

SACXS FACTS

Newsletter for the San Antonio Cactus
and Xerophyte Society

March-April 2011

Volume 23, Number 2-3

“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.”

SPECIAL SACXS SHOW AND SALE ISSUE

President's Letter...Let's get ready for the Show!!!

Greetings Fellow Members: It won't be long now until our Show & Sale is here. The SACXS Show & Sale is scheduled for April 14 - 16. This is a week earlier than usual, so we must start preparations soon. Please come to the March SACXS meeting at the Garden Center. We will take this time to explain the operating procedures for the Show & Sale. Some of the topics will include Show advertising, Show set up & clean up, getting Show plants ready, the Show auction, the Show raffle, the SACXS club table, refreshments, and other details concerning the Show. I am counting on all members to take an active part to help our show be successful. This translates into more funds for speakers and special projects for SACXS.

You don't have to wait until our Show to start having fun buying plants. Come to the Garden Center Annual Plant Sale on March 11-12. SACXS will have a sales area to help support the Garden Center. We could still use some help on either day in the sales area. Contact Barbara Schulze 830-281-5766 if you can help. Check the **Coming Events** section of the newsletter for other Sales Events.

I am still in the process of selecting a nominating committee whose members will contact other SACXS members to provide service on our board of officers. Please contact Barbara Schulze if you would be willing to serve on the nominating committee or serve as an officer.

For those of you who missed the February meeting, our attending members were treated to a wonderful trip through the cities and countryside of Yemen. It is always a treat to see what our potted plants look like growing in their natural habitat. There are many succulents such as Euphorbia, Aloe, Adenium, Adenia, and several Stapeliad species found in Yemen. I hope we can have some more slide show travelogues in the future. Often that is the only way some of us can visit these remote destinations.

For those of you who signed up for one of the Sonora, TX field trips please remember to send Claude Townsend your deposit. Anyone still interested in attending this field trip, contact Claude to find out if space is still available.

I want to thank Bjorn Steffensen and John & Kumiko Carlin for submitting articles to the February newsletter. These member contributed articles really spice up our newsletter. Check elsewhere in the newsletter for assignments for April. Don't forget that our meeting now begins at 7:15. The social period will still begin at 6:30. Hope to see everyone at the meeting. —**Barbara Schulze**, SACXS President



Don't Miss the March SACXS Meeting! Read on for Important Information!!

SACXS Board Members

President: Barbara Schulze 830-281-5766 **1st Vice President:** Claude Townsend 210-655-8959
2nd Vice President: Tony Garcia 210-733-7470 **3rd Vice President:** Sam Rodgers 210-240-7721
Secretary: Bjorn Steffensen 210-479-3717 **Publicity Secretary:** Eula Townsend 210-655-8959

Treasurer: Doug Coates 210-659-7279

Directors: David Dawson 210-336-8621, Gerald Yarbrough 210-435-7157,
Ernie Akers 210-521-5772

SACXS FACTS Editor: annblack@gvtc.com Visit our website: www.sacxs.org



March 16 Meeting Information

Program Information: "Show Prep"

What is the SACXS Show & Sale? A Bloomin' Good Time, Of Course! Our March 16 Regular Meeting will be an informal event for our members, to provide information to prepare for our SACXS Show & Sale on April 14-16. We will discuss all aspects of our Show & Sale, what it takes to pull-off a successful Show & Sale, and how our members can help. We will have demonstrations, hand-outs, and sign-up sheets. Among the members speaking will be Paul Kibler, Ann Black, and Barbara Schulze. Please attend this important meeting!

Place: San Antonio Garden Center. 3310 N. New Braunfels

Time: Meeting starts 7:15 pm . Come early for social hour!

It's free and open to the public.

For more information: ctownsend@satx.rr.com.

March 16 Meeting Assignments

IMPORTANT: First person on each list, (as indicated by the asterisk) please call the others to remind them. If you have any questions, please call the first person on your list or call Cal Eichler 210-828-0833.

