



SACXS FACTS

Newsletter for the San Antonio Cactus and Xerophyte Society

October 2009 Volume 21, Number 10

“The San Antonio Cactus and Xerophyte Society was organized in 1977 to promote the study, propagation, conservation and public awareness of cacti and other succulent plants.”



President's Message

I think most of us can breathe a sigh of relief...It has finally started to rain. I got about 2 inches. Not enough to bust the drought, but enough to produce a growth and flowering spurt and keep me from watering for a while!!

It is VERY IMPORTANT that you read this newsletter carefully! It contains information about the October meeting which will begin with a tour at the Botanical Gardens at 6:00 pm. Please make a point to attend the meeting and view the Xerophyte Garden which is one of our club's projects. There are other important events and projects coming up. We're planning a work party at the Xerophyte Garden at the Botanical Gardens on the Saturday immediately following our regular meeting. We're also planning the SACXS Christmas party. Milano's (Italian Restaurant) was voted by the members as the location for our party. Information on the Christmas party date, directions to the restaurant, and other details will be discussed at the October meeting.

I want to encourage ALL SACXS MEMBERS to step up and take an active part in our club. We need members to give short (5 min.) programs, contribute to the newsletter, contact new or absent members to remind them about the meetings, help out at the meeting such as selling raffle tickets, calling out raffle ticket numbers, greeting guests, and participate in the Saturday work party. Remember - it takes TEAM-WORK for our club to function!

Barbara Schulze, SACXS President



Meeting Notes

PROGRAM FOR SACXS OCTOBER 21, 2009

The meeting will be a 2 part program. The first part will be at the Botanical Gardens for a tour of our Cactus Gardens. The second part will be back at the Garden Center. Read on for more details...



Meeting Notes

PROGRAM FOR SACXS OCTOBER 2009

Schedule

6:00 pm: Meet on Austin Road opposite the Children's Garden.

6:15 pm: We will enter the Garden for a 30-45 min. tour of the Xerophyte Garden and to meet the Botanical Garden's directors.

7:30 pm: We'll return to the Garden Center for social time, auction, and a short business meeting.

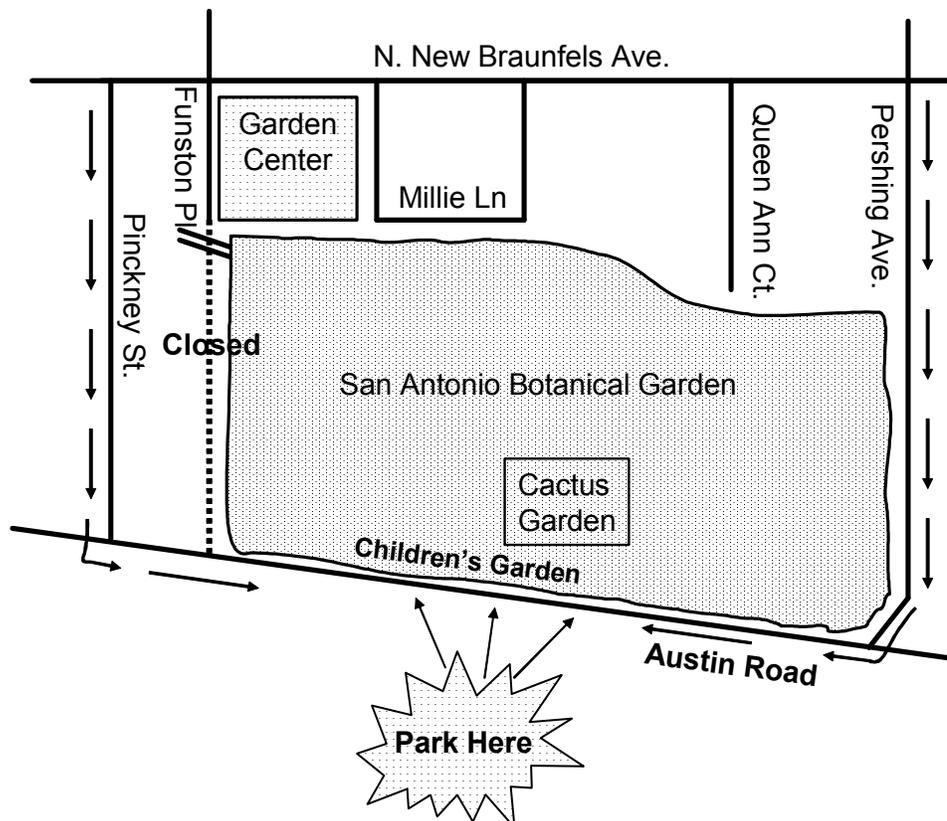
If you have been assigned to bring a food item or plants, they can be dropped off at the Garden Center before you attend the tour.

