

# TUCSON CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

JUNE 1993 NEWSLETTER

The next general membership meeting is Thursday June 3 at 7:30 pm in room 5403 at UMC (1501 N Campbell). If you're unsure where to park (its FREE), see map. The program is "From San Miguel to Malta, A Look at Some Rare Succulents from Diverse Places". Two new cactus species, Geohintonia mexicana and Aztecium hintonii, both endemic to San Luis Potosi, will be shown. This program, presented by President Chuck Hanson, recounts his recent trips to San Miguel, Mexico, and the island of Malta, in the Mediterranean.

TCSS is hosting the CSSA board meeting in January. All members of CSSA are welcome to attend. Plan to come and see how the national society takes care of business! Your input at this meeting will be appreciated. We will have a very special program for our regular meeting that month, for sure!

Tucson '95!! A taste of the Sonoran Desert...and MORE!! This is our convention slogan, chosen by our newly-formed convention committee: Chuck, Jeri, Linda, Gene, Dick, Norma & Miles. Our theme, Ethnobotany of Succulent Plants Worldwide, will be part of Chuck Hanson's presentation at the San Francisco convention in July. And this is only the beginning. As convention time draws nearer, more help will be required. Please indicate to Jeri if you wish to be included. Join a committee and stay informed!!

A name was omitted from your roster. Oops!

WILSON, TOM	6730 W EL CAMINO DEL CERRO 743-9382	85745
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change:

CALDWELL, BOB	<u>P O BOX 36203</u> 797-2646	<u>85740</u>
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ANDERSON, MILES	<u>6125 N NOEL LANE</u> <u>682-7272</u>	<u>85743</u>
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and please welcome:

SWEETS, JANA	4550 W CAMINO NUESTRO 743-9761	85745
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HOSACK, JIM	7741 PASEO MONSERRAT	85704
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Jim will manage the library for us! Located at 50 E Blacklidge, inside Gene Joseph's Plants for the Southwest, it is open 9 - 5:30 Weds - Sat, 628-8773.

Club member Brian Fraser (790-0633) has a surplus of pumice and pots he is anxious to dispose of at cost.

Life Member Nancy Clarke, of Pinetop, has donated some pots to our club. Thanks, Nancy!

Contributions for this monthly newsletter effort are welcome! I need materials / information IN HAND by the 15th one month ahead (June 15 for July meeting, etc.). My address is 757 E Navajo, Tucson, 85719. Messages can be left at 292-2965. THANKS!

Myrtle reports a net profit of \$2206.00 from our April sale!

A letter to the membership:

At our recent show, it was very apparent we do not have total representation and participation from our membership. This club is nothing more or less than our members' commitment to maintain our high standing in the plant world. We are dependent on participation & dedication from all of us. I want to thank all of you who helped in making our show & sale such a success. Without you we would have been pressed. Those of you who did not give your time missed a great show and an opportunity to support a vital club activity. In the future, I hope our club can depend on a broader base of support. I am looking forward to next year.

Thank you,  
Norma Beckman

A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO YOU, NORMA, FOR A JOB WELL DONE!!

Our May meeting, attended by 40, featured John Trager, Curator of the Desert Collection at Huntington Botanical Gardens, and expert plant photographer. Trager presented "An Overview of Photography", covering equipment, films and technique, and all beautifully illustrated.

No two of us take pictures alike. However, most good photographers have certain techniques in common.

A single lens reflex camera with interchangeable lenses are primary tools.

A 20 - 24 mm wide angle lens allows some depth of field while keeping the subject in focus, so it is useful for broad panoramic shots.

Ideal for photographing plants, a 55 mm macro lens is much more versatile - it can take extreme close ups as well as majestic landscape shots.

Other useful lenses include - A 105 mm macro, which allows you to stand back and focus in on detail of a landscape, and a short telephoto (200 mm), good for photographing wildlife while standing at some distance.

