



Succulent Morsels

News of the Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society
May 2011 Vol. 3, No. 5

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

Next on the Chinle Agenda - May 14th:

Garden Tour & Picnic 2011

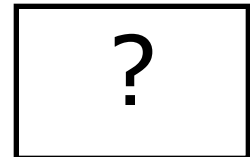
Pam Johnson, Garden Tour Coordinator, has designed a fascinating tour this year, with the following descriptions to peak our interest in visiting these unique gardens. See the end of this article for specific details, times, and meeting places. The tour and picnic replace the Regular Meeting of the Chinle C&SS. Call Pam by May 4th to sign up for the tour and lunch.

THEN & NOW

**Al & Pat Severson's
2701 Rincon Drive**



Let us take another look at Al & Pat's front yard garden. Some of you may have been there for the first spring they put out their cactus garden. As you can see from the picture many of their plantings were very small. I can't wait to see how the garden has changed over the last couple years. Both deserve congratulations on their hard work.



Parking is available in their circle drive out front on 27 Road or turn onto Rincon and park up on their driveway.

Monumental Views

Tom Buzzrows, 242 E. Fallen Rock Road

As you can see from the picture, views of the Monument can be seen from any part of Tom's property. Tom has put a lot of work into restoring and keeping his property as natural as its surrounding neighbor, the Monument. Tom has developed paths thru out his property in order to keep the natural look and takes great pride in all his accomplishments. In keeping with his request, "Ms. Johnson will take her 'third grade class' on a tour of the property with Park Ranger Tom leading the way. *Stay on the trail!*"



All kidding aside, we will follow Tom on his paths as he tells us all about his planting and restoration work he has done since moving onto the property. If you wish to step off the path please ask for Tom's permission to do so. We wish to respect his wishes and not harm any of the work he has done.

Parking is available in Tom's driveway. Let's put as many vehicles there as possible. I will help with backing out so that no harm is done to his plants next to his driveway. If we still need additional parking please park your vehicle on the opposite side of the road of his property. He has several cactus next to the road on his side where a path has been established.

Cactus Gardens

Loren & Mary Ann Benoit - 2182 Standing Rock Dr

Loren & Mary Ann have devoted a lot of time to their cactus gardens. I'm sure you will agree when you see their results as you pull up in front of their home. They have taken great strides to develop their gardens to fit in with the landscape of their property as well as their neighbor's properties. I can't wait for them to give us details of their different types of plants and their secrets to success.

Parking is available in their driveway. Again I can help with backing out. Also there should be room along the street for additional parking. Be mindful of their neighbor's driveways.



Just Part of the Landscape

Judy McCart - 525 Sabra Court



As some of you know, Judy is retired and likes to spend more time traveling than tending to a lot of garden work. Ask her about her latest trip to Amsterdam. However Judy still likes her cactus. In order to enjoy her hobby she has incorporated her plantings within her landscaped yard. Take a casual walk around her property. She has made it place of relaxation and beauty, a great place to come home to after a long trip.

Parking will be tight. You can pull into her driveway or park along the street. Again be mindful of the neighbor's driveways.

Tour Details:

Pam says: "I look forward to see you on our Garden Tour on May 14th. We will meet at the CSU Extension Office at the Fairgrounds and plan to leave on the tour at 8:00 am. I encourage you to car

pool. A couple locations are tight with space. Let me know if you need a ride and I will match you up with someone. Driving directions will be provided to the drivers the morning of the tour and lunch, provided by the club, will be served around 12:30 back at the Fairground's picnic area."

(Note: there is a dog show that same day in their park, so we may need to look for an open picnic table around Lions park.)
Throw a lawn chair or two in your trunk.
Be sure to let Pam know by May 4th if you plan to stay for lunch.

CHINLE CACTUS SALES ALIVE & WELL AT EARTH DAY CELEBRATION

Despite day-long drizzle and 40 degree temperatures, the Chinle C&SS had a reasonably good day with plant sales at the Earth Day Celebration at Western Colorado Botanical Gardens. Fortified with coffee, snacks, and good fellowship among participants, the Society sold over \$200 of outdoor and indoor cacti and succulents. Participants included Maryann & Loren Benoit, Julie Bursi, Don Campbell, Lynn Dunham, Sue Fuller, Janet & Bill Hassell, Pam Johnson, Dieter Kubisch, John Moore, and Al & Pat Severson



(L to R) Kay Klausmeier, Bill Hassell, Maryann Benoit & Janet Hassell prepare plants for sale at the Earth Day Celebration 4-23-11. Don Campbell & Loren Benoit (not shown) also assisted.



