



Succulent Morsels

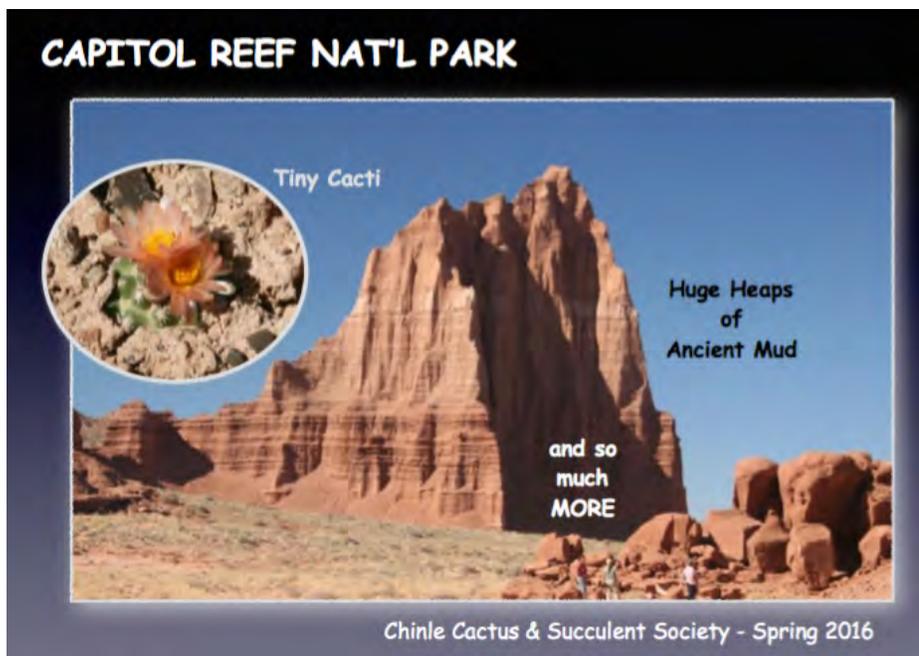
News of the Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society
February 2017 Vol. 9, No. 2

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

REMINDER: NEW MEETING ADDRESS IN 2017: 536 OURAY AVENUE, GRAND JUNCTION

FEBRUARY PROGRAM:

CAPITOL REEF & SNEAK PREVIEW OF MAY TOUR



Don Campbell will present an attractive power point presentation of the Chinle C&SS's trip to Capitol Reef in May 2016. He also plans to give us a "sneak" preview of our planned May 2017 Tour to Vernal and surrounding areas.

We will also continue our **Member Show & Tell** as a regular feature of our meetings. So if you have a special plant to share with the group, or a problem plant you need advice about, please bring it/them to the meeting.

The meeting is February 9th at our new meeting place at 539 Ouray Ave. See you there!

GET READY FOR PLANT SHOW WEST!

We will again be participating in the Plant Show West at Bookcliff Gardens. Set up is Friday, March 3 from 2-4 pm and the show will run March 4th and 5th, from 10am until 4pm on Saturday and 3:30 pm on Sunday. We will ask for volunteers in 2 hour shifts both days and to assist with set-up on Friday and take down on Sunday afternoon.

Last year we had an amazing collection of show plants from you, our members, and we hope to do the same this year. We will have sign up sheets available at the February regular meeting, for both plants and to help "man the display". Put on your "show plant thinking caps" and check which of your plants are interesting, unusual, beautiful, incredibly grotesque/monstrous (ha), or those that demonstrate the wide variety of cacti and succulents we enjoy.



Julie Bursi and Don Campbell were “happy” to tend the Chinle C&SS display in last year’s Plant Show West

The Plant Show West provides good exposure of our Chinle C&SS, and in past years, we have gained members as a result of seeing our display and talking to CC&SS members.. It is also fun to get together with other members and an interested public for the event.

