



# THE OFFSET

Webpage <https://sites.google.com/site/cocssok/>



*Echinocereus reichenbachii subsp. baileyi* in the Wichita Mountains NWR, Oklahoma. Mount Scott in the background. Photo by Mike Douglas

## NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

### OFFICERS

<b>President:</b>	Niki Furrh	tnfurrh@cox.net 405-722-1718
<b>Vice-president:</b>	Rosario Douglas	<a href="mailto:rosariod@cox.net">rosariod@cox.net</a> 405 447-7617
<b>Secretary:</b>	Mary Kaser	mr7645@att.com 405-476-0600
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Peggy Anglin	anglin@swbell.net 405-840-4583
<b>Librarian:</b>	Tony Furrh	tnfurrh@cox.net 405-722-1718
<b>CSSA Affiliate:</b>	Joyce Hochtritt	cactibud@cox.net 405-7371831
<b>Newsletter editor:</b>	Rosario Douglas	<a href="mailto:rosariod@cox.net">rosariod@cox.net</a>

**MEETING** At Will Rogers Garden Center at 3400 NW 36<sup>th</sup> in Oklahoma City, the third Thursday of every month at 7:30 pm (except in January, the month of our show, picnic and December).

### IN THIS ISSUE

- ❖ Club News pp 1-8
- ❖ From the members pp 9-10
- ❖ Other News pp 11
- ❖ 2012 Show & Sale pp 12-13
- ❖ Cactus & succulent crafts pp 14
- ❖ Succulent Plants pp 15-17
- ❖ The cultivation corner pp 18
- ❖ What is blooming? pp 19-20
- ❖ The botanical corner pp 21-22
- ❖ 2012 Local cactus & succulent happenings pp 23-24

## CLUB NEWS

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's April!!! Two meetings before the Show and Sale in June so it's definitely time to start planning on what plants you might want to bring. If you think you might need help repotting, please bring them to Joyce's on May 5th for the Potting Workshop at her house (with a new pot) and she will assist anyone who feels they need help in 'staging' the plant in the pot. Or if you think they are probably fine and just want another opinion on the presentation, bring them! Remember, all plants need tags with the correct botanical name on them and the club library is a good source for this. Our April meeting will begin promptly at 7:30pm with the program first, so getting to the Garden Center by 7:00pm to use the library would be a good idea. The May meeting will begin at 7:00pm for our guest speaker and we will be able to get into the room at 6:30pm. *Please remember to use the back kitchen door after programs have started.*



The business meetings for both the April and May meetings will be abbreviated to leave plenty of time for our programs. At the April meeting we will be passing out the Member Volunteer Information regarding the Show and Sale. This details the information regarding the event and lists the various jobs, activities, and volunteers needed to cover the Show. It is very helpful to let either co-chairperson know ahead of time when and where you would be able to volunteer. The Shows the last few years have been a great deal of fun but a lot of work. Everyone's contribution has been extremely important and very much appreciated. As always, set-up and tear down are the most physically challenging aspects and it always impresses me how everyone gets right in there and works till the work is done. Not everyone can spend the entire weekend at the Center but that doesn't make their contribution any less important. If possible, do take some time to visit with the public and with each other.

In going through the library cabinet recently looking for Show & Sale items, I ran across some of the older files we have regarding the club. The following is a letter written in 1968 giving a history of how the club got started here in Oklahoma City. I thought many of you might find this somewhat interesting. (See you at the April meeting! Fred, Mike and Tony are working on their short programs and I think everyone will find them interesting and informative!)

Niki Furrh

## APRIL'S PROGRAM -- EXPLORING PHOTOGRAPHY

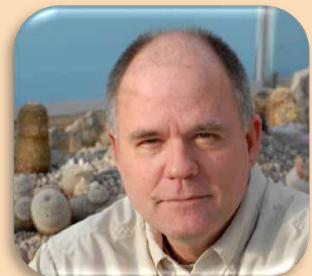
Come join us for a full hour of Photographic related subjects. Tony, Mike and Fred, 3 long time members who have an interest in photography will each explore different techniques, types of cameras, field photography etc. Come with your questions and yes you can bring your camera!!!