The day of the event, Dieter Kubisch, Loren Benoit, Don Campbell and Bill Hassell helped put up the two new tents at the sales site. Much easier than last year!!!



"Happy volunteers" included (L to R) Loren Benoit, Al Severson, Lynn Dunham, Pat Severson, & Janet Hassell.



"Yeah! The tent is up!" and celebrated by (L to R) Don Campbell, Dieter Kubisch, Loren and Maryann Benoit.

GARDENERS VISIT CSU FOR FIRST SPRING CLEAN-UP PARTY

On March 31st, Chinle members, Maryann Benoit, Tom Burrows, Don Campbell, Nancy Glover and Janet Hassell tackled the weeds, dead headed spent flowers, and removed dead plants to ready the gardens for spring blooming. Oh yes, the Goodie Goddess appeared, complete with healthy carrots to go along with the tasty pastries!

MORE GARDENING FUN AT WCBG!

A nice-sized group of gardeners attended the Garden Party at WCBG on April 9th that included Maryann Benoit, Bob Bubel, Tom Burrows, Don Campbell, Nancy Glover, Janet Hassell and Pat Severson. The focus of the party was the usual weeding activities and “planting” the rocks garnered a week or so ago.



(L to R) Maryann Benoit, Bob Bubel, Pat Severson, Tom Burrows & Don Campbell, at the WCBG on 4-9-11.



Ernie's Cactus garden gets some TLC on 4-9-11!



Not finding plants to plant (?), Don Campbell concentrated on planting ROCKS!



(L to R) Pat Severson, Maryann Benoit & Nancy Glover view a *Pediocactus simpsonii* ready to bloom at the WCBG Garden, 4/9/11.



(L to R) Tom Burrows, Don Campbell, Janet Hassell and Nancy Glover met at Don's place on Monday, 4-6-11, to repot plants brought back from the Denver Show & Sale. The repotting is an effort to acclimate the plants to local soil prior to planting in the gardens.



Nancy Glover does wheelbarrow duty at CSU.

The April 21st Garden Party held at the CSU Extension Garden was attended by a large group that included Maryann Benoit, Bob Bubel, Tom Burrows, Lee Calkins, Don Campbell, Nancy Glover, Janet & Bill Hassell, Judy McCart, Jack Neckles, and Pat Severson.

After the Garden party, several members went to Ruth Johnson's home to harvest cacti she has donated before she stops having a cactus garden and asks her husband to rototill it under!



Judy McCart is up to her knees in cacti!



Members tackle the multitude of weeds and volunteer growth the spring warmth and rains have encouraged at CSU.



Lee Calkins still smiling after 2+ hours of weeding.



(Left) Don Campbell & Jack Neckles plant rocks and weed at WCBG. On the right, Maryann Benoit, Tom Burrows, Don Campbell, and Jack Neckles “chill out” and enjoy refreshments. (Photos by Nancy Glover)

On April 28th, Maryann Benoit, Tom Burrows, Don Campbell, Nancy Glover and Jack Neckles participated in the Garden Party at the Botanical Gardens. They weeded, planted cacti, rocks, and enjoyed the “Goodies” in the WCBG Library.

The next Garden Party is set for Thursday, May 12th, 9 am, at the Colorado Extension Office gardens! See ya there! An “Extra” planting party is scheduled for May 19th, 9am at the CSU Extension Garden

APRIL FIELD TRIP FEATURED PLANTS IN MESA COUNTY HABITATS



(L to R) Attendees included Dave McCollough, Julie Bursi, Tom Burrows, Pam Johnson, John Moore, Bob Babel, Bill Hassell, Sandy McMacken, Guest, Judy Babel, Larry Moran, Mary Moran, Nancy Glover, Janet Hassell. Not shown, Don Campbell (photographer), Janet Shaeffer, Loren Benoit, & Carol Campbell.

