



SACXS FACTS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SAN ANTONIO CACTUS AND XEROPHYTE SOCIETY
March 2013 VOLUME 25, NUMBER 3

“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.”

SACXS President's Message

OPEN THE GREENHOUSES!!

Happy 
St. Patrick's Day

Take a deep breath-Spring is here again...It's time to drive with your windows down and sleep with windows open. Let the sunshine and fresh air into your greenhouses and onto your plants.

It's also time to take a hike with a good book. There is nothing like experiencing cacti and succulents in the wild. May look-alikes can be correctly identified when they are in flower. I recommend the following field guides to stuff in your back pack:

Texas Cacti, by Brian and Shirley Loflin

Trees, Shrubs and Cacti of South Texas, by Everitt, Drawe and Lonard

Cacti of Texas, A Field Guide, by Powell, Weedon and Powell

70 Common Cacti of the Southwest, by Pierre C. Fisher...and many other noteworthy publications.

While you're out and about this month, come by the Garden Center Plant Sale on March 22-23. If you're new to the world of xerophytes, this is a good way to familiarize yourself with some common succulents and ask questions to our knowledgeable members.

Mary Ruona, our Program Director continues his horticultural saga with this month's program. Please note: The March meeting will take place at his home. So please don't show up at the Garden Center. *Read on for more info.*

Ann

SACXS Board Members

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SACXS March Program

The San Antonio Cactus & Xerophyte Society
Program on 20 March 2013 will be:

Open the Greenhouses!

Show how overwintered greenhouse plants survived
Discuss plant placement / microclimates for potted plants
Educational site visit at Marty Ruona's
151 Huxley Drive, San Antonio, TX 78218

DATE: 20 March 2013
TIME: Social 6:30pm
Meeting 7:15pm
PLACE: Marty Ruona's House

The General Public is Welcome!

2012 Show and Sale



March 20, 2013

Refreshment Assignments:

Allen Lindner alindner@grandecom.net
Sharon Lundstum saltxs@yahoo.com
Yolanda Medina medinay49@gmail.com
Todd Mernin t_mernin@yahoo.com
Albert and Marjorie Molnar ??

Auction Plant Assignments:

Claude and Eula Townsend ctownsend@satx.rr.com
Pablo Uresti and Ana Huron desanantonio@sbcglobal.net
Floyd Waller floydwaller@yahoo.com
Teresa Weaver tessw@satx.rr.com
Jeannie Williams and Maria Gomez mjwtx@aol.com

***IMPORTANT: All assignees will be contacted by e-mail or phone**



2013 SACXS April Show & Sale

Thursday, April 25, Friday, April 26,
& Saturday, April 27
9:00 - 5:00 Daily

Our annual SACXS Show & Sale is almost here. Our Show & Sale is the biggest social gathering of succulent collectors in this area, one of the best opportunities to purchase a new specimen for your collection, and the most profitable fundraiser for our society. It is also the time of year when we have the highest number of new members join SACXS. I hope you are getting excited about this fun annual event. I know I just have the greatest time talking to fellow cactus and succulent enthusiasts, especially those I only get to see once a year. I eagerly look forward to finding and selecting new plants to take home to join my collection. The auction is always a blast! It's great fun to try to out-bid the competitors for that special plant.

I am pleased to announce that we will again feature educational displays at the Show this year instead of a judged show or a plant only display. There was much positive response last year to the displays. Since we do want to educate others and heighten their interest in cactus and succulents, what better way than to include educational displays as an integral part of our show. It won't be successful, however, without member participation and I mean all of you! I am including in this month's newsletter an information page with ideas for making your own educational display. Since we are not meeting at the Garden Center in March, I must rely on e-mails to get the necessary information to our members. Check out the SACXS website, www.sacxs.org for photos of some of last year's displays. We need our members to show off their cactus and succulents that they are proud of and educate the visitors to our Show & Sale as well. Please feel free to e-mail me at bschulze@pisd.us or call me at 830-281-5766 if you will commit to an educational display or need help with ideas.

