February Program:

“Walkin’ Away from Natives and Cacti” will be presented by club member Kenton Seth.

Unirrigated, native, cacti and crevice gardens all promise incredibly low care but there are specific methods to keep this true and avoid backfire. Learn how to leverage special techniques to fool the landscape and plants into letting you walk away with great results.

Join us **Thursday, February 8th at 6:30 p.m.** for this talk at our regular meeting place: Unitarian Universalist Church, 536 Ouray Ave, Grand Junction. As usual we will also have a short business meeting, member show-and-tells, possibly a raffle and a surprise treat from chef Tom Burrows’ kitchen.

Head’s up: at this meeting we will also roll out the **2018 Club Photo Contest**. Take a peak at the new format on page 4 of this newsletter.

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**It’s time to pay your club dues ...**

... if you have not done so already. We can’t sustain our field trips, monthly meetings, demonstration garden improvements and maintenance and other club activities without your support.

$20 Individual  
$25 Family or Company  
$10 Student

Please add $24/year if you also wish to receive paper copies of the monthly Newsletter

Make check out to Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society and send it to: P.O. Box 233, Grand Junction, CO 81502  - or -  bring cash or check to our January monthly meeting
The January Regular Meeting:
“Highlights of our 2017 Vernal UT area field trip and what’s in store for the 2018 Vermilion Cliffs AZ area excursion”

We kicked off the new year with a program put together by Don Campbell and Ken Weissenburger. Ken lead with a pictorial review of the itinerary and highlights of the Club’s 2017 Vernal area field trip, featuring:

- Canyon Pintado rock art
- The Rangely Museum
- Green River gravel terraces: giant *Pediocactus simpsonii* (and great rocks)
- Pariette Wetlands: *Sclerocactus wetlandicus*
- Fantasy Canyon (really great rocks)
- Gilsonite, up close & personal
- Reptiles

Ken’s talk was followed by a refreshment and social break, plant raffle and a short business meeting.
The January program resumed with Don’s preview of the planned 2018 field trip to the Vermilion Cliffs AZ area, that will feature:

- Lee’s Ferry & Navajo Bridge
- The Marble Platform & Vermilion Cliffs
- Kaibab & Paria Plateaus
- House Rock Valley California condor site

The evening concluded with a sign-up reminder, pricing information and the distribution of a take-home information sheet.

### Strong Interest in Vermilion Cliffs Means Limits on Numbers

CC&SS spring field trips are popular for their special offerings of cacti, natural history and other attractions. We encourage and appreciate participations on field trips. Nonetheless, our club and other clubs recognize that too many participants dilute the experience, lessen the intimacy, grow our “footprint,” and increase the demands for logistics and coordination.

Similar trips by other clubs typically cap participation in the 13 to 18 range. We ran the CC&SS Vernal trip in 2017 with 24 participants. This large number was only possible because of great good will and cooperation from the entire group.

The 2018 spring field trip seems to be on a similar path. We already have 24 club members signed up, plus an expression of interest from several non-members. We are capping the signup list at 24 and are maintaining a standby list in the event of cancellations. For right now, our interested non-members are on the standby list. Any club members who go on the standby list will be given priority over non-members.
This year’s club contest departs from the previous years’ “scavenger hunt” format and is more along the lines of a standard photo contest. Here are the

**RULES**

- **Submit** no more than one photo in as many **categories** as you wish.
- Photos must have been taken by a member of the Chinle C&SS anytime prior to Oct. 31, 2018, **there is no time limit** (other than the cutoff date).
- Submit **printed photos** by Oct. 31, 2018 to Kate Weissenburger (contact: kate@chinlecactusclub.org or via our club number (970) 773-7637). If you are unable to print your photo(s), contact Kate no later than one week before the contest deadline to make arrangements.
- Photos should be **unframed** and **unmated** with maximum overall dimensions of **5” x 7” or smaller**.
- Write your **name and the photo category** on the back of each photo.
- Photos may include **titles or captions** on the face of the photo (this is encouraged but not required).
- **Judging** will be done by Club members at the regular Chinle November club meeting. Judging will include such things as impact of the photo on the viewer, creativity & imagination, style & composition and technical quality, including exposure, focus & sharpness.

