of using a drip system, fertilizing, and when to repot.

Chapter 6 considers the finishing touches of top dressing, mulch, accessorizing, and labeling your containers. At the back of the book, you will find a list of resources for plants and containers in Arizona and California as well as other Western states.

Scott Calhoun is the author of six books dealing with landscape gardening in the Southwest. His company, Zona Gardens, is located in Tucson. He has been a featured speaker at our CACSS meetings. Lynn Hassler is the author of several books about the natural world. She worked at the Tucson Botanical Garden for many years and is based in Tucson.

Be sure to visit Scott's website: zonagardens.com.

The CACSS library has *Hot Pots* as well as most other of Scott Calhoun's books. Check them out!

MY OLDEST PLANT

Photos and Text by Robert and Cheryl Brown



Our oldest plant is nothing special cactus-wise, it's a *Cereus Peruvianus sb. repandus*. What makes it special to us is that it was growing by our front door when we moved in to the first house we ever owned. This was in the Florida Keys back in 1974, and we had only been married for a year. The previous owner told us that the cactus had been there around 50 years. It had a gnarled trunk like a tree, and at the time, was the largest, coolest cactus we had ever seen.

When we left the Keys, we took a cutting from that cactus with us. Being an airline employee, we moved around a lot over the next 45 years—from Key West to Miami, to Ft. Lauderdale, to Winston-Salem, to Pittsburgh, and finally to Phoenix. We maintained cuttings from that *Cereus* the whole time.

We put cuttings in pots and would keep them in the living

room in the winter and put them outside once the overnight temperatures were in the mid-forties or higher. Oddly enough, of all the places we lived, that cactus grew the most while we were in Pittsburgh. At one point, one cutting was around 12 feet tall in a 5-gallon pot. We kept it in the dining room that had a cathedral ceiling, that way I could tie the top of it to the balcony railing. As they eventually grew too big for pots, I would cut them off and get them started in pots and give them to friends.

When we moved from Pittsburgh to Phoenix in 2006, we brought our last cutting with us, and it is now planted in the backyard.

CLIFF AND TAMMY FIELDING OPEN GARDEN
Note date changed to February 15th 2020



There has been a date change. Cliff and Tammy Fielding are now hosting their 13th annual open garden and cactus social **Saturday, February 15th from 10:30 am to 3pm** at 16819 South 15th Ave., Phoenix. This is an excellent forum to meet other plant lovers and to discuss your favorite plants. You will see a bunch of African bulbs, hundreds of seedlings, collector cactus, and a whole mess of *Mesembs*. Most of the plants are seedlings or young plants. All members and non-members are welcome to spend a pleasant afternoon in the warm February sun. We will serve a few snacks and drinks. It is now very fast and easy to get to the house by using the new freeway, it is just a short ride from the 17th avenue exit on the new Loop 202 South Mountain Freeway. We look forward to seeing you all there.

MAMMILLARIA: KEEPING SMALL CLUMPING ONES ALIVE IN THE HEAT

Photos and Text by Elton Roberts

Elton has been recognized by the Cactus and Succulent Society of America as a master grower. This article has been edited with his permission.

For small headed plants like *Mammillaria goldii*, *saboae*, *haudeana*, *theresae*, etc., it's important to keep the plants in as shallow a pot as possible. I discovered that putting large clumps of *Mammillaria saboae* and others in too deep of a pot will kill them.

I went from a 6" x 3" deep pan to an 8" x 4" deep pan. I discovered that four inches was too deep for the roots of the plants. Needless to say, I lost several very nice clumps of plants. When I went to find out what happened, I discovered that the soil at the bottom of the pot was still wet. It had been at least 10 to 12 days since I had watered. If I had used a pot with a very shallow depth, I would not have lost the plants. This also applies to clumping plants that have short tuberous roots.

Your summer rains are good for the desert plants but can be a killer for potted plants. The humidity keeps the soil from quickly drying out in the pots, and the plants can and do many times rot off.

High elevation plants do not like the high heat of many places. They can go dormant and stay that way until they die. It is always important to know what elevation your plant comes from. That way, you will know how to take care of that plant and not try to grow high elevation plants in the low desert.



This 25-year-old *Mammillaria humboldtii* is in a 24" shallow pot just 3.5" deep. In this pot, you still have to stretch out the watering times to maybe only once in a month or month and a half depending on the humidity, temperatures and other weather variations.

Elton has been identified as a master grower by the Cactus and Succulent Society of America. The article is condensed and used here with his permission.

