

SACXS FACTS

Newsletter for the San Antonio Cactus and Xerophyte Society

February 2011

Volume 23, Number 2

"The San Antonio Cactus and Xerophyte Society was organized in 1977 to promote
the study, propagation, conservation and public awareness



President's Letter

Greetings SACXS Members,

It was wonderful to see so many members attend our January meeting including some of our newer members. Please join us in February for a special out-of-town speaker, Woody Minnich who will be speaking to several Texas cactus and xerophyte societies while touring in Texas. Look for information on his topic elsewhere in the newsletter.

Because of our special guest speaker, we will push back our Show & Sale information meeting to March. At the March meeting we will discuss show set up & clean up, getting show plants ready, the Show auction, advertising the Show & Sale, the Show raffle, the SACXS club table with information for visitors to the Show, and other details concerning the Show. I am asking every member to try to attend the March regular meeting and get involved with our Show & Sale.

February is the month when the nominating committee will begin the selection process for a new SACXS board. Please let me know if you are interested in serving on the committee or the new board.

I did something at the January meeting that I haven't done for a long time. I looked at some of the SACXS library books that Paul Kibler had brought to the meeting. One book in particular caught my eye - Cacti of Texas in their natural habitat by Gertrud and Ad Konings. I would recommend this book to everyone in the club. It is very light reading and the photos are spectacular! All the pictures show the cactus in habitat and close-ups of the plants in flower, with seed pods, and spine formation. The habitat photos have me itching to go back to some of the sites where I have been cactus hunting in the past. It's a good thing we have some field trips coming up. This book will not make a good field guide because it is too large but it is an awesome book to just look through and marvel at the variety of beautiful cactus in Texas. I am even considering purchasing my own copy. Do yourself a favor! Take a look at the club library books that Paul brings to the meeting each month or call Paul and request a copy of a book that interests you.

Don't forget that our meeting will now begin at 7:15. The social period will still begin at 6:30. Hope to see everyone at the meeting.

Barbara Schulze, SACXS President



Don't Miss the February SACXS Meeting! Read on for Important Information!!



SACXS Board Members

President: Barbara Schulze 830-281-5766 **1st Vice President:** Claude Townsend 210-655-8959
2nd Vice President: Tony Garcia 210-733-7470 **3rd Vice President:** Sam Rodgers 210-240-7721
Secretary: Bjorn Steffenson 210-479-3717 **Publicity Secretary:** Eula Townsend 210-655-8959

Treasurer: Doug Coates 210-659-7279

Directors: David Dawson 210-336-8621, Gerald Yarbrough 210-435-7157,
Ernie Akers 210-521-5772

SACXS FACTS Editor: annblack@gvtc.com Visit our website: www.sacxs.org

February 16 Meeting Information

Our program director, Claude Townsend, is pleased to announce a very distinguished speaker for February 16, 2011. Mr. Wendell (Woody) Minnich, will be presenting a lecture on "The Succulents of Yemen". Few of us will ever have the opportunity to travel to the Middle East. Please plan to attend this very important and informative program.

Place: San Antonio Botanical Center. 3310 N. New Braunfels

Time: Meeting starts 7:15 pm . Come early for social hour...

Woody has been a cactus and succulent hobbyist for 42 years and has been on 107 major journeys into 14 countries, He has a passion for photography and has spoken at several conventions outside and inside the United States. Woody now makes his home in Santa Fe New Mexico where he has a 1200 sq. ft. Greenhouse, where he grows unique plants. There will be a plant auction and plant raffle.

It's free and open to the public. For more information: ctownsend@satx.rr.com.

February 16 Meeting Assignments

IMPORTANT: First person on each list (as indicated by the asterisk) please call the others to remind them. If you have any questions please call the first person on your list or call Cal Eichler 210-828-0833.

Refreshments

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Auction Plants

APB!!!! A volunteer is needed to take home tablecloths used at each meeting for the refreshment tables. The tablecloths need to be washed and returned for the next meeting.

Please let Cal know at the meeting if you wish to volunteer.

*Assignments were not available at time of publication-
please check your email for assignment information.*

Please Read: Newsletter Assignments

Newsletter Assignments:

These members are requested to provide articles for the March newsletter:

Doug Coates, Dave Cohen, and Bobby Crabb.

Contact Barbara Schulze at bschulze@pisd.us

if you have any questions about this assignment.

Please send Ann your articles by the first of the month.

