

## TCSS OFFICERS AND BOARD

### Officers

President: Richard Wiedhopf  
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 Hubble (2002)  
Barry McCormick (2004)  
Chris Monrad (2003)  
Margaret Pope (2003)  
Jack Ramsey (2004)  
Mark Sitter (2002)

### Affiliate Representative to the CSSA

Wendy Beall

Richard Weidhopf  
885-6367

### Editor:

Barry McCormick  
Jbarrymcc@earthlink.net  
Deadline for copy:  
18th of each month

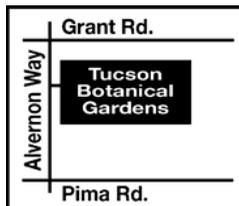
### Web Address

TCSS Web Page  
www.azstarnet.com/nonprofit/tcss

### Next Meeting

Thursday, January 3 at 7:00 pm  
Tucson Botanical Gardens  
2150 N. Alvernon Way  
Tucson, AZ 85718

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



## Christmas Party a Great

By Barry McCormick

This year's Christmas Party at the Tucson Botanical Garden was enjoyed by all. Great food and company, and lots of interesting cactus and succulents marked the luncheon.

The new officers and directors, as shown in the masthead to the left, were announced by Wendy Beall.

President Vonn Watkins expressed his thanks to everybody who made the last year such a great one. Vonn presented the annual awards.



The Gold Awards for Contribution and Commitment were presented to:

Joseph Frannea  
Patricia Frannea  
Mark Sitter  
Jack Ramsey  
Chris Monrad.

Society Awards were presented to

Richard Wiedhopf  
Jenny Coniglio  
Norma Beckman.

Special recognition was made to the plant growers who have contributed so much to the society's success:

Dan Birt - Dan's Desert Plants  
Dan Bach - Bach's Nursery  
Gene Joseph - Plants of the Southwest  
Carol Scannell - Tanque Verde Greenhouse  
Bob & Dorothy White - B & B Cactus Farm  
John & Dorothy Pasek - Plantas del Sol  
Jon Weeks - Landscape Cacti  
Miles Anderson - Miles' To Go  
Arid Lands Greenhouses  
Mark & Margaret Sitter - Gecko Cactus.

A gift exchange using the "rob your neighbor"

theme was directed by Jack Ramsey. When the flurry of cactus needles died down everybody had a nice gift. Spectacular plants were also raffled off as the door prizes.

## Mojave Invasion!

The latest scheme to find new homes for salvage plants brought an invasion of Mojave Desert specialties provided by Jan Emming of Yucca, Arizona.

Variety is the spice of life, and the trade of Sonoran Echinocerus, Ferocactus and Mammillarias for Joshua trees, Yuccas, and Fire Barrels will add to the diversity in



Vonn Watkins



Joshua Trees, Yuccas and Barrels arrive in Tucson. Photo by Joe Frannea

our yards and in northern Arizona, where Jan is filling in his forty-acre ranch.

## SAVE THE DATE!

May 3 - 5, 2002

Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society presents our Sonoran IV Conference at the Inn Suites. Participate in informative workshops with experts in their field, view living displays, find a unique specimen, dine at the Desert Museum and take part in a host of other "happenings." Don't miss this memorable event.

Register early and save \$\$\$.

Call Dick Wiedhopf for more information  
885-6367

email: wiedhopf @pharmacy.arizona.edu  
(Watch for more details each month in the Desert Breeze)

## Membership Survey

You should all have received a membership survey with your annual dues renewal notice. If you haven't done so yet, please complete the survey, come to the meetings, visit our web site, and participate in the other activities that are of interest to you. Please let us know how we are doing.

*Dick Wiedhopf*

## 2002 Meeting Schedule

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

April 23 & 24 Flower Show, El Con Mall

May 3, 4 & 5 Sonoran IV, Inn Suites

December 15 Holiday Party

Thursday, January 3, 2002

7:00 pm

Tucson Botanical Gardens  
2150 N. Alvernon Way

David Yetman

## The Big Ones: Columnar Cacti and the People Who Use Them

David will take us on a tour of big cactus from the U.S., Mexico, Ecuador, and Argentina, describing their importance in the lives of the native people and the lands where they grow. David was originally scheduled to speak for the club in November, but "The Desert Speaks" needed his help in Baja with a program being filmed there.

David is a research social scientist at the Southwest Center of the University of Arizona. He conducts intensive social and ecological studies of indigenous people and their lands, which includes the role of great cacti in native cultures. His research activities have taken him from the southwestern U.S. into Mexico and other points south as he investigates historic human geography. Prior to his adventures with giant cacti and indigenous people to the south, David spent 12 years on the Pima County Board of Supervisors, and was the executive director of the Tucson Audubon Society.

His books include, *Where the Desert Meets the Sea: A Trader in the Land of the Seri Indians* (1988), *Sonora: An Intimate Geography* (1996), and *Scattered Round Stones: A Mayo Village in Sonora* (1998). He is co-editor of Gentry's *Rio Mayo Plants: The Tropical Deciduous Forest and Environs of Northwest Mexico*, and *The Tropical Deciduous Forest of Alamos: Biodiversity and Conservation in an Endangered Ecosystem*. His latest book, *Mayo Ethnobotany: Knowledge, Land, and Tradition in Northwest Mexico*, was written with Thomas Van Devender and will be available in January 2002.

Be sure to attend this presentation and start the new year on a very positive note!

Thursday, February 7, 2002

7:00 pm

Tucson Botanical Gardens  
2150 N. Alvernon Way

## Meeting and Program

The February meeting program subject has not been established as we go to press, but it will be a fine one, as always. The backbone of our society is our programs and activities, and we are going to have the best possible of both.

We need suggestions and ideas, so let Vonn Watkins or Richard Weidhopf know what you would like to see and do this year.



Joshua Tree, *Yucca brevifolia*



## From the President

I hope all of you are having a wonderful holiday season. It has been an interesting and exciting year.

The first half of my year was consumed by being program chairman for the Cactus and Succulent Society of America convention in Los Angeles. Fortunately, every speaker was excellent, especially our folks, Mark Dimmitt and Miles Anderson. We also had a solid show of support with fourteen of our members attending the convention. After eight days in LA, I really needed a break.

Chris Monrad and the salvage committee effort at Saddlebrook provided that break for the rest of the year, with an opportunity to put into practice all that we know about the Sonoran Desert. Salvaging plants, seeing the diversity of cacti species, the native fauna, the desert landscape in bloom and being with dedicated members of the society really made every weekend a great experience.

You have been told how successful our activities have been this year and Vonn Watkins, who served as president, deserves the credit for this success. His leadership and dedication have been outstanding.

In this New Year, we will have a leadership team of very experienced members with a variety of expertise that will benefit our society. You will meet this team at the January meeting and find out how special they are. It will be my privilege to head this team as president. We pledge ourselves to providing you an outstanding year of activities.

Happy New Year

*Dick Wiedhopf*

