

## TCSS BOARD

### Officers

President: Richard Wiedhopf  
885-6367

Vice President: Joe Frannea  
Secretary: Lynda Ryan  
Treasurer: Valarie Miller

### Board of Directors:

(terms expire December 31 of year indicated)  
Immediate Past-President: Vonn Watkins

Dan Birt (2003)

Marty Harow (2002)

Dick Hildreth (2004)

Peter Hubbell (2002)

Barry McCormick (2004)

Chris Monrad (2003)

Margaret Pope (2003)

Jack Ramsey (2004)

Mark Sitter (2002)

### Affiliate Representative to the CSSA

Wendy Beall

**Editor:** Barry McCormick

Jbarrymcc@earthlink.net

Deadline for copy:

18th of each month

### Web Address

TCSS Web Page

[www.azstarnet.com/nonprofit/tcss](http://www.azstarnet.com/nonprofit/tcss)

### Next Meeting

Thursday, April 4 at 7:00 pm

Tucson Botanical Gardens

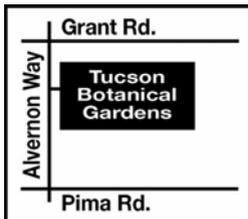
2150 N. Alvernon Way

Tucson, AZ 85718

### April Refreshments

*Those with family names beginning with N to S,  
please bring your choice of refreshments  
to the next meeting.*

Everyone is Welcome!  
Bring your friends,  
join in the fun,  
and meet the cactus and  
succulent community.



# Desert Breeze

April 2002

## Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

**Saturday- Sunday, April 13, 14**

Saturday 9 am to 9 pm

Sunday 10 am to 5 pm

El Con Mall

3601 East Broadway Blvd

### Fiesta de las Flores

Our society will be participating again in the annual Fiesta de las Flores. Dress up your best plants for display at the El Con Mall. We want to have a good display for the public, and get in practice for our big show. Be sure to come to this show for pointers and to see how all of the other plant societies do their thing. We will need help with sales and, especially, with promotion of Sonoran IV. Jack Ramsey is taking the lead on this event; contact him and let him know how you would like to help

**Friday, May 3, 2002**

6:00 pm Buffet Dinner

7:15 pm Program

Inn Suites Hotel

475 N. Granada Ave., Tucson

**Dave Ferguson –**

**"Trials and Travels with Xerophytic Plants."**

Our May meeting moves to Friday during Sonoran IV. All members are invited.

There is no cost for the dinner or program.

A reservation card is enclosed.

**Thursday, April 4, 2002**

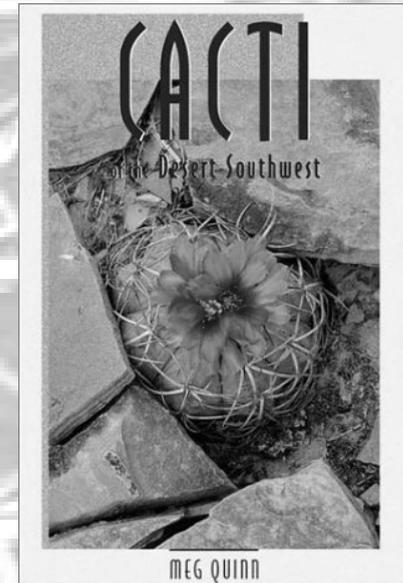
7:00 pm

Tucson Botanical Gardens

2150 N. Alvernon Way

### Meg Quinn

Our own Meg Quinn will present a slide show and talk about identification and uses of our native cacti, based on her book, *Cacti of the Desert Southwest*. Books will be available to be purchased and signed.



Meg is the former Director of Education at the Tucson Botanical Garden. Her previous book, *Wildflowers of the Desert Southwest*, will soon be joined by a companion volume on mountain wildflowers.

## Pima County Garden Fair

The Pima County Spring Garden Fair was a great success for the club and for the people



Plants for Sale

who purchased excellent plants from Mark Sitter and from our salvage efforts. The public is really seeking us out as our reputation grows. At the end of the day our cupboard was bare – we barely managed to keep the plants we had promised Tohono Chul for their sale. Thanks to Mark and Margaret Sitter, Vonn Watkins, Dick Wiedhopf, Joe and Patsy Frannea, Norma Beckman, Helen Ramsey, Carl Pergam and all who helped with this sale. We grossed 40% more than last year.

*Jack Ramsey*

### 2002 Meeting Schedule

Meetings will be held on the first Thursday of each month except for May and December.

