

# ◆ DESERT BREEZE ◆

TUCSON CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

MARCH 1995

## MARCH MADNESS

**MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 7:30 PM**  
**TUCSON BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
**PLANT SEX FOR FUN & PROFIT**  
**CHUCK HANSON**

As follow-up to his February vegetative propagation demonstration, Chuck will teach techniques for producing seed in March.

Last month we learned several methods of producing more plants. With some species, you can use a number of different techniques, but with others, only one will work.

**STEM CUTTINGS** Stand cutting in empty pot with crumpled-up newspaper in bottom. Wait until 'toes' form before potting in soil.

A **LEAF CUTTING** can often be rooted in pumice or soil.

**ABOUT CUTTINGS** - If the mother plant is variegated, don't count on the new plant to be, as it usually is not.

Also, Chuck recommends using a fungicide on cuttings, such as 'rootone'.

**OFFSETS** This requires patience! Mature succulents frequently set pups. These tiny plantlets can then be separated from the mother plant and potted on their own.

**BULB SCALE** Peel the outer leaves off a bulb and root in air using the newspaper-in-a-pot trick.

**TUBERS, CORMS or BULBS** (underground storage organs that aren't roots) are quite

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## NEIGHBORS

by LES & DALE SLOAN

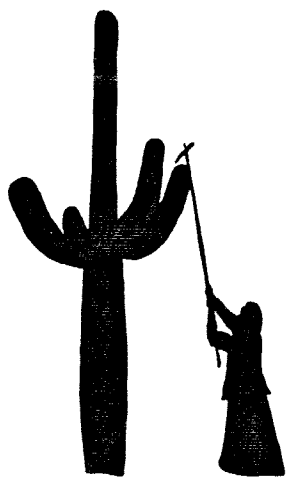
Javelinas! Well, I've been hoping they'd get to those cute little piggies soon! Well, maybe "cute" isn't the first word that comes to mind. But, remember the last time you saw a herd of javelina with little ones in tow, maybe hiding under their mom's belly? Yup, you said "cute", too, didn't you?

On the other hand, a large (up to 55 pounds), bristly, smelly, pig-like critter may stretch the bounds of "cute" considerably. Up to about a yard long and 16 inches high at the shoulder, javelinas may be seldom seen, but are hard to overlook.

Our term, javelina, comes from the Spanish for "little female pig", and does not originate with the idea that they were hunted with a javelin. They're also called peccaries, from a South American word. Our javelinas, or white-collared peccary, range from the Southwest U.S. down to Patagonia (the South American Patagonia, that is). A relative, the white-lipped peccary, is found from Vera Cruz, Mexico, to northern Argentina. And in 1975, the Chacoan peccary was "discovered", weighing in at up to 95 pounds. It lives in the Gran Chaco region of Argentina, Bolivia and Paraguay.

But javelinas are not "true" pigs. They differ from old world swine in a few areas, notably the fact that javelinas have a three-chambered stomach instead of the "simple" stomach of old world and barnyard varieties. These stomachs contain microbial flora (see, I knew I could relate this to plants) which aid digestion. Though they apparently don't digest everything they eat. Javelinas will eat birds, bugs, berries, mushrooms, and roots, but they thrive on prickly pear pads. How they can do that is at once mystifying and

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**TUCSON '95**  
*a taste of the*  
**Sonoran Desert**  
*and more.....*  
**JUNE 19-23**

## TUCSON '95

## CONVENTION

## CONNECTION

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CHUCK HANSON 883-9404

## REGISTRATION

JERI OGDEN 321-9484

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JANE EVANS 628-8773

## FACILITIES

MILES ANDERSON 682-7272

## ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT

DAN BIRT 325-4967

## PLANTS, BOOKS &amp; POTTERY SALES

GENE JOSEPH 628-8773

## HOSPITALITY

to be filled

## CLUB SALES

PAT WIEDHOPF 885-6367



PROGRAM UPDATE - We are sorry to report that Gerhard Marx, of South Africa, cannot attend our convention.

New speakers have been added:

Prof. Patrick Van Damme of Belgium will speak on the relationship between the Topnarr Tribe and endemic succulents of Namibia.

"New Succulents of Mexico," is the topic of Miguel Chazaro, from Guadalajara.

Joel Floyd, of the USDA/APHIS staff in Nogales will explain CITES import/export laws.

All evening programs will be in large, well-lit rooms. These lectures will be listed in your permanent program issued at the convention.

For the first time, the convention will feature a get-together for all members and 'wanna-bees' of the cactus-and-succulent-net which now has over 200 e-mail members!. Anyone who is not a member is missing a lot. Come to the meeting and we will tell you how to join. (Ed note: I had a brief taste of what it's like to be on-line - WOW!)

