



Succulent Morsels

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

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

MAY ACTIVITY!!!

TIME TO SIGN UP FOR THE MAY GARDEN TOUR!

The the Annual 2013 Chinle Garden Tour is set for Saturday, May 18th. This event replaces the regular meeting of the Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society for May. Here is the agenda:

- 7:45 am Gather at the Gazebo across from the Sagebrush Room/Community Buildings at the Mesa County Fairgrounds. Maps and directions will be handed out as well as details about the stops.
- 8:00 am Begin the tour, carpooling as much as possible! It's about a 40 minute drive to our first stop.
- 8:45 am Arrive at Dave & Judy Kennedy's. Explore there about 20-30 minutes. Leave about 9:15 am for a 30 minute drive to our next stop.
- 9:45 am Arrive at Loren and Maryann Benoit's, 2185 Standing Rock Dr. Visit there for about 20 minutes, have a potty stop as needed and leave about 10:05 am.
- 10:20 am Arrive at 608 26-1/2 Rd, to visit Lynn & George's new cactus garden established last year. Will spend about 20 minutes there and leave about 10:40 am for our next stop.
- 10:55 am Arrive at 2666 Summer Hill Ct, to visit Janet & Bill Hassell's year-old garden. Potty stop. Leave about 11:10 am for Judy McCart's garden
- 11:25 am Arrive at Judy McCart's at 525 Sabra St., to explore her renovated and updated garden from our visit last year. Will spend 15-20 minutes there and leave for to our last garden about 11:55 am.
- 12:15 pm Arrive at Sandy McMacken's garden, our sixth and final garden stop at 191 Lumley Road (near the Fair Grounds). We'll spent 15-20 minutes there, leaving about 12:35 pm.
- 12:45 pm Arrive at the Gazebo (possibly Sagebrush Room) at the Fairgrounds for our final stop and lunch. We may use the restroom facilities there as needed.

Our tour this year will feature several new or nearly new gardens, to give members ideas on various approaches to xeric landscaping with cacti and succulents. The club will be providing a picnic lunch and bottled water but plan on bringing your own other beverages, sun hat, sunscreen, camera and a readiness to have a good time and socialize!

“IMPORTANT: LET ME KNOW BY MAY 10TH IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND SO WE CAN ARRANGE FOR LUNCH. CALL 970-263-0910 OR EMAIL ME AT janethassell@gmail.com.

If any questions concerning during the day of the event, give me a call on our mobile phones at 970-210-5537 or 210-5538.

PLANT OF THE MONTH: DISCOCACTUS HORSTII

Don Campbell shares, "*Discocactus horstii* has been a favorite of mine for many years. The ivory-white flowers of this night-blooming cactus produce an absolutely heavenly aroma. During early March I watched, in eager anticipation, as four flower buds begun emerging from the cephalium.

"As the weekend of the CCSS Denver Show & Sale drew closer I became concerned that the flowers might open while we were on the Front Range and my eager anticipation changed to apprehension at the prospect of missing the actual blooming.

"Returning to Grand Junction late in the evening following our Front Range visit, I neglected to check on the bloom status. In fact, I'd completely forgotten about the plant. However, the next morning, as I opened the door into the sunroom, I was instantly immersed in the 'deliciously fragrant aroma' emanating from the four wide open blooms on my little *Discocactus horstii*. Unfortunately, by mid morning the flowers had wilted and the delightful olfactory impression dissipated."

The view at the bottom of the page shows the double cephalium and offset that has uncharacteristically formed on this plant.

(The following was copied from the **Cactus Art Nursery** website):

Description: Solitary globose cactus with a radially segmented body, ca. 5-6cm in diameter (up to 8 in culture) Plant height with cephalium 4 to 5 cm; ribs 12 to 20 prominent with 12 to 14 areoles per rib on plants with cephalium The color of the epidermis is at first green and later dark red/brown. radial spines 8 to 10 light colored recurved backwards in a comb like arrangement, 2-4 mm long.

Flowers: The deliciously fragrant nocturnal blooms are 7.5 cm long, 6 cm in diameter. They come in profusion in summer, out of a cephalium covered by whitish to light brown wool and bristles. Fruit is white.

These cacti are not easy to cultivate, but when grown to maturity, however, they possess an exotic look shared by no other cacti, and they'll generally attract a lot of attention.



