



# Desert Breeze

Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

December 2003

Sunday, December 14, 2003

12:00 Noon

## Holiday Party & Gift Exchange

Don't forget our Holiday Party. Turkey, Ham, Rolls Drinks and tableware will be provided. Bring your favorite hot or cold side dish or dessert, with serving utensils.

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**We have had a great year, let's make it special for others.**

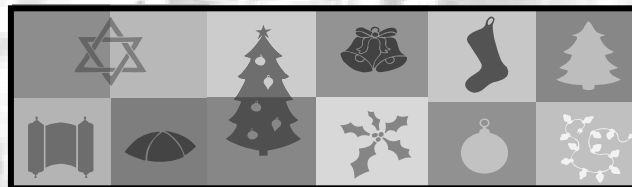
You also can bring canned food or make a Holiday donation to the food bank. Room setup will start at 11:00 am.

To participate in the gift exchange bring a plant or plant related wrapped gift of at least \$5.00 value. If you bring a gift, you get a gift.

Thursday, January 8, 2003

## Mark McMahon: Cacti of Bolivia

Note that the January meeting date is the 8th.



## TCSS BOARD

### Officers

President: Richard Wiedhopf  
885-6367

Vice President: Kevin Barber

Secretary: Lynda Ryan

Treasurer: Valarie Miller

### Board of Directors:

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Joe Frannea (2005)

Marty Harow (2005)

Peter Hubbell (2005)

CSSA Affiliate Rep: Helen Barber

Cactus Rescue: Chris Monrad

Educational: Joe Frannea

Free Plants: Norma Beckman

Librarian: Jenny Coniglio

Programs: Kevin Barber

Refreshments: Patsy Frannea

Sales: Jack Ramsey

Technology: Kevin Barber

**Editor:** Barry McCormick

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Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page: [www.tucsoncactus.org](http://www.tucsoncactus.org)

### Next Meeting

Sunday December 14 at noon

Junior League of Tucson

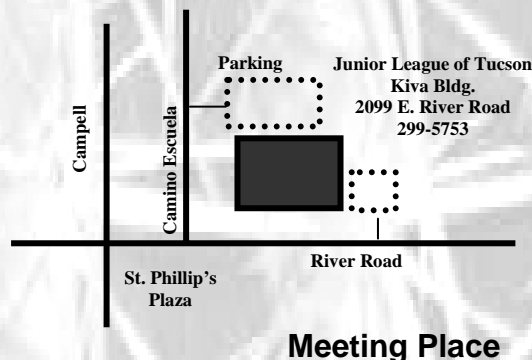
2099 E. River Road

Tucson

## Best of the Holidays to All Holiday Party this Month

Everyone is Welcome!

Bring your friends, join in the fun,  
and meet the cactus and succulent  
community.



Meeting Place

### President's Message

This year our Society achieved its best relations in our 44-history. In newspapers, on television and radio on the Internet the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society had the opportunity to tell our story. We also had the opportunity to speak with several professional groups and share our rescue program activities with them. In the next few months we will be meeting with elected officials and other community leaders to clearly articulate the benefits of rescuing native cacti and succulents and how this bridges between the environmental concerns of many residents and the development needs of our community.



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We need to be proud of the fact that 12,000 plants have been rescued and returned to Arizona communities. This process has enabled our society to invest in educational outreach through our school grants program, engage great speakers at monthly meetings and excite a lot of new members to take a real interest in the study of cacti and other succulent plants. We will also be initiating a research grant program to add to our activities this year.

A lot of interesting activities will be happening in the next year or so. April 30, 2004 to May 2, 2004 is Sonoran V, our unique regional conference, which features "The Baja" as its theme. This conference is

designed to benefit beginners and professionals and specifically for the benefit of TCSS members. It is a place to learn not just about the plants of Baja but also how to stage a conference, show and sale. This is a great event to be part of.

In August of 2005, The Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) will have its biennial convention in Scottsdale. This is a must for our society members and we will be looking for ways to help underwrite attendance at that meeting. You must be a member of CSSA to attend. The programs will bring together a worldwide group of experts who will share their knowledge about Cacti and Succulents.

Also in 2005 will be our second plant exposition. This year's event was fabulous. I know we learned a lot and will make the next one even better.

Your participation in any or all these activities is what makes them happen and makes them fun. Soon you will be receiving a membership renewal form and an opportunity to get involved. Be sure to check off the activities that you might want to be involved in.

I hope you can attend the Holiday Party and don't forget to bring some help for the food bank. Our next regular meeting will be January 8, 2004.

Finally, thank you for making this year so much fun.

I wish all of you the most joyous of holidays and a Happy New Year.

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*



**The Officers and Board of Directors of the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society congratulate the membership on a great year and wish all members and friends of the Society a happy Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year.**



## Rescue Crew Responds

Seventy-two acres on the South West corner of La Canada and Tangerine are destined for a new residential development to be called Rancho Verde. The town of Oro Valley was instrumental in lining up the TCSS Rescue Crew with the developer, Monterey Homes, so native cacti not covered by the Native Plant Protection Ordinance (NPPO) could be rescued. We were given very short notice and responded within five days to do a site survey, get all the paperwork completed, acquire tags, and perform the rescue operations before heavy equipment moved on site to begin construction.



On top of the short notice it was the Thanksgiving week so that posed extra challenges and we had a limited Rescue Crew. But, in spite of all this we had twelve crew members on Saturday and eleven members on Sunday, putting in about 100 hours of rescue work to rescue 445 cacti. The Hedgehogs and Christmas Cholla were some of the largest and choicest we have encountered and there were many barrels and Mammillaria as well.



Joe admires a many-headed specimen

A couple of special barrels were encountered but we did not have the time or resources to deal with them with such a short rescue period. The best we could do was to take a few photos to share with others. The property has hundreds of small saguaros and the

developer will see that all these are saved. There were also several large Saguaros, two Ocotillo and a several Yucca that the developer will relocate on site. About 30% of the 72 acres is designated as native save areas and will be left undisturbed. Rescue Crew members each used detailed maps to be sure we stayed out of these areas.



Mark & Patsy sadly bid farewell to a heritage cactus. We can't save them all!

If you are interested in purchasing any of these rescued cacti (some of the Hedgehogs are 10 inches tall with 5 to 7 heads) call Joe or Patsy at 575-7126.

*Joe & Patsy Frannea*

## New TCSS Logo

Vonn Watkins has designed a new logo for the Society.





## TCSS Rescue Cacti for Sale

Lots & lots to choose from.....

Barrels - from 2" to 14" diameter (about \$1 per inch)  
Hedgehogs - from 1 to 20 heads (about \$1 per head)

TCSS Club Members receive a 15% discount  
Call Joe or Patsy if interested 575-7126



Photos by Joe Frannea.

Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society  
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