



A. DICK & PAT

Dick caught the gardening bug as a young boy while riding his bike in Beverly Hills on garbage day. Retrieving a large prickly pear pad from the street and planting it at home was the beginning of a lifelong passion for cacti and succulents.

Begun in 1980, this is a classic collector's garden. The goal of a plant collector is to expand the available planting area and add more plants. Once Dick discovers a new plant he acquires as many species and hybrids of it as he can. Another passion is to discover how many plants he can fit in the space he has, while maintaining accessibility and



visual interest. Then he may be on to a new garden focus. For Dick the ultimate enjoyment is the freedom to change his interest and learn about new species. His current focus is Cycads. Look for the handsome collection on the back porch.

Dick's appealing walking paths meander to reveal hidden areas, unexpected ensembles, and a pond. Desert trees create filtered shade to encourage optimal plant health. Judiciously placed metal folk sculptures add humor and whimsy. Greenhouses shelter vulnerable species. He also uses frost cloth as needed in the winter.



Note the climbing milkweed growing up the saguaros on the west side of driveway. A few of the noteworthy plants are whales tongue agave, sharkskin agave, blue glow agave, agave salmania var. ferox, Yucca faxoniana, adeniums, native grasses, fat mammillarias, variegated Echinopsis, and a hanging Queen of the Night.

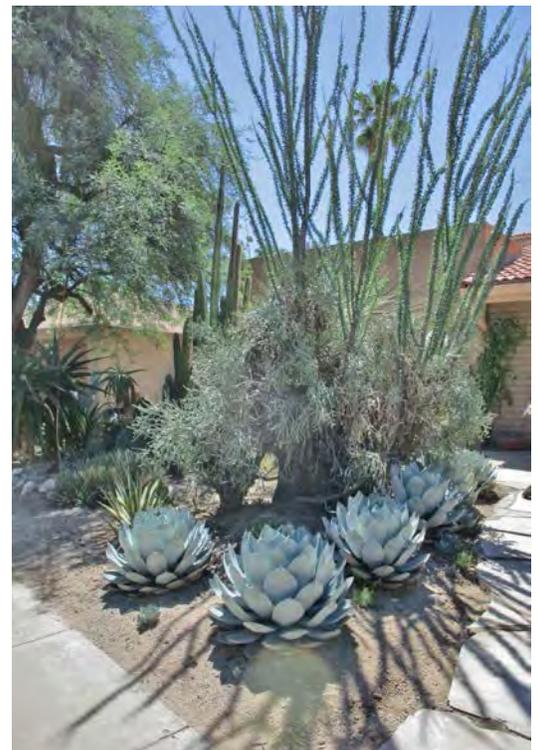
LOT SIZE: .4 acre

SOIL MIX: Tank's Cactus Mix with more pumice and regular cactus soil

WATERING: Waters with hoses and tripod sprinklers as necessary. The timer on his phone frees his mind to enjoy the plants.

PESTS: Keeps a watchful eye out for pests and uses traps and other means when necessary.

TIP: Eliminate dead or sad looking plants. You will look like a great grower! Check out Shady Way Nursery in Apache Junction when you can.



B. BILL & LU

This garden is, in some small degree, the result of luck. The previous owner was an artist and cactus fancier, the lot is large, and the views are nothing short of splendid. But it's the maximizing of that luck you'll view today. This ridgetop garden has a full southern exposure and is a thermal belt, a foothills zone where freezing temperatures are less likely to occur than they do at either higher or lower elevations. This garden is all about variety, gardening wisdom, and passion.



VARIETY

Mounding, swales and boulder-placement mimic a desert landscape. There are 45 saguaros ranging from 12" to 5' and more than 150 native barrels, soap tree yucca, Indian fig, Joshua tree and blue yucca. Three seating areas of various heights plus a screened-in-porch, which you may visit today, makes for relaxed socializing. Extensive art work in the form of metal sculptures, over 360 pots, and a waterfall and pond create visual and auditory appeal. Tree variety is impressive providing shade, accent, fruit and bird cover. Among the trees are Mesquite, Texas Ebony, lemon, grapefruit and one of the largest Oleander trees you are likely to see.

GARDENING WISDOM

This a desert we live in, and the owners pay tribute to this fact with plantings that are 80% desert or desert-adapted. Just as important is scale: So often plants become woody and overgrown; they can overwhelm even the house. Over the 19 years of ownership, Bill Salisbury has not so much designed a garden, as he's refined it. In order to preserve the magnificent view, he has whacked out overgrown pyracantha, oleanders and Texas rangers, largely to replace them with beloved rescued cactus.