My fascination with photography goes back almost as far in my life as does my history with cactus and succulents. At one point I had aspired to make Engineering and Photography my vocations (not necessarily in that order). We are talking mid to late 60's here and photography was for the most part thought of as a hobby activity. At any rate, I started college listing pre-engineering as my major and because I thought they offered better courses, switched from SWOS to OSU at OKC. I will not go into the gory details, it would take too long. Let's just say Vietnam and Uncle Sam came and 'touched me'. Two years later I had survived Vietnam and decided to use part of my VA loan money for a Photography Trade School, which is where I honed my skills with a camera as well as developing a huge love for the dark room. What I would really love to do today is take a junior college course in "The Digital Darkroom", if you will.

### **Tony Furrh**

I started photography under my brother's influence in 1970. For many years I was slides-only, until about 2001, when I crossed the digital divide. My main interest is field photography of plants, reptiles and amphibians, and more recently some birds - if you can get close enough. My photo trips are usually bogged down by too much equipment and too little time actually taking photos! I will bring some equipment to show that helps in field photography – whatever your camera. **Mike Douglas**



Growing up most of the photography I did was Polaroids of family events. After Sheila & I got married, I started visiting her brother-in-law, Lynn. He was fairly advanced in his photographic skills and for years we played a game of "Keeping up with the Jones", seeing who can get the latest or handiest gadget. I remember one night he and I spent a couple of hours on the S. 19th St. bridge over Interstate 35; no lights as far as the eye could see. We tried about every variation of traffic pattern shots we could imagine. That area now hosts close to 100 businesses. I became more involved in Sports Photography; one year shooting 450+ teams in addition to working full time. That became too hard on my health, working late hours every night so I gave up that business. I now enjoy taking nature and landscape pictures and am getting more enthused with what can be done with a digital camera and computer software. With this luxury I can shoot a bit wider angle and get the best proportion and framework for each shot. I have started journaling my gardens now, taking before and after shots of potting plants and documenting plants in bloom. This helps my design with a photographers framework in mind. P.S. Off the subject: I have been growing a yucca carnerosana in my back yard for several years; it is now producing a mammoth bloom stalk. I hope to catch it's growth habit in full. **Fred Hill**



## FROM THE EDITOR

Rosario Douglas

Dear members;

I just wanted to remind you of the upcoming Show and Sale. This is the time to start thinking about getting all those plants ready for the show. Our show and sale has grown over the years and it now is our main event. Hundreds of people come to shop for cactus and succulents. Many of our members shop too, it is a great opportunity to acquire nice plants. I hope you can all join us and participate this year. It is fun.



**Show schedule and entry cards will be available on our club's webpage soon.**

We are also thinking of doing a member's garden tour on **June 23<sup>rd</sup>** - a week after the Show and Sale. So far Fred Hill and I are planning to participate. Let me know if you are interested. This is basically a time we open our gardens/greenhouses to the general public. Typically it is from 10 am - 4 pm. We have signs to place on your front lawn. We would advertise this at our Show and Sale.

**14th Biennial Mid-States**

**June 21-24, 2012 –  
Independence,  
Missouri**

*Hosted by the Kansas City  
Cactus & Succulent Society*

Check the website below for more information about this interesting event. There will be speakers, plant sales, a banquet and a judged show. Full registration due by May 31<sup>st</sup>. Registration form also is available if you go to the link below.

<http://www.midstatesconference.org/>

**\*\*Deadline for articles or other materials for the newsletter is the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month.**

## CLUB NEWS

*From the secretary*



## CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS &amp; SUCCULENT SOCIETY

The Officers' Board Meetings have been held 1-16-12, 2-4-12, & 3-10-12 and the following is a condensed accounting of matters discussed, reviewed, taken under advisement, approved and pending:

Monthly Club Programs:

Feb 16 "Labels - With a Tiny Bit of Latin & Greek" *by Joyce Hochtritt*

March 15 "A Trip to The Enchanted Islands – Galapagos - Ecuador" *Speakers - Mike & Rosario Douglas* WRGC 7:30pm

April 19 "Smile! Say Cheese - Photography Program" WRGC 7:30pm.  
*Presented by club members*

May 17 "Succulent Bonsai". **Guest Speaker - Mike Hellmann**, WRGC 7:30pm  
**OPEN TO PUBLIC**

June 16/17 Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale, WRGC.