Refreshments

*Barbara and Randy Schulze 210-281-5766

Jim and Lucy Roberts 830-980-4107

Sam Rodgers 210-240-7721

Bjorn and Jane Steffenson 210-479-3717

Christine Saalbach 210-493-7011

Auction Plants

*Claude and Eula Townsend 210-655-8956

Pablo Uresti and Anna Huran 210-262-6945

Felix Vargas 210-449-3668

Jeannie Williams 210-655-6262

Gerald and Sidney Yarbrough 210-435-7057

Please Read: Newsletter Assignments

Newsletter Assignments:

These members are requested to provide articles for the May newsletter:

Dave & Marleen Cruq

David Dawson

Cal Eichler

Contact Barbara Schulze at bschulze@pisd.us
if you have any questions about this assignment.

Please send Ann your articles by May 1, 2011.

The article can be personal (information about yourself, our society members, your experiences growing succulents, or a visit to some location you think would be of interest to other members). Articles can also be reprints from other sources such as other newsletters, books, websites, etc. Be sure to cite the author and source that the article came from. You can also write your own article by compiling information from several sources. Again, be sure to cite authors and sources. If you can include your own original photos as well, that would be great!

—Barbara

No Regular meeting in April due to the Show and Sale!!

No Newsletter in April, but check your email for important Show and Sale updates.

Volunteers Needed for Garden Center Plant Sale

Friday, March 11- Saturday, March 12

9 am - 4 pm Both Days

**Shop for Beautiful, Quality Plants Along with an
Assortment of Unique Plants at the Donation Station**

*** Many Garden Clubs participate in this sale. There should be a wide variety of plants such as roses, tulips, begonias, daylilies, herbs, and other flowering plants as well as our society's cacti and succulents.**

**** At the donation station, you'll find plants contributed by members from their own yards and gardens. If you have plants you'd like to donate, bring them to the Garden Center between 9 am -1 pm on Thursday, March 11.**

***** The SACXS booth could use some volunteers, if you are able. We need workers on Friday and Saturday from 9 am - 12:30 and 12:30 - 4 pm. A light lunch will be available for volunteers. Call Barbara Schulze at 830-281-5766 if you can help.**

SACXS Board Meeting Minutes for January 10, 2011

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:20 PM in the home of Claude Townsend

2. Members present: Barbara Schulze, Gerald Yarborough, Sidney Yarborough, Claude Townsend, Eula Townsend, Sam Rogers, Tony Garcia, David Dawson, Doug Coates, Ernie Akers, and Bjorn Steffensen.

3. Approval of Minutes

Barbara Schulze called the meeting to order. Bjorn Steffensen read the minutes from the September 13, 2010 Board Meeting. The minutes were approved as read with minor modification (Doug moved, Claude seconded).

4. Treasurers Report

Doug Coates reported on the activities in the club account. There have been total expenses in November and December of \$911.90 (major expenses included Fiesta medals \$534.50 and food for Christmas party of \$153.11) and total incomes of \$391,- including raffle income and membership payments. Balances for the Checking account was \$1295.42, for the Show account \$3,500, and for the Savings account ~8,004.47.

5. Membership Chairman's Report

There are as of this January 10, 2011, a total of 22 paid members with a potential 64 members listed. We need to make a point of getting everyone's dues paid up.

6. Program Chairman's Report

Programs

San Antonio Cactus and Xerophyte Society in collaboration with other clubs hope to co-sponsor a visit and presentation by Woody Minnick, CA. We will adjust our other planned events to the timing of this visitor.

Bjorn informed Claude that Cal Eichler had a program idea entailing the use of cacti and cactus products. Potential speakers were named.

Fiesta update by Claude:

People are available to help sell the medals from Fiesta volunteers.

We need to find the banner for advertising, check with Jimmy Black.

We need to find our Fiesta flag (has the SACXS and Fiesta emblems); must be shown at the Show and Sale.