Discocactus horstii - photo by D. Campbell, 4-2-13



Cultivation: it is rather difficult to grow and frost tender, should be kept at above 15° C if grown on its own roots (8°C if grafted) need full sun or afternoon shade. Young seedlings are generally grafted because they are slow growing and very rot prone when kept on their own roots and though they can't endure long stretches of total dryness, too much water will rot them, as their weak root systems tend to be inefficient at sucking up water from wet soil. They generally resent being repotted and can take a long time to establish.



WHAT'S BLOOMING IN DON'S SUNROOM?

Don Campbell reports, "I bought this little cactus in Denver on March 16 at the Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society Show & Sale. Since then it's been blooming constantly, opening at least 5 or 6 flowers in the 10 days since I returned from Denver.

"I doubt it's really the 'world's smallest blooming cactus', however, it's definitely the smallest, cutest flowering cactus that I've owned over the past 25 years."



Melocactus warassii, with a ring of 16 flowers, each only about 3/16th of an inch across.



Melocactus concinnus

MORE ON MELOCACTI

Contributed by Don Campbell

Etymology -A shortened form of the original name Echinomelocactus, which means "spiny apple thistle" .

Melocactus are among the most fascinating of cactus in appearance. When young, the plants are quite plain and look very much like one would expect a cactus to look like. They have globose, green stems with multiple ribs. The spines are stout and usually feature a distinct central spine surrounded by radial spines resembling an asterisk. At maturity, Melocactus begin to develop a cephalium, which is a dense mass of areoles that form a bizarre, bristly "cap" directly on top of the stem.

Once this cap is formed, the stem no longer grows, but the cephalium will continue to grow until the plant dies. In rare cases, the cephalium can exceed 3 feet (1m) in height. Most cephaliums are white underneath and orange on top, but may be completely white. It is in this mass of areoles that the flowers are formed. The flowers themselves are quite small, typically pink and come out of the top of the cephalium sporadically or in rings. Many times, the flowers are not noticed by growers and it is only by the later appearance of fruit that proof of flowering is confirmed. The fruits are much more conspicuous than the flowers and are red or pink waxy-looking short tubes that many have likened to candles on top of a birthday cake. This illusion is further enhanced by the dried flower remains persisting and looking like the wick of these "candles".



Melocactus with a tube-like fruit on its cephalium - photo by D. Campbell

Many *Melocactus* species are found in cultivation. They grow fairly easily from seed and as adults most prefer more tropical conditions with more moisture than other cacti and a low tolerance for cold. Despite their frequency in cultivation, identification of *Melocactus* species is arguably the most difficult of all globular cacti and is particularly difficult if not impossible before the cephalium is formed. Even with location data in the wild, ID is a challenge. In habitat, *Melocactus* occur over a very large area including the Caribbean Islands, Mexico, Central America, and much of the north and central parts of South America.

MORE FROM DON'S SUNROOM.....

According to Wikipedia, *A. asterias* is small, round, spineless and squat, reaching a height of 2.5–6 cm (0.98–2.4 in) and a diameter of 5–15 cm (2.0–5.9 in). The disc-shaped body is divided into 7 - 10 sections, known as ribs; in the middle of each rib there are woolly areoles. The body is a greenish-brown color and may appear speckled from its covering of white scales trichomes. The flowers of this cactus are yellow with red bases and the outer parts are very woolly. Green to pink oval fruits are produced; the outside coat is covered with woolly hairs.

Biology

Reproduction takes place via sexual outcrossing through cross-pollination; star cacti reach sexual maturity after a few years, when they have attained 2 – 3 cm in diameter. Flowers are produced from March to June (the summer season in its native habitat) and fruiting occurs from April to June; the specific pollinators have not been identified but are thought to be insects.

Distribution and habitat

Star cactus is native to the lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas in the United States and the states of Nuevo León and Tamaulipas in Mexico,[2] to the east of the Sierra Madre Oriental mountain range.



Astrophytum asterias - photo by D. Campbell



Astrophytum asterias cv. *Super Kabuto*, aka 'Star Cactus' Photo by D. Campbell

Previously more abundant, this species is today restricted to a single 200-acre site in Texas, where there are around 2,000 individuals, and a few small sites in Tamaulipas. Today this species is associated with thorn scrub, amongst rocky ground; it may have previously occupied richer, flat grasslands that have since been developed.