HOW TO PREPARE PLANTS FOR SHOWING

You have a great looking plant that you’d like to “show-off” at Plant Show West, but you have some questions about what more can be done to make its appearance “show quality”. Here are some suggestions for presenting plants for show. The photo below by Don Campbell is an excellent example of a well-prepared plant for show.

- + The plant needs to be centered and upright in its pot.
- + Make sure your pot is an appropriate size and shape for your plant. It should give a balanced appearance and not overwhelm or detract from the plant.
- + Remove alkali encrustations, algae, snail tracks, spider webs, or dirt, etc. from the pot.
- + Rubbing a clay pot with a little salad oil can help cover water marks.
- + Clean up the actual plant as well—remove hard water marks on the leaves or body; pick off dead leaves and any debris (tweezers, a small brush or paint brush work well to remove stubborn materials and avoid getting “pricked” during your clean-up process!
- + Top dressing with a color-coordinated stone that picks up or contrasts the color of the plant greatly enhances the appearance of the plant. The size of the stones should coordinate with the size of the plant.
- + Typically the tray underneath the pot isn’t displayed with the plant, but if it is, it must be as clean as the pot and compliment the pot and plant.
- + Leave at home any plant that is extensively sunburned, diseased, scarred, has scale or is discolored. Also do not bring in a plant with mealy bugs or other insects that might infest other plants in the area.

Plant healthy & free of defects

Plant centered in pot

Pot is clean and appropriate size, compliments plant

Attractive top dressing



GARDEN PARTIES TO BEGIN MARCH 11TH



Our first GardenParty of the 2017 season will be Saturday, March 11th at the Western Colorado Botanical Garden. You can find the proposed schedule here to print out and post on your “to do” calendar.

Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society 2017 Gardening Calendar

Date	Day	Gardening Location
March 11	Saturday	WC Botanical Gardens
March 29	Wednesday	CSU Extension Garden
April 8	Saturday	WC Botanical Gardens
April 22	Saturday	CSU Extension Garden
May 6	Saturday	WC Botanical Gardens
May 17	Wednesday	CSU Extension Garden
June 3	Saturday	WC Botanical Gardens
June 17	Saturday	CSU Extension Garden
July 8	Saturday	WC Botanical Gardens
July 19	Wednesday	CSU Extension Garden
August 5	Saturday	WC Botanical Gardens
August 19	Saturday	CSU Extension Garden
September 9	Saturday	WC Botanical Gardens
September 20	Wednesday	CSU Extension Garden
October 7	Saturday	WC Botanical Gardens
October 21	Saturday	CSU Extension Garden

All Garden Parties start at 9:00 am and will usually end at 11:00 am. Please mark your calendars with these dates so you don't forget to come out and share in this important work at our two beautiful gardens. Gardening is great for your health, fun, and an easy way to give back to our community.

When the weather is too hot or cold, feel free to come earlier or later than the scheduled times. Please let Lois Davidson (ldavidso@coloradomesa.edu) know how long you gardened at each session for accurate records of volunteer hours. We are looking forward to seeing you at the gardens. We need and appreciate your help.

CCSS has a set of gardening tools, but we encourage you to bring your own. Please mark your tools so you can identify those that belong to you.

If any of the above dates or times need to be changed, members will be notified by email or check the website.

PLANT OF THE MONTH - *Bowiea Volubilis*

Information and photos by Jeff Brimley



"Happy New Year.

"I hope, all the members, have a great 2017.

"I have a new-to-me plant, that I would like to share, with you. It was given to me by a friend, Rob Larkin.

"The plant's common name is Sea Onion, Climbing Sea Onion, or just Climbing Onion. Its botanical name is *Bowiea Volubilis*. It originally came from Africa. It isn't an onion at all, as the name implies, but, it is an 'above-ground' bulb in the Hyacinth family.

"Being from an arid place, it needs very little water. It requires fast draining soil, so I used Miracle Grow cactus mix soil, cut 50/50 with pumice rock.