7. Field Trips report

Claude, Ernie, and Sam informed the Board about several interesting field trip options:

- Return to McPhearson ranch in Sonora, TX, which is 3 hours west of San Antonio towards Lubbock (half way to Ft. Stockton). This would involve overnight stay with BBQ. Participants would probably need to pay around \$50/person deposit. Cacti would be hunted Saturday and Sunday morning. There is lodging on the ranch in bunk beds and also options in Sonora. The Board authorized the three members to move forward with planning.

Other options include: - San Saba: either a new area, or the same area as before

- Thesban ranch by Floresville, There will be plants and petrified wood to find

- Greenhouse tour to two members with lunch in between

- Sam will likely make another Eagle Pass trip soon.

Sam reported from meeting with San Antonio Botanical Garden representatives. There are considerations of expanding the cactus area. However, other Board members indicated that there are plans to move the current exhibit to another location, so it is uncertain whether the club is willing and able to work there at this time. Also Barbara was unable to get volunteers to come and work last year. Therefore, although we all are very interested in helping, there are some unanswered questions. Sam will check further into this issue.

Old Business

8. Review of Christmas Party

The Board concluded that we had an excellent party – this time at the home of Ann and Jimmy Black. The Board expressed its appreciation of all the efforts of the hosts for a nice day.

There were an estimated 30 members present for the event.

9. Potting soil donation

Not done yet, but in progress

10. Change in By-law vote to be taken at January meeting

The wording of the by-law change proposal has been posted in the Newsletter in December and January. The final vote will be taken by the membership at the January meeting.

11. Newsletter

The Board expressed its recognition of another nice SACXS Facts newsletter. We had made pleas for contributions of articles and other to the membership. We have had nice pictures from recent social events, and Barbara has assigned the responsibility for writing articles to specific members. We will monitor if it works.

New Business:

12. SACXS tax exempt status

The board discussed a San Antonio Express News article starting 2007 all tax exempt organizations must submit tax returns at least every three years to maintain its exempt status. The Board asked Doug to check into the matter and contact Jimmy Black and other former Board members regarding submission of the tax return in recent years.

13. 2011 Show and Sale information

Barbara has met with Ann Black and Paul Kibler regarding the upcoming Show and Sale. Some of the plans include blocking off the stage to prevent damage, place auction plants in front of stage, have a club information table, have a Fiesta medals sales table, and provide plant care sheets.

It was determined that a silent auction was not feasible and that we should focus on the auction which is very popular. Carol Blocker may be able to prepare pamphlets. Also the Board found that we need to help explain to volunteers among our members what different responsibilities entail, because it is not as difficult as it appears.

14. Managing the club Main account versus the Show and Sale account

Regarding the Annual Show and Sale, the Board confirmed the policy that SACXS as sponsoring organization will pay the PMO (participating membership organization) registration fee (\$150) from its main account to the Fiesta commission. As a cost associated with holding the Annual Show and Sale, we will consider insurance (\$150) an expenditure of the show, which will be paid through the Show account, and reconciled as part of determining incomes and expenses from that event. Any net earnings from the event will be transferred to the main account. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM

Respectfully submitted, Bjorn Steffensen, Recording secretary 1/16/2011

Club Field Trip to Sonora, TX

**Field trip to Sonora, TX.
(9 miles south of town)**

Three days: Friday, Saturday, Sunday, two weekends

**Two weekends are available to the club-
which weekend is selected will be determined by majority**

March 11-12-13 OR

April 29-30-May-1

**25 SPACES WILL BE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST COME BASIS.
CONTACT CLAUDE TOWNSEND TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE:
210-655-8959**

**PAYMENT: THERE WILL BE A 50% NON REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT
TURNED OVER TO THE RANCHER 12 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.**

**This is to allow time for the rancher to purchase FOOD
in San Antonio.**

**I have made this trip before there are at least 10 types of Cactus,
many types of rocks and plants to be found To me it was the best
hunt I have been on in the past ten years. C. Townsend**

**The Excitement is Building!!
SACXS Show and Sale 2011 is NEXT MONTH!
We need your help to make this a successful event.
Remember: There can be no Show
without member participation.**

Here's how you can help:

Spread the Word: We'll have publicity fliers at our March Meeting. You can send these to family, friend and businesses.