It is helpful to understand the relationship between lens aperture and depth of field. Lenses are marked 2.8 - 22 or 32. Increase aperture to have greater depth of field. (2.8 =



minimum.) A low aperture is useful in low light situations, but you have a minimum depth of field. You can control what is in focus in your pic by controlling aperture.

If you take photography seriously, if its windy, for a long exposure, low light, or a self-portrait, you'll need a tripod.

A UV filter won't change the image, but one of these screwed on OUTSIDE that new lens you just bought is cheap insurance, should the camera be dropped.

A polarizing filter cuts glare, as well as emphasizing the blue sky and making a dramatic dark background.

For plant photography in the finest detail, use film with a low ASA rating. John advises using Kodachrome 64 or 25 or Fuji 50. Use of a higher speed film (ASA 200-400, 1600 & up in low light or fast action situation requiring a fast shutter speed), has the disadvantage of being grainier. Fuji films have very bright colors - Fuji velvia's colors are particularly (overly?) intense. Ektachrome has truest colors (Blue flowers are said to be best taken in shade.) Slide duplicating film is perhaps better than original, but keep original!

One aspect of technique is composition. Your first decision is format: horizontal or vertical?

Often, cropping a photo results in a simpler, more pleasing photo. However, you can move in too far in isolating the subject.

For symmetry, avoid the "bull's eye syndrome" by using "rule of thirds": usually it's more interesting to have the subject slightly off-center, maybe 1/3 from one margin and 2/3 from the other. With asymmetrical subjects, it's much easier to apply the "rule of thirds" - it just kind of happens naturally.

Other possibilities to consider are: arranging your composition diagonally, emphasizing contrast, developmental shots, close up of plant hair or fruit, dew (from a mister, perhaps), creative use of shadow, reflections, or double exposure.

To provide scale for photographs, aim for something natural. Either your friends or, if subject is small, an insect.

Framing is accomplished rather nicely by trees, providing depth to the image and taking up some of the bare, featureless sky.

Isolating the subject. This is really the most important basic item to consider when taking pictures. The first thing you need to do is control the amount of light you let fall on the film. To ensure proper exposure, shoot several by 'bracketing'. Shoot what the meter says, one lighter and one darker. One of these is probably going to be right! One caution: the light meter focuses on the center of the picture. If background is very dark, you

may have to adjust the aperture to compensate. The more frame you fill with your image, the less problem you'll have with that.

Photography is more than documenting objects on paper, it's CAPTURING LIGHT, so you must remember what direction light is coming from. Instead of the usual sun over your shoulder, try backlighting or sidelighting to emphasize translucence and highlight detail. When shooting with backlighting, if you shoot directly into the sun, you'll get 'lens flare' - hexagons created when the sun reflects off the lens. A lens hood or your hand above the lens can prevent this. When using backlighting on a very dense subject, heavy shadows in the foreground may be a problem. One way to get around that is with a 'reflector card'. Any piece of reflective material - white cardboard - used to bounce light back into shadow and highlight some of the detail.

Another thing to remember: FILM IS CHEAP, so don't limit yourself to a single perspective.

John recommends utilizing selective focus and trying different backgrounds (dark or light velvet, velour, or ?).

Try using a handheld flash, or two, remembering to adjust the aperture and think about your background - watching out for reflective surfaces (windows) and objects that distract, such as plant labels. Various bright colors, reds in particular, often bleed together under a flash, while natural light brings out more detail. (Cloudy days are fine - the light is even!)

Photography isn't just to get images, it is a process. It focuses your attention on the wonders of nature, and if at the same time you can look at form, color, and their complexity, and use some of these techniques to get slightly better shots, then other people can enjoy your shots as well.

"Play with it!"      THANKS, JOHN!!!      Now we're ALL EXPERTS!

