



Succulent Morsels

News of the Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society
July 2013 Vol. 5, No. 7

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

JULY ACTIVITY!!!

CRUMPS TOUR JULY 13TH

Loren & Maryann Benoit are Coordinators of Chinle C&SS biennial Crumps's Greenhouse Tour which will take place on **July 13, 2013**. Crumps is located in beautiful Buena Vista, CO at 225 S. Pleasant Avenue. So far, at least 14 members have signed up for the tour. It is always a great time together, and a good opportunity to see and purchase excellent plants at this wholesale greenhouse, normally not open to the general public.

Some members will drive up Friday and get together for an informal dinner that night. Others will drive up on Saturday morning. Everyone will meet at Crumps at **11 am on Saturday**, for an early walk-through of the nursery to see the wonderful and interesting plants that Crumps has to offer. Box lunches will be provided by the Chinle C&SS, and we plan to eat at noon. After lunch, folks can return to the nursery to choose plants and finalize purchases with Mike Crump. The rest of the afternoon is open for touring, shopping, and even a rodeo for those interested. We'll gather at a local restaurant for dinner Saturday night.

Loren and Maryann need to know if you plan to attend the tour as soon as possible. Also, you need to give them your choice of meat for the picnic lunch (beef, turkey or ham), and if you plan to join the group for dinner Saturday night. Email them at mxbenoit@bresnan.net or call 270-3287 (Maryann's cell) or 314-0176 (Loren's cell). The sign-up deadline has been extended to July 6th!

PANAYOTI'S PROGRAM EMPHASIZED CONSERVATION

Thirty-two Chinle members and guests were treated to an entertaining program by Panayoti Kelaidis at the June 13th Regular Meeting of the Chinle C&SS. His topic was "Hardy American Succulents", accompanied by his spectacular photographs of many outdoor gardens and cacti & succulents in habitat. As always, he demonstrated his incredible knowledge of cacti and succulents, gained from his years of experience and extensive travels to far-reaching countries.

In addition, Panayoti is a strong proponent of botanic gardens for their beauty and for the role they play in conserving rare and sometimes extinct plants in the wild. He was a featured speaker at the Western Colorado Botanical Gardens the following evening after the C&S meeting with a talk on "Why Botanical Gardens Are Important." He also encouraged individuals to obtain and propagate rare species as part of the conservation efforts of cacti & succulent gardeners.



Many of the photos he presented were from his visits to our CSU and WCBG gardens, and he frequently complimented us for our work in these gardens. Panayoti stayed on in Grand Junction to present a program at the Western Colorado Botanic Gardens on Friday as a fund-raiser and another opportunity to promote cacti and succulents on the western slope and Colorado in general.



A nice crowd of members and guests gathered to hear Panayoti's talk.



Left, Tom Burrows shows a photo of his Easter Lily Cactus in bloom, with a group of rooted pups for give-away.



Right, Don Campbell describes one of the drawing plants, the Silent Auction plant, and others.

WCBG WAS SPECTACULAR AT JUNE 8TH GARDEN PARTY

Chinle gardeners enjoyed a warm but breezy Saturday morning Garden Party, pulling weeds and applying top dressing.

The WCBG Garden was at its best that day, and even better after the gardeners "did their magic"!





Participants at the 6/8/13 Garden Party were (left to right) Bill Hassell, Tom Burrows, Julie Bursi, Maryann Benoit, Loren Benoit, and Janet Hassell, not shown)



JUNE 19TH GARDNERS AT CSU



Chinle gardeners at the June 19th Garden Party at CSU were Maryann & Loren Benoit, Bob Bubel, Tom Burrows, Don Campbell, Lois Davidson and Sandy McMacken. The photo, upper right, by Don Campbell, shows a beautiful example of an *Echinocereus reichenbachii*. Loren Benoit provided the balance of photos for this garden party feature. Thanks!

SEVERSON'S GARDEN SHOWS OFF!

Pat Severson put her new digital camera to work as she captured these lovely blooming plants in her cactus and succulent garden. She reports a bit of concern, however, that she still has a bit of Garden Gnome infestation!



Photo by P. Severson



Escobaria sneedii - Photo by P. Severson



Escobaria missouriensis
Photo by P. Severson



Opuntia polyacantha schweriana - Photo by P. Severson

**WHAT ELSE IS
BLOOMING?**



Opuntia rhodantha - photo by P. Severson



Cyllindropuntia imbricata
photo by P. Severson



Cylindropuntia arbuscola - photo by P. Severson

...AND FROM JANET SCHAEFFER'S GARDEN...



Yucca glauca blooming on the hillside behind Janet's house.



Echinocereus reichenbachii v. *perbellus* in background with garden art.



Echinocereus triglochidiatus blooming in trough with froggy



Janet Hassell submits this vibrant *E. vivipara* blooming in her small rock garden.

PLANT OF THE MONTH:



Avonia quinaria ssp. alstonii - Pink-flowered form.

By Don Campbell

"I found this little cutie with five pink blooms on June 19, 2013. I have three other plants of this species, all of which are the white flowered form. The following bit about Avonia was found in the February 2010 "Cactus Chronicle" newsletter of the Los Angeles Cactus & Succulent Society."