The article can be personal (information about yourself, our society members, your experiences growing succulents, or a visit to some location you think would be of interest to other members). Articles can also be reprints from other sources such as other newsletters, books, websites, etc. Be sure to cite the author and source that the article came from. You can also write your own article by compiling information from several sources. Again, be sure to cite authors and sources. If you can include photos as well, that would be great!

—*Barbara*

Club Field Trip to Sonora, TX

Field trip to Sonora, TX.

(9 miles south of town)

Three days: Friday, Saturday, Sunday, two weekends

Two weekends are available to the club-

which weekend is selected will be determined by majority

March 11-12-13 OR

April 29-30-May-1

25 SPACES WILL BE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST COME BASIS.

CONTACT CLAUDE TOWNSEND TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE: 210-655-8959

ARRIVAL TIME: After 1pm on Friday. An evening meal will be provided.(BBQ Chicken).

Saturday: Cowboy Breakfast. LUNCH sandwiches. EVENING meal: BBQ steak or other

type meat. Sunday: BREAKFAST Cowboy breakfast. Be off Ranch by 1pm

The entire ranch is open to Hunt . Rocks ,Fossils Cactus , plants

COST: Per person \$100.00 This includes 5 meals. Room for 2 nights.

Rooms will sleep 2 adults or 1 adult 2 and small ones.

For people who would like a 1 day hunt, the cost will be \$20.00 NO MEAL

No RV hookup but there is 110ac. ATV's are welcome. It will be getting hot out there!!

PAYMENT: THERE WILL BE A 50% NON REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT TURNED OVER TO

THE RANCHER 12 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.

This is to allow time for the rancher to purchase FOOD in San Antonio.

I have made this trip before there are at least 10 types of Cactus, many types of rocks and plants to be found To me it was the best hunt I have been on in the past ten years.

C. Townsend

LOBIVIA

by Chris Miller

Reprinted from Espinas Y Flores, newsletter of the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society



Lobivia silvestri

Lobivia is a group of cactus that has been in contention pretty much since they were found in the mid 1800s. Originally called Echinopsis they have been sorted in and out of categories for over the last 150 years. Britton and Rose, in their book in 1922, presented all the Echinopsis with short flower trunks as a new genesis, Lobivia. Once that was done the battle for what to call them was on. In his 1975 book,

Lobivia, Walter Rausch attempted to reorganize the Lobivia species from about 300 plants down to around 50. His book was considered pretty radical and in Lobivia '85 he readdressed the topic and that book's findings were more accepted. Today in the index of The Cactus Family, by Edward Anderson, under Lobivia it says "see Echinopsis." Anderson considers the differences to be "fuzzy at best". My theory based on emotion versus science and knowledge is... if it is called Lobivia on the tag or it looks like my idea of a Lobivia, then I will call it a Lobivia. There are two primary reasons for this. One, I can say Lobivia and two, I like the way the word sounds!

Lobivia are small globular or cylindrical cacti, which grow either as a single stem or in clumps. The flowers have shorter tubes than Echinopsis and are bell shaped. The flower colors range from yellow, orange, red to purple, with lots of hybrid colors between. They are native to Peru, Argentina and Bolivia (where the name came from).

They need a cool winter to support great blooms in the spring and summer. They like good light, but not direct harsh summer sun. Remember they are small, so other plants and grasses offer them some shade. An average porous cactus mix will work well as a potting medium. Water when dry during the warm months and hold off on water during cold winter months. Watch the short tight spines for mealy bug and scale. Lobivia can be propagated from seeds, cutting and pups. Since they are so closely related to Echinopsis they will easily hybridize with them.

Lobivia arachacantha



Article submitted by Bjorn Steffensen

SACXS Board Meeting Minutes for November 8, 2010

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:30PM in the home of Claude Townsend

2. Members present: Barbara Schulze, Claude Townsend, Eula Townsend, David Dawson, Doug Coates, Ernie Akers, and Bjorn Steffensen.

3. Approval of Minutes

Barbara Schulze called the meeting to order. Bjorn Steffensen read the minutes from the September 13, 2010 Board Meeting. The minutes were approved as read (Doug moved, Claude seconded).

4. Treasurers Report

Doug Coates reported on the activities in the club account. There had been expenses for medals (\$534.50) and BBQ items for Claude (\$76). There was no income.

Balances for the Checkbook was \$1816.32, for the Show account \$3,500, and for the Savings account ~8,000. The overall closing balance was \$13,816.

5. Membership Chairman's Report

No update.