**CATEGORIES**

- Landscape (scenery)
- Cactus (indoor or outdoor)
- Succulent (indoor or outdoor)
- Close-up showing detail
- Chinle event or activity
- Humor
- Animal
- The color orange
- Abstract - whatever this means to you
- Open - any subject
Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society members organize and participate in a variety of field trips, both local and regional. Trip objectives mirror those of trips run by the Cactus & Succulent Society of America (CSSA) focusing on plants in native habitat, educating about natural environments, and reinforcing conservation ethics and practices. Chinle trips provide social mixing opportunities and exposure to locations with importance to other disciplines such as history, natural history and archeology.

Minimizing the footprint of a group while safely accessing remote natural areas requires planning, organization and coordination. Our club maintains ground rules to help field trips run smoothly and effectively. Field trip participants must understand and agree to these guidelines. These guidelines may also be found at http://chinlecactusclub.org/field-trip-guidelines/.

Absolutely No Plant Collecting

- Do not collect plants
- Do not collect anything in national & state parks
- Observe the “Chinle C&SS Conservation Policy”
- The Endangered Species Act (ESA) aims to conserve and protect endangered and threatened plants and their habitats. The ESA prohibits collecting (including seeds), or otherwise disturbing, damaging or destroying any listed plant.

Tread Lightly & Be Aware of Your Surroundings

- Look carefully before you step!
- Step on rocks, bare ground, etc. to avoid damaging tiny plants
- Be aware that there may be little plants other than the one that you, your eyes and the camera are focused on
- Many plants are quite small & federally protected by the ESA from any kind of damage...

Carpooling is Strongly Encouraged

- Daily schedules are tight – be considerate and on time
- Have an ice chest in each vehicle
- Baggage space is limited, pack lightly
- Passengers should share expenses such as gas & entrance fees

Overnight Accommodations

- Individuals are responsible for making their own accommodations
Be Safe and Aware

- Parking will often be limited & immediately adjacent to main highways: pull off the roadway, bunch up & be safe
- Leave adequate passing space when parking along narrow roads – be considerate
- Avoid driving off-road & across undisturbed vegetation

Preparedness

- Begin each day with a full fuel tank, lunches, drinks, etc.

Lunches, Snacks & Drinks

- Individuals are responsible for bringing their own lunches, water, etc.
- Lunch stops may come late and may not have tables or toilets

Toilets

- May be primitive, few & far between

No Pets

Miscellaneous

- Bring sunscreen, insect repellent, camera, walking sticks, etc.
- Bring clothing appropriate for the season & locality

Costs & Fees

- Fees may be charged to help cover costs of materials and to generate funds for operations of the CC&SS
- Non-members will be charged double the member rate

Participation

- Limits may be placed on the number of participants, vehicles, etc.
- CC&SS members in good standing will have priority over non-members
The September-October 2017 Issue of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America Journal

These synopses of selected articles were provided by the CSSA and have been edited for length. Information about the society may be found on their website: ccainc.org

A new species of Aloe from the Lúrio Waterfalls in Mozambique

Authors Tom A. McCoy, Antonius JH Rulkens and Obety Baptista introduce and describe Aloe argentifolia, a new species with silvery-grey leaves that grows in the isolated, mid-river rock outcroppings in the Lúrio River Cataract of northeastern Mozambique. It is the seventh described endemic aloe of Mozambique.

An introduction to cactus areoles part II

In this eleven-page, well-illustrated article, James D. Mauseth discusses spines, glochids, the shoot apical meristem of an areole and diversity of areoles on an individual plant. Among the many interesting observations made, the author writes that “most cactus spines...seem smooth, but studies with scanning electron microscopy show that in many species, the spine epidermis is rough, knobby, or cracked.” In discussing glochids, he states that they “occur only in subfamily Opuntioideae, no other cacti have them” and continues, “Most opuntioid areoles produce their compliment of normal spines first then switch to producing glochids afterward”.