*The genus **Avonia** originates in South African in Great Namaqualand and Bushmanland. Avonia form a woody caudex, approximately one inch high, which expands as the plant matures. Leaves emerge from the top of the caudex. This plant typically requires partial shade in cultivation and can be sensitive to frost or colder conditions. Although listed as a deciduous plant, many specimen retain their leaves all year long. Flowers are carmine red, white, or pink. Avonia flowers are self-fertilizing and can generate seed if you have only one plant.*



GARDEN PARTY TIME CHANGE!

Effective immediately, all Garden Party start times will be at 8 am instead of 9 am. This is largely due to the heat and to help gardeners “keep their cool” while pulling weeds and other fascinating activities. “Goodies” will be served mid-way through the party which should last about 2 hours.

Do take the opportunity to help out with the gardens. It is fun, a great time to socialize, and indeed you are doing the community a great service by helping to provide one of the “jewels” in Grand Junction.

ECHINOCEREUS RIGIDISSIMUS

Don’s Sun Room produced this beautiful specimen on June 17, 2013. The common name, **Arizona Rainbow Cactus**, refers to the spines that form bands around the stem in shades of red, pink and white. This 4 inch diameter flower was photographed on June 17, 2013.



WELCOME, NICK MEYER!

Nick is the New Mesa County Extension Agent who will serve in the same capacity as Dr. Curt Swift before he retired, and Susan Rose when she retires this fall. His email address is nick.meyer@mesacounty.us and his phone number is the same as Susan Rose’s. We look forward to working with Nick in the CSU Garden!

ANOTHER PHOTO ESSAY ON THE AGAVE UTAHENSIS

Photos & copy by Don Campbell

In 1996 I planted this Agave utahensis plants in my outdoor garden.



(Shown on the left) In mid-May, 2013 I noticed one of them had put up a 4 to 5 foot tall flower stalk.



On June 17, 2013, the Agave utahensis inflorescence had topped-out at an even eight feet tall.



The leaf rosette is about 12 inches in diameter

The individual flowers begin opening at the bottom of the inflorescence and continue upward.



A Gentle Note.....

Monday evening (June 17) , Don Campbell got a call from Lilly McAnally's friend and Chinle Member, Gabriele Russell. On June 12th Lilly fell and broke a vertebra in her neck. After spending 3-4 days in the hospital, Lilly is now recovering at Larchwood Inns, 2845 N. 15th St. She is in room 31 and her in-room phone number is 257-4631. I'm sure Lilly would enjoy hearing from Chinle members...via card, phone or personal visit.

Don Campbell reports that he "talked to Lilly a couple of days ago. Her voice sounds fairly chipper...considering the circumstances. I suspect, from what she said, that she will be in the rehab center for at least a couple more weeks. And, when she is able to go home, she will need someone to be with her constantly.

Editor's Note: I thought our membership would like to know of Lilly's situation, to provide some support and cheer! We will keep you posted. JH

☆ On the Lighter Side



"Hey y'all! They shore do grow 'em BIG in South Carolina!"
This splendid Agave parryi seen at Brookgreen Gardens, Murrell's Inlet, SC, during the Hassell's June journey to the SC beaches.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

JULY 2013 - SEPT 2013

JULY 6 GARDEN PARTY - WCBG - Saturday - 8 am (Note time change!)

JULY 8 [Chinle C&SS Board Meeting - 10am](#)
[2666 Summer Hill Ct., GJ](#)

JULY 14 [CRUMP'S GREENHOUSE FIELD TRIP - \(replaces regular July Mtg\)](#)

JULY 17 GARDEN PARTY - CSU EXTENSION - Wednesday, 8 am

AUG 3 GARDEN PARTY - WCBG - Saturday - 8 am

AUG 5 [Chinle C&SS Board Meeting - 10am](#)

2666 Summer Hill Ct., GJ

- AUG 8 Regular Meeting of the Chinle C&SS
MEMBER SHOW & TELL - ICE CREAM SOCIAL
6:30 pm - Sagebrush Room - Mesa County Fairgrounds
- AUG 14 GARDEN PARTY - CSU EXTENSION - Wednesday, 8 am
- SEPT 3 Chinle C&SS Board Meeting - 10 am
2666 Summer Hill Ct., GJ
- SEPT 7 GARDEN PARTY - WCBG - Saturday - 8 am
- SEPT 12 Regular Meeting of the Chinle C&SS
Program: Anne Barrett, Meadowlark Gardens
"Companion Gardening"
6:30 pm - Sagebrush Room - Mesa County Fairgrounds
- SEPT 18 GARDEN PARTY - CSU EXTENSION - Wednesday, 8 am

UPCOMING EVENTS:

FIELD TRIP TO CRUMP'S GREENHOUSE - WEEKEND OF JULY 13, 2012

2013 Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society Board

President: Bill Hassell
970-263-0910

Secretary/Web Master: Tom Burrows
970-462-6767

Treasurer: Loren Benoit
970-254-7471

Vice President: Lynn Dunham
970-243-1822

Member at Large: Judy McCart
970-623-9279

Newsletter Ed: Janet Hassell
970-263-0910

Garden Committee: Maryann Benoit
970-254-7471

**Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society usually meets the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm.
Meetings are held in the Sagebrush Room at the Grand Junction Fair Grounds. Guests are always welcome.**

**Chinle Mailing Address: Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society
PO Box 20000
Grand Junction, CO 81502**

CHINLE C&SS WEBSITE: www.chinlecactusclub.org

CSU WEBSITE LINK: <http://www.coopext.colostate.edu/TRA/PLANTS/chinlecactus.shtml>