Sign Up to Set Up: Show set up is Wednesday April 13 from 9 am to noon. We need two strong men to help set up tables. We also need two willing workers to help vendors carry in plants.

Greet and Meet: Volunteers to sit at the SACXS Club Table for a few hours on Thurs. , Friday or Saturday. You can help by passing out our club fliers and providing information about SACXS.

Show 'em Off: Bring your best plants for our Show Tables.

Got good Legs? Can you Clerk? We need plant handlers and clerks for the Rare Plant Auctions on Saturday and Sunday.

Be a "Roadie": Help us break the Show down, take out the trash and sweep the floors at END OF SHOW on Saturday afternoon.

**Sign Up Sheets for all of these activities will be distributed at the March 16 meeting. If you cannot attend the March meeting, but would like to sign up to work at the Show and Sale, please call or contact me, Ann Black
830-336-4471 or annblack@gvvc.com**

SACXS Show and Sale 2011

Schedule of Events:

Show Set Up: Wednesday, April 13
9 am to 4:00 pm

Show Hours: Thurs. Fri. & Sat.,
April 14, 15, & 16
9:00 am-5:00 pm

Rare Plant Auctions: Friday & Saturday
at 2:00 pm

Show Ends at 5:00 pm on Saturday.
Vendors must be packed up
and loaded out by 6:30 pm.

Show Details: See Cacti and Succulents on Display!!

Shop at our three-day plant sale featuring Cactus & Succulent vendors who offer rare or one-of-a-kind plants. There will be a wonderful variety of plants to choose from.

Don't miss rare plant auctions featuring plants donated by vendors and club members.

Some of the plants are unique varieties, and afford the collector the opportunity to acquire some interesting and valuable specimens.

SACXS Fiesta Medals will be available for purchase all three show days.

Coming Events

- March 11-12: San Antonio Garden Center Annual Plant Sale:** (210) 824-9981
3310 North New Braunfels Avenue sagc2004@sbcglobal.net
- March 12-19: Chihuahuan Desert Nature Center (CDRI)**
Annual Cactus & Succulent Festival www.cdri.org
- April 2 & 3: ACSS Spring Show & Sale** • 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. • Austin Area Garden Center at Zilker Botanical Garden
- April 14 - 16: SACXS Annual Show & Sale** • 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. • Rare Plant Auction on Friday and Saturday at 2:00 p.m. • San Antonio Garden Center • 3310 North New Braunfels Avenue • www.sacxs.org
- April 24 - 29: CSSA 2011 Convention** • Marriott Hotel - Mission Valley, San Diego, CA • For more information, www.cssainc.org

“How I Came to Love Plants” by SACXS Member Dave Cohen

I was born and grew up in the Bronx, New York. After a short life in Brooklyn I moved back to The Bronx where I met my wife Marcy. Two years after we married we moved to New Jersey where we lived for over 35 years and raised our 2 children, Allyson and Richard. I was introduced to the world of plants by my father who, although he and my mother lived in an apartment, managed to keep almost 200 plants. I was drafted one winter to be his plant keeper while my parents went to Florida for the winter. At first it was a chore but after several weeks I began to see changes in the plants under my care. Now I was the reason for their growth. I was hooked. When they returned my father was impressed that I only lost 3 plants. He said he loses more than that. So to start my collection I got a piece of this and a cutting of that and I was on my way. I built a small



greenhouse in New Jersey and had about 150 plants at one time in a small 3 foot by 5 foot greenhouse. I now have a 6 foot by 8 foot greenhouse that houses my collection of over 200 plants. Most are cactus and succulents with a few mini orchids included. I don't know the names of all of my plants but I do enjoy growing them. My other joy is my 700 gallon pond in my back yard. There is nothing as relaxing as watching the fish and listening to the waterfalls.—Dave