July 19 "Hands On - Bring A Pot & Build a Dish Garden" WRGC 7:30pm – *Joyce Hochtritt/Fred Hill*. Bring pot, COCSS providing materials. **OPEN TO PUBLIC (free - reservation required to ensure enough material) -**

August 16 "What's In The Library?" *Tony Furrh, Librarian* WRGC 7:30pm - Brief overview of books, periodicals, publications in the club's library. Review of checking out books'. **RAFFLE & SHOW & TELL**

Sept 16 Annual Picnic. *Peggy Anglin's home* on Sunday, 9-16-12 (5:30 PM) Pot luck. SWAP MEET - Bring various items, gardening related, for swapping out with others (no cash!). Get those best deals! **No meeting 9-20-12**

Oct 20 "Cold Hardy Cacti", **Author Leo Chance** WRGC Saturday 10 am -12pm for book signing and plant sale. **OPEN TO PUBLIC No meeting on 10-18-12**

Nov 15 "What Are The Judges Looking For?", *Judging Workshop by Joyce Hochtritt* - WRGC 7:30pm. **RAFFLE**

Dec Annual COCSS Christmas Party - *Hosted by J & J Hochtritt*

**Refreshments:**

February 16 <sup>th</sup> –	Mary Kaser
March 15 <sup>th</sup> –	Rosario Douglas & Peggy Anglin
April 19 <sup>th</sup> –	Peggy Holland and Fred Hill
May 17 <sup>th</sup> –	Joan Galbraith & club ( <i>guest speaker</i> )
June –	COCSS show and sale.
July 19 <sup>th</sup> –	Club (Niki Furrh and Mary Kaser) ( <i>workshop</i> )
August 16 <sup>th</sup> –	Vicki Brabits (snack) and Mat Baginski (drinks)

Board Meeting Notes - Page 2

***(Refreshments - continued)***

Sept 16th –	Club Picnic
October 20th –	Club (Niki Furrh and Mary Kaser) ( <i>guest speaker</i> )
November 15 <sup>th</sup> –	Joyce Hochtritt (snack) Deb Trimble (drinks)
December –	Christmas Party

**Activities Planned/Pending**

**Norman Garden Festival** - April 14th (8:00am-4:30pm) Set-up on Friday with event coordinated by Rosario Douglas. Contact Rosario for details. *Due to tax liabilities there is no club sponsored plant sale scheduled.*

**Festival In The Park** - May 19th (9:00-3:00pm)with set-up beginning at 7:00am-8:45am. Contact Mary Kaser or Niki Furrh for details. Club will have an educational table in the hall (1/2 of 8' table - no charge) describing our specific organization and purpose as indicated on poster & membership forms along with fliers for our Annual Show and Sale. Specimen plants (identified by organization and species labeled correctly & brief info re plant may be submitted & will be placed on pedestals either near the educational display or in a special display area of the hall. All information & specimens are to be picked up by closing of the event at 3:00pm.

Garden Clubs may obtain a 'booth' *outside* (free-8x8 size & 1 table) to further promote their organization and sell merchandise. Since this would be club sponsored & tax permit required, a percentage of sales would need to be returned to the club. Individuals wanting to sell garden related items can reserve booths as space allows at the rate of \$30 for a 10x10 & 1 free table or \$55 for a 10x20 & 1 free table. Tax permit # is required. (Contact June Hardy 722-8822 for individual entries by April 30th.)

**2013 Show & Sale** - We have been informed by Louis with the Garden Center that we can not schedule any event more than 12 months ahead. For example, we cannot reserve a Show date for 2013 any sooner than around the middle of May this year if we want the first weekend of June, 2013. Since we have no choice, we will pick a weekend for 2013 making sure to call 2 weeks before the desired date for next year. Our first choice is June 1-2, 2013 and our 2nd choice is June 8-9, 2013. The CSSA Convention is in Austin June 15-20, 2013 and several of our members are hoping to attend since it is fairly close distance-wise. The weekend before June 1-2, 2013 is Memorial Day weekend which would probably not be ideal.

## **TRIPS**

Tulsa Show & Sale - April 21st Interested members can discuss this at the April 19th meeting if they want to carpool or caravan to Tulsa.

Crystal Bridge - A tour through the Crystal Bridge has been suggested for Sept 9th (Sunday). The club would pay the \$7 admission fee for each member going. Peggy Anglin volunteers at the Bridge and has graciously agreed to head the tour. A late lunch or early dinner afterwards, perhaps in Bricktown, could be planned for interested members & guests. More details regarding this will be announced later in the summer.

