



Desert Breeze

Newsletter of the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society

February 2003

Thursday, February 6, 2003

7:00 pm

Vonn Watkins

"Le Jardin Exotique de Monaco"



Vonn will talk about his recent visit to the Le Jardin Exotique de Monaco or The Exotic Garden of Monaco.

He will show approximately 40 photographs to give everyone a peek at this amazing succulent garden wonder.

Filled with magnificent plants in a beautiful setting, the garden is located in Monte Carlo, a truly grand city on the French Riviera. This amazing garden was structured on the side



of a limestone hill and contains a variety of succulent plants landscaped onto the rock face. This public garden, which spreads across a total surface of approximately 41,000 square feet was inaugurated by Prince Louis II, and is the result of a collection of succulent plants started back in 1895.

The 2400 hours of yearly sunshine produce flowers of varied colors and shapes throughout the year.

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885-6367

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Editor: Barry McCormick

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Deadline for copy: 18th of each month

TCSS Web Page: www.tucsoncactus.org

Next Meeting

Thursday, February 6 at 7:00 pm

Junior League of Tucson

2099 E. River Road

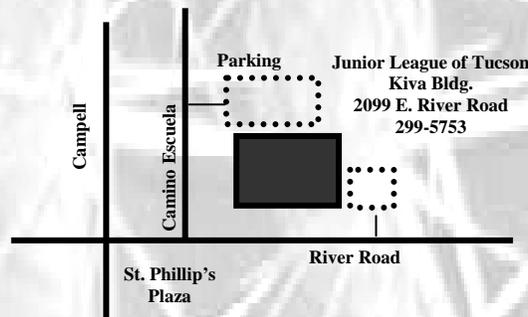
Tucson

February Refreshments

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

Everyone is Welcome!

Bring your friends, join in the fun,
and meet the cactus and succulent
community.



President's Message



The Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) held its Board of Directors meeting in Mesa, Arizona on January 18 & 19. One of the purposes of this meeting was to review potential accommodations for the 2005 convention to be

held in the Phoenix area and hosted by the Central Arizona Cactus and Succulent Society. The balance of the day was the usual business meeting of the organization. At the conclusion of this meeting newly elected officers and board members took their positions. Your TCSS president will be serving another 4-year term on the Board of CSSA. Dan Mahr, who spoke to us about Cactoblastis and Namibia is the new Vice President.



A reception was held at the home of one of the local society members who has a fantastic cactus and succulent garden and greenhouse. The few degrees difference in winter lows make a dramatic difference in the variety of plants that can be grown in the ground or left out in pots. *Bursera*'s, aloes and euphorbias were everywhere. They were planted in spectacular raised beds or planters. This was a rare treat and has me enthusiastic about showing off member

gardens. We will plan some member garden tours.

The second day was devoted to an open and realistic analysis of missions and goals of the Society with emphasis on membership. The Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society is an affiliate member of the CSSA.



This gives us a vote on future convention sites and the ability to have our events published in the newsletter "To the Point". The editor, Carol Clapp, is one of our members. She does a outstanding job with the national newsletter.

Support (membership) for these kinds of non-profit organizations is directly related to their missions. This is quite true of our own Society. The more you do towards accomplishing your missions the greater the support. CSSA is in the process of re-emphasizing its missions and goals to increase its support among cacti and succulent enthusiasts. Your president will be chairing this effort. I hope you will share your ideas with me about CSSA.

Have you ever raised ocotillos from seed? You really need to try this. Within 2-3 day after sowing the large white seeds they germinate!! Wow. Instant gratification? Now what?

Dick Wiedhopf, President

Thursday, March 6, 2003

7:00 pm

**Libby Davison
 Director, UA Campus Arboretum**

Libby Davison will do a presentation on the University of Arizona arboretum. We will discuss her proposal that our Society participate in the planting / replanting of part of their grounds with cactus and succulents.

Fiesta de las Flores Spring Flower Show and Sale

**Saturday February 22, 9 am to 9 pm
Sunday February 23, 10 am to 5 pm**

**El Con Mall
3601 East Broadway Blvd.**

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 Spring 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 our May Spring show. Jack Ramsey is taking the lead on this event; contact him and let him know how you would like to help at 888-6137.



Desert Botanical Gardens

Saturday, April 5, 2002

Mark your calendars for a field trip to Desert Botanical Gardens in Phoenix on April 5. We are arranging for a bus, and this popular event will probably fill up quickly. More details at the February meeting. We will try to have a speaker in April from the Desert Botanical Gardens, so this will be a great combination.

Spring Show and Sale

**Saturday – Sunday
May 3 & 4, 2002**

Planning is underway for our first annual (love that expression) spring show. We plan to do the show in alternate years when we don't have Sonoran. The main purpose of the show is to have fun, of course. The second purpose is to promote the Society and all of the things we do in the Society. We will have plant exhibits and plant sales, and exhibits highlighting all of our programs. Saturday night we plan on having a member's reception where all of the committees will present their

programs to the members. This is a great way to have some extra socializing and have a change to talk about our programs, and celebrate our accomplishments.

Educational School Grant Program

The deadline for grant requests has been extended. We have experienced some difficulty in getting our information through the administrative levels of the schools and to the teachers who would write the grant requests.



More details about the Educational School Grant Program can be found on our TCSS web site www.TucsonCactus.org.

Joe Frannea

Cactus Rescue

Cactus Rescue has had a bit of a hiatus during the holidays and into the first part of the year. A number of potential rescue sites are being monitored and activity should pick up soon. We have a good stock of plants from last year carefully set in the ground where they are growing well for the spring sales.



Our Rescue Crew is notified on Thursdays for weekend rescues. If you are interested in being on the list, send Joe an email at frannea@prodigy.net. Many crew members can only work one weekend a month. Come when you can and help the club and get hand selected cacti at a great price.

2003 Meeting Schedule

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

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

February 6 General Meeting, Vonn Watkins
March 6 General Meeting, Libby Davison



TCSS Rescue Cacti for Sale

Lots & lots to choose from.....

Barrels - from 2" to 14" diameter (about \$1 per inch)

Hedgehogs - from 1 to 20 heads (about \$1 per head)

TCSS Club Members receive a 15% discount

Call Joe or Patsy if interested 575-7126



Photo credits for this issue are Joe Frannea, Dick Wiedhopf, and Barry McCormick.

Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society

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