Sand Dollar Cactus has been grown as a houseplant since the 1840s, like other members of its genus and despite its rarity in the wild. It is readily propagated from seed, so most plants encountered in nurseries are seed grown. The popularity of this species among collectors and enthusiasts has ensured that a number of cultivars are available. One such cultivar is the 'Super Kabuto'.

Stories and legends:

Astrophytum asterias 'Super Kabuto' with its inimitable fuzzy epidermis is actually the most popular cactus cultivar. It is easily distinguished from the normal *A. asterias* by the epidermis, that does not have simple dots, but a mosaic of extensive white spots that make the plant look intensely maculate.

'Super Kabuto' would probably come from a mutation that occurred in nature to just one field-collected individual *A. asterias* found in 1981 by the Japanese Mr. Masaomi Takeo in an American garden center and sold to Tony Sato at a high price in Japan.

Propagations have been made possible by cross-pollinating this first plant with other normal *A. asterias* and *A. capricorne* (and possible other *Astrophytum* species too), it can be concluded that all the Super Kabutos actually available are the result of intraspecific hybridization and SK contains not only *A. asterias* genes but also a

significant number of *A. capricorne* genes, and maybe others. As a result spiny clones appear rather often and the name *Astrophytum asterias* cv. *Super Kabuto* is not quite correct.

Many different beautiful forms of 'Super Kabuto' which differ for the diverse pattern of the spots are now available. It would be difficult to mention them all: they range from completely white forms ('white-type'), to forms with woolly spots ('snow-type'), to forms with a maculation like the shape of fly's wings ('zebra-type' or 'V type').

MORE & MORE BLOOMS...

By Don Campbell

"In 1994 I bought a four-headed *Mammillaria lenta* from Crump Greenhouse at the CCSS Show & Sale at the Denver Botanic gardens. I paid \$9.00. Memory tells me that when I purchased the plant, Mike Crump told me it was the first cactus plant he'd owned before starting his Greenhouse. During a recent phone conversation with Mike he indicated he thought his very first cactus may have been a Golden Barrel Cactus rather than this particular *Mammillaria*. He did, however, say that this *Mammillaria lenta* was, at least, one of his very earliest acquisitions. I'm sticking with my version of the story since Mike was not able to positively, unequivocally state that this *M. lenta* was not his first cactus.



Four-headed *Mammillaria lenta* - Photo by D. Campbell

"Nineteen years later, this very slow growing plant still has only four heads even though the literature indicates that it will produce quite large clumps with age. Apparently some plants will begin to offset when just a few cm across, while others are more reluctant to produce offsets. My plant is obviously one of the more reluctant offsetters. Flowering requires fairly high light levels. Currently this plant is flowering much more profusely than it ever has since moving to Grand Junction in 1994. I attribute this year's profusion of flowers to my use of acidified water and ammonium sulfate. The photo above (taken April 10, 2013) shows a beautiful halo of white flowers on one of the four heads."



Here's another testimonial from Little Turbie, aka *Turbinicarpus pseudomacrochele* extolling the benefits of using that amazing elixir of life, Acidified Water and Ammonium Sulfate. This is at least the second or third flush of flowers on this plant so far this spring. Photographed April 10, 2013. by D. Campbell.

CSU GARDEN LOOKS SURPRIZINGLY GOOD AT FIRST GARDEN PARTY 4/3/13 (the gardeners, too!)



Attending the 4-3-13 Party were (L to R) Don Campbell, Carol Campbell, Maryann & Loren Benoit, John Hall, Tom Burrows, Janet & Bill Hassell (not shown)



Tom Burrows enlists his trusty Shop Vac to clean up leaves & debris. Works well!



Pedio "Prettys" & semps add color at the CSU Garden.



Don Campbell (L) rescues Maryann Benoit from an attack of cholla spines!



Speaker, Dr. McCallister

APRIL REGULAR MEETING WELL ATTENDED

Twenty-two members of the Chinle Cactus and Succulent Society met April 11th for the regular monthly meeting of the Society. Dr. Gary McCallister gave an interesting, entertaining and somewhat philosophical talk on “Why I Keep Bees and Why You Should, Too”.