## **Board Meeting Notes - Page 3**

### **Annual Show & Sale**

The Volunteer Information/Sign Up Form given to each member every year will be available at the April meeting. This details the dates, times and activities of the Show and Sale, lists the various jobs that need to be covered during the event and things that need to be done to get ready for the event. There is a lot that needs to be done, especially the last few weeks, and then at the Show itself.

Joyce provided a copy of the Vendor Contract which is mailed to potential vendors and we looked this over for any errors, corrections or deletions. This form will also be used for club members wishing to sell items, with rewording and/or omission of several items as indicated. A copy of the 2012 Plant Sale Rules was also presented for review. Any member wishing to sell any items at the Show and Sale should contact either Joyce or Niki by June 1st. (Floor arrangements and table space have to be allocated beforehand.)

Joyce is working on getting vendors lined up and she will let us know who they will be when she has all the paperwork signed and returned to her. This also applies to the Judges.

Planning for the Show and Sale has started and few things decided upon have been the continuation of the People's Choice balloting and awards, the drawings, and use of the TV for Desert Speaks DVDs. Fred Hill has mailed a good portion of his pre-show advertising and contacting others by email. The postcards are done and some will be used as advertising and others mailed. We have included the following statement on the cards *"Bring your postcard to the reception desk, get it stamped, and get \$1 off your total purchase."* This will enable the workers at the reception desk to check off a list the person who is presenting the card (or add them if needed) and check their mailing information. They will not need to sign the 'sign in' sheet and this might encourage other visitors nearby to be sure to 'sign in' to receive a postcard next year and the \$1 off.

Rosario has been working on fliers for the upcoming Garden Events and we will be reviewing other handouts. She will also be sure that there are several copies of our newsletter for the public to look through at all events since these are not only very informative and colorful but give a good impression of our club overall.

## CLUB NEWS

*From the secretary*



Minutes of the meeting  
March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

The business meeting was called to order at the WRGC at 8:45 by President Niki Furrh after the slide show of "A trip to the Enchanted Islands – Galapagos – Ecuador" which was presented by Mike and Rosario Douglas, - that began at 7:20 PM. 16 Members were present with 3 guests attending. Refreshments were served immediately after the slideshow and were provided by Rosario Douglas and Peggy Anglin.

The April Meeting/program, "Smile and say Cheese" – Photography Program will be presented by Mike Douglas, Fred Hill and Tony Furrh. Members should try to come a few minutes early to get a chair.

The May program, "Succulent Bonsai" will be presented by guest speaker Mike Hellman. Members are encouraged to come early for set-up.

The club will participate in The Norman Garden Festival which will be held on April 14<sup>th</sup>. Members Rosario Douglas, Fred Hill and Mary Kaser will represent the club with a table presentation. All members attending the meeting were encouraged to participate and to please contact Rosario Douglas for further information. The club will also participate in WRGC Festival In the Park and will be held May 19<sup>th</sup>. Members Rosario Douglas, Fred Hill, and Mary Kaser will represent the club with a table presentation. Any members wishing to participate should contact either Fred Hill or Mary Kaser.

Joyce Hochtritt presented the opportunity of hosting the Mid-states conference for 2013. Member Fred Hill proceeded to move with a motion to host the conference, 15 members attending the meeting were in favor of accepting the duty, 1 member was undecided. More information will become available to the members after the board has been able to discuss further.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10.

Mary Kaser, Secretary

## FROM THE MEMBERS

## REPOTTING AND STAGING WORKSHOP

OH NO IT IS THAT TIME OF THE YEAR AGAIN!!



Our Annual Show is a few months away and if you have not repotted or staged some show ready plants, this is your chance. We will be having a repotting and staging workshop at the home of Joyce and Jim Hochtritt, May 5, 2012. We'll be starting at 10:00 am and close down at 12:00 pm in our shop building.

If you would like some help repotting and staging some of your show plants or any other cactus and succulent plants please bring them. I'll be doing some of my own plants. We'll be talking about why I chose the pot, top dressing, and positioning in the pot. I will have some soil and top dressing on hand for a small fee. Bring in your plant/s to be staged with your pot/s and I will **help you** repot your plant/s. If you have some rocks or top dressing you like and would like to incorporate those with the plant/s, bring those items as well. We will do as many plants as time and materials permit.

We will be going to Lupe's for lunch!