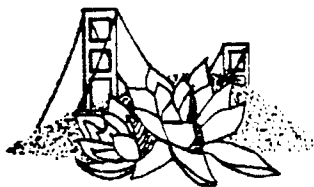
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We raffled a lovely clay pot handbuilt by Erika VanAuker. This unique pot was high fired so it is VERY hard, then treated with an oxide to retain the natural look so desirable for succulents. Norma won it!

A choice of Pachycereus pectin-aboriginum or melocactus longispinus was offered as free plant.

respectfully submitted,

Jeri Ogden



CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA  
25TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION  
**SAN FRANCISCO**  
July 18-23, 1993

San Francisco State University

# CONVENTION NEWS

May 09, 1993

Dear CSSA Affiliate Representatives, et al.

This is important news that needs to be communicated to the members of your society and to all interested parties as soon as possible.

Registrations for the CSSA's 25th Biennial Convention in San Francisco have been received at a unusually rapid pace. All available housing at the university is now booked up.

You are now responsible for making your own arrangements for housing. There is currently available space in the nearby reasonably priced motels listed below:

**Days Inn**

2600 Sloat Blvd  
San Francisco, CA  
(415)665-9000  
6 blocks away  
Tell the Days Inn you  
are with the CSSA.

**Roberts Motel**

2828 Sloat Blvd.  
San Francisco, CA  
(415)564-2610  
6 blocks away

**Seal Rock Inn**

545 Point Lobos Ave  
San Francisco, CA  
(415)752-8000  
2 miles from convention

In many cases, 3 or 4 people can share a room to reduce costs. You must make these arrangements directly with the motel of your choice. The Days Inn and Roberts Motel are within walking distance of the convention. Note : The convention cannot provide transportation to and from the motels.

Our convention still has plenty of capacity to expand and accommodate more people. All are encouraged to continue with their plans attend this significant event. Space is available at the convention cafeteria. You may buy meals individually at the cafeteria or purchase meal tickets for the week for \$85.00. You will be able to eat with and attend all functions with the other attendees. Enclosed is an updated convention registration form. Please photocopy, distribute, and encourage all to use the updated form. If you have questions, please contact me between 4:00pm - 8:00pm PST.

Best Regards,

Richard Bernard  
CSSA Convention Director  
San Francisco Succulent and Cactus Society  
780 Cole Street  
San Francisco, CA 94117  
Home (415) 665 - 8101  
Fax (415) 759-1701

# REGISTRATION FORM

## 1993 CSSA CONVENTION - SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

### SAN FRANCISCO - JULY 18 THRU 23

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME AND SOCIETY AS YOU WISH THEM TO APPEAR ON YOUR BADGE.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
SPOUSE/  
ROOMMATE NAME

SOCIETY OR CITY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

#### NOTE TO NON -CSSA APPLICANTS

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.

	NUMBER		COST
<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	_____	● \$ 90.00	_____
NON - CSSA MEMBERS	_____	● \$125.00	_____
LATE REGISTRATION AFTER 5/15/93	_____	● \$135.00	_____
LATE REGISTRATION AFTER 6/15/93	_____	● \$145.00	_____
DAILY REGISTRATION - DATES ATTENDING 7/_____	_____	● \$ 30.00 /DAY	_____
MEAL PLAN FOR 7/18-23/1992	_____	● \$ 85.00	_____
<b>FIELD TRIPS WITH LUNCH INCLUDED - CHOOSE ONE ONLY</b>			
TRIP 1 - RUTH BANCROFT GARDENS/ UC BERKELEY BOTANICAL GARDENS	_____	● \$ 25.00	_____
TRIP 2 - DUDLEYA HABITAT / DR SCHWARTZ AND THE EUPHORBIA REFERENCE COLLECTION	_____	● \$ 25.00	_____
FAREWELL BANQUET	_____	● \$ 25.00	_____
PARKING PERMIT FOR 7/18 - 24/92	_____	● \$ 12.00	_____
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>			_____

THE CONVENTION WILL ACCEPT VISA, AND MASTERCARD CREDIT CARDS  
 ADD 3.5% CARD PROCESSING FEE BASED ON THE SUBTOTAL

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

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

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL THE REGISTRATION FORMS TO : DR DAVID DUPRE, CONVENTION REGISTRAR  
 220 MONTGOMERY STREET  
 BOX 3441  
 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104

CREDIT CARD USERS MAY DIRECTLY FAX THEIR REGISTRATION FORMS TO (415) 759 - 1701.

