



Succulent Morsels

News of the Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society
March 2011 Vol. 3, No. 3

To promote knowledge, enjoyment, cultivation, and conservation of cacti and other succulent plants among its members, other individuals and organizations throughout West-Central Colorado

CACTUS OF BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK TOPIC OF MARCH PROGRAM

Members of the Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society will be treated to beautiful photographs and information about the cacti of Big Bend National Park in southwestern Texas at the March meeting. Thanks to Jim Weedon, Chinle Member and co-author of Cacti of Texas; presenter Janet Hassell was able to identify the cacti she and Bill spotted on their trip to the National Park in February of 2010 and will share this with the members with her power point presentation.



Opuntia camanchica is showy and common in Big Bend National Park

Be sure to put this program on your calendar.

CHINLE C&SS TO SKIP LANDSCAPES WEST THIS YEAR

Primarily due to the lack of advance planning and preparation time, the Chinle Board has elected to forego participation in this year's Landscapes West event. President Bill Hassell summed up the issues by stating that "we were frustrated in dealing with and coordinating the activity with the organizers of the event in a timely manner to make a presentable showing." Don Campbell also noted that "It would have been a lot of work with no assurance that we would have the opportunity to feature the club prominently at the venue, for education of the public and/or opportunities to attract new members."

Participation in Landscapes West in the past has involved selecting and preparing plants for showing, researching information on the plants for accurate labeling, transporting plants to the venue, setting up the display, manning the display for the three days, and then taking down the display and returning plants "home". *Those members who signed up to man the booth are appreciated for their commitment, but of course, will not be needed now.*

SUCCULENTS, SUCCULENTS & MORE!



Gwen Kalaidis, guest speaker from Denver, gave an colorful and entertaining presentation on her specialty, hardy succulents, to a full house of Chinle members at the February meeting. Her humorous descriptions of plant traits ranging from “difficult to grow” to “thugs that take over everything in the garden” brought smiles to all of us who have encountered such plants!

Her helpful suggestions regarding watering, shade and sun, and the role of rocks in the garden were presented in a down-to-earth manner, easy to understand and apply. For those who want more in-depth information, her book “Hardy Succulents” is available for purchase on Amazon.com, and features extraordinary photographs, many taken at our Grand Junction WCBG and CSU gardens.

“SCENE” AT THE FEB. MTG



Kathleen McGinley pays her dues to Treasurer Loren Benoit.



Lynn Dunham (above R) sports her new hip! As does Loren Benoit at this meeting! Member Carol Christlieb also had a hip replaced in February and all are doing well. (Artificial “parts” may be a new requirement for membership in Chinle C&SS!!!)



(L to R) John Moore, Tom Burrows, and Judy McCart check out the lovely pots created by our speaker, Gwen Kalaidis. She promises to have more at the Denver Show & Sale, March 26-27.



ATTENTION CHINLE MEMBERS!

Buck Hemenway, CCSA Convention organizer, states that "This will be one of the best Conventions in recent memory. Our speakers are great, the day tours are fantastic and we are planning many workshops and group get-togethers that will add to the texture of our club members everywhere." Word has it that former members, Judy and Dave Kennedy will be attending the Convention, and showing a number of their prize winning plants.

One can register and pay for the Convention registration on line. Here is the Link: <http://www.sdcss.net/2011convention.html>

TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES!

Members are reminded that the deadline for paying your 2011 dues is March 31st. The cost is \$20 for an individual and \$25 for a couple. If you joined the Society and paid dues during the last quarter of 2010, your dues are good through 2011. If you have any questions regarding membership dues, please contact Treasurer, Loren Benoit.



Don Campbell's "Magic" sunroom produced this lovely flowering *Turbinicarpus pseudomacrochele* on February 3, 2011. Photo by Don Campbell.

NOTICE OF PENDING BY-LAWS CHANGE

The Chinle Board of Directors has proposed that a member of the Garden Committee be a permanent member of the Chinle Board due to the Society's commitment to the WCBG and CSU gardens. As required by the By-laws, this proposed change was distributed to the members present at the February meeting in writing and will be voted on at the March meeting. The proposed changes is included here:

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHINLE C&SS BY-LAWS

Article V

Officers

Sec. 5.01 Number

Officers of the Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society shall be elected by the general membership and include a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Member-at-Large. **The voting members of the Board of Directors consist of the elected officers, the immediate Past President, the Newsletter Editor, the Chairperson of the Garden Committee, and up to three additional members as appointed by the President.**

Sec. 5.02 President

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society and shall be ex-officio member of all committees, except the nominating committee. The President shall provide general overall management of the affairs and business of the Society. The President will maintain liaison among the Society Board and the general membership and will ensure the objectives of the Society Board are achieved. **The President may appoint additional members to the Board of Directors as needed in conformance with Sec. 5.01.**

Sec. 5.03 Vice President - No change

Sec. 5.04 Secretary - No change

Sec. 5.05 Treasurer - No change

Sec. 5.06 Newsletter Editor - No change

Sec. 5.07 Immediate Past President - No change

Sec. 5.08 Member-at-Large - No change

Sec. 5.09 Chairperson of the Garden Committee (added section for job description)

The Chairperson of the Garden Committee is appointed by the President and serves as a member of the Board of Directors to provide coordination between the Board and the Garden Committee with the activities of the Garden Committee.