Joyce Hochtritt, Annual Show Chair

The cat picture (Repotting time) is taken from the British Columbia Cactus and Succulent Society. Photo By [Stephen Boisvert](#) on February 12th, 2012



## Repotting Time!



## FROM THE MEMBERS

Here I am after 4.5 hours of repotting fun. It takes a bit of effort but the key is to get started. Check your plants to see what needs a new pot, what plants are dead and what plants need to be split. Do your work in stages to avoid getting too tired. I cleaned the pots the day before and repotted the next day. I still have more work to do but at least all the plants that needed a new pot are done. Send me your repotting pictures to share them with all the members.

Rosario



## OTHER NEWS

## Open House Sale

May 26, 2012

J & J

## Cactus and Succulent

600 N. Pine Ave., Midwest City, OK.



8am to 2pm

20% Off

All Plants

405-737-1831

Long time member and nursery owner Joyce Hochtritt will be having a sale.

This is a nice opportunity to shop for cactus and succulents.

Joyce has probably the best selection of these plants in Oklahoma City and probably Oklahoma.



Our club will participate with a booth at the Norman Garden Festival on **April 14<sup>th</sup>**. Any member interested in participating should contact Rosario Douglas at: [rosariod@cox.net](mailto:rosariod@cox.net). The club will have a display and information about our club and the upcoming show and sale.

**NORMAN** — The **Norman Garden Festival**, which features locally grown plants and gardening information, will be held on Saturday, April 14th, from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds in Norman.

The event will host educational speakers on a variety of garden-related topics, a seed swap and master gardeners to answer questions. Local growers and other horticultural-related vendors will also be featured along with the Cleveland County Master Gardener Demonstration and Teaching Garden. This program is sponsored by the Cleveland County Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service in cooperation with the Cleveland County Fairgrounds.

## 2012 COCSS SHOW&SALE



### Show & Sale Update



The Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society's Annual Show and Sale will be Saturday, June 16, 2012, 9:00am to 5:00pm and Sunday, June 17, 2012, 9:00am to 4:00pm at the Will Rogers Exhibition Center, 3400 NW 36<sup>th</sup> Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Now is the time to start thinking about what plants you want to prepare for the show! There are more reasons than ever to bring plants and participate in one of the premier horticulture events in Oklahoma.

Also think about volunteering! Here is a list of things that we will need to be done. Help set-up tables in the show and sale area. Advertising, and fliers, help get post cards read to mail, get our event posted in/on newspapers, radio stations, TV, and Internet. Contact vendors and send out vendor contracts. Put out event signs.

Make sure other signage is ready for the show and sale. Help in check out area. We'll need someone to be in charge of the free handouts and someone to do a show schedule for the judged show. Make sure we have entry cards, judges and awards. We will need people to staff the Welcome Table. Someone to run and make sure we have items for the door prize drawings. We'll need a Morning Hospitality person for Saturday and Sunday. And last but not least we need a chairperson for the Luncheon. Don't let this list scare you! It's not as hard as it looks!

Joyce

Dear Members; Below are 3 flyers Niki and have put together for the Show and Sale. Will use at garden shows and can distribute to other places around town. Bottom right is a poster we are printing to advertise the club. If you want to send any of the flyers to friends that may be interested in our show, let me know and I can send you the PDF file. Bottom left was prepared by Niki-check out the nice drawing (made by Niki) at the bottom. Rosario

**THE CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY**

**ANNUAL SHOW AND PLANT SALE**  
**JUNE 16-17, 2012**



Join us at our **Annual Show & Sale**. **FREE ADMISSION**

Will Rogers Garden Center  
3400 NW 36<sup>th</sup>, Oklahoma City.

**Hours/Dates:** Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup> 9 am-5 pm, Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup> 9 am- 4pm.

Thousands of cactus and succulents, in- and out-of- state vendors, judged plant show, educational displays, free handouts, and hourly drawings for prizes.

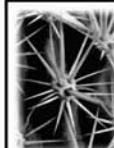
Cash, checks and credit cards.

Members enjoy: a monthly newsletter, meetings, speakers, field trips, local garden events, annual picnic & Christmas party, community involvement, a well-stocked library with many cactus and succulent books and journals that members can check out.

You can learn more about our club visiting our webpage:  
<https://sites.google.com/site/cocssok/>

**THE CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY**

**ANNUAL SHOW AND PLANT SALE**  
**JUNE 16-17, 2012**



Join us at our **Annual Show & Sale**. **FREE ADMISSION**

Will Rogers Garden Center  
3400 NW 36<sup>th</sup>, Oklahoma City.