PASSION

In addition to refining and maintaining this garden without a designer or landscape crew, Bill is a Board member of the Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society. The Salisbury garden is a testimony to the fact that a Chicago transplant cannot only create a lovely garden but also contribute to the beauty and ecology of our community. It just takes passion.

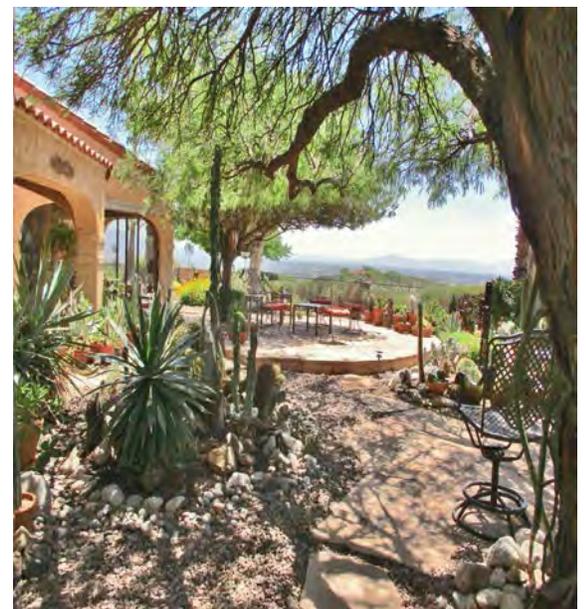


PESTS: Ground squirrels continue to be a problem in pots

WATERING: Waters as needed, daily for flowers in pots.



SOIL MIX: For pots uses 2/3 Miracle-Gro cactus mix and 1/3 perlite.



C. BETTY & ED

In a mere 15 months Betty and Ed have transformed their previously almost bare yard into a pleasing desert oasis. The gorgeous view to the southwest from their backyard competes with the vibrant landscape they have created.

Betty caught the gardening bug while growing up in Brooklyn where for five years she took the trolley to work her vegetable plot at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Growing succulents on a windowsill in her childhood home and visits to the southwest encouraged her interest in cacti and succulents. As president of the North American Rock Garden society, Betty promotes the study and cultivation of wild plants in their native environments.



Inspired by the wash behind the yard, Betty has created a model of a young landscape populated with Sonoran Desert plants, cacti and succulents, and other low-water drought-adapted plantings. She especially enjoys combining climate-appropriate shrubs and wildflowers with cacti, succulents and rocks in harmonious ways. Berms provide visual interest and the flow of crushed rock unifies the space.

LOT SIZE: 1/3 acre purchased in 2016

SOIL: Tank's cactus mix with native soil

WATERING: In summer newly planted plant material is watered every other day for an hour with an irrigation system and a hand-held hose as needed. After establishment these drought tolerant plants will require less water.

PESTS: Soapy water; no insecticides as Betty grows butterfly plants.



TIPS: Betty builds her collection with plants which volunteer in her yard, plants received from others as gifts or from TCCS meetings and rescues, and plants destined for brush and bulky pickup which receive a second life in her yard. Do not be dismayed by the inevitable loss of some plants usually due to cultural conditions.

Learning about southwestern natives is challenging for Betty, but her progress is rewarding and soothing to soul.

Noteworthy: Exceptional view; Emily Mann solar light sculptures; Mangaves, hybrid of Agave and Manfreda; Arizona Wild Cotton bush; White Orchid Tree; Bursera.



D. KEITH & HELGA

Keith and Helga became interested in cactus and succulents more than 30 years ago after many of their traditional plants, trees and shrubs died due to Texas root rot, a fungal disease found in some southwestern soils that is next to impossible to eliminate.

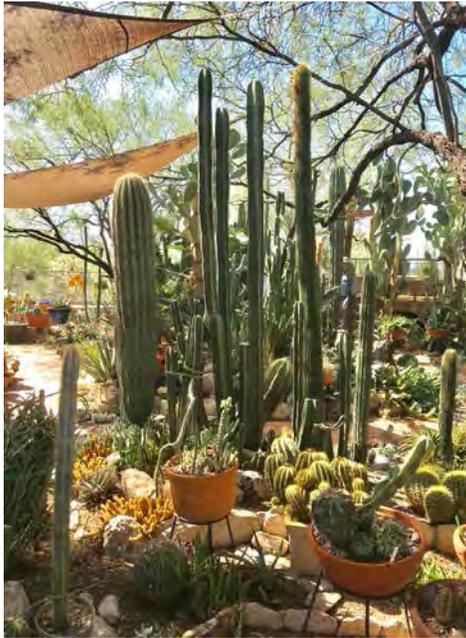
Paths around their property wander through robust natural desert which has been augmented by rescued plants, especially large barrel cacti, cholla, saguaros, and ocotillos. Varieties of terracing are demonstrated on the lot, designed to manage slopes, rainfall and erosion, and fabricated mostly with on-site materials.