Cumulopuntia rossiana is a plant that looks like a pile of rounded rocks with spikes sticking out of them. I call it the marble plant. When I was a kid, I got to be quite good at playing marbles and winning, and these joints remind me of green marbles. This plant is made up of round heads and just produces new round heads. In *Cumulopuntia rossiana*, each head is semi-round, even if it is bumpy. I have several of the plants, and the largest that I can measure easily is 10 inches across. The mound is about 4 inches high, and the plant is in a 8 inch deep pot as the plant has quite an impressive tap root. The largest head is about 1 inch in diameter, and the spines are less than 1 inch long. Some plants are reluctant to bloom with a flower less than two inches in diameter.

New heads break through the skin of the older heads, kind of like an *Echinocereus*. I am really surprised that the taxonomic lumpers have not moved this plant to *Echinocereus* because of that trait.

The plant comes from as high as 12,500 feet in the Andes and so can take quite a bit of cold. Even so, keep the plant dry over the winter as it has that tuberous tap root. Give the plant an open, fast-draining soil and a deep enough pot to accommodate the root. I give the plants as much light as I can without burning them. These are very interesting plants to grow, and if you have a chance to get one, give it a try. I do not think you will be disappointed.



AIR-LAYERING *ADENIUMS* AND OTHER WOODY PLANTS

Photos and Text by Tom Gatz

Adeniums can be challenging to grow from cuttings. However, if you need to prune a leggy *Adenium* or have a large prized *Adenium* that you would like take cuttings from, here is a method that works for me. It is called “air-layering” and produces fairly large, nicely formed plants within 2 or 3 months.

I took these photos of the Desert Botanical Garden’s Propagation Manager and Senior Horticulturist Rosa Crespo, and Curator of Living Collections Raul Puente to document how they use the same process on desert trees. Rosa and Raul invited me along one morning in early May to show me how they were creating rooted cuttings of accessioned trees that they only have one or a few specimens of in the Garden’s collection.

Here is how it works, and yes you can try this at home to propagate almost any woody plant. Rosa and Raul said they have their best luck doing it in the springtime when the trees become active but before it gets too hot outside. I have tried this technique successfully at home with *Adeniums* when done in April or early May.



1. Using a sharp knife or an X-Acto blade, carefully peel off the top layer of bark all around a one-inch section of a branch just below a node where a leaf is or was attached. Don’t cut too deeply.



2. Coat with a liquid solution of rooting hormone (‘Dip ‘n Grow’ works well).



3. Fill a sandwich baggie with very moist un-milled sphagnum moss or coarse coconut coir. Cut a four-inch opening on one side.

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4. Place that opening under the scarified section of the branch, wrapping the baggie around the entire branch.



5. Secure the baggie securely to the branch with duct tape.



6. Cover it all with aluminum foil to reflect the sunlight and to create a dark environment to facilitate root development.



7. Every two weeks or so, carefully peel back part of the covering to make sure it is still moist inside and to look for root development. If needed, add some water with a syringe or eyedropper.



8. Depending upon the species involved, sufficient root development should occur within about 6 to 8 weeks. Once a large mass of roots is visible, very carefully remove the covering and cut the branch off below the new roots.



9. Follow Rosa and Raul's practice of keeping good notes to track your methods and results to see what works best for you.

Quickly pot the cutting and you will have a fairly large, instant branched clone of the original plant without having to deal with the time and uncertainty involved with seed germination, seedling survival, or the hit-or-miss technique of placing cuttings in a moist substrate and hoping some will root. Rosa and Raul said they have almost 100% success with this technique if done in the spring, and if you wait for good root development before removing the cutting. Good luck!

If you haven't already done so, it is time to mark your calendars for the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society's 2020 Show and Sale. You know you don't want to miss this opportunity to share your plants with our membership, maybe even take home a trophy or ribbon, and shop for new plants to enhance your collections. Here are some frequently asked questions and answers to help you prepare for this special event.

When is the Show and Sale?

*The 2020 CACSS Show and Sale dates are:
Friday and Saturday, April 3rd and 4th, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday, April 5th, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.*

I want to enter a plant or educational exhibit. What should I do?

Pick up an exhibitor form and number from Sue Tyrrel at the CACSS monthly meetings February and March. Look for her table in Dorrance Hall on the north side of the room. You will enter in a category based on experience: Junior Novice, Novice, Advanced, or Master. You may also choose to exhibit in a non-competitive category. Sue can show you how to fill out your form.

I am not sure of the Latin name of my plant. Can someone help with identification?

Yes. When you bring your plant in for exhibition, experienced members will be able to advise you.