A meeting of club newsletter editors, headed by Mac Clark of Tennessee, will also be scheduled. (Ed note: Oh, boy! I'm just editing a news release, folks.)

**BY THE WAY.....**Your Editor now has the convention registration database in the club computer and is very disappointed to read local registration numbers. Currently, England alone has Tucson beat (so far). Germany, New Zealand, and Chile are represented...

**WE ARE PROMISING ATTENDEES**

**THE BEST CONVENTION EVER.....SO**

**LETS SHOW OUR PRIDE**

**IN THE OLD PUEBLO!!!**

On page 5 of this issue, you will find a Tucson '95 Convention Registration form. Take a vacation, learn more about C&S, visit with friends and make new ones - all without leaving Tucson!! (The Doubletree reports rooms filling VERY fast. We are indeed fortunate to live here!)

Borderland Tours is reporting that both pre- and post-convention tours are full.

**THE CONVENTION IS COMING...**

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"over 200  
e-mail  
members"

## neighbors (cont.)

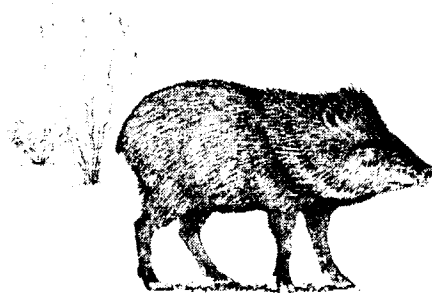
horrifying. The larger spines seem to pass through un digested. This ability even enables them to eat barrel cactus. The javelinas don't attack a barrel head-on, but wait 'til old age, weak roots, or bad weather knock the barrel over, then they attack the unprotected underside,

and eat the cactus with relish (or, occasionally, a good picante sauce).

The suborder, suiformes, has three families, pigs (old world), peccaries (new world), and hippos. If that seems a bit far-fetched, take a look at the huge tusks in a hippo's jaws. The tusks are probably the most fearsome of the javelina's weapons (assuming you can get past the smell). The smell, secreted by a musk gland, may help to keep the herd together.

According to most sources, their principal predators are Jaguars and Cougars, though I suspect Buicks and Toyotas take a toll, too. In what most sources can only term "altruism", javelinas exhibit an unusual defense mechanism. Travelling in their little herds, when approached by a predator, they scatter in all directions, confusing the hunter. But in overgrown and dense habitat, however, where scattering is difficult, one sub-adult will turn and face the intruder while the others escape, even though it may cost him his life.

I suppose that, of all the neighbors we've looked at so far, the javelina is the last one you'd want to let into your garden. I've seen what they've done to decorative cholla, much less leafy plants, so I don't invite them in, either. But, darn it, you've got to admit, they're cute.



Collared Peccary

## JERI's GEMS

Your Editor has been the victim of bad information. The median sculptures mentioned in my last issue are **GILA MONSTERS!** Had I seen them for myself (I still haven't), I'd have tied them in with February's 'neighbors' article.

**SPEAKING OF' NEIGHBORS'.....WHAT DO YOU THINK? LET ME KNOW!**

WELCOME BACK

Barbara Ann Kile  
9106 N Eaglestone Loop  
Tucson, AZ 84741 744-9370

BRAND NEW ADDRESS FOR

JIM HASOCK & HOPE CAVANAGH  
4620 E WOODPECKER LANE  
CATALINA, AZ 85737 825-2822

### FEBRUARY MEETING

#### FREE PLANTS

Thelocactus rinconensis  
Acanthocalycium violaceum  
Epithelantha micromeris v unguispina  
Thelocactus hexadrophorus  
Astrophytum hybrid  
Mammillaria dewegii

#### DOOR PRIZES

Echinofossulocactus multicosatus (2)  
Thelocactus bicolor  
Leuchtenbergia principis  
Coryphantha vivipara v arizonica

#### RAFFLE PLANT

Idria columnaris (Boojum Tree) Won by new member JOHN ohn Holmes!

A big **THANK YOU**

to SALLY WILLIAMS & DEBRA SHEPHERD for yummy refreshments!

to DAN SIMS for help acknowledging convention registrations!

**TCSS LIBRARY HOURS & LOCATION**

Plants For The Southwest  
9 - 5:30  
Wednesday - Saturday  
50 E. Blacklidge  
628-8773

Librarian  
Myrtle Ethington  
887-4507

**NEW BOOKS:**

EUPHORBIA, Volume 9  
SEDUM, Cultivated Stonecrop  
SUCCULENT COMPOSITAE  
Senecio & Othonna

ERIOSYCE  
donated by MILES ANDERSON  
AGAVE in the West Indies  
donated by GARD ROPER  
'BRADLEYA'  
(9 British yearbooks, 2/84-10/92)  
donated by MARY CHURCH

(continued from page 1)

**MARCH MADNESS**

root-able, as are **NODULES** on roots.