The interior yard is enclosed by a block fence topped with expanded metal allowing a view of the surrounding desert while restraining some wildlife. The collection of Keith's spiny cacti and Helga's succulent and leafy plants grow in profusion, lightly sheltered by shade cloth and desert trees. A rock lined basin and stream catch rainwater overflow which reduces backyard flooding during rainfall. An enormous senita, *Pachycereus schottii*, grows from stems rescued with TCSS years ago. Many of these stems were damaged in 2011's 18 degree freeze, but no other damage has been noted down to 25 degrees.

Since the natural soil is mostly rocks, caliche and expansive clay, Helga and Keith have developed raised planters, terraced hills and containers with their preferred soil mix. Ceramic and clay creatures are scattered about the backyard in addition to several three-dimensional animals Keith has created by bending and welding steel sheets and wires.

One of two grow houses shelters more than 40 different species or subspecies of *Gymnocalycium* in the "Gymno house". The other one is used to root plants in pumice or care for ailing plants.



LOT SIZE: 1.3 acres on irregularly shaped lot. House built here 42 years ago.
SOIL MIX: 50% Nature's Way Top Soil from Home Depot mixed with coarse sand sifted from a nearby wash. Coarse sand is anything passing through ¼" mesh but retained by normal screen door mesh, approximately 1/16" mesh.



WATERING: Harvest rainwater with three 55-gallon barrels by collecting roof runoff with gutters and downspouts. Rainfall of 0.10" fills all three barrels. Water every week in summer and for potted succulents every two weeks in winter if insufficient rainfall. Pool backwash is also used to water desert plants and trees.

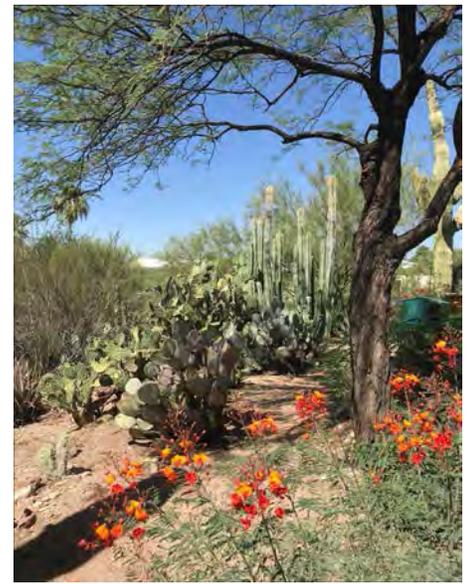
PESTS: Smash cactus beetles which are seen especially in the mornings after summer rains. Cut out and discard opuntia with black fungi spots. Organic spray for mealybugs.



E. BARRY & CARYL

Barry's first memory of cacti was from Roy Rodgers and Gene Autry movies followed by visits to the cactus house at Missouri Botanical Gardens. Living in several areas of California provided access to Mohave Desert. Switching his focus to the Sonoran Desert came after 10 years as a volunteer at ASDM working with Mark Dimmitt.

Starting in 2000, Barry developed the north patio oasis with a water feature and turf. He also constructed an orchid and succulent greenhouse and began to develop pathways through the natural desert on the south. The natural desert areas have been enriched with rescue cacti. Desert trees provide filtered sun for some plants. Caryl Jones, a longtime Tucson resident and plant enthusiast, has recently influenced a neater and more orderly landscape, while retaining an authentic Sonoran feel.



The most recent development in their six-year energy savings plan has been the introduction of active rainwater harvesting which dramatically reduced their water usage and bill.. Three 55-gallon barrels are in the north patio, two 55-gallon barrels are with the greenhouse, and 1000-gallon cistern is attached to the irrigation system. They still water with reverse osmosis for the greenhouse and tap water for all else. Sprinklers are used as needed for some of the desert cactus and trees.



LOT SIZE: 1 acre

PESTS: Packrats continue to be a challenge.

SOIL MIX: For containers, 50-50 mix of Miracle Gro potting soil and pumice

TIPS: Consistent water and fertilizer

WATERING: Water as little as possible and use rainwater. Patio areas and oleanders are irrigated.