It likes to be root bound, so I repotted it in a stoneware pot, only slightly bigger than it came in. Full sun to partial shade, is best.

To best show off the stems, I made a trellis from wood and 16 gage steel wire. The shoots like to climb and in a few weeks, its almost made it the top of the 50 inch trellis. I don't think it grows leaves, but it will get, small green flowers.

"After comments made by visitors, that it might "get me in the night", I decided, to give it the name Audrey III. Referring to, "The Little Shop of Horrors" movie, Audrey II plant.

"Over time, it should develop new bulbs, that I would like to try outside. Most web pages say, it's only good to a zone 9. But, I've read a few reports, of it making it, through freezing temperatures. I'll report back if it's a success or not."

Your Northern Member,
Jeff

(Thanks, Jeff, for this interesting article and photo! A couple of us here in Grand Junction have "Sea Onions", but I, for one, didn't know it was related to the Hyacinth. Editor)



WEBSITE TO HAVE A NEW LOOK

Over the next few weeks, when you navigate to chinleactusclub.org, you will notice that it is full of beautiful photos, easy to access Society news and information and educational articles on cultivating cacti and succulents. Thanks goes out to Kate Weissenburger for her work in setting up the site in a new format. And thanks also to Tom Burrows for his work in setting up our original website. Our Society is truly fortunate to have these and other talented individuals willing to devote time and energy to the Chinle C&SS programs and mission.

Be sure to check out chinleactusclub.org for a look at the new look!

SCENE AT THE JANUARY MEETING

The January meeting of the Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society had its first meeting in their new venue on January 12th. We had a nice turnout and welcomed two new members, Joyce Funk and Roger Stone. The meeting space at the Unitarian Church is spacious and we will be tweaking the room arrangement to make it more useful and centered for presentations. Ken Weissenburger has been very helpful in working with the church staff and they are open to any set-up we desire. We had a little problem with the AV system, but think we have that worked out for future meetings.

Lois Davidson gave a nice photo presentation and talk about her and husband, Forbes, trip to Death Valley this past spring. There were an amazing variety of flowers blooming, and she even found several nice opuntias, hedgehogs, and cholla on their trip.



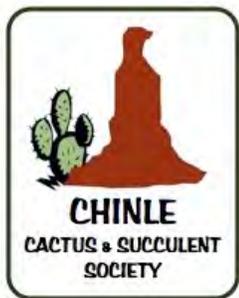
Lois shared her Death Valley trip



Members enjoyed new venue & comfortable seating!



"Birthday Girl," Pam Johnson (L) welcomes new member, Joyce Funk.



Kate Weissenburger and new member, Roger Stone, discuss plants



(L to R) Tom Burrows enjoys the Kahlúa cake he made especially for Pam's birthday, along with Deb Mallory, Lois Davidson & Shari Skeie.



Marilyn Peterson (L) and Lisa Hamilton check out the raffle plants.

GROWING PLANTS FROM SEED IS REWARDING

Many of us can remember last year when Tom Burrows gave a short program on harvesting and planting cacti & succulent seeds. He has once again done his "Johnny Appleseed" thing, and has successfully crossed two *Pachypodium brevicaule* and obtained seeds from the resultant blooms. One of the parent plants and the resulting seedling is shown below. Tom says he uses a single bristle from a paint brush, and takes pollen from one plant and inserts the pollen-laden bristle deeply into the second plant bloom. He then reverses the process from the second plant back to the first..

Happily, the resultant seeds when planted, germinated 100% in about 6 days. It will be exciting to see if the resulting blooms are similar to the parent plants, or slightly different! If any members wish to obtain some of these seeds, see Tom at our February meeting.



TIME TO REVIEW OUR CONSERVATION POLICY

One of the important principals of the Chinle C&SS, as stated in our Mission statement, is to promote conservation of cacti and other succulents in among its members, other individuals and organizations throughout West-Central Colorado. With this in mind, we publish our Conservation Policy at least annually for members to review and keep in mind as we pursue the activities of the Society. This policy was editorially updated by Kate Weissenburger and approved by the Board of Directors on January 2, 2017.

