

quick so make every bid count. When the bidding is closed for each item, the winning amount and the bid number will be recorded with the item and the item will be placed in a secure holding area until you are ready to check out. You will be able to pay for them all at once, by cash, check payable to TCSS, Visa or Master Card.

The proceeds of this auction will support our Research Grants Fund

Unique School Grant Request Awarded!

A TCSS School Grant was just awarded to eighth grade teacher Holly Crawford for a unique request to set up a program for students to teach students about Cactus & Succulents.



Holly is an teacher at Amphitheater's Wilson K-8 School. Last Spring she challenged a few of her advanced students to develop lesson plans to teach elementary students about desert plants. Her eighth graders also were coached on writing professional grant requests and they did an excellent job. There were three groups of three students each writing their own lesson plans and associated grant requests.

The TCSS Board unanimously approved the \$346 request to fund all three proposals. The students, who are now ninth graders, will acquire all their supplies and materials with the grant money and return to Wilson K-8 School to teach third and sixth graders about Cactus and Succulents. An additional part of their assignment was to write letters to the elementary teachers explaining their project and requesting permission to teach these lessons.

If you are not familiar with the requirements to get a lesson plan together and approved for classroom use, consider this. The plan needs to include sections for: Objective; Arizona State Standards Met; Anticipatory; Relevancy; Assessment; Learning Task Description; Closure; and Materials. The students prepared all this information and submitted it with the grant requests for our review. We applaud Holly and her nine students for an excellent project and look forward to some feedback after they teach the classes.

Joe Frannea

"Blooming" Barrel Sale a Big Success!



A beautiful clear bright sunny Saturday morning set the stage for a huge rush of anxious cactus buyers to pick out a fishhook barrel cactus, *Ferocactus wislizeni*,

in bloom. The Rescue Crew held a special sale on a vacant lot on North First Avenue, just south of Wetmore Road near the Tucson Mall. Sales were brisk fifteen minutes before the official opening at 8 AM and by 8:30 almost all of the trailer load of barrels, about a hundred, were sold. A quick trip back to the holding area to load up more proved beneficial. A total of about 150 large barrels were sold, as large as 16 to 24 inches tall, and about 100 smaller cactus. All the smaller *Mammillaria* and Hedge Hogs and various others sold out quickly. We went home shortly after noon with only one barrel not sold. Tucsonans do love landscape cacti and expressed their appreciation for our Rescue Program!

The sale was a big success bringing in \$2,300 in total sales. About half of this will reimburse the club for out of pocket expenses, mostly cactus tag costs, 25% goes to our TCSS School Grant Program fund, and the balance to TCSS operating expenses.

Joe Frannea

Pima Pineapple Cactus Saved Twice

The Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society's Cactus Rescue Crew went the extra mile to save several



dozen of the endangered Pima Pineapple Cactus, *Coryphantha scheeri robustispina*.

The developer of about 200 acres of known Pima Pineapple habitat in the Corona de Tucson area, SE of Tucson, utilized the Pima County Conservation Land Bank program to mitigate the habitat loss so that development could

proceed. But the Land Bank program did not consider what might happen to the actual plants that have been mitigated. The developer did not want to destroy the cactus but there were no suitable places to keep the plants on the site and there were no obvious legal ways to remove them from the property for transplanting.

Chris Monrad spearheaded the effort to get the State of Arizona Agriculture Department to let the Rescue Crew relocate the cacti to a nearby preserve that TCSS helped to establish on Vail School District property about two years ago. A special non-commercial transportation permit was obtained and the Rescue Crew transplanted twenty-eight healthy Pima Pineapples to the Vail School District preserve area. Hopefully the monsoon rains will give the transplants a kick-start to get re-established, but TCSS will monitor these plants and carry in supplemental water if needed. Some plants were starting to bud so hopefully they will produce some flowers in a few weeks.



The Pima Pineapple Cactus moved were about 1.5 inches to 4 inches in diameter and not quite as tall as wide. They are not known as the best transplant

candidates so extra care was taken to mark their growing orientation, get them in the ground as soon as possible, and take some of their native dirt with them. Small native grass cuttings were put over the cactus to provide some shade for sun protection and to help hide the new plants. Notice the distinctive bottom portion of the cactus that looks like a pineapple. Once you dig one of these up it becomes quite clear from the portion below ground that it is a Pima Pineapple. The portion above ground is also very distinctive with the individual areoles on the end of each of the thimble-like projections.

Joe Frannea

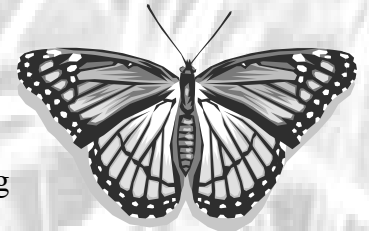
Treasurer's Report August 2004

Total checking & savings (including Research and School Grant Funds)	\$23,815.70
Research fund	\$ 2,000.00
School Grant Funds	\$ 2,261.74

Butterfly Magic at TBG

October 11, 2004 through January, 2005

Volunteers are needed for this first ever live tropical butterfly exhibition in Tucson. Several two hour training sessions are scheduled starting September 13. In order to volunteer, you must complete one of the training sessions as well as agree to volunteer an average of at least four 2.5 hour shifts per month. Shift times will be from 10:00 am to 12:30 PM and from 12:30 PM to 3:00 PM. If you would like more information, or would like to sign up for one of the sessions, please contact Julia Armstrong, 326-9686, ext. 27 or email at butterfly@tucsonbotanical.org.



A handout with all the information will be available at our September meeting.

More on Madagascar

Books on Madagascar Succulents available in our library include:



Succulent & Xerophytic Plants of Madagascar, by Werner Rauh, *Pachycaul and Caudiciform Plants* by Philippe de Vosjoli, And the *Euphorbia Journals*.

Other books you may find in bookstores or the public library are *Madagascar - A World Out Of Time* by F.Lanting, and *Madagascar - The Red Island* by A. Kouwenhoven.