The busy summer schedule was discussed that included the upcoming Arbor Day event, the May Garden Tour, a visit from Panayoti Kelaidis in June, and a field trip to visit Crump’s Nursery in July.

Don Campbell donated several delightful plants for our regular plant drawing as well as two Silent Auction plants (that went to good homes!) and several plants from his greenhouse for purchase (proceeds going to the Chinle C&SS). Our taste buds were “tickled” by Tom Burrow’s white chocolate chip cookies and “experimental” fudge.

Kate Kossa brought a box of 2-inch clay pots she “rescued” from Habitat for Humanity, and John Moore donated a lovely aloe plant and Janet Hassell donated two Euphorbia telacarilla plants for give-aways.



Members enjoy socializing before the April Meeting.

SURE SIGNS OF SPRING!



Left, Mountain Ball cactus in J. Hassell’s garden always a first ‘performer’ in the spring. Also in her garden, and right, an *E. missouriensis* sports multiple red seed pods from last year’s blooms.

FRONT RANGERS TO VISIT WEEKEND OF MAY 18TH

Members of the Colorado Cactus and Succulent Society are taking a Field Trip to Grand Junction to visit our gardens and also view native cacti in habitat. They will arrive in Grand Junction that weekend with some of the group joining us for the Chinle Garden Tour on Saturday morning. They have plans to visit the Western Colorado Botanical Gardens and tour the Colorado National Monument.

Don Campbell is coordinating the field trips from the Grand Junction side, and welcomes Chinle members to join the group for any and all of their activities. The location of the group dinner Saturday night has not been determined, but local members wishing to socialize with the Front Range crowd can contact Don to determine where to meet.

The itinerary for Sunday and Monday is shown below. Again, Chinle members are welcome to join in.

Saturday, May 18

8:00 am - Meet at Mesa County Fairground for Chinle Garden Tour

Sunday, May 19

9:00 am - Meet at Mesa County Fairgrounds, view C&S Garden

10:00 am - Drive to Escalante Creek - view native cacti in habitat – brown bag lunch

4:00 pm - Return GJ via Kannah Creek to view more native cacti

6:00 pm - Group dinner at a local restaurant(s)

Monday, May 20

9:00 am - Meet at Devil's Kitchen picnic area for hike up Old Gordon Trail to see native cacti in habitat

12:00 pm - Return to Front Range

DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

We know that none of you want to miss a single Chinle C&SS event in 2013, so it's time to pull out the checkbook and make out a check for your Chinle membership. What a deal!!! Twenty dollars for an individual and \$25 for a family. You can pay at the next Chinle meeting or mail your check to PO Box 20000, Grand Junction, CO 81502.

SPIDER MITES A COMMON PROBLEM

Spider mites can be the bane of gardeners' existence! As the weather warms, they will begin to reproduce rapidly and can be a severe problem before the gardener is aware they are present.

Spider mites require warm temperatures to reproduce, optimal conditions for them to do so is about 80 °F or 27 °C. They can live up to 4 months and can lay up to 20 eggs per day. Eggs can hatch in 3 days and the mites can become sexually mature in 5 days. One female can thus lay up to a million eggs in a month or less. It is obvious that as a gardener, you want to control these mites the moment you see evidence of their presence. Unfortunately because they reproduce so fast and in large numbers they are able to adapt to pesticides fairly quickly. According to the CSU website, the eggs laid by the spider mite are much larger than the mite itself, and after hatching, the "shell" remains, which can provide a clue that infestation is present. Of course, the most common sign of infestation in a



a. Typical web formation symptom of spider mite infestation.
b. Mite with egg "shell".



cactus or succulent is the presence of white webbing and small brown dots on the plant, shown here in several photos.

Damage to plants is caused by their feeding. Spider mites have a stylet-like mouth part called Chelicerae. Through this mouthpart spider mites extract plant fluids. This creates small holes in the otherwise continuous waterproof leaf surface of the plants. Leaves affected by spider mites usually are brittle and lose their green color. Water loss is also a by-product of their feeding activities and this also affects plant productivity and leaves the plant more

exposed to infection from fungus or bacteria. These dots eventually turn yellow and scar the plant. Due to their very small size (1/50 of an inch long), spider mites are hard to see. If you tap the affected area over a piece of white paper, the mites will appear as dust.