Book Reviews by Tim Harvey: The genus Ceropogia“ by Dennis de Kock and “Succulents in cultivation – breeding new cultivars” by Gordon D. Rowley

Obituary: Iris Sheila Collenette (1927-2017)

Additionally, there is an important article (“Molecular analysis of the genus Eriosyce”) by Fred Kattermann and Leo Chance continues his series “Pushing the Limits: landscaping with cacti and succulents” with his article #26.
February
February 5  **Board Meeting** - 6:30 pm at Don Campbell’s home
February 9  **Regular Meeting** of the CC&SS: 6:30 pm 536 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction, CO Program: Kenton Seth: “Walkin’ Away from Natives and Cacti”

March
March 5  **Board Meeting** - 6:30 pm 6:30 pm at Don Campbell’s home
March 8  **Regular Meeting** of the CC&SS: 6:30 pm 536 Ouray Ave., Grand Junction, CO Program: Don Campbell: "Highlights of the August 2017 Arizona Field Excursion"

**2018 Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society Board & Appointees**

President: Don Campbell  Vice President: Bret Seligman
Secretary: Deb Mallory  Garden Activities Coordinator: Lois Davidson
Treasurer: Eric Baltes  Newsletter Editor: Kate Weissenburger  Member at Large: Walt Scheer
Program Committee: Shari Skeie  Governance & Public Affairs: Don Campbell
Meetup: Lisa Hamilton  Web Site: Kate Weissenburger

The 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. For information about upcoming meetings, please check our website.

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

**Phone:**
1-970-773-7637

**Website:**
[chinlecactusclub.org](http://chinlecactusclub.org)

**Contact Us:**
[info@chinlecactusclub.org](mailto:info@chinlecactusclub.org)
The meeting was called to order by President Don Campbell at 6:30PM. Guests were introduced and welcomed.

The business meeting consisted of the following:

1) The financial report was given by Treasurer Eric Baltes. Expenses were considerably lower in 2017 than in 2016, and income was higher due to increased membership and a very successful silent auction at the 2017 Annual Dinner Meeting. Consequently, the checking account is in good shape.

2) Committee reports: Shari Skeie reported on upcoming programs. February’s program will be on “Gardening with Native Plants and Cacti” given by Kenton Seth. In March, Don Campbell will present a travelogue on his 2017 Arizona trip. Kate Weissenburger gave the report for the Gardening Committee. Lois Davidson has published the calendar for the 2018 Garden Parties. Copies were available at tonight’s meeting. The schedule is also published in the newsletter. There are two community activities coming up that we plan to participate in. These are the Arbor Day Festival in April and the Community Demonstration Days at the CSU Extension service, which is scheduled for May.

3) The Annual Dinner Meeting was reviewed briefly. Everyone who attended agreed that it was a most enjoyable evening, with very good food, a comfortable atmosphere, and great fun! Gratitude was expressed to Janet Hassell and Julie Bursi who coordinated the food/buffet items, and who also managed most of the room set-up. Joy Bush and Pam Johnson were also thanked for coordinating both the door prize and the gift plant give-aways.

4) Don announced that our display at the Math and Science Center has been dismantled, due to the M&SC move to the CMU campus. We will be offering some of the items from the display (hardware and some choice plants) at our regular meeting silent auctions. We may also sell some things at the Arbor Day Festival. There was a question about why our display is not being included at the new M&SC location. Pam Johnson indicated she knows someone connected with the facility and she may be able to get some further information.

5) There was a reminder that membership dues for the 2018 year are due.

6) New guidelines for the 2018 Photo Contest were announced and briefly reviewed.

7) It was mentioned that there are new Field Trip Guidelines being prepared by the Board. These were briefly mentioned in relation to the upcoming field trip in May. Don mentioned specifically how critical it is that we be aware of small plants that may be damaged or destroyed when we walk off of established trails.

Tonight’s program was divided into two parts. The first part, given before break by Don Campbell and Ken Weissenburger, was a quick recap of last year’s wonderful field trip to the Vernal, Utah area. Although there were few cacti blooming at the time that we traveled, we did find many plants, some rare. We also had an overview of the geology of the area provided by member Ken Weissenburger, an up-close-and-personal experience with gilsonite and a fantastic trip to the unusual rock formations at Fantasy Canyon.
After the first part of the program we had a refreshment break with mouth-watering goodies provided by Tom Burrows, in addition to the plant drawing. Following the break, we enjoyed a delightful slide show, again from Don and Ken, as a prequel to this year’s field trip where we will be traveling in May to the area around Marble Canyon, AZ. It was a true “teaser” of a show, complete with slides of delicate blooms of rare and endangered cacti, remarkable layers of geology, and portraits of several of the California condors who are now making themselves at home in that vast area. With luck, participants in the trip will be able to view all of these during the trip in May. Details on the logistics of the trip, the possible extensions (both pre- and post-trip) were described, and there was a sign-up sheet for those interested.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Mallory