6. Program Chairman's Report

Programs

For the January 2011 meeting, we will have David Rodriguez, a master gardener, present on "Landscaping with native plants." In February 2011, Barbara Schulze will present a program on preparing plants for the show and Laura Rogers is scheduled for March. Her program, Landscaping with Color, will include landscaping with native plants.

Old Business

7. Picnic review

The October picnic at Barbara and Randy Schulze hosted ~20 members. Everyone complimented Barbara on the nice arrangement and thanked her for hosting the event. It was concluded that it had worked at a time different than June.

8. By-laws change regarding picnic date

The bylaw change has been typed and will be finalized by a vote by the membership.

9. Service award; Paul Kibler

The Board unanimously endorsed a service award for Paul to be presented at the holiday party.

10. Newsletter

The Board in regular interactions with Editor Ann Black continues to pursue appropriate modes of distribution. We also need to support Ann in finding and writing articles. It appears that the site www.msw.com may have articles. Bjorn had read that there is also an article archive at www.cssainc.org (select CSSA>Affiliates>Newsletter Archives) from the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA).

Deadlines for submission of articles to Ann is the 1st of the month.

11. Newsletter mailings (see 10)

12. Change in general meeting start date

The Board endorsed starting presentations at the general meeting at 7:15 PM following the presentation and general support by members of the time at the most recent September 13, 2010 meeting

New Business:

13. Yearly audit

Barbara will ask Gerald Yarborough, Manny Zamora, and Dave Crucq, our auditors, to review all club accounts.

14. Christmas party

The date was proposed for 12/15, and Board members were assigned restaurants to check for prices and availability. Barbara would decide on receiving the information and check other options.

Update: The party was held on December 5, 2010, in the home of Ann and Jimmy Black, and was very well attended and a successful event.

15. Field trip to Eagle Pass

Sam Rodgers recounted the events of the field trip such as number of people attending, what kinds of rocks and cactus were seen, etc. It was a nice day for all who attended.

16. Potting soil donation to Garden Center

The Board decided to support the Garden Center with potting soil up to \$50.

17. Other

No other business was brought up.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM

Respectfully submitted, Bjorn Steffensen, SACXS recording secretary, 1/4/2011

Coming Events

- March 11-12: San Antonio Garden Center Annual Plant Sale:** ; (210) 824-9981
3310 North New Braunfels Avenue sagc2004@sbcglobal.net
- March 12-19: Chihuahuan Desert Nature Center (CDRI)**
Annual Cactus & Succulent Festival www.cdri.org
- April 2 & 3: ACSS Spring Show & Sale** • 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. • Austin Area Garden Center at Zilker Botanical Garden
- April 14 - 16: SACXS Annual Show & Sale** • 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. • Rare Plant Auction on Friday and Saturday at 2:00 p.m. • San Antonio Garden Center • 3310 North New Braunfels Avenue • www.sacxs.org
- April 24 - 29: CSSA 2011 Convention** •Marriott Hotel - Mission Valley, San Diego, CA • For more information, www.cssainc.org

John and Kumiko *by the Carlins*



Kumiko and John Carlin hail from Honolulu, Hawaii having lived there for the past thirty years. John is a retired submarine sailor having spent 24 years in the U S Navy. One interesting fact about John is that he has been to the North Pole, spending two months under the ice prior to surfacing for 12 hours at the pole. No cactus up there! Kumiko and John met in Yokosuka, Japan back in the 60's when John was on deployment during Vietnam time.

We now been married for 41 wonderful years. Kumiko was very much involved with the Orchid society in Honolulu and certainly has a green thumb according to John. She needed something to replace that activity therefore, choosing cactus. We visited fifteen states this past summer and Kumiko had to have a cactus from each state we went through, except we weren't too lucky to fulfill that goal.

Why would one want to leave Hawaii? Well Kumiko would have liked to stay, but John's family (both sides) come from San Antonio. Also, our daughter is in Philly and we are closer to her and the grandchildren. You know when you live somewhere, it is not a vacation spot if you are working all the time. Hawaii was getting too crowded. You think traffic is bad here in San Antonio? No way until you drive the roads of Honolulu.

We are happy to have joined the society and look forward to more interesting educational meetings. This is John's busy time of the year because he is now working his 20th year with H & R Block preparing tax returns. Kumiko is hibernating in the house because it is just too cold! Kumiko would love to be able to fish everyday of the year if she could. John would like to get back into shape so that he can run his tenth marathon before getting too old.

—John and Kumiko Carlin