Sec. 5.10 Elections and Terms of Office (formerly Sec. 5.09 - no other change)

Presented to the Membership: February 10th, 2010

PLANNING BEGINS FOR 2011 GARDEN TOUR

Pam Johnson, Coordinator of the 2011 Garden Tour & Picnic, has submitted this notice:

As some of you know, I will be organizing this year's Garden Tour scheduled for May 14, 2011. I am excited about this year's tour and hope you are as well. It is a treat to see our members' projects and all their hard work.

If you have not been part of the tour, consider this your year. Don't think your landscape isn't up to it--you're wrong! We love to see anyone's project: completed, in the works, or just an idea in your head.

So if you would like to have your landscape as part of this year's tour, please contact me at 523-5443.

Talk to you soon!

Pam Johnson

Note: The Program Committee has moved the annual Garden Tour to May in order to have more flowers in bloom and avoid some of the intense summer heat.

GARDEN COMMITTEE SETS GOALS, ANNOUNCES GARDEN PARTY SCHEDULE

The Garden Committee (co-chaired by Nancy Glover & Don Campbell, and members Bob Bubel, Janet Hassell, Kay Klausmeier, and Dieter Kubisch) are establishing the goals for the committee and the Chinle C&SS. Highlights of their plans are given here:

- Establish the garden maintenance schedule for 2011 (see page 8 for the new schedule).
- Consider extra sessions for special maintenance such as application of pre-emergents, insecticides and pesticides.
- Publish gardening schedule on the club website (new!)
- Continue e-mail reminders of gardening days and publication in the newsletter.
- Encourage participation by members with periodic brief talks on-site regarding cacti and succulent gardening, refreshments, making cuttings available to members and recognition of members' efforts in the newsletter.
- Maintain an accurate inventory of plants in the WCBG and CSU gardens and make it available on the website
- Manage labeling of plants in the gardens, with new labels and replacement labels
- Coordinate watering schedule of both gardens to consider needs of established plants, new plants and gardening days.
- Designate special care to new plants with repotting them in local soil and a more intensive watering schedule.
- Establish budget costs and request funding from the Chinle C&SS and other sources.



(Left) Garden Committee members take an assessment walk-through at both gardens, Wed., Feb. 23, 2011.

(Right) Kay Johnson and Kathleen McGinley look at plants Kay is donating to the Chinle C&SS.

WILDFLOWERS MAY DISAPPOINT THIS YEAR

According to the Arizona Daily Star, Jan. 20, 2011, edition, wildflowers in and around Tucson may be much less than last year, which was a spectacular one. The reason is too little rain in the fall and early winter. However, recent 6"+ rainfall may rescue some of the blooming beauty, so if you are planning a wildflower trip, check out the following website: <http://www.desertusa.com/wildflo/az.html> for up-to-date flower forecasts.



2010 poppy & lupine blooms in Catalina State Park, Arizona.

SPRING IS ARRIVING IN THE MOJAVE DESERT!



As noted by Don Campbell in his forwarded message from Chinle C&SS favorite, Donnie Barnett:

“Spring has sprung here. The first five species of plants have started blooming...” as shown by this superb photo of ‘Turpentine-broom’ *Thamnosma montana*, complete with a busy little desert bee.

Donnie notes that he has new photos posted on his website and invites all to visit to check them out at

<http://www.Donnie-barnett.artistwebsites.com> .



“This spectacular plant, ‘Rechsteineria cardinalis’, the Cardinal Flower, originates in Brazil. The caudex is 3 inches in diameter, the tube flower are 1.25 inches long. This plant bloomed for three consecutive days in February 2011.” (Feb. 9th on the left, Feb. 11th on the right) in Don Campbell’s sun room. Comments & Photos by Don Campbell.

INTERESTING CLASSES OFFERED

Hydratufa Class - Level II - Making a bowl

June 25, 2011

9:00 am

Location: 3032 Milburn Court

Host: Pam Johnson

Making “Rocks” Class – Creating a Bonsai Landscape

July 23, 2011

9:00 am

Location: 3032 Milburn Court

Host: Pam Johnson

Give Pam a call at 523-5443 if you are interested in attending.

