April 2014

Thursday April 3, 2014 7:00pm
ARGENTINA “An exploratory trip to Northwestern Argentina”
Presented by Guillermo Rivera

Tuesday April 8, 2014 7:00pm
Board meeting at the U of A College of Pharmacy

Saturday, April 12, 2014 9:00am to 3:00pm
TCSS Spring Garden Tour

Saturday and Sunday, April 19 - 20, 2014
Sonoran X Conference at the Hotel Tucson City Center Inn Suites. Saturday 8am - 9pm and Sunday 8am - 3:30pm. Five speakers and four workshops. TCSS will be selling rescued cacti.

Acknowledgement of Contributions
The names below represent the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society members and friends whose donations helped make this year a success.

The presentation will cover the habitats of several provinces from central and Northwestern Argentina, from salt flats to high elevation Puna habitats. Gymnochaenium, Echinopis, Parodia among many others will be well represented, as well as some bromeliads and some wildlife. Diversity and variability of plants

BOOK BONANZA at SONORAN X
OVER 500 USED BOOKS ONLY $1.00 EACH
That’s right, during the upcoming SONORAN X Conference the TCSS BOOK BONANZA will be selling every used book we have. For $1.00 each, over 500 gently used books will be available to those of you who attend the Conference. There are lots of great finds amongst these books and this will be your only chance to buy at these special prices.

April Meeting
Refreshments
Those with family names beginning with O, R, Q, R, S, T, and U please bring your choice of refreshments to the meeting. Your generous sharing will be greatly appreciated and enjoyed!
I hope you will consider bringing your favorite plant(s) for the show. The public really likes to see the diversity of cacti and succulents that we grow. As many of you know, winners are based on the public voting with a handful of beans for their favorite plant and small trophies are given to the top bean getters.

We have a great line up of vendors selling plants, pots, and much more. They need your support and purchases, and we get the opportunity to expand our collections and interests, all in one convenient place. This year we will also have an assortment of rescued plants that need a good home. Our rescue program has been a great source of accomplishment, pride and funding. In 15 years we have saved 70,000 cacti and other succulents from destruction and been acclaimed by the New York Times and Sunset Magazine for what we accomplish.

All the used books from the Rainbow Garden Bookstore gift will be on sale, starting Saturday, April 19 at 8:00am. They are all priced at $1.00. I know there are books valued at more than 50 times that. This is your chance to acquire them at a great price. I hope you will also consider buying many of these used books as a gift to others.

Finally, I hope you all realize that this conference was not intended to fall on Easter weekend. If you can join us on Saturday or help out setting up on Friday, it would be great and appreciated.

Dick Wiedhopf, President

*

Ferocactus wilsiznenii

I’d heard accounts of a tall barrel cactus and during some of my field survey work I’d come across numerous six, seven and up to eight footers. In February 2013 I hit the jackpot, a straight standing Ferocactus wilsiznenii that I estimated to be my first ten footer. With no tape measure and only my sketchy cell phone I took pictures and tried to figure out a measurement method. No real option, guess work was best. I figured I would be back working the same area again soon or if needed I could make a special trip to the site for an accurate measurement. Well, as we all know things can get put on hold and I didn’t make it back to the location until this past November. I was stunned with what I saw, the wilsiznenii had fallen. Not only fallen but the core of it had snapped and roots looked to be attached. With sadness I took photos and did my measurements, 10’ 4.5 inches from base to tip. Are there larger barrels out there? Within a half mile of the fallen giant I located another straight standing wilsiznenii that exceeded nine feet in height. These cacti are located southwest of the Swan and Los Reales intersection on private property. The location just happens to be 3/4 miles from a site that TCSS did rescues on in 2011.

Another plant with seventeen heads, you’d get your money’s worth if you rescued this Ferocactus wilsiznenii. This one is still alive and easily found. It’s located near Grant and Sweetwater, about 1/4 mile north of the intersection. It’s on the west side of Silverbell almost directly west of Burlwood Dr. It’s only about 50 feet off the road, look for the lone saguaro.

Thomas Staudt

FROM THE FLORILEGIUM

The Florilegium Program’s most significant undertaking has been its ongoing effort to preserve the botanical art in the University of Arizona Herbarium’s illustrations collection. In 2008 Florilegium volunteers began cataloging the roughly 1300 pen and ink drawings which were being stored in cardboard boxes and file folders. Over time these non-archival storage conditions can cause deterioration of the drawings, and indeed, a small number of illustrations showed signs of damage. The entire collection has now been catalogued, enclosed in archival material, and stored in new custom cabinets at the Herbarium, and the process of creating a digital archive of the works is nearly complete.