CHINLE CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY CONSERVATION POLICY

Purpose

The purpose of this policy statement is to recognize and endorse the Cactus & Succulent Society of America Conservation Code and encourage members of the Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society to observe the following principles for conserving native succulent plants.

Principles

1. Actively discourage illegal field collecting of entire native plants by all members. Field collecting native plants, seeds or cuttings must be consistent with all pertinent laws and regulations.

2. Prohibit field collecting of entire native plants during any Chinle C&SS sponsored field trip or activity unless such activities are
 - a) to salvage plants imminently threatened with destruction from land development or other habitat disturbance, or
 - b) to acquire plants for a Chinle C&SS supported public display garden provided that written authorization has been obtained from the appropriate jurisdiction or landowner. .
3. Prohibit the exhibition or selling of entire field collected plants at any event or activity sponsored by the Chinle C&SS.
4. Encourage acquisition of native plants through the purchase of seeds, cuttings, or entire plants from reputable growers and nurseries.
5. Encourage native plant conservation through the propagation and sharing of seeds, cuttings and offsets.
6. Seek opportunities to promote conservation of native plants by
 - a) providing periodic reminders of the Chinle C&SS conservation principles in newsletters, at meetings and during field trips or other activities, and
 - b) disseminating information about legal and appropriate sources for obtaining seeds, cuttings and entire plants.

Adopted January 28, 2003
 Updated June 3, 2013
 Updated January 16, 2017

If you have questions regarding adherence to this policy as you participate in Society activities,, please feel free to ask the member in charge of the activity for advice related to the policy.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: FEBRUARY 2017 TO JUNE 2017

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| February 6 | Chinle Board Meeting - 6:30 pm at the Weissenburger's home |
| February 9 | Regular Meeting of the Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society
6:30 pm
536 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction, CO
Program: Capitol Reef Trip - Don Campbell |
| March 3 | 2-4 pm, Set Up for Plant Show West |
| March 4 | 10am-4pm, Plant Show West @ Bookcliff Gardens |
| March 5 | 10am-3:30pm, Plant Show West
3:30pm-4pm - Take down display and plants |
| March 6 | Chinle Board Meeting - at the Hassell's home |
| March 9 | Regular Meeting of the Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society
6:30 pm
536 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction, CO
Program: Soils, Water and pH - Dr. Curtis Swift |
| March 11 | First Garden Party of the Season!
Saturday, 9 am at the WC Botanical Gardens |

- March 29 Garden Party
Wednesday, 9 am at the CSU Extension Garden
- April 3 Chinle Board Meeting - 6:30 pm at the Hassell's home
- April 8 Garden Party
Saturday, 9 am, at the WC Botanical Gardens
- April 13 Regular Meeting of the Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society
6:30 pm
536 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction, CO
Program: "How To's for Outdoor Cacti & Succulents"
- April 22 Garden Party
Saturday, 9 am, at the CSU Extension Garden
- May 1 Chinle Board Meeting - 6:30 pm at the Hassell's home
- May 8 Garden Party
Saturday, 9 am, at the WC Botanical Gardens
- May 11 NO REGULAR MEETING - IS REPLACED BY FIELD TRIP 5/19-5/21
- May 17 Garden Party
Wednesday, 9 am, at the CSU Extension Garden
- May 19-21 Field Trip to Vernal, Fantasy Canyon, Bonanza Power Plant, Gilsonite
areas, and possible extra tour on Sunday, May 22, for rare plants in
select Utah Oil Fields - More information to follow
- June 3 Garden Party
Saturday, 9 am at the WC Botanical Gardens
- June 5 Chinle Board Meeting - 6:30 pm at the Hassell's home
Saturday, 9 am, at the WC Botanical Gardens
- June 8 Regular Meeting of the Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society
6:30 pm
536 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction, CO
Program: Making Hypertufa Pots - Susan Honey, instructor
- June 17 Garden Party
Saturday, 9 am, at the CSU Extension Garden

Garden Parties will begin in March - See schedule on page 3!!!



**Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society
Minutes of Regular Meeting January 12, 2017**

The meeting was called to order by President Janet Hassell, at 6:30PM. This meeting took place at our new meeting location: the Unitarian Universalist Church, 536 Ouray St., in Grand Junction. Janet welcomed several new members, guests, and returning members who each introduced themselves and mentioned their particular areas of cactus interest. The order for the meeting was partially rearranged to allow the program for the evening to be presented first.

The program for this evening was presented by Lois Davidson who gave a nice overview of her trip to Death Valley during the superbloom of 2016. She enlightened us on the substantial population of desert plants and the species of cacti found in the area. She included many beautiful close-up photos of the blooms of these exceedingly tough and unique heat- and drought-tolerant plants.

Lois, as chairperson for the Garden Committee, also distributed the calendar for the 2017 garden parties. She pointed out that the start time, which is 9AM, will change to 8AM for the hot summer months, which typically are June through August.

After the break and social time, the plant drawing was held. Don Campbell gave a brief introduction to each of the available plants, prior to the drawing.

The meeting resumed with the business portion of the meeting, including the following:

- 1) Lisa Hamilton gave the financial report, and pointed out the expenses and income for the month of December. December is normally a month of high expenses and income, mostly due to costs for the Annual Dinner Meeting, and income from members for the dinner. The Society remains in the black and solvent.
- 2) Janet asked for comments on the Annual Dinner Meeting. Most indicated that Bookcliff Country Club was an enjoyable place for the dinner and meeting. There was one negative comment with regard to one of the entrees; all of the other comments were positive. Janet asked for a vote from the membership as to whether we should reserve the facility for the 2017 ADM. It was voted unanimously to do this.
- 3) Lisa briefly mentioned the Meetup.com site and encouraged everyone to join. There is no charge to join this online group, and it will keep those members informed of our activities.
- 4) Program committee report was given by Shari Skeie. She stated that the February meeting will be a presentation by Don Campbell of last years' field trip to Capitol Reef. Shari encouraged everyone to consider the idea of attending this year's field trip, which will be to the Vernal, UT area.
- 5) Janet mentioned that the Club will again participate in Bookcliff Garden's Plant Show West, scheduled for March 4-5, with set-up on March 3. She encouraged all to sign up to either bring plants for display or work a 2-hour shift to cover the Club booth, or to do both! Sign up sheets were available.
- 6) Kate Weissenburger mentioned briefly that the work apron project was completed in 2016 and those aprons are currently for sale (\$25/members, \$28/non-members per apron).
- 7) Kate gave an overview of the new website which she and Ken Weissenburger have been working on. She gave a brief slide presentation, and pointed out the highlights for the reorganized site. She also requested ideas for content, to bring our page total up.
- 8) Janet presented Tom Burrows with an Appreciation of Service award, for his dedicated handling and managing of our website for many past years.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00PM

Respectfully, Deb Mallory, Secretary

2017 Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society Board

President: Janet Hassell Vice President: Kate Weissenburger Secretary: Deb Mallory Treasurer: Lisa Hamilton

**Garden Activities Coordinator: Lois Davidson Member at Large: Walt Scheer Newsletter Editor: Janet Hassell
Program Committee: Shari Skeie MeetUp: Lisa Hamilton Web Site: Tom Burrows/Kate Weissenburger**

Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society usually meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm.

*Meetings are held in the Unitarian Universalist Church
536 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction, CO. Guests are always welcome.*

Chinle Mailing Address: Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society, PO Box 233, Grand Junction, CO 81502

CHINLE C&SS WEBSITE: www.chinlecactusclub.org