Possible solutions for controlling spider mites

Biological controls include predatory mites that will in theory eat the spider mites. Various insects and predatory mites feed on spider mites and provide a high level of natural control. One group of small, dark-colored lady beetles known as the "spider mite destroyers" (*Stethorus* species) are specialized predators of spider mites. Minute pirate bugs, big-eyed bugs (*Geocoris* species) and predatory thrips can be important natural enemies.

A great many mites in the family Phytoseiidae are predators of spider mites. In addition to those that occur naturally, some of these are produced in commercial insectaries for release as biological controls. Among those most commonly sold via mail order are *Galendromus occidentalis*, *Phytoseiulus persimilis*, *Mesoseiulus longipes* and *Neoseiulus californicus*. Although these have been successful in control of spider mites on interior plants, effective use outdoors has not been demonstrated in Colorado. Predatory mites often have fairly high requirements for humidity, which can be limiting. Most suppliers provide information regarding use of the predator mites that they carry.



One reason that spider mites become problems in yards and gardens is the use of insecticides that destroy their natural enemies. For example, carbaryl (Sevin) devastates most spider mite natural enemies and can greatly contribute to spider mite outbreaks. Malathion can aggravate some spider mite problems, despite being advertised frequently as effective for mite control. Soil applications of the systemic insecticide imidacloprid (Merit, Marathon) have also contributed to some spider mite outbreaks.

Chemical Controls Typically involve insecticides specifically developed to control spider mites (Miticides or Acaricides). Most pesticides do not affect spider mites and even the ones that are designed to combat spider mites do not kill the eggs. This is the main reason why repeat applications are required if you really want to control the problem. The table on

page 10 shows some of the more common pesticides used for this problem. (Source; Colorado State University extension at <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/insect/05507.html>)

Water management. Periodic forceful watering with a hose can dislodge many of the mites thus helping to decrease their numbers.

Oil Spray: Tom Burrows shares his recipe for spider mite control using an oil spray as follows: Mix 2 parts Dawn detergent and 1 part light salad oil. Use 1/2 tsp of mixture in a 24 oz sprayer of water. Apply the spray and the next day rinse off with water. Apply it about every 2 weeks or so.

Monitor Your Plants: Finally perhaps the most effective control you can use is to monitor your plants. Pay attention to their appearance and look for signs of problems. If you confirm that you have spider mites try one or more of the solutions mentioned above and it is likely that if you are not too late the plant can recover.

Another interesting link from the CSSA discusses a short article about spider mite control written by Lou Kilbert PhD. is shown here:

http://www.cssainc.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=344&Itemid=212

Table 1: Pesticides useful to control spider mites in yards and gardens.		
Active Ingredient	Trade Name(s)	Comments
acephate	Orthene, certain Isotox formulations	Insecticide with some effectiveness against spider mites. Systemic.
abamectin	Avid	For commercial use only on ornamental plants. Primarily effective against twospotted spider mite; less effective against mites on conifers. Limited systemic movement.
bifenthrin	Talstar, others	Insecticide with good miticide activity.
hexythiazox	Hexygon	For commercial use only on ornamental plants. Selective miticide that affects developing stages and eggs only. One application per season label restriction.
horticultural oils	Sunspray, others	Used at the "summer oil" rate (2 percent), oils are perhaps the most effective miticide available for home use.
insecticidal soap	several	Marginally effective against twospotted spider mite and where webbing prevents penetration. Broadly labeled.
spinosyn	Forbidden	For commercial use only on ornamental plants. Selective against mites and conserves natural enemies.
sulfur	various	Generally sold in dust formulation for control of various fungal diseases and some mites on some ornamental and vegetable crops.

W.S. Cranshaw, Colorado State University Extension entomologist and professor, and D.C. Sclar, research assistant, bioagricultural sciences and pest management. Revised 11/06.

Colorado State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Colorado counties cooperating. Extension programs are available to all without discrimination. No endorsement of products mentioned is intended nor is criticism implied of products not mentioned.

CHINLE WELL REPRESENTED AT ARBOR DAY/EARTH DAY APRIL 20TH

The Chinle Cactus & Succulent Society participated in the Annual Arbor Day festivities held in Lincoln Park on April 20th. The Arbor Day events were combined with Earth Day for a single, larger event and indeed it was a very large celebration that filled the entire park. The Society earned over \$230 in cactus sales at the festival and made lots of friends for cacti and succulents. Hopefully we generated a few new members for our efforts.