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You can read more about Paulus Roetter and his contributions to the mid-19th century exploratory expeditions on the Florilegium Program’s website (http://art-botanical.org/HistSurveysBio). The site also has images of many of the excellent engravings made from his drawings as well as several of his preliminary sketches which are archived at the Missouri Botanical Garden Library. – CH
This Spring we will be offering a special tour of member desert gardens on the northwest side of Tucson. We are fortunate to have a group of landscapes that showcases each owner’s creative use of cactus and succulents that will be sure to give you lots of ideas and inspiration for your own gardens. There are four homes, a nursery and a special desert park on tour. This tour is for TCSS Members and their Guests, it is free of charge. You can tour the gardens in any order you choose, watch for our directional arrow boxes with green flagging.

[A] Per our map, we start with an eclectic artists’ retreat surrounded by a natural desert landscape (with paths), framing a colorful secluded courtyard for their special plant collection and a separate impressive rock garden patio.

[B] From there you will be treated to a hilltop home with sweeping views of the Catalinas that has been transformed in only 3 years from a large barren dirt lot, to a landscape with an extensive cactus and succulent collection surrounded by native trees, creosote, and desert wild flowers.

[C] As you drive further north your next stop will surprise and delight you when you discover the hidden oasis they call their “Outback” Garden. Wandering paths take you through mature native trees, animal friendly plants, fountains, sculpture and an interesting variety of native and non-native specimens.

[D] Next, you won’t want to miss this special opportunity to visit Bach’s Cactus Nursery. If you have never been there, be prepared to be overwhelmed by this cactus lover’s wonderland. Huge greenhouses are surrounded by planted areas of mature, very special plant specimens.

[E] After being overwhelmed at Bach’s, continue on to the fourth home where you will be simply amazed at just how many plants can thrive in one small back yard area. The birds lucky enough to visit this garden have found their utopia, and you will find interesting specimens and ideas everywhere you look.

[F] If you go south on Thornydale, past Orange Grove where it turns into River Road, you will come to our Society’s newest project, Pima Prickly Park. It was born in 2011 as a joint educational venture with Pima County Natural Resources, Parks & Recreation. At the base of their office building is a 7 acre reclaimed gravel and sand pit area where we are creating special natural desert landscapes and demonstration gardens for public enjoyment and education.

To date we have enhanced an existing ring of Saguaro called “SaguaroHenge”, planted hundreds of specimens including many rescued native plants, created a Hummingbird Garden, Agave garden, Cristate area, Ocotillo Forest, and we have started a Cholla Maze. On one end of the park we have a large Hoop House where club volunteers are nurturing a multitude of cuttings and potted plants that will someday find their home in the park. We hope that you will take time to stop by the park, get a map and see the results of the time and effort of our dedicated volunteers. There have been so many enhancements since our grand opening in September of 2012.

See the detailed descriptions of the gardens on our web site, will be posted about April first.
DRIVING DIRECTIONS going from “A” to “F”

Visit these gardens in any order. Watch for our TCSS directional boxes with GREEN flagging to help Guide your way.

A- 5450 N. Genematas Dr. - BUSHNER & BRONKHORST: From the intersection of Oracle and River Rd, drive north on Oracle and take the first right onto N. Genematas Dr. and continue on Genematas about 0.6mi to their home at 5450.

B- 11039 N. Joy Faith Dr. - SCHMIDT: To get to this garden drive back to Oracle Rd., turn right on Oracle and drive north about 7mi. to N. 1st Ave. Turn left and drive to Naranja Dr., turn left on Naranja and drive 0.3mi to Joy Faith Dr. and turn left to 11039.

C- 1900 W. Mountain Laurel Dr. - ROBSON: To get to this garden, return to Naranja, turn left and go to La Canada. Turn right and drive north to Tangerine. Turn left on Tangerine and drive 0.4mi to Verch Way. Turn left and take 2nd right onto Copper Sky, turn left on Whispering Ridge and take the first right onto Mountain Laurel. Drive to 1900 W. Mountain Laurel Dr.

D- 8602 N. Thornydale Rd. - BACH’s NURSERY: To get to Bach’s, return to Tangerine and drive 2.6mi to Thornydale. Turn left on Thornydale and drive about 4mi south to their nursery which is on the east side of the road at 8602.

E- 3467 W. Sagebrush Hills Ct. - BARTLETT: When you leave Bach’s, turn left onto Thornydale. Drive south 1.2mi to Magee Rd. Turn left on Magee and take the 2nd left onto Sagebrush Hills and then take the first left onto Sagebrush Hills Ct. to 3467.

