



Kerr County Cactus & Succulent Society News

Coming Events

Our July 21 Meeting

Wendell Bingham will give a PowerPoint presentation on *The Succulent "Big A's": Agave and Aloe.*



Agave

Aloe

Aug 8-9, Austin: Bob Barth's late Summer open house plant sale, 10AM - 5PM. He's featuring an interesting array of plants for sale, including some specimen plants from the collection. Plants for both landscape and pot culture will be available, as will a selection of free plants for those purchasing sale plants. Four greenhouses housing Bob's personal collection and the desert garden will be available for viewing. **Oracle Gorge Nursery**, 602 Terrace Mtn. Dr. (about 0.4 mile north of Westlake Dr.). For directions use Google Maps or MapQuest, or call Bob at 512-327-1173.

September 5, 6 & 7—Austin: ACSS Fall Show & Sale; 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Austin Area Garden Center at Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd, just south of Town Lake and east of MoPac (loop 1). < austinccs.com >

Oct 3, Fort Worth: TACSS Fall Seminar, hosted by the Fort Worth C&SS; Fort Worth Botanical Gardens, 3220 Botanic Garden Blvd. A great group of speakers, plant auction, and "Texas State Grand Champion" plant competition. Please bring a plant for the auction which someone will be proud to buy. Admission is free, so a successful auction is needed to meet expenses.

For details, visit the KCCSS website:

<<http://home.windstream.net/wildfong/KCCSS.html>>, or contact Darwin Breaker (817-283-6867, daybreak@prodigy.net) or Irwin Lightstone (214-341-8292, radiantimages@sbcglobal.net).

Refreshments

Our thanks to these kind folks have volunteered to cater our refreshments in 2009:

January	Natalie Fagarason
February	Judy Surles & Cheryl Drumheller
March	Bill & Cheryl Wildfong
April	Rose Marie Turner
May	Mary McFadin & Betty Collins
June	Bonnie & Bob Taylor
July	Mike Sykos
August	Norma Lozano
September	Buddy & Evelyn Weaver
October	Wendell & Gayle Bingham
November	Bill Gibson

The Chihuahuan Desert Region

From the Chihuahuan Desert Research Institute's website

A desert region can be defined many ways. To a physical scientist such as a meteorologist, a desert can be defined as an area receiving an average annual rainfall of 10" or less. On the other hand, a biologist will consider how moisture moves through an ecosystem and the effect it will have on life forms. His definition of a desert region is an area in which the evaporation rate exceeds the annual rainfall. At the Fort Davis Headquarters of the CDRI, the annual evaporation rate is 36-48" while the annual rainfall averages 17". As a result, a desert region is usually defined by a combination of factors such as climate, topography, and plant and animal communities.

The Chihuahuan Desert region stretches from the Rio Grande Valley in southern New Mexico and the San Simon Chihuahuan Desert of south-eastern Arizona to an area just north of Mexico City. It is approximately

Chihuahuan Desert, continued

800 miles long and 250 miles wide. Included in the Chihuahuan Desert region are parts of the states of Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas and the cities of El Paso and Las Cruces in the United States, as well as parts of Mexico.

Although the Chihuahuan Desert region extends farther south than other North American deserts, extensive portions lie above 4,000 ft. in elevation. The lowest portions of the Chihuahuan Desert region are about 1000 ft. in elevation along the Rio Grande while the highest portions, in Mexico, approach 10,000 ft. in elevation.

Winters are characteristically cool, especially in the northern reaches where nighttime temperatures drop below freezing on average over 100 times per year. In the summer, daytime high temperatures in some areas have reached a reported 122 degrees Fahrenheit.

While the other North American deserts each have a summer and winter rainy season (because of their location further to the west), rain typically comes to the Chihuahuan Desert only from July to October. As much as 90% of the annual rainfall takes place during this period. When rain does come, afternoon thunderstorms cool the desert.

There's much more of this article at the CDRI website:
<http://cdri.org/Desert/index.html>

Yes, it's that time again: as it says below, our membership year starts in July, and dues are still only \$10 for individuals and \$15 for families. Please bring them to the next meeting, or mail a check (payable to KCCSS) to our new treasurer:

Buddy Weaver
1917 Summit Top Drive
Kerrville TX 78028

KCCSS Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2009

The meeting was opened at 7:00 by President Mike Sykos.

Two visitors were introduced: Jimmy and Carol Hooks

New Business: Reminder that dues are due this month and can be given to the Treasurer, Allen Duncan or sent to the future Treasurer, Buddy Weaver.

Coming Events of interest: "Rainwater Harvesting" at the Riverside Nature Center in Kerrville on June 20th.

Recognition of the new officers for the coming year:

President Bob Richie
Vice President-Programs Bill Frodyma
Secretary Mary McFadin
Treasurer Buddy Weaver

The program was presented by Ann Black with the assistance of her husband Jimmy. She gave a hands-on demonstration of how to create dish gardens and how to properly plant cactus and succulents. She made two arrangements, one of cactus and one of succulents. She also used Cholla stalks, rocks, and deer horns as accent pieces.

Refreshments were provided by Bonnie and Bob Taylor.

21 members were in attendance.

Mike drew tickets for the cactus giveaway.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30

Respectfully submitted,
Mary McFadin, sub-Secretary



The KCCSS meets on the third Tuesday each month at 7:00 pm in the conference room of the Butt-Holdsworth Memorial Library, 505 Water Street, in Kerrville (except in December, when we have our Christmas party: time & place varies). Visitors are always welcome.

Membership dues are \$10 for individuals and \$15 for families. The membership year starts in July.

President.....Bob Richie 830-257-8939
VP-ProgramsBill Frodyma 830-896-0903
TreasurerBuddy Weaver.... 830-896-3777
Secretary.....Mary McFadin 830-792-6985
Past PresidentMike Sykos 830-896-7425

LibraryElliot Hatch830-896-3891
Historian.....Natalie Fagarason830-792-5421
DirectorLarry Fagarason.....830-792-5421
Newsletter*Bill & Cheryl Wildfong830-896-8940

* Items for the newsletter are due the FIRST Tuesday of the month. Email them to wildfong@windstream.net
(Snail-mail: 342 West Water St., Kerrville TX 78028; fax 928-752-5463)

Printed by Copies & More, 1527 Junction Hwy, Kerrville, TX; Phone: 830-792-6673; copiesandmoreinc.com/