2011 Chinle C&S Club Gardening Days

Gardening at WC Botanical Gardens includes Ernie's Cactus Corner

DATE	DAY	TIME	LOCATION TO MEET
March 19	Saturday	9:00 AM	WC Botanical Gardens
March 31	Thursday	9:00 AM	CSU Extension Office
April 9	Saturday	9:00 AM	WC Botanical Gardens
April 21	Thursday	9:00 AM	CSU Extension Office
April 28	Thursday*	9:00 AM	WC Botanical Gardens
May 12	Thursday	9:00 AM	CSU Extension Office
May 21	Saturday	9:00 AM	WC Botanical Gardens
June 2	Thursday	8:00 AM	CSU Extension Office
June 11	Saturday	8:00 AM	WC Botanical Gardens
June 23	Thursday	8:00 AM	CSU Extension Office
June 30	Thursday	8:00 AM	WC Botanical Gardens
July 14	Thursday	8:00 AM	CSU Extension Office
July 23	Saturday	8:00 AM	WC Botanical Gardens
August 4	Thursday	8:00 AM	CSU Extension Office
August 13	Saturday	8:00 AM	WC Botanical Gardens
August 25	Thursday	8:00 AM	CSU Extension Office
September 1	Thursday	8:00 AM	WC Botanical Gardens
September 15	Thursday	9:00 AM	CSU Extension Office
September 24	Saturday	9:00 AM	WC Botanical Gardens
October 6	Thursday	9:00 AM	CSU Extension Office
October 15	Saturday	9:00 AM	WC Botanical Gardens

*Switched to Thursday due to Field Trip scheduled for April 30.

If the weather is too cool or too hot for you to work, feel free to come later or earlier than the scheduled time.

We'll meet at the location listed on each of the gardening days.

Please make sure that any of the tools you bring are identified as yours.

As we work on the gardens, please remember our motto: "When in doubt, don't pull it out!" We expect, however, that we will have experts available to help us identify which plants are to be removed, moved, or pruned.

The Goodie Goddess/Gnome will make sure refreshments are served at each session!

We're looking forward to seeing you at our gardening parties. THANK YOU!

2011 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- MAR. 7 CHINLE C&SS BOARD MEETING
10 AM - 2666 Summer Hill Ct., GJ, CO
Members Welcome
- MAR. 10 REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHINLE C&SS
Program: Cacti of Big Bend Area, Texas
Presenter: Janet Hassell
6:30 PM - Sagebrush Room, Mesa County Fairgrounds
- MAR. 19 First Garden Party - Saturday - 9:00 am
Western Colorado Botanical Garden
- MAR. 26-27 CCSS SHOW & SALE - DENVER
- MAR. 31 Garden Party - Thursday - 9:00 am
CSU Extension Garden
- APR. 4 CHINLE C&SS BOARD MEETING - 10 AM
2666 Summer Hill Ct., GJ, CO
Members Welcome
- APR. 9 Garden Party - 9:00 am
Western Colorado Botanical Garden
- APR. 14 NO REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHINLE C&SS
April 30th program replaces this meeting.
- APR. 21 Garden Party - Saturday - 9:00 am
CSU Extension Garden
- APR. 24-29 Cactus & Succulent Society of America 2011 Convention
San Diego, CA
- APR. 30 ONE-DAY FIELD TRIP (Replaces regular April meeting)
Featuring Local Habitat Plants
Coordinator: Don Campbell
- APR. 30 Garden Party - Thursday - 9:00 am
Western Colorado Botanical Garden
- MAY 7 BLOOMIN' DEALS

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

By Don Campbell



In mid February I found a lovely little cactus flower attired in a seasonally appropriate warm 'wooly jacket'. Shortly after snapping the photo below and confirming the plant's identity from the pot label, I opened Anderson's book titled, "The Cactus Family" to see if I might discover a bit more about *Turbinicarpus jauernigii*.

There I learned that this handsome little cactus, which I've nicknamed Turbi, was originally found growing north of Las Palomas, San Luis Potosí, Mexico. I also learned that it usually has solitary globose green stems with dirty pale brown flowers. My Turbi, obviously a contrarian, has decided to clump. It has five stems and appears to be working on a few more. And, regardless of what the expert says, I refuse to accept that my little Turbi has "dirty pale brown" flowers.

Proceeding further into Anderson's description I read that 'Turbi' has flocculose stems. Perhaps it was the 'inaccurate' flower description that prompted a brief attack of dyslexia. Whatever the cause, my mind mistakenly transposed the words flatulence and flocculose. And, not wanting my little 'Turbi' to be in any discomfort, I immediately ran to the medicine cabinet, dissolved a couple of Gas-X pills, was about to pour this analgesic down little Turbi's pot, when fortunately, my mind cleared and I realized that Anderson was describing Turbi's lovely white wooly jacket rather than any gaseousness in his vascular tissue. Whew, close call Turbi...



Courtesy "What Kinda Cactus Izzat?", Reg Manning.

ERROR CORRECTION: In the February issue of Succulent Morsels, the speaker's name was incorrectly printed as "Julie Wingarter." It should have been printed as "Joyce Wingarter." We apologize for the error.

EDITOR'S NOTE: **This version of the newsletter is in a reduced file format. If you want a full-size file, go to:** <http://thomasaburrows.com/chinle/newsletters.html>

2010 Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society Officers

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**Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30pm.
Meetings are held in the Sagebrush Room at the Grand Junction Fair Grounds. Guests are always welcome.**

CHINLE C&SS WEBSITE: <http://www.coopext.colostate.edu/TRA/PLANTS/chinlecactus.shtml>