Stem succulents can even be cut in half!

**MERICLONING** is also a form of vegetative propagation. He cannot condone such practice and had nothing to say on that method.

Grafting is yet another technique. Chuck acknowledged MILES ANDERSON, who has done grafting workshops for the club, saying Miles 'is a great grafter - one of the world's best

THANK YOU, CHUCK, for a wonderful and entertaining program!!

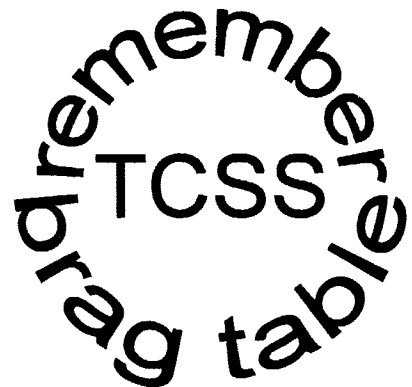
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*Fouquieria fasciculata*

**DESERT BREEZE STAFF**

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DAN BIRT  
MAILING SARA PERPER  
.....  
LIBRARIAN  
MYRTLE ETHINGTON  
887-4507



CSSA TUCSON CONVENTION

**REGISTRATION FORM**

TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 SPOUSE/COMPANION \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET \_\_\_\_\_  
 APARTMENT # \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTRY \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_ FAX # \_\_\_\_\_

ARE YOU A CSSA AFFILIATE DELEGATE? PLEASE CIRCLE ..... YES / NO

TO WHICH LOCAL C & S SOCIETY DO YOU BELONG? \_\_\_\_\_

A REGISTRATION APPLICANT CAN JOIN THE CSSA AND SAVE ON THE REGISTRATION FEES AT THE TIME HE/SHE SENDS IN THE APPLICATION. AN APPLICANT CAN ALSO REGISTER THEIR SPOUSE AT THE CSSA MEMBER RATE IF THEY ENROLL THEM AS A CSSA ASSOCIATE MEMBER.

	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>COST</u>
<b>NEW CSSA MEMBERSHIPS</b>		
CSSA MEMBERSHIP - DOMESTIC	_____	@ \$ 30.00 _____
CSSA MEMBERSHIP FOREIGN incl. MEXICO & CANADA	_____	@ \$ 35.00 _____
CSSA MEMBERSHIP FOREIGN - AIRMAIL	_____	@ \$ 55.00 _____
CSSA ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP FOR SPOUSE / PARTNER	_____	@ \$ 6.00 _____
<b>REGISTRATION</b>		
CSSA MEMBERS	_____	@ \$110.00 _____
NON - CSSA MEMBERS	_____	@ \$160.00 _____
CSSA MEMBERS LATE REGISTRATION AFTER 5/15/95	_____	@ \$155.00 _____
CSSA MEMBERS LATE REGISTRATION AFTER 6/15/95	_____	@ \$160.00 _____
DAILY REGISTRATION - DATES ATTENDING 6/	_____	@ \$ 35.00/DAY _____
<b>FIELD TRIPS WITH LUNCH INCLUDED - CHOOSE ONE ONLY</b>		
TRIP 1 - BOYCE THOMPSON/DESERT BOTANICAL GARDEN	_____	@ \$ 25.00 _____
TRIP 2 - TUCSON NURSERY TOUR	_____	@ \$ 25.00 _____
<b>FAREWELL BANQUET</b>	_____	@ \$ 25.00 _____

**TOTAL DUE** ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE CSSA. CREDIT CARD USERS, FILL OUT THE INFORMATION BELOW

\_\_\_\_\_  
 VISA / MASTERCARD # only      EXPIRATION DATE      SIGNATURE

MAIL REGISTRATION FORMS TO:

MINDY FUSARO, TUCSON CONVENTION TREASURER, PO BOX 35034, DES MOINES, IA 50315-0301

CREDIT CARD USERS MAY FAX THEIR REGISTRATION FORM TO : (515) 285-7760

**NOTE: IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO MAKE CONVENTION ROOM RESERVATIONS AT THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL IN TUCSON, ARIZONA.** THE CONVENTION DATES ARE JUNE 18-23, 1995. SCHEDULE YOUR ARRIVAL BY SUNDAY JUNE 18TH TO ATTEND THE OPENING PARTY. TO MAKE RESERVATIONS AND RECEIVE THE SPECIAL \$53.00/DAY RATE, CONTACT THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL ASAP. PLEASE NOTIFY THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL THAT THE RESERVATIONS ARE FOR THE CSSA CONVENTION.

**DOUBLETREE HOTEL**  
 445 SOUTH ALVERNON WAY, TUCSON, AZ 85711, VOICE: (800)222-TREE, FAX: (602) 323-5225

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