Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society

Celebrating 20 Years Of The

Cactus Rescue Crew Program

Photo Boards for the Celebration Event
Held At

Pima Prickly Park

October 5, 2019 - 10 AM to 2 PM
Saving Our Native Cactus

Chris Monard, TCSS member, brought to our society the opportunity of salvaging native cacti growing on a 15-acre soon-to-be-cleared elementary school site in the Amphi school district. While a portion of the site is being preserved in its natural state, the school district is salvaging some of the plants in the area to be cleared for later use in the school landscaping. Many more plants were growing happily in the area soon to be bulldozed.

With the permission of the school district, Dick Wuthof, Vonn Watkins, and Lois Ladwig met Chris's parents and our society on the site and counted and marked many ferocactus, echinocereus, and mammillaria as potential salvage plants along with one Peniocereus greggii. With this information and salvage permission from Mike Orf of the Amphi construction office, Dick went to the AZ Department of Agriculture's Native Plant Office and obtained tags and seals to allow salvage of 94 plants. Marty Bowers and his son collected approximately 35 cacti and brought them to be included in the successful Silent Auction held June 26th at TBU.

Following this initial collection, more plants were collected and stored at TBU until they could be placed in new homes in the community. Plants were donated to TBG for use in the gardens and to the Desert Museum to add to the desert setting there. At the July 8 TCSS meeting the Peniocereus greggii was a raffle plant and many of the other plants were sold to members of the society. Dick went back to get more tags and seals and another collection effort saved more plants. The salvaged plants will continue to be available to TBG and ASDM and available for purchase.

This is a new direction for TCSS and one that has already provided great satisfaction to participating members whose efforts have saved beautiful cacti scheduled to be destroyed. When walking the site for the survey, it was amazing how many cacti were hiding under the brushage and desert trees. Every step revealed another plant soon to be buried.

A portion of the site had already been bladed with mammillaria and echinocereus uprooted and cholla broken up and dying. While we were not able to save all the plants on this site, we feel this first effort was very successful and a good learning experience.

We hope to identify a group of members who want to act as a TCSS salvage team and are looking for more salvage opportunities. There are two more sites posted as potential salvage sites and Dick and Vonn are contacting the owners/developers to see if we may continue our plant rescue.

Thanks to the Amphi school district for allowing us to salvage some of these smaller plants that are not normally saved and to Chris who was instrumental in giving us this opportunity.

The Oro Valley residents care about native vegetation and called the local police to check out what we were doing on the school site. We had the appropriate permit and tags which were verified by the police so there was no problem.

Everyone needs to be aware of the native plant laws and to adhere to them. There is a web site—http://agriculture.state.az.us/EPD/native-plants.htm (outofplants is one word) which has lists of the laws and permits required for clearing land and salvaging protected native plants. It also includes a 12-page list of the protected plants of Arizona.

For those who purchased plants and used the plastic flats to carry them home, please bring the flats to the next meeting so we can reuse them for further salvage efforts. If you have extra flats that you want to donate to this effort please bring those to the next meeting on August 5. Thank you.

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**Cactus Rescue Crew Program**

**AUGUST 1999**

**THE FIRST TCSS CACTUS RESCUE**

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**I BRAKE FOR CACTUS**

PIMA PRICKLY PARK • TUCSON, AZ TUCSONCACTUS.ORG

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**DIRECTIONS**

Wrap wire around around plant, drawing cholla into the plant and facade with a knot. Try more than 1 inch space, dead, to between the loop and the plant. Remove the bottom from the center portion of the tag and carefully strip it behind the knot. Position the tag so the knot will be covered in the space holes. Fold the tag over the knot removing the tag together, making sure the tag cannot slide away from the knot.

**PLACE KNOT HERE**

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag

Unauthorized attempts to transport plant without tag is improperly configured to the plant.

UNAUTHORIZED to remove this tag from the plant until planted in the nursery. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. UNAUTHORIZED to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. UNAUTHORIZED to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. UNAUTHORIZED to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location. FINAL OWNER to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location.