THE EIGHTH ANNUAL  
INTER-CITY  
CACTUS &  
SUCCULENT  
SHOW &  
SALE

SAT. & SUN. AUGUST 21 & 22, 1993  
From 9:00 am to 5:00 pm



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Larry Grammer 310 599-1146  
Woody Minnich 805 944-2784  
Charles Spotts 818 341-7613

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Sponsored by the Los Angeles, San Gabriel Valley and Long Beach  
Cactus & Succulent Societies



SPECIAL SILENT AUCTION  
SUNDAY JUNE 13TH., 1993 AT

4713 E. ST. CHARLES AVE

Larry Fischer will be selling all potted plants in a 5 table silent auction---available for viewing at 4:00 p.m. Auction begins promptly at 5:00 and will continue at random intervals until everything is sold.

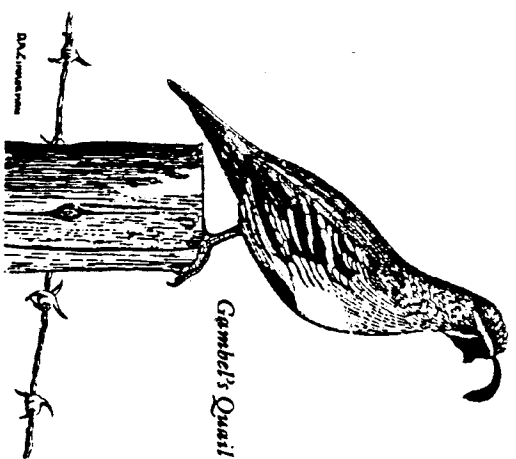
HOW TO GET THERE: St. Charles is a short street, backed up against the north side of the western canal. (which is midway between Southern and Baseline in Phoenix) Go south on 48th St. to Apollo, turn west for one block to 47th Place, turn left of 47th Pl. which in one block forces you right onto St. Charles.

Bring your own boxes and packing materials. If any questions call Larry at 438-9213





# LOOK FOR IN JUNE



Gambel's Quail

## WEATHER

Tucson Area

Sunrise: 5:18-5:21 am    Sunset: 7:25-7:34 pm

Normal temperature: high: 98.5°F, low: 67°F

Normal rainfall: 0.22 inches

Relative Humidity: 5:00 am, 32%; 5:00 pm, 13%

The norm for June is twenty-two days with no clouds, hot temperatures, and possibly one or two days with showers. Watch for heat stroke or heat exhaustion when working outside.

## THE HEAVENS

Summer Solstice—Summer begins at 2:01 am local time on June 21st. Bright yellow-white star "Arcturus" of the constellation Bootes The Herdsman is high overhead. Jupiter is the bright white "star" high overhead and to the west. Venus appears as the "Morning Star" high in the east before sunrise.

## ALLERGENS

Mold—low, Pollen—low,  
Plant parts—high

## BIRDS

Ripe saguaro fruits provide nourishment and water for many desert birds, especially young ones learning to be independent of their parents. Song intensity has diminished in the June heat and dryness. Toad-like trills of the Lesser Nighthawks dominate the predawn period in the low deserts.

**BIRD OF THE MONTH:** Mallards parade their ducklings on local ponds. Mallards, including the form once called "Mexican Duck," are the only common nesting ducks in Southeastern Arizona.