**Hours/Dates:** Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup> 9 am-5 pm, June Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> 9 am- 4pm.

Thousands of cactus and succulents, in- and out-of-state vendors, judged plant show, educational displays, free handouts, and hourly drawings for prizes.

Cash, checks and credit cards.

Members enjoy: a monthly newsletter, meetings, speakers, field trips, local garden events, annual picnic & Christmas party, community involvement, a well-stocked library with many cactus and succulent books and journals that members can check out.

You can learn more about our club visiting our webpage:  
<https://sites.google.com/site/cocssok/>

**The Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society**

*invites you to our*

**ANNUAL SHOW & PLANT SALE**

**June 16th (Saturday) 9am-5pm**  
**June 17th (Sunday) 9am-4pm**

**WILL ROGERS GARDEN CENTER**  
**3400 NW 36TH**  
**OKC**

**FREE ADMISSION**

Judged plant show, educational displays, free drawings for prizes and hundreds of varieties of cacti and succulents for sale from both in and out of state vendors. Cash, checks, credit cards.



**THE CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY**



Our society, established in 1968, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion and appreciation of cactus and succulents. Membership is open to anyone.



An Oklahoma native, *Echinocereus reichenbachii* variety *baileyi* in the Wichita Mountains, Oklahoma.



Meetings take place at 7:30 pm at the Will Rogers Garden Center at 3400 NW 36<sup>th</sup> St in Oklahoma City (phone: 405-951-0108).



On the left is a *Titanopsis*, a succulent from South Africa. Above is the flower of *Rhynhocaulon macrolobum* (a succulent from southwestern Arabia).



Join our club and learn about cactus & succulents. Spend time with others who share the same interest. Enjoy meetings, plant raffles, speakers, field trips, local garden events, community involvement, annual picnic & Christmas party and a colorful monthly newsletter. We have a well-stocked library with many books and journals that members can check out. Participate in our annual Show & Sale.

Google "COCSS OK" or visit us at:  
<https://sites.google.com/site/cocssok/>

Above, the flowers of a *Mammillaria* cactus from Mexico.

## CACTUS AND SUCCULENT CRAFTS

## SIMPLE &amp; STUNNING LIVING SUCCULENT WREATH



This article published in the webpage Prudent Baby on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 is a step by step description with many photos of how to make a succulent wreath. Sounds like a great project to try.

(<http://prudentbaby.com/2010/12/prudent-home/diy-simple-stunning-living-sucessulent-wreath-2/>)

## SUCCULENT PLANTS

By Rosario Douglas



### Leaf succulent- Peperomias

*Peperomia* is one of the two large genera of the Piperaceae family, with more than 1000 recorded species. Most of them are compact, small (usually do not exceed 12 inches (30 cm) in height) perennial epiphytes growing on rotten wood. More than 1500 species have been recorded, occurring in all tropical and subtropical regions of the world, though concentrated to Central America and northern South America. A limited number of species (around 17) are found in Africa.



On the left is *Peperomia galapagoensis*, only found in the Galapagos Islands, specifically in the moist highlands. This photo was taken on Santa Cruz Island.

Photo by Mike Douglas

Though varying considerably in appearance these species generally have thick, stout stems and fleshy leaves, sometimes with leaf windows. *Peperomia* flowers typically come in yellow to brown conical spikes. Research indicates that Peperomia species contain poisonous elements associated with alkaloid leaves and stems.

Growth habits range from upright forms that tend to be shrubby when young and sprawl with age to rosette forms and prostrate vines, all with tolerance to relatively low light levels.  
(<http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/> and Wikipedia)

These tropical perennials are grown for their ornamental foliage. Some have threadlike, trailing stems and some have fleshy, stout stems. The leaves may be green or striped, marbled or bordered with pale green, red or gray, and the petioles of some kinds are red. The tiny flowers are not obvious and they grow in the form of cordlike spikes.

## Horticulture

Currently, there are over 100 species of *Peperomia* cultivated in the United States, although many are with collectors. Many interesting forms which are occasionally seen in commerce have not been properly named due to lack of taxonomic research on the genus. The most widely produced species is *Peperomia obtusifolia* (oval-leaf peperomia) and its cultivars. From: <http://mrec.ifas.ufl.edu/foliage/folnotes/pep.htm>.