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag SAGUARO

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag STEPHENSON-Deciduous

Unauthorized attempts to transport plant without tag is improperly configured to the plant.

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag SAINT JAMES

Unauthorized attempts to transport plant without tag is improperly configured to the plant.

UNAUTHORIZED to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location.

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag STAPLES

Unauthorized attempts to transport plant without tag is improperly configured to the plant.

UNAUTHORIZED to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location.

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag SASSAFRAS

Unauthorized attempts to transport plant without tag is improperly configured to the plant.

UNAUTHORIZED to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location.

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag STARK-DECIDUOUS

Unauthorized attempts to transport plant without tag is improperly configured to the plant.

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Native Plant Tag SALVADO

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag SALTO-FRUIT

Unauthorized attempts to transport plant without tag is improperly configured to the plant.

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag SAN DIEGO

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag SANTO DOMINGO

Unauthorized attempts to transport plant without tag is improperly configured to the plant.

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag SAN ANTONIO

Unauthorized attempts to transport plant without tag is improperly configured to the plant.

UNAUTHORIZED to remove this tag from the plant until planted in final location.

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag STARR

Unauthorized attempts to transport plant without tag is improperly configured to the plant.

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**STATE OF ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

Native Plant Tag SWIFTLAND

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Native Plant Tag STEGMEYER

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TCSS CACTUS RESCUE CREW

***HEADLINES***

Cactus Rescue: Saving Desert Treasures

Saguaro henge stands tall at Pima Prickly Park

By Amy White - Arizona Daily Star  - Aug 1, 2013

Cactus "Rescue" Saves More Than 300 Native Plants at Substation Construction Site Near Vail

Arizona News

Native plant salvage is good business

By William Thornton Special to the Arizona Daily Star  - Mar 12, 2015

Atlas Obscura

When Cactus Destruction Is Imminent, These Rescuers Come Running

The Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society is closing in on 100,000 salvaged plants.

By LEXI MONROE  - OCT 23, 2018

Vail Voice

Tucson Cactus and Succulent Society (TCSC) to the Rescue ...

Pima Prickly Park opens today

Looking sharp for opening day

By RYAN LEE  - APR 7, 2017

Group plans Tucson park showcasing desert plants

The Associated Press  - Aug 12, 2011

The New York Times

Helping Save Prickly Victims of Development

By PATRICIA LEE MONROE  - APR 16, 2014

Desert plants saved just in time

Volunteer crew beats bulldozers to shopping site; saguaros, other natives survive

By CARLA MCLAINE - ARIZONA DAILY STAR  - MAR 27, 2002
NOTE: The RED Dots indicate the Year we were at this location. The 14 represents year 2014

Some Interesting TCSS Cactus Rescue Crew Facts:
- Our Cactus Rescue Crew has rescued over 98,000 plants since our start in 1999
- We have 130 to 200 TCSS Members participate each year (past 15 years)
- Conducted 445 rescues with over 35,000 volunteer hours contributed
- The Crew has rescued 201 sites covering 7,000 acres
- Have Partnered* with 100 Businesses, Municipalities, Utilities and School Districts
- TCSS has spent $245,000 buying AZ Department of Agriculture transport tags
- We have had over 60 public rescued cactus sales, selling them at very reasonable prices
- TCSS is the largest Cactus and Succulent Society with over 1,300 Members (2019)

9/14/19 jmrf
TUCCON CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
CACTUS RESCUE CREW PARTNERS  
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS  