The Garden Center will be open before the tour.

**It is very essential that you attend this meeting
as we will be discussing SACXS role in the Xerophyte garden.**

Your input is very important.

For further information, contact Claude Townsend 1st VP of Programs:
210-655-8959 or ctownsend@satxrr.com



Member Assignments

October Refreshments:

Paul and Lisa Kibler
210-658-7561
Larry and Pat Murphy
210-655-4223
Krista Allen
830-708-5431
John Nikolatos
210-320-4767
Merlin & Becky McGuire
830-303-6479

***First person or couple on the list, please call the others to remind them and plan what refreshments to bring. Thanks!

October Auction Plants:

Claude & Eula Townsend
210-655-8959
Al & Mary Eisenmenger
830-632-5447
Richard and Elinor Drileck
210-698-9759
Harold Love
210-467-9334
Christime Saalbach
210-493-7011

***First person or couple on the list, please call the others to remind them. Thanks!

Cal Eichler, refreshment & auction chairman, will contact the first member on each list to remind them to contact the other members. Paper products and coffee will be furnished by SACXS. Also, members listed to furnish refreshments will be responsible for setting up the refreshments and cleaning the kitchen area. Members listed to furnish auction plants will be responsible for cleaning the meeting room and taking out the trash. Thanks for your efforts and donations.

Dues are Due!!

The new SACXS fiscal year began on September 1st. According to our by-laws, membership dues are \$10 per person and \$15 per family. The following exception applies to new members only: dues paid on or after July 1st of any given year will be esignated as payment of dues through August 31st of the following year.

Just a reminder:
The Garden Center Meeting Room can get very chilly!! We cannot adjust the air conditioning thermostat! So please be prepared and bring your arctic gear. If you happen to be a polar bear- no problem!!



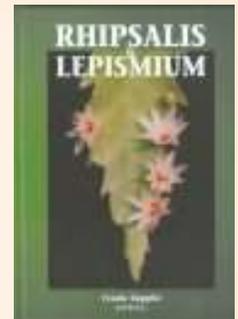
TACSS FALL SEMINAR REPORT

Approximately 12 SACXS members attended the seminar in Fort Worth on Saturday, Oct. 3. Except for some light rain, the weather cooperated and the gardens were beautiful. The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is located in the cultural and historic district of “Cow Town”. This area is quite impressive—talk about total class!! The meeting facility was wonderful. The Fort Worth Cactus and Succulent Society went all-out with an excellent slate of speakers, and great planning and execution of the seminar. Several plant vendors and a ceramic pottery vendor were set up in the courtyard. A nice diversity of species were offered for sale. Dr. Kathy Hoyt gave a presentation on the funding of the CDRI and future plans. She also reviewed some of the cacti of the Chihuahuan Desert. Her talk had many new elements that I had not seen before. It was nice to talk to her afterwards as a representative of SACXS. Two of the speakers were actual growers and gave tips on specialty plants and unique methods of propagation and Bonsai horticulture. The last speakers were the Loftins who introduced their new Nature Guide book “Texas Cacti”. And wow! There were a lot of auction plants and door prizes. It was definitely worth the trip to Ft. Worth and a chance to spend time with friends.

—Ann Black

Book Review

Here is an interesting read: “Rhipsalis and Lepismium” By Frank Supplie, 2007; EPRIC. Written in German and translated into English, this is a guide to two interesting cactus genera by a self-described horticulturalist and grower who “spends a lot of time with (his) plants.” There are 200 color photos of plants in habitat and of species in fruit, flower, and seed. These appear to be complex genera and seemingly difficult to characterize. The English translation was quite literal, and therefore at times difficult to read. Some of the text was downright amusing. It begs for a better English version. I had to consult another reference book in order to appreciate the photos and plant descriptions. Albeit a bit difficult to understand, the book is still a worthwhile reference. It is available for checkout from the SACXS librarian, Paul Kibler.



—Ann Black

By the way: EPRIC: Epiphytic Plant Research and Information Center, based in the Netherlands.

Your Newsletter Contributions are Needed!!

Your article or news items here.

Your photos here.

**Editor's Note...**

Dear SACXS Friends: It is my pleasure to bring SACXS Facts to you. Our newsletter is a vital link to each other between meetings. The “torch” of SACXS Facts has been passed down from editor to editor, quite frankly, long before I joined the club. As I publish SACXS Facts, I am mindful of the purpose of our society which is displayed on the newsletter masthead.

Barbara Schulze, your president, and our other board members are making a great effort to keep the society on a steady course. Although these modern times often seem uncertain, we still have our society! We should value our fellow members as good friends with a common interest!! I am looking forward to the months to come, to our meetings. and to other club functions. See you soon! *Ann Black*