



SACXS FACTS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE SAN ANTONIO CACTUS AND XEROPHYTE SOCIETY
OCTOBER 2011 VOLUME 23, NUMBER 10

“THE SAN ANTONIO CACTUS AND XEROPHYTE SOCIETY WAS ORGANIZED IN 1977 TO PROMOTE THE STUDY, PROGATION, CONSERVATION AND PUBLIC AWARENESS OF CACTI AND OTHER SUCCULENT PLANTS.”



President’s Letter

A Time and Space Continuum



In about two weeks from now a nagging thought will enter my psyche: “That first freeze cannot be far away”. Those of us who have exotics in our xerophyte

collection surely experience this annual dilemma: What to do with all of those plants we have enjoyed over the warm months? It’s all a matter of *Time* and *Space*. What I’m referring to is the *Time* it takes to get them ready, and the *Space* it will require to carefully stow them away for the winter.

By mid November, with the first, real, gusty cold front rattling the windows, I find myself kneeling in the gravel on a greenhouse floor trying to stuff those last few sansevierias way back into a shady corner. Poor sansevierias-they always get scrunched under the greenhouse benches. Yet, they survive and actually bloom. About that time I’ll be mumbling to myself “What was I thinking when I bought, traded or propagated all of these darn plants?!?!” God bless my long-suffering spouse who always manages to get those giant potted trees back into their winter homes. Are you familiar with **Parkinson's law**-- “Work expands so as to fill the time available for its completion.” One of its corollaries should be that plants expand to fill the space allotted. *Nature abhors a vacuum-especially when it comes to greenhouses.*

By the way, our male tabby cat loves to bask on the greenhouse floor. He must like the warm air and humming of the fans. Yesterday he decided to jump up onto the plant benches. He squeezed himself between an al-luaudia and the plexiglass wall. He could not get out. I was panic stricken and began to move plants out of his way. He decided to forge his own route and gingerly stepped through a tray of lithops. Not a single plant was damaged. Incredible!

---Ann Black, SACXS President

No Meeting in October Due to Annual SACXS Picnic

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No Meeting in October Due to Annual SACXS Picnic

Our Next Meeting will be Wednesday, November 16, 2011.

October is our Fall Picnic month, so there will be no meeting at the Garden Center. Our next general meeting will be in November. The topic will be the Annual Plant Exchange. We'll have our usual plant auction and we'll also raffle plants. More details will be provided in the November newsletter.

Beloved Life Member, Former Newsletter Editor and Former Membership Chairperson Passes



Norma Tindall

TINDALL

Norma Gonzales Tindall, (August 17, 1928-September 28, 2011) has entered her final rest after a long illness. She was a loving wife, mother, and indulgent grandmother. She worked in Civil Service for over thirty years, starting at, and then later retiring from Kelly A.F.B. Security Service as a Supply Analyst. In between she worked at many bases as she followed and supported her late husband, Maj. Kenneth O. Tindall, throughout his Air Force career. She worked with computers, advancing with each updated Government change. Her interests were varied and she was a long time member of the San Antonio Geological Society, Southwest Gem and Mineral Club and the San Antonio Cactus and Xerophyte Society, where she served as editor for all of their newsletters for many years. She was an avid fossil and cactus collector, and local history buff. She will be missed by her two sisters, Evelyn Rodriguez in Austin and Mary Gale and husband Lt. Col. Frank Elam of Charleston, SC.; her son, Joe Russell and wife Kathleen Andrade in Los Angeles, CA; daughter Laura Burgess of Helotes; four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren, plus many nieces and nephews. She was preceded by her mother, Grace Wallace Southworth; father, Nicholas Tipton Gonzales; sister Blanche Gladys Gonzales and brother Eugene Gonzales. We miss you Mama. Viewing will be at Sunset Funeral Home at 1701 Austin Highway, Wednesday October 5, from 6 to 8 P.M. Services will be at 9 A.M. Thursday. Following, she will join her husband at the National Cemetery at Fort Sam Houston. In lieu of flowers, please donate to Easter Seals or The American Lung Association. Visit www.sunsetfuneralhomesa.com to offer your condolences.

Published in Express-News on October 3, 2011

Christmas Party

Our Annual Christmas party planning is underway. As part of our festivities, we would like to make a donation to a charitable cause. Do you have any ideas about a worthwhile organization for those in need? Please let me know at the November meeting.

Ann Black, SACXS President

**Date: SUNDAY,
October 9, 2011**

*Time: 1:00 PM; Food
will be served at 2:00 PM*

SACXS Annual Picnic

**Where: Paul and Lisa
Kibler's
Residence
200 Schertz Parkway
Schertz, TX**

**RSVP by October 4 to
Lisa at
elisakibler@satx.rr.com.**

Paul is having a 20% off sale for
the month of October!!

*The Club will furnish
the following:*

**BBQ Brisket, Sausage,
Chicken, Beans,
Bottled Water,
Utensils & Paper Plate**

Please bring a side dish.

Food Assignments:

Members from

A thru E: Salad

F thru L: Vegetable Dish

M thru Z: Dessert

What Else to Bring:

**Folding chairs, sunscreen, soft
drinks and bug spray**

SACXS Calendar of Events

Oct. 9: Annual SACXS Picnic
Nov. 16: SACXS MEETING
Dec. 4: SACXS Christmas Party

TACSS 2011 Fall Seminar



Larry Fagarason, KCCSS and Mike Rupe, ACSS and Executive Director of TACSS



Best succulent, Richard Stamper



Best cactus, Barbara Schulz

2012 Show News!

SACXS Members,

I have taken on the responsibility as Show & Sale Manager for 2012. Last year the Show Committee implemented several changes that seemed to help improve the Show and Sale overall. However, the number of participants and plants that are actually displayed during the Show has been declining. We had great response last year with many members helping out during the Show but we need more members showing their plants. One idea I would like to put forward is to ask members to create a small educational display (1/2 of a table or a full table) that would inform the public. Photos, printed information, and some cactus or succulents would create the display. Topics could include: crested cacti/succulents, columnar cacti, Texas succulents, variegated cacti/succulents, succulents of a specific region or country, miniature succulents, caudiciform succulents, or succulents of a specific genus. A second idea would be to have a judged show again but create more divisions that would receive awards such as Best Mammillaria, Best South American Cactus, Best Euphorbia, Best Pachypodium, Best Crested Succulent, etc. Plants would be judged by SACXS members or the public rather than official judges. Certificates to trade in for plants from dealers at the show would be awarded.

I really need some feedback from all members concerning these ideas and a commitment from members to participate in the Show. People come to the Show to see interesting and unusual plants that they can't see anywhere else. Let's not disappoint the public. We want them to keep attending our Show & Sale.

Barbara Schulze, Show Manager