Board Meeting are the second Tuesday of the Month at The U of A College of Pharmacy, Room 333.

April 4 General Meeting – Meg Quinn  
April 13 & 14 Flower Show, El Con Mall  
May 3, 4 & 5 Sonoran IV, Inn Suites  
December 15 Holiday Party

## Sonoran IV News



**Speaker Addition:** Rich Dulaney will talk Sunday, May 5, from 8:30 am - 9:30 am on "Summer and Winter Rains in the Sonoran Desert."

**Sonoran IV planning meetings.** The final planning meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 23.

**Vendors.** One of the great features of the conference, both for the public and for the attendees, are the vendors. We are still lining up vendors, but we have some great ones already set to come.

**Plantas Del Sol** - specialty plants: Baja California Plants and Ferocactus

**Plants for the Southwest** - specialty plants: Lithops, Aloes, Euphorbias

**Miles' To Go** - specialty plants: Small Boojums

**Mike Ellis** - specialty plants: Red Caps, Crested Golden Barrel, Bursera

**Starr Nursery** - specialty plants: Mexican Agaves

**Mary Odette Books** - Old and New Botanical Books



President's Message - *Dick Wiedhopf*

Robert Humphrey, 97, author of "The Boojum and its Home" has passed away. He was a long-time member of the Society and a CSSA Fellow. He spoke to our group on numerous occasions and wrote several articles for our newsletter.

Thank you for your support at all the events in March. We had an excellent sale of salvaged plants at the Pima County Garden Fair. There was a lot of praise and public support for our effort to salvage and relocate cacti. The turnout was great for the two March meetings ( Mark Sitter on Baja and Bob Barth on Southern Africa and Madagascar). They were excellent.

We need your continuing help and support for our future activities.

We are expanding our library committee which will review and recommend the purchase of new books and how we will make them available to you. Please let Jenny Coniglio, our library chairperson know if you would be interested in serving on her committee.

April 13 & 14 will be the Orchid and Flower Show at El Con Mall. We will show off some of our wonderful plants, invite people to the Sonoran IV show and sale at the Inn Suites, show off our salvage projects and sell some small salvage plants. Be a part of this event; contact Jack Ramsey to volunteer.

Look for the announcement of our new Web Site name. We will soon be Tucsoncactus.com.

See you April 4, for Meg Quinn. She's Great!

*Dick Wiedhopf, President*

## Some of the Sonoran IV Workshops

### Mark Sitter

#### "Butterfly and Moth Plants in Your Cactus and Succulent Garden"

In this workshop Mark will not only discuss what plants will attract butterflies and moths to your cactus and succulent garden but will give you an understanding of these beautiful creatures by explaining their life histories including the necessary aspects needed to attract and have them breed in your garden. Live caterpillars will be shown along with the live plants. Plant lists for nectar and larval requirements will be provided. Let Mark take the mystery out of these fascinating "beasts."

### Greg Starr

#### "Mexican Agaves - What's New in Horticulture"

With a rich assortment of Agave species in Mexico, there are bound to be several that any enthusiast would be able to add to a collection. Greg has traveled widely in Mexico looking for and finding a number of wonderful Agave species. Legally collecting seed he has propagated many species and made them available through his nursery. In this workshop discover all you wanted to know about cultivating Agaves and them some. Greg will discuss the different inflorescence types and all the vegetative differences between the species. Taxonomy and the meaning of species names will be a hot topic. Cultivation of Agave species will be a major focus as well. Come armed with questions. Many specimens will be on hand as well as a brief slide presentation.

### Vonn Watkins and Mark Sitter

#### "Propagation of Cacti and Succulents"

Two very knowledgeable members of the TCCS will team up to give this workshop on propagation. Vonn will begin by presenting an overview of the seed growing process. Covering all the necessary aspects of growing from seed he will give examples and a quick demonstration and talk about what the average person needs to do to propagate seed at home. He will provide information on where to get seed and the necessary equipment and supplies. Mark will then discuss propagation of cacti and succulents from divisions and cuttings as well as how to divide Agave pups and bulbils. He will also tell participants about "the only way to propagate hybrids." Incorporated into Mark's discussion will be what tools are needed as well as soil, water, fertilizer and light requirements.

### David Von Behren

#### "From Pictures to Pixels: The basics of Digital Photography"

In this workshop two digital cameras will be discussed, the Kodak DC365 and Sony Mavica 3000. David will present an overview of digital photography with a discussion of its advantages and disadvantages and the costs. Hands-on demonstration will be given along with handout materials which will include the Basics of Composing a Good Photo.