Thanks to the volunteers who helped make our day successful: Maryann & Loren Benoit, Julie Bursi, Don & Carol Campbell, Lois Davidson, Lynn Dunham, Janet & Bill Hassell, Deb & Glenn Mallory, Judy McCart (who coordinated the event), and John Moore.



Judy McCart (L) and Julie Bursi discuss plants.



(L to R) Loren Benoit, Lynn Dunham and John Moore braved the Arbor Day chilly temps.



Judy McCart takes a well-deserved break.



Janet Hassell (above) shows off one of the lovely opuntias and Maryann Benoit, left, shows off the Chinle display and more plants in the booth.



Glenn & Deb Mallory were helpful volunteers.



(L to R) Volunteers Lois Davison, Bill Hassell and Don Campbell chat with Anne Barnett of Meadowlark Gardens.

MAKE LODGING RESERVATIONS ASAP FOR CRUMPS TOUR

Loren & Maryann Benoit, Coordinators of this years tour to Crumps's Greenhouse in Buena Vista, report that at least 10 members have signed up already for the tour. It is always a great time together, and a good opportunity to see and purchase excellent plants at the greenhouse. They report, however, that a couple other events are taking place in Buena Vista that same weekend, and some of the usual motels we have stayed in are not available.

With this in mind, **a list of motels on the next page is provided from which you can make reservations.** It is a good idea to make your reservations early to be sure there will be a space for you. Loren reports that lodging is also available in Salida (24 miles away) if none is available in Buena Vista.

Many members drive up Friday and get together for an informal dinner that night. The tour will begin at Crumps about 11 am on Saturday, and include a box lunch. The lunch will be subsidized by the CC&SS so your share will be \$5. We will collect the money that morning.

In past years, members have toured the area to see the large variety of interesting cacti and succulents in habitat, so the afternoon should be interesting. There is a rodeo Saturday and Sunday which may interest some of you. We typically get together for a group dinner Saturday night and return to Grand Junction on Sunday. If you have not let Loren and Maryann know you plan to attend the tour, please do so at your earliest convenience! Email them at mxbenoit@bresnan.net or call 970-254-7471.

Buena Vista Lodging - Hotels/Motels

Delaware Hotel

700 Harrison Ave; Leadville, CO , 80461

Phone: 800-748-2004 / **Phone2:** 719-486-1418

Website: <http://www.delawarehotel.com>

Basic Description: "Award Winning" Victorian Hotel with 36 rooms and suites furnished in elegant antiques. Private bathes. Nonsmoking. Ski packages, theme weekends. Continental breakfast.

Great Western Sumac Lodge

PO Box 747; 428 Hwy 24 South; Buena Vista, CO, 81211

Phone: 719-395-8111 / **Phone2:** 888-786-2290

Website: <http://www.sumaclodge.com>

Basic Description: 30 rooms (some Non smoking)with full baths, showers, air conditioning, TV, HBO, phones, coffee. Kitchen, picnic area, grills. Kids under 12 stay free. Pets with deposit. Truck/bus parking. Major credit cards.

Lakeside Motel

112 Lake; P O Box 953; Buena Vista, CO , 81211

Phone: 800-248-7684 / **Phone2:** 719 395 2994

Website: <http://www.lakesidebv.com>

Basic Description: Next to town park with lake. 8 large new rooms w/refrigerators, microwaves. Plus 8 rooms (2 w/kitchenette), Cable TV, Highspeed Internet in all rooms, phones. Allergy free-Rooms no longer take smokers or pets.

Mountain View Motel

406 Hwy 24 N; Buena Vista, CO, 81211

Phone: 719-395-8665 / **Phone2:** 966-5039

Website: <http://www.bvmountainviewmotel.com>

Basic Description: Motel-11 rooms with TV-close to restaurants and downtown. No pets

Pinon Court Motel

227 Hwy 24 N; P O Box 5214; Buena Vista, CO, 81211

Phone: 719-395-2433 /

Website: <http://www.pinoncourtcabins.com>

Basic Description: 11 cabins with full kitchens and TV. Pets welcome. We accept all major credit cards. Very reasonably priced.