When and where do I bring in my plant for exhibition and judging?

Plants can be brought to Dorrance Hall on Wednesday, April 1, 2020 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Be sure they are clean and disease free!

How do I get my plant back at the close of the show?

You can pick up your plant (and maybe your winning ribbons!) at the close of the show on Sunday, April 5th at 4:00 p.m. Please be prompt in picking up plants.

I would really like to help out as a volunteer for the 2020 Show and Sale, but I am not sure where I can be of help? Where can I learn more about how to help and where to sign up?

Volunteers are always welcome, and there are many, many ways your talents can be used! Please check the volunteer sign-up coordinator on-line at: <https://signup.com/go/OZiNkrj>

If you do not have access to a computer please contact Jo Davis at 480.440.6590.

We encourage everyone in the CACSS to participate in the annual Show and Sale. It is an important part of being a member and an invaluable way to learn about our favorite plants and meet other cactus and succulent lovers!



Are you considering entering a plant or two in the 2020 CACSS Show? Do you need help identifying your plant correctly or getting some ideas for staging it to look its best? Or do you just want some advice on its cultural needs? At the next general meeting on Sunday, February 16 at 1 p.m. in Dorrance Hall you will have an opportunity to talk with an experienced member, our plant doctor, to ask your questions. You are encouraged to bring in a plant for some advice on how to best prepare and stage it for the show.

In January, Mike Gallagher helped out by demonstrating how to repot a plant, as well as answering members' questions. He brought a large sample of top dressings, pots, and tools he uses when potting his prize-winning specimens. We are happy that he has offered to do this again at the February meeting. THANK YOU, MIKE.

Stop by his table next to the exhibitor form pick-up table and learn some helpful techniques from a master.

Purchases:

Books- We purchased a total of 20 book titles for the library and one CSSA Journal replacement. Periodicals- CSSA Journal- The library renewed the subscription for this publication as well as our affiliate membership to Cactus and Succulent Society of America for \$55.00.

Supplies- We purchased 2 large bins for book carriers and 12 special bookmarks for the book carriers as gifts in November.

Donations to the library by members and others:

Our club thanks the following people and organizations for their generous donations: Boyce Thompson Arboretum, Lois Ripley, Marian Alaback, Sue Hakala, and Edna Drake.

Number of items checked out:

Wendy keeps track of the books out and notifies members before the next meeting when items due. Nancy does the same for periodicals and DVDs. 86 members checked out 127 items during the year.

Special Projects:

We continue to sell items (mostly books and CSSA journals) on eBay and Amazon that helps the bottom line for the library. Total amount added to the library budget in 2019 is \$180.82.

Request for 2020 budget: \$1000

PEG POINTS: The Latest from the Propagation Education Group
Text and Photo by Tristan Davis

Next Meeting: *Cacti & Cephalia – Why More is Better*. March 14, 2020: 9:00 to 11:00 am in Dorrance Hall at the DBG.

Have any of you ever noticed those cacti that seem to have a “hairy” area usually near the tip? Or even along one side? Ever wondered why? Well, this PEG will try to help answer some of your questions about these weird cacti and why they have what are called “cephalia”.

We’ll cover topics such as:

- What exactly is a cephalium (plural: cephalia)?
- Why in the world would cacti evolve something so strange?
- What is the difference between a “flowering zone,” a “pseudocephalium,” and a true “cephalium”?
- What species exhibit this growth form, and what is the method of propagation?
- What species with cephalia can you grow in the valley?



*Thrixanthocereus
blossfeldiorum*

We will be sure to have several examples of species of cacti with cephalia on-hand for demonstrations and discussion. Additionally, we will have our special CACSS-member only Give-Away Raffles of some spectacular and unusual species that exhibit cephalia and other types of cool forms of reproduction.

You definitely do not want to miss this great opportunity to learn more about these fascinating plants. And, although you do not need to be a member of the CACSS to attend and learn about these unique plants, you do have to be a paid-up member through 2020 in order to participate in the free plant raffles!

IMPORTANT NOTE: *The DBG has asked that attendees be sure to check in at the main entrance to the garden for all PEG meetings and explain you are headed to the PEG meeting; this allows the DBG to track how many attendees they have at the garden at any one time and for forecasting purposes. So, please do NOT enter in the side gate without stopping by the entrance first. You will NOT be required to pay an entrance fee if you are not a DBG member (though you really should be! Totally worth it!).*

Happy New Year and welcome to a new decade! Our group Facebook page has grown to 5,400+ members with new members joining daily. It has evolved into an encyclopedic database of all things cactus and succulent with stunning photos, useful tips, and helpful recommendations.