### Growing Conditions:

**Light:** Peperomia do well in low to moderate light, such as found in a northern or east-facing window. They can be easily grown under fluorescent lights.



This is the moist habitat of *Peperomia galapagoensis*. Miconia forest, very humid in the highlands of Santa Cruz Island.

Photo by Mike Douglas

**Water:** Keep the soil moist during the growing season and provide relatively high humidity through spraying or by setting the pot in a gravel tray.

**Temperature:** Average. Peperomia do well in the relatively cool environment of most homes (although they dislike the dry). Aim for 65°F to 75°F.

**Soil:** A loose, well-drained, very rich potting mix.

**Fertilizer:** Fertilize biweekly during the growing season with a diluted liquid fertilizer or use controlled-release fertilizer pellets at the beginning of the growing season. (about.com houseplants)

## Propagation

These plants are usually propagated by seeds. They are also commercially propagated by cuttings. *Peperomia* cuttings root easily.

Plants can be divided at potting time. They are removed and separated into smaller pieces, each with a few roots attached. Leaf or stem cuttings can also be taken in the spring or summer. The lower leaves of the shoots are removed and a cut is made below the bottom node (joint). They are then laid on a bench for an hour or two to allow a protective corky skin to form over the cuts. They are then inserted in a propagating case with bottom heat of 70-75 degrees F. It is best not to seal the top completely, as the plants are semi-succulent in nature and excessive humidity is detrimental. When enough roots have formed, cuttings can be planted in 3-inch pots or in hanging baskets. (Wikipedia)



On the top *Peperomia prostrata* .

From Wikipedia. Files are licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported



Above is *Peperomia blanda*, on the right is *Peperomia columella*.

Both pictures from Wikipedia. Files are licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported



## THE CULTIVATION CORNER

by Joyce Hochtritt



### J & J Cactus and Succulents Soil Mix

My base is Metro-Mix 366.

My coarse materials are:

**Pumice** - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pumice> - I buy it in bags when I go out to Tucson. From Toro Brand, Triple A Fertilizer Co. – Cell Phone 520-574-0040 – Must pre-order bagged pumice.

**Perlite** - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perlite> - I buy it in bags from American Plant Products a wholesale greenhouse supplier in Oklahoma City. 405-787-4833

**Haydite** – <http://www.hydite.com/> - High Fired Baked Clay – I buy in bulk from Chandler Material, Co., Tulsa, OK. 918-836-9151

**Osmocote** 13-13-13, time-release fertilizer – I buy it in a 50-pound bag from American Plant Products a wholesale greenhouse supplier in Oklahoma City. 408-787-4833  
This is what I use if I don't have the three stars list above.

**Terface** – Baked Clay used on Baseball Fields – I buy it in bags from American Plant Products a wholesale greenhouse supplier in Oklahoma City. 408-787-4833

**Pea Gravel** – I buy it in bags at Lowe's or Home Depot.

**Crushed Granite** – Found at Landscape supplies – Sometime found at feed stores to feed to poultry. I mix my soil in a 35-gallon trashcan or a wheelbarrow. I fill a five-gallon bucket with Metro-Mix 366. I then fill a five gallon bucket with pumice, perlite, and haydite the three stars. Then I mix the Metro and the other three ingredients together. I also add Osmocote 13-13-13, a time-release fertilizer. Mix well and away we go!

If I'm planting cacti, sometimes I add more coarse material.

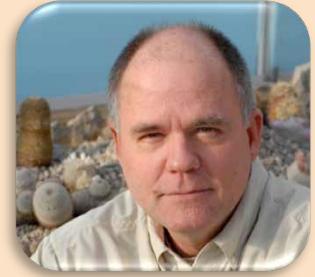
Remember everyone's growing conditions are not the same, so you need to find out what type of soil mix works for you!

Hope this is helpful!

J & J Cactus and Succulents

<http://www.jjcactus-succulents.net/>

WHAT IS BLOOMING?



Photos by: Mike Douglas

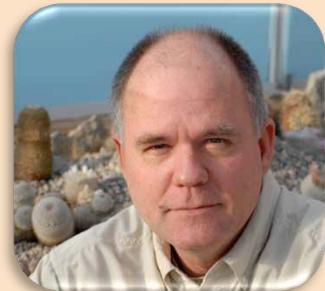


*Thelocactus tulensis*



*Mammillaria viperina*  
(from SE Mexico)

## WHAT IS BLOOMING?