Super 8 Motel

530 US Hwy 24; P O Box 5274; Buena Vista, CO, 81211

Phone: 719 395-8888 / **Phone2:** 866 944-0808

Website: <http://www.bvsuper8.com>

Basic Description: REDUCED RATES!! Super 8's "Hospitality Award Winner" We have an indoor swimming pool and a very nice indoor jacuzzi hot tub. It is a very clean and is listed as a " Pride of Super 8 " There are 38 rooms plus 2 suites and was built in 1996. Most of the motel rooms have 2 queen beds but we also have several Kings. All of the rooms have Air Conditioning. Refrigerators, in-room coffee makers, iron boards, hair dryers and 27 inch flat screen TV's. The motel has a guest laundry facility. We have the best truck or snowmobiling parking of all the lodges in Buena Vista.. A free "SuperStart" or expanded continental breakfast is available.

Topaz Lodge

PO Box 596; 115 Hwy 24N; Buena Vista, CO, 81211

Phone: 719-395-2427 / **Phone2:** 800-731-5906

Website: <http://www.topazlodge.biz>

Basic Description: 17 rooms, in room coffee, cable TV with remote control, wireless internet. Pet rooms available. Walk to restaurants, shops, lounges.

AGAVE'S TAKE A HIT AT THE WCBG



Smiling gardeners shown above at the April 27th WCBG Garden Party included (L to R) Kay Klausmeier, Don & Carol Campbell, Maryann Benoit, Tom Burrows, Bill Hassell, Pat & Al Severson and Loren Benoit. Deb & Glenn Mallory, & Janet Hassell attended but not shown. They spent the morning pruning back overgrown plants, pulling weeds and applying herbicide.

All present (despite their smiles) were shocked to see the devastation the past winter dealt to the garden agaves. Below, Don Campbell begins the sad chore of digging out the rotting plants for transport to the compost heap. Winter kill of agaves occurred at both the WCBG and the CSU gardens, and part of the work this spring will be cleaning up the dead plants and replacing them. The prolonged inversion with sub-freezing temperatures are largely to blame for this damage. Many of the killed plants have been in the gardens for more than 7-8 years, so it is disappointing to see them die.

Fortunately, most of the remaining plants are in good shape, starting to bud, and show promise of a beautiful spring bloom. Life goes on!



Before - photo taken end of 2012.



After - photo taken April 27, 2013.

PLANTS FOR SALE AFTER GARDEN TOUR

Harriet Olds, a long-time member of the Colorado Cactus & Succulent Society, is moving from her large residence with a green house into a small apartment with very limited plant growing space. As a result, she is selling much of her extensive collection of cacti & succulents. She has a number of very nice plants such as Epiphyllums, Hoyas, Haworthias and other succulents. Examples are shown below in the photos.

She will join our Chinle Club Garden Tour and picnic on Saturday, May 18 and will have the plants needing new homes at the Fairgrounds during the Chinle picnic. She says that the plants will be priced very reasonably, so this is a great opportunity for members to enhance their personal collections.



☆ On the Lighter Side



Jeff Brimley, Chinle member from Ogden, UT, send us this picture of the newest resident of one of his *Cylindropuntia whippleii*. Hope none of the chicks fall out of the nest!

SOME CACTUS HUMOR!

by Don Campbell

“Being a card carrying geezer, I can fondly remember a couple of very popular songs from the 1950’s that featured the colors pink and white in both the title and the lyrics. “Cherry Pink and Apple Blossom White” is the English version of “Ceriseir rose et pommier blanc”, a popular French song written in 1950. “A White Sport Coat and a Pink Carnation” is a 1957 rock and roll song written by Marty Robbins. Robbins reportedly had the inspiration for the song while driving from a motel to a venue where he was due to perform one evening. During the course of the journey, he passed a high school, where the students were dressed ready for their prom.

“One can only imagine the catchy song Robbins might have written had he stumbled upon the little cactus cutie pictured on the right.

Is it possible that a song titled, “White Trichomes and Pink Cactus Flowers” could have also climbed to the top of the pop music charts back in the ‘50’s?”



Don Campbell also shares another astonishing discovery from the spiny thickets of far off Madagascar, this newly discovered rodent:

“Meet the Spiny-tailed Mouse”

The spiny tail is actually a rooted cutting of *Alluaudia procera*, sometimes called Madagascar ocotillo

(in a Mexican novelty pot).