Highlights of the last month:

Succulents, especially Aloes, are in bloom. These members have been posting stunning photos of succulents in their collection: Linda Branum Hoefner, Cricket Caires-Peterson, Chris Ginkel, Lori Heade, Eric Lundberg, Leslie Parsons-Shell, Nancy Popp Mumpton, and BJ Seemuth. Thank you for sharing your beautiful photos.

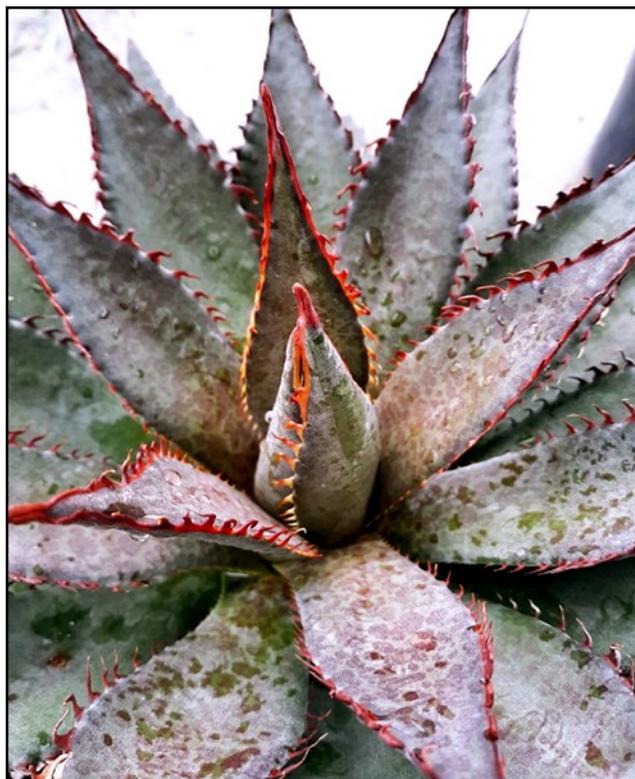
A post from January 11th, by Daniel Phillips, asked members for recommendations of their favorite local cactus nurseries. A great many members responded sharing a large number of nurseries across the valley. I picked up a few new ones I am looking forward to checking out. Lisa Kankaapaa Lloyd posted a “hack” she learned using sticks to keep cactus in place, when planting in pots. Photographs beautifully illustrated this popular post from January 29th.

Did you know you can look up any of these posts by using the “Search” feature on the CentralArizonaCactus FB page? Just look for the magnifying glass icon at the top of the page and enter the subject you are interested in. For example, entering “*Mammillaria*” pulls up posts of *Mammillaria*. Sometimes the list can be quite long. You can narrow the search by using filters located under the search bar. These include: Posts You’ve Seen, Most Recent, Posted By, Tagged Location, and Date Posted which help narrow your search. It is a great way to find information fast.

Each month a photo(s) posted by CACSS facebook members is selected for recognition.

Succulent of the Month: Mangave ‘Tooth Fairy’ posted January 20th by Richard Ferguson

Post with Most Likes: “Claret Cup in Bloom” oil painting posted January 14th by artist Dyana Hesson with 319 likes



You can join the CACSS facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/group/cacss2/>

SPECIALISTS TO CONTACT WITH QUESTIONS

Wendy Barrett wbarrett@cox.net
Nancy Mumpton
nancy.mumpton@gmail.com
Co-librarians for CACSS collection

Nicky Davis
nicky.davis4@gmail.com
Manages the Seed Depot.

Tristan Davis 480-540-9540
minime8484@hotmail.com
Specializations include plant propagation, and heading PEG (Propagation Education Group).

Doug Dawson 480-893-1207
dawsonlithops@hotmail.com
Specializations include growing from seed, flora of Namibia, *Lithops*, other *Mesembs*, *Melocactus*, and miniature cacti and succulents of Arizona.

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Manages the Facebook CACSS Swap and Shop page. Co-manages the Facebook page.

Eric Holst 480-786-2010
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Manages the fertilizer program.

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Manages the Instagram page.

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Specializations in softwood stem-cuttings, plant division and seed starting, rooting cacti, *Agave* and *Aloe*.

Gard Roper 602-996-9745
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Specializes in *Adenium*, raising *Adeniums* from seed, grafting and *Adenium* culture in general, and co-manages the Facebook page.

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Manages selling at meetings.

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Co-manages the CACSS Facebook page, 2020 Annual Show Chair.

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