Saturday, April 30th, over 17 Chinle members had an interesting and educational field trip with “Mr. Cactus”, Don Campbell, as their leader. Thanks to Pam Johnson for organizing the car pools and signing up participants and to Loren and Maryann Benoit for being “back up tour guides”. Everyone had a great time, seeing very healthy & vigorous plants in all locations. The 28 degrees in the morning and snow cover didn’t dampen anyone’s enthusiasm, and all in all, the day was a great success. Here are some photos of Saturday’s activities:

So what is at Cold Shiver's on the Colorado National Monument (the tour's first stop) that has everyone's attention?.....



The next stop was on the Old Gordon's Trail, which had dozens of lovely, healthy specimens to view:



A prize specimen observed on Old Gordon's Trail was the *Escobaria missouriensis*. Here Don shows the contents of the bi-annual red fruit, with sweet flesh and black seeds.

Old Gordon's Trail also provided examples of Claret Cup cactus (*Echinocereus triglochiatius*), mountain shrubs (Fendler's bush), many *Opuntia* species of varying species and incredible views of the Grand Valley, Grand Mesa, and the Bookcliffs.



The group took a lunch break back at the CSU Extension area, and had good fellowship in spite of a mini snow storm and 43 degree weather--with wind! Judy Bubel could hardly keep her hat on! It IS true that food tastes better eaten outdoors! Right group?!?

The afternoon activities began with a drive to Escalante Canyon to view *Pediocactus simpsonii* and *Sclerocactus glaucus*--the hookless variety that are on the endangered species list.



The lovely Claret Cup was one of the few cacti in flower in Escalante Canyon.



Pediocactus simpsonii in Escalante Canyon area.



A real find on the road into Escalante Canyon--a multiheaded *Escobario missouriensis* in bloom-- spotted by Carol Campbell,



Endangered Sclerocactus glaucus, alive and well in the Kannah Creek area.



Pediocactus simpsonii blooming in Kannah Creek area.

After Escalante Canyon, we drove to the Kannah Creek area to view more Pediocacti, Echinocereus triglochidiatus, Sclerocactus glaucus, and the more common “Fishhook” Sclerocactus parviflorus.

The last area we visited was at Cactus Park, where we enjoyed a lovely newly constructed rest area, and had the opportunity to see the Sclerocactus glaucus and Pediocactus simpsonii, growing side by side. Many Claret cups were blooming, and more just ready to bloom.



On the left, In Cactus Park, a Sclerocactus glaucus & Pediocacti simpsonii share a spot; Above is one of several Claret cups

Look on our Chinle Website for a gallery of photos from this Field Trip www.chinlecactusclub.org to be posted in the near future.



Discocactus horstii
Early on the morning of April 13, 2011

MORE BEAUTIES FROM DON'S SUNROOM!

Photos and text by Don Campbell

Don notes that "One of the more eagerly anticipated events on my gardening calendar has just wrapped up. It's the spring blooming of *Discocactus horstii*. To ensure experiencing this very brief spectacle, one must be alert to the early-warning signs. The buds seem to jump out from the cephalium in just a couple of days and then, sneakily bloom at night, becoming limp by mid-morning of that day. Having been greatly disappointed on several past occasions by missing these night-bloomers, I paid close attention and moved the pot to a choice location in the center of the breakfast table the day before I expected the flowers to open. Corn flakes and coffee, a bright sunny morning, the room enveloped in a most delightful fragrance, accompanied by a petite Brazilian beauty...IT CAN'T GET MUCH BETTER THAN THAT!

"This little Brazilian beauty characteristically has a single, low-growing globose brownish-green stem, topped by a dense woolly, bristly cephalium. The pure white flowers of this night bloomer

produce an absolutely heavenly aroma. Over the past several years this plant has 'uncharacteristically' developed a double cephalium and is producing an offset approaching blooming size. Also shown in the photo is a fifth emerging greenish-white flower bud which popped out and was wide open early the next morning. The four, very fragrant, flowers pictured above had all gone limp and aroma-less by mid afternoon on April 13th."