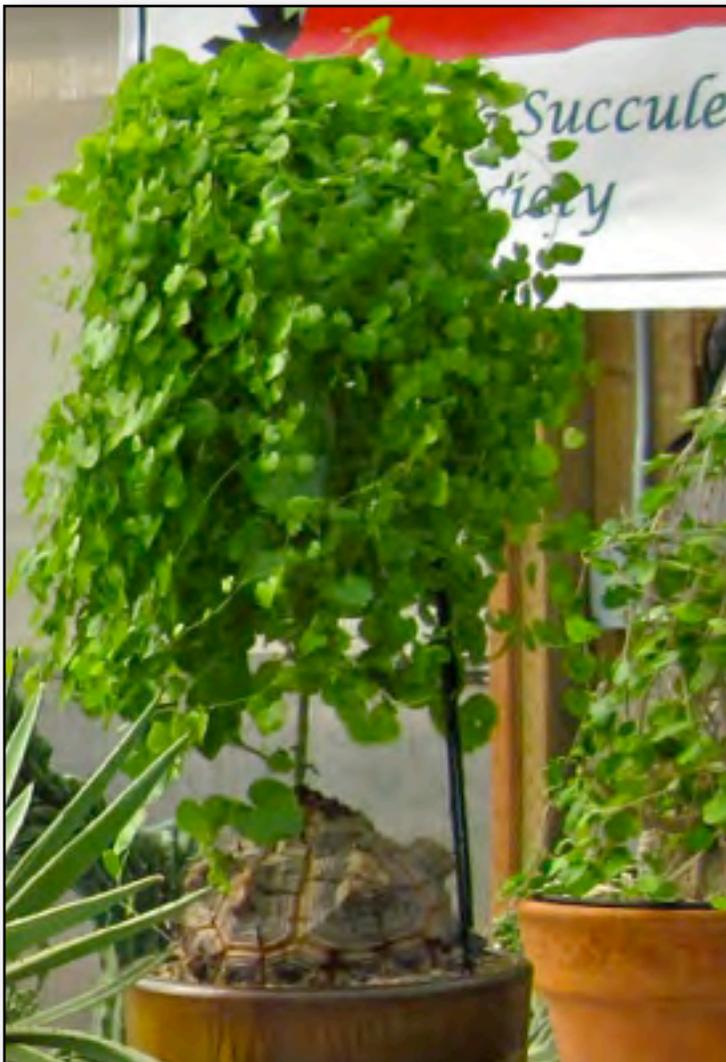
What Is It?

If you guessed a close-up of a *Dioscorea elephantipes* caudex, you would have been 100% correct!

The striated patterns, however, mimic many other forms in nature to include aerial views of mountains, agate stones, turtle shells, dinosaur scales, tree trunks and whatever else your imagination can conjure up!

The photo of the caudex by Don Campbell captured the basic artistic aspect of an unusual plant form. Thanks, Don!

The photo on the left shows the entire plant.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 2013 - AUG 2013

- MAY 1 GARDEN PARTY - CSU EXTENSION - Wednesday, 9 AM
MAY 11 GARDEN PARTY - WCBG - Saturday, 9 AM
MAY 18 *Garden Tour - (Replaces May Regular Meeting)
Janet & Bill Hassell, Coordinators*
MAY 29 GARDEN PARTY - CSU EXTENSION - Wednesday, 9 am
JUN 3 *Chinle C&SS Board Meeting - 10am
2666 Summer Hill Ct., GJ*
JUN 8 GARDEN PARTY - WCBG - Saturday, 9 am
JUNE 13 *Regular Meeting of the Chinle C&SS
Program: "Hardy American Succulents"
Presenter: Panayoti Kelaidis*
JUNE 19 GARDEN PARTY - CSU EXTENSION - Wednesday, 9 am
JUN 15 *35th Biennial CSSA Convention, Austin, TX*
JULY 14 *CRUMP'S GREENHOUSE FIELD TRIP - (replaces regular July Mtg)*
AUG 8 *MEMBER SHOW & TELL - ICE CREAM SOCIAL*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

ANNUAL CHINLE GARDEN TOUR - MAY 18TH

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>**