### Gerhard Marx

#### "Growing Euphorbias and Other African Succulents"

In this workshop Gerhard will be discussing the 'golden rules' of good succulent cultivation. He will demonstrate propagation techniques emphasizing those for Euphorbias and Haworthias.

### Dave Ferguson

#### "Trials and Travels with Xerophytic Plants"

Dave will discuss the plants being grown on a trial basis at the Rio Grande Botanical Garden. He will emphasize the results with cacti and succulents. Comparisons will be made between growing these plants in a dry cold climate with a cold winter verses the dry warm climate with mild winters of the Sonora Desert. What has been done in the colder climate of the Albuquerque area might be relevant to the dry cold areas in Arizona such as Bisbee, Globe, Prescott, Kingman, Page and Holbrook. Dave has traveled widely gathering plants to test in the Albuquerque climate. He will touch on the places he has visited.

Dave Ferguson has been a "plant and critter fanatic" since he was about five years old. He was born in Boulder, Colorado and lived mostly in northeast Colorado as a youngster. His first plant, a Christmas Cactus, was soon joined on a shelf by an assortment of green things. That was also about the time he stuck a prickly pear pad from the horse pasture into his yard for the first time. He majored in entomology at Colorado State University but also studied zoology, botany, horticulture, art and drafting classes. In 1982 he moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico where he worked at assorted jobs including working at nurseries growing and selling plants and seed; roofing; building; tinkering; landscaping and doing biological field surveys. In 1984 he began working with Mesa Garden in Belen, New Mexico. He has been Curator at the Rio Grand Botanical Garden in Albuquerque since 1995. He has traveled extensively in North America and Argentina studying mostly succulents and sometimes insects.

## Society Library

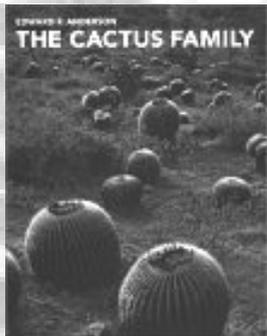
Our Society library is excellent, but severely under utilized. At the last board meeting we made a commitment to keep up the quality of books that we own, and we authorized a major expenditure on books we know we should have. We are also expanding the library committee to be better able to select books for future purchase.



We wish that the library was easier to use. We are studying some ways of improving access to the books. You will find a listing of our holdings on the web site at

<http://www.azstarnet.com/nonprofit/tcss/>

Highlight and copy the books, click the link to the library email, and paste the title into a message to Jenny. She will bring them to the next meeting and you can have them for the next month. A week's notice would be preferable. It's easy. Or call Jenny at 546-3684 and ask for the books. You can also remember to visit the library table at the meeting for a selection of topical books.



Coming Soon to your Library!

The club is missing a few Cactus and Succulent Journals from past years, and we need these to complete our sets for binding. If you have forgotten

that You've checked them out of the library or have copies you'd be willing to donate to the club, please contact Jenny Coniglio 546-3684.

- 1997 Vol. 69
- #5 & 6 (Sep-Oct. & Nov-Dec.)
- 1998 Vol.70
- #1 & #2 (Jan.-Feb. & Mar.-April)
- 2000 Vol. 72
- #1 (Jan.-Feb.)
- 2001 Vol. 73 All issues are missing

Future ideas on making it easier to use the library include adding a cover picture and description to the list. Some day we may even have a home of our own for our collection.

## Salvage Committee

We have finished, for now, the salvage near Vail and returned to another 300 acre area



Back in the Saddle (brook) again!

at Saddlebrook. This area has very high density of nice barrels. It's a good thing we took a lot of salvage because it was in very high demand this month. Exciting developments for salvage may be underway

with the Skyline Campbell Community Coalition for some development around that intersection. Interacting with the local community would add a new dimension to our efforts, create the potential for keeping salvage material near the development site, and give us some fairly high-profile advertising.

Keep your eyes open for an encore of the very successful trade of local material for northern Arizona barrels, hedgehogs, Joshua trees, and Yuccas.

## Society Web Site

Things are afoot at the Society Web Site. Some obsolete material has been cleared out and replaced by information that is more current and useful. Our long term goal is to make the site both a good communication tool for the members, and a useful reference for the public at large. The site has served us well in the early release of Sonoran IV information. The site also has many links to other cactus and succulent information and links that make it easy to email the webmaster. Here's a thought: look at the web site and then email the webmaster and tell him what you liked and didn't like. That's called "feedback" and it's the sort of thing webmasters thrive on. No comment is too trivial.