Last year we had a FANTASTIC response from members who committed to helping out at the Show & Sale. Again, we ask our members to volunteer for one or more jobs so the Show & Sale will run smoothly and be successful. I am also including a volunteer sign-up sheet. Give/mail/e-mail your completed sign-up sheets to Barbara Schulze, Show Chairman.

SACXS 2013 April Show & Sale Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet

As an active member of SACXS, I volunteer for **checked assignments**. ✓

1. Publicity: distributing advertisement fliers to local businesses _____

2. Show Set-Up & Cover Tables: Wed., 4-24 from 10:00 am-12:00 noon _____

3. Greeters at Club Table: Thursday, 4-25 from 9:00 am-11:30 am _____
11:30-2:00 pm _____
2:00-5:00 pm _____
Friday, 4-26 from 9:00 am-11:30 am _____
11:30-2:00 pm _____
2:00-5:00 pm _____
Saturday, 4-27 from 9:00 am-11:30 am _____
11:30-2:00 pm _____
2:00-5:00 pm _____

4. Auction Helper: show plants to bidders & organize plants by bidder
Friday, 4-26 _____ or Saturday, 4-27 _____ 2:00-3:30 pm daily

5. Clean-Up: take down & stow tables, sweep floors, and take out trash _____
Saturday, 4-27 from 4:00-5:00 _____

6. Kitchen helpers to prepare food for working members & dealers
Thurs., 4-25 _____, Fri., 4-26 _____, Sat. 4-27 _____ 11:00-1:00 daily

7. **Bring an Educational Display:** Wed., 4-24 from 12:00 noon-5:00 pm or
Thurs., 4-25 at 9:00 am _____

8. Donate raffle plants: Wed., 4-24 _____ or Thurs., 4-25 _____ 9:00am-4:00 pm daily

Member's name, phone number, and e-mail address: _____

Thank you for your participation: Return to Barbara Schulze, Show Chairman
P.O. Box 124, Pleasanton, TX 78064
830-281-5766

Creating Educational Displays of Cactus & Succulents



Space: You may create a display for a whole table (6 feet) or $\frac{1}{2}$ table (3 feet).

Plants: Select cactus or succulent plants you want to share with others. The plants should be clean, well-grown, and potted in an appropriate sized and clean pot (clay, ceramic, plastic, or rock). Top dressing is optional but use clean soil if no top dressing is used.

Non-Plant Display: A display without plants is acceptable but be sure to include photos, artwork, models, or other specialty items displaying cactus and succulents.

Suggested Categories:

A. Select a genus to highlight such as Euphorbia, Pachypodium, Haworthia, Aloe, Lithop, Mammillaria, Astrophytum, Ferocactus, Echinocereus, etc.

B. Select cactus/succulents from a specific habitat to highlight such as Texas, Mexico, South America, Madagascar, South Africa, rainforest, coastal, etc.

C. Select cactus/succulents with a specific trait to highlight such as shade-lovers, caudiciforms, cephalium-forming, miniatures, columnar, night-blooming, etc.

D. Select similar cactus/succulents to compare & contrast such as Echeveria/Graptopetalum, Aloe/Haworthia/Gasteria, Agave/Dyckia, Melocactus/Discocactus, Ferocactus/Echinocactus, etc.

E. How to successfully grow cactus/succulents, constructing outdoor cactus and succulent gardens, identifying cactus and succulents, making cactus and succulent dish gardens, etc.

Additional Display Resources: colorful rug/blanket/table cover; extra pots/plant stands/bricks/rocks/cut tree stumps to display potted plants on that will vary height of specimens; driftwood, interesting rocks, baskets to add visual interest, etc.

Educational Materials: tri-fold display board for text/pictures, mounted photos, magazine pictures, postcards, pamphlets, calendar pictures, books or magazines set out and opened to page with information about selected plant, typed or handwritten index cards with information to share with visitors, etc.

The idea is to draw the visitors to the display and then provide information to help the visitor become more knowledgeable about cactus and succulents.