## PLANTS

June normally reaches the highest temperature of the year and with the onset of this intense heat, plant growth can come to a halt at the lower elevations. Ironwoods will flower now and the night blooming cereus, queen of the night, puts on its short, but spectacular flower show at the beginning of June. The creosote usually drops its copious seed crop now after an April flowering. At higher elevations in the grassland and chaparral, yuccas and agaves are in full flower. At still higher elevations the early summer flowering of the relatives of our low desert species will occur and the pine trees begin to cone.

## WIDDIERE

Birds nibble at the red pulp of the saguaro fruits, catching a few bites before the fruits tumble to the ground where they are devoured by coyotes, skunks, raccoons, mice and more birds. Most insectivorous bats have their young at this time. Some live high in the pines, others at varying elevations down to the desert. White-tailed and mule deer deliver their camouflaged spotted young, and baby raccoons are born. Black bears are active; this is their breeding season in the mountains. During the hot days wildlife will rest in their burrows or in the shade and become active when the temperatures are cooler at night. One of the few mammals active on hot desert days is the Harris' antelope squirrel. It forages on the surface for fruits, seeds, and insects. When its body temperature starts to climb several degrees it dives back down into its dark humid burrow and presses its belly on the cool floor. Once it has dumped its load of heat it is back on the 140°F desert surface foraging for food.

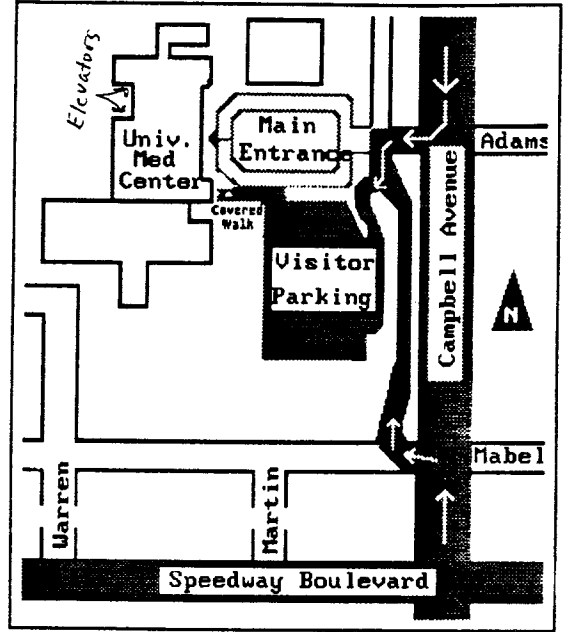
## INSECT NOTES

Cicadas—These thick-bodied, clear-winged insects spend most of their lives as larvae underground, feeding on the roots of plants. In June, the "Cactus-Dodger" (*Cacama valbata*), emerges en masse to form noisy aggregations in trees. The males produce the loud buzzing sound to attract the silent females by using two plates on the underside of their bodies. Watch for the large orange and yellow Cicada-Killer Wasps which paralyze cicadas and carry them to their burrows to feed their larvae.

### Native Plants Act

The portion of the state's Native Plants Act allowing officials to seize cacti and other native plants they believe to be stolen is unconstitutional because it violates the right of due process, the Court of Appeals has ruled. The Arizona Commission on Agriculture and Horticulture searched a Scottsdale couple's home and tagged several rare cacti with notices that they were being seized after a cactus expert said they had been taken illegally from federal and state land. The couple contended they had been purchased legally and challenged the seizure on constitutional grounds, saying it violated due process and protections against illegal search and seizure.

The court ruled that the seizure provision was unconstitutional, saying the statute fell short of guaranteeing due process. "The statute provides no opportunity for a prompt post-seizure hearing at which the commission is required to demonstrate the probable existence of grounds for the seizure," the court said. Because the section was overturned on due process grounds the court did not address the issue of illegal search and seizure. (Wallace vs. Shields, Court of Appeals No. 1 CA-CV 90-478, by Grant with Voss and McGregor concurring.)



Membership Meeting Location

TUCSON CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
c/o TUCSON BOTANICAL GARDENS  
2150 N ALVERNON WAY  
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85712