F- 3500 W. River Road - PIMA PRICKLY PARK: To get to the park from Bartlett’s, go back to Magee, turn right and go back to Thornydale. Turn left and drive south. Thornydale turns into River Road at Orange Grove. Continue on River until you reach 3500 on your left.
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**Available Rooms:**
- Buckley
- El Conquistador
- El Dorado
- MacArthur
- St. Augustine

Workshop titles may change slightly but this schedule will remain constant until updates are provided.
<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, April 18</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am to 8:00 pm</td>
<td>Set-up Registration</td>
<td>Front Lobby</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Set-up All Signage</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Set-up Book Sales, Art Sales, Art displays</td>
<td>Gold Room</td>
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<td>Set-up Plant and Pottery Sales</td>
<td>Outdoor Sales Area</td>
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<td>Silver Room</td>
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<td>Set-up Speakers and Meals</td>
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<td>Set-up Silent Auction and Plant Raffle</td>
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<td>Set-up Displays</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 PM</td>
<td>Dinner for Volunteers</td>
<td>Hospitality Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am - 12:00 noon</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Front Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am - 1:30 pm</td>
<td>Books, Plants, Pottery and All Other Sales</td>
<td>Gold Room and Outdoor Sales Area</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am - 3:30 pm</td>
<td>Plant Show</td>
<td>Silver Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am - 9:45 am</td>
<td>Guest Speaker - Andy Siekkinen: &quot;Hechtia - The Ignored Genus of Succulent Bromeliads&quot;</td>
<td>Copper Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am - 11:30 am</td>
<td>Workshops Session 3</td>
<td>Assigned Rooms*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 am - 1:15 pm</td>
<td>Workshops Session 4</td>
<td>Assigned Rooms*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15 pm - 3:15 pm</td>
<td>Lunch and Guest Speaker - Mark Sitter: &quot;Serious Trichocereus&quot;</td>
<td>Copper Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 PM</td>
<td>All Conference Events End</td>
<td>All Areas</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Assigned Workshop Rooms: Buckley, El Conquistador, El Dorado and St Augustine - See Sonoran X Workshop Schedule
**69705**
**Cacti Rescued - Since 1999**
**331 Rescues - 23,561 Volunteer Hours**

Please see our Website Calendar for the next rescued cactus sale. They are scheduled at various times during the year based on our inventory.

TCSS Club Members receive a 10% discount

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**April 2014**

**Thursday April 3, 2014 7:00pm**

ARGENTINA “An exploratory trip to Northwestern Argentina”
Presented by Guillermo Rivera

**Tuesday April 8, 2014 7:00pm**

Board meeting at the U of A College of Pharmacy

**Saturday, April 12, 2014 9:00am to 3:00pm**

TCSS Spring Garden Tour

**Saturday and Sunday, April 19 - 20, 2014**

Sonoran X Conference at the Hotel Tucson City Center Inn Suites. Saturday 8am - 9pm and Sunday 8am - 3:30pm. Five speakers and four workshops. TCSS will be selling rescued cacti.

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**Acknowledgement of Contributions**

The names below represent the Tucson Cactus & Succulent Society members and friends whose donations helped make this year a success.

We extend our sincere thanks for your support.

**Florilegium**
Sharon W. Pettus

**Pima Prickly Park**
Jan Bell

**Los Cerros Garden Club**
William Thornton

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**BOOK BONANZA at SONORAN X**

**OVER 500 USED BOOKS ONLY $1.00 EACH**

That’s right, during the upcoming SONORAN X Conference the TCSS BOOK BONANZA will be selling every used book we have. For $1.00 each, over 500 gently used books will be available to those of you who attend the Conference. There are lots of great finds amongst these books and this will be your only chance to buy at these special prices.

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The presentation will cover the habitats of several provinces from central and Northwestern Argentina, from salt flats to high elevation Puna habitats. Gymnocalycium, Echinopsis, Parodia and many others will be well represented, as well as some bromeliads and some wildlife. Diversity and variability of plants in habitat within populations and between populations will be addressed. Importance of habitat knowledge will be discussed and its significance in plant taxonomy.

Guillermo Rivera was born in Argentina but currently residing in Florida. Owner of South America Nature Tours (former Cactus Expeditions), a company dedicated to the organization of tours for the last 12 years, throughout South America (Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Bolivia, Ecuador), Mexico and South Africa, and Madagascar with emphasis on plants (bromeliads, cacti, succulent plants and orchids), and birding. Former researcher at the University of Cordoba, Argentina. BS degree in Biology University of Cordoba MS Marine Biology, Northeastern University, PhD in Botany University of Cordoba.

Please be sure to place this date on your calendar, come and join us for a trip to Argentina. Bring a friend and introduce them to the membership. Everyone is welcome.