- Abrams Development  
- A.W. Marres Development  
- A.F. Sterling  
- Albanese-Brooks Associates  
- Amphitheater Unified School District  
- Asarco Silverbell Mine  
- Ault Companies  
- Arizona Cactus Sales  
- Baker - Fearon  
- B&b Cactus Farm  
- Bowers Environmental Consulting  
- Burlini - Silberschlag  
- Burns and Wald - Hopkins Architects  
- Calportland  
- Canoa Development  
- Carondelet, St. Mary's Hospital  
- Casas Church  
- Catalina Marble Quarry, White Rock Marble  
- Chestnut Construction  
- City of Marana  
- City of Tucson Department of Transportation  
- City of Tucson Water Department  
- Civano Nursery  
- Core Construction  
- Davis Montian Air Force Base  
- Diamond Ventures  
- Diversified Design and Construction  
- D.L. Withers  
- Dnr Neffson Company  
- Ducette Contractos  
- D.R. Horton Homes  
- Emc2 Group  
- Forest City Land Group  
- Freeport-Mckinran, Miami, Az  
- Fullerton Kino Parkway  
- Gardening Insights, Greg Corman  
- Gateway Hacienda  
- Granite Construction Company  
- Hacienda Del Sol Guest Ranch and Resort  
- Hawaii Homes  
- James P. Douglass  
- Kh Homes  
- Kemmerly Homes  
- Kevin B. Howard Architects  
- Kinder Morgan  
- Lang Wyatt Construction  
- Lechner Construction  
- Lennar Arizona  
- Maracay Homes  
- Marana United School District  
- Mattamy Homes  
- Mccann and Associates  
- Meritage Homes  
- Ml2 Management  
- Mmla - Psomas  
- Monterey Homes  
- Mr. Tree  
- Msc Consulting  
- National Gypsum  
- Nch Corporation  
- Norris Design  
- Novak Environmental  
- Pathway Developments  
- Pima County Solid Waste Management  
- Pima County Department of Transportation  
- Pima County Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation  
- Private Residences – Various Locations  
- Prudence Escalante  
- Pulte Homes  
- Quick Mart, Vail Convenience Market  
- Rancho Vistoso Partners  
- Richmond American Homes  
- Rick Engineering  
- Rinconado  
- Robson Communities  
- Rosemont Copper, Hudbay Minerals  
- Saddlebrooke Ranch  
- Sage Landscape Architecture and Environmental  
- Sahuarita Unified School District  
- Shoppes at Oracle Road  
- Southern Arizona Home Builders Association (SaHba)  
- Southwest Transmission Cooperative  
- Stantec  
- Sunnyside Unified School District  
- Swarm Associates, Architects Aia  
- Tank's, The Fairfax Companies  
- Target General  
- Technicians for Sustainability  
- The Planning Center  
- Thms Associates  
- Tucson Electric Power Company  
- Tucson Unified School District  
- The Planning Center  
- Town of Marana  
- Town of Oro Valley  
- Town of Sahuarita  
- Trico Electric  
- University of Arizona  
- Vail Unified School District  
- Vistoso Partners  
- Westcor Partners  
- Western Associates Development  
- Western Heritage Homes  
- Westland Resources, White Tank, Verrado  
- Wheat Scharf Associates
EVOLUTION OF JOE AND TWINK'S ORIGINAL CACTUS CARRIERS
There were many changes over the years. Joe's first drawing is dated 7/15/04. My last note is dated 12/13/11. First we had a sleeve at each side filled with a wooden dowel. The dowels soon broke. Then we tried aluminum conduit pipes. They bent! So no more tunnels. Sizes and sewing styles and methods were changed and finally we got them right!

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From: "Joe & Patsy Frannea" <frannea@earthlink.net>
To: "Larry Penniman" <larry@earthlink.net>
Subject: Re: cactus carriers

nicol
The 27" would be good as well as the longer 60" length. Keep the handies spaced about evenly starting about 2 inches from the edge like the original ones but spaced about 10 inches apart instead of the 3 inches shown on the drawing.

From: "Joe & Patsy Frannea" <frannea@earthlink.net>
To: "Larry Penniman" <larry@earthlink.net>
Subject: Re: cactus carrier

Twin
The size is good as you mentioned. The last 4 that you did we doubled layers of fabric as some had different color fabric on the inside. Not sure this is necessary but does add some weight and probably strength. I did notice on one of them that some of the stitching had come out about 4 or 5 inches down from the ends. Maybe an extra cross stitch across the strap near the end or a few "X" stitches across the strap would help.

Thanks again,

Joe