

greggii, with a few of them having just finished blooming. The very sandy soil made for quick and easy digging. This was our second rescue in this area and it is like playing in a sand box. A rescue area that's easy on us seniors.



Patsy couldn't stand to see a beautiful huge pumpkin looking barrel get destroyed so Ken, Jim, Tom and Joe devised a way to drag it on a cactus carrier over to the trailer and then tip the trailer down so it could be rolled in as it was too heavy for four men to lift. It is about 36 inches in diameter and must weigh about 250 pounds or more. Sometimes the challenge is more rewarding than the number of plants saved.

Joe Frannea

Future Events

“Goodbye to the Heat” Good Time Party

Our President's column reminds us that summer and the summer rains are something we celebrate as lovers of cacti and succulents. We should probably do more to celebrate the seasons that so affect the desert we love.



September 17 will be our next opportunity to do just that: say “Goodbye to the Heat” and welcome the cooler days of autumn. We are going to get together to have a party, look at some fantastic plants, have a plant exchange and our annual auctions. If you have not attended this event in the past it is probably because you didn't understand – it's a party! You must come!

Barry McCormick

Library Update



New this month is Teratopia, The World of Cristate and Variegated Succulents by Gordon Rowley.

This beautifully photographed book covers crested, variegated, monstrose and other unique variations found in cacti and succulents. It contains information on cultivation, grafting and recommends plants for the beginner and the connoisseur.

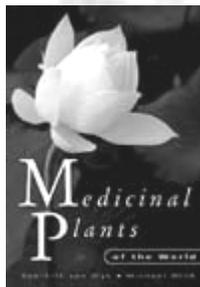
Also new is Flora, A Gardener's Encyclopedia, donated by Rainbow Gardens Bookshop. The massive two-volume set covers all plant groups. Because of its size, I will bring either one or both volumes by request only. The book comes with an interactive CD that I will bring each month.

Joie Giunta

In our library:

Medicinal Plants of the World

Ben-Erik van Wyk & Michael Wink



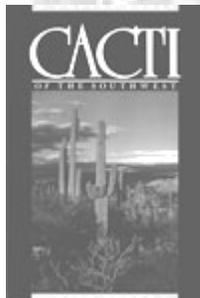
This book is a guide to 900 of the most important and well-known medicinal plants of the world. It gives descriptions, geographical origin, therapeutic category, historical modern uses, active ingredients and pharmacological effects. It is intended as a

scientific overview and not a medical handbook for self-treatment. Also covered are medicine systems of the world. This book will appeal to the professional as well as most of us who are interested in medicinal uses of familiar plants.

Diane Szollosi

Cacti of the Southwest

W. Hubert Earle



This compact book is loaded with easy to read information concerning our local varieties of cacti. It has good descriptions and pictures of the plants. It describes the environment and areas where the plant is found. It also has a good glossary.

Diane Szollosi

Russell Wagner Plant List

Last month's speaker, Russell Wagner, has supplied this plant list from his talk. We will try to get such lists in advance in the future.

Trichodiadema densum
Conophytum minimum
Gibbaeum heathii
Albuca sp
Morea sp
Gibbaeum velutinum
Euphorbia pseudoglobosa
Gibbaeum pubescens
Astroloba corrugata
Gasteria brachyphylla
Gibbaeum petrense
Euphorbia suzannae
Gibbaeum album
Muiria hortense
Muiria × Gibbaeum album
Crassula congesta var laticephalla
Gibbaeum schwantesii
Senecio ovoideus
Gibbaeum pachypodium

Plant Sex in the City - and the County too!

Did you wake up this spring and couldn't breathe? Or have a sneezing attack that left you dizzy and those around you glad it was over? That was



probably the result of rampant, unprotected plant sex. Pine trees on Mt. Lemmon, ragweed in the canyons, mulberries and olives and even native mesquites are doing their best at this time of year to spread their DNA far and wide, in hopes of it landing somewhere productive.

With a little knowledge and a few implements, you can actually make this plant sex pay and have some fun at the same time. Here's what I suggest:

Choose a plant species, or several, that interest you, raise mature plants, assure effective pollination, collect and clean the seeds, and sell them to our local growers.

Succulents and cacti lend themselves well to this process.

Did you ever think about where the seeds come from for those orderly rows of seedlings we see at plant sales? Some are commercially produced, but the majority are either collected in the wild, or carefully produced by individual growers and



hobbyists. That's what all of those "do not enter" areas are at your local nursery: stock plants for cuttings or seed production. It's a bit tricky to ensure that the seed that is produced is true to the species and not an accidental hybrid.

In the process, there are a lot of fascinating things to learn and enjoy.

Use at least three different plants of the same species. The goal is to spread pollen from each one to the others. This can be a simple process or involved. The simplest system is for insect pollinated plants, for example *Ferocactus fordii*, a small purple flowered barrel cactus from northern Baja. If you have no other *Ferocactus* in your collection, simply group your *F. fordii* together and



sit back with a drink in hand any morning while they are flowering (orange juice works well here) and watch the bees pollinate for you. Part of the fun

is to learn more about your plants and their ecology.

You learn the time of year of flowering, time of day, flower color and the local pollinators that are doing the hard work.

Then you watch the developing fruit for ripeness, usually some weeks, and harvest them before the insects and birds do. It is important to clean the seeds properly and store them in a labeled paper envelope before selling, trading or even giving them to your favorite local nurseryman.