Other sunroom lovelies:



Copiapoa barquetensis - 4/8/11



Matucan aureiflora - 4-11/11



Echinocereus rubispinus on 4-15-11

2011 CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

- MAY 12 Garden Party - Thursday - 9 am
CSU Extension Garden
- MAY 19 SPECIAL PLANTING PARTY AT CSU - 9 AM
- MAY 14 ANNUAL CHINLE GARDEN TOUR AND PICNIC - 8 am
Meet at the CSU Extension Office parking lot.
- MAY 21 Garden Party - Saturday - 9 am
Western Colorado Botanical Garden
- JUNE 2 Garden Party - Thursday - 8 am (note time change)
CSU Extension Garden
- JUNE 9 REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHINLE C&SS
Program: Basic Cactus & Succulent Potting
Presenter: Don Campbell
6:30 pm - Sagebrush Room., Mesa County Fairgrounds
- JUNE 11 Garden Party - Saturday - 8 am
Western Colorado Botanical Garden
- JUNE 11-12 20th Annual Grand Valley Garden Tour
9am to 3 pm
- JUNE 23 Garden Party - Thursday - 8 am
CSU Extension Garden
- JUNE 25 Hydratufa Class - Level II - Making a bowl
9:00 am - Location: 3032 Milburn Court
Host: Pam Johnson - 523-5443
- JUNE 30 Garden Party - Thursday - 8 am
Western Colorado Botanical Garden
- JULY 14 REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHINLE C&SS
Program: Soil, Watering, Pesticides,
Herbicides & Application
Presentors: Dr. Curt Swift, Don Campbell
- JULY 23 Making "Rocks" Class - Creating a Bonsai Landscape
9:00 am - Location: 3032 Milburn Court
Host: Pam Johnson - 523-5443

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

Some of you may have seen this already, courtesy of Don Campbell, but it is worth seeing again. The story that a mountain lion chased this bobcat up a saguaro, and apparently didn't think the little cat was worth the spines it would take to snatch it!



CHINLE BOARD IS COMPILING A CLUB INVENTORY

The Chinle Board of Directors is putting together an inventory of club assets of items such as tents, paper products, records, tools, etc., that are in several separate locations. If you have any items in your home, garage, etc., that belong to the Society, please notify Maryann and Loren Benoit. It's no problem if you have materials, we just need to know where they are!!

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR JUNE TOUR

The Western Colorado Botanical Garden's Annual Garden tour is June 11th & 12th from 9am to 3 pm. They have included the cactus garden as part of the tour, and as we did last year, some of our members volunteered to be at the garden for some of the time to provide information. We will have a Garden Party June 11th, so there will be members there that day. Volunteers would be appreciated for Sunday.

VISIT THE NEW CHINLE C&SS WEBSITE!!!!

Thanks to the efforts of Tom Burrows, our Chinle Webmaster, our Chinle website is up and running. Take some time to visit the website and click on the headings to access various areas and discover how much excellent information is available about our Cactus C&S Society.

NEW CHINLE WEBSITE: www.chinlecactusclub.org

CSU WEBSITE LINK: <http://www.coopext.colostate.edu/TRA/PLANTS/chinlecactus.shtml>



Gymnocalycium bruchii seen 4-2-11
at J. Hassell's window.

ERROR CORRECTIONS: In the April issue of Succulent Morsels, page 8, photo credit for "Behold the Crested Saguaro" should have been to Don Campbell. Also, on that same page, the photo with the crocuses should have credit Susan Rose, horticulturist, at WCBG. We apologize for the errors.

EDITOR'S NOTE: This version of the newsletter is in a reduced file format. If you want a full-size file, go to www.chinlecactusclub.org Chinle Website and click on the newsletter link.

2010 Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society Board

President: Bill Hassell
970-263-0910

Secretary/Web Master: Tom Burrows
970-462-6767

Treasurer: Loren Benoit
970-254-7471

Vice President: Dieter Kubisch
970-243-7861

Member at Large: Maryann Benoit
970-254-7471

Newsletter Ed: Janet Hassell
970-263-0910

Garden Committee: Don Campbell
970-245-5508

**Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society usually meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30pm.
The May Meeting will be replaced by the Annual Garden Tour & Picnic on May 14th (see page 1).
Meetings are held in the Sagebrush Room at the Grand Junction Fair Grounds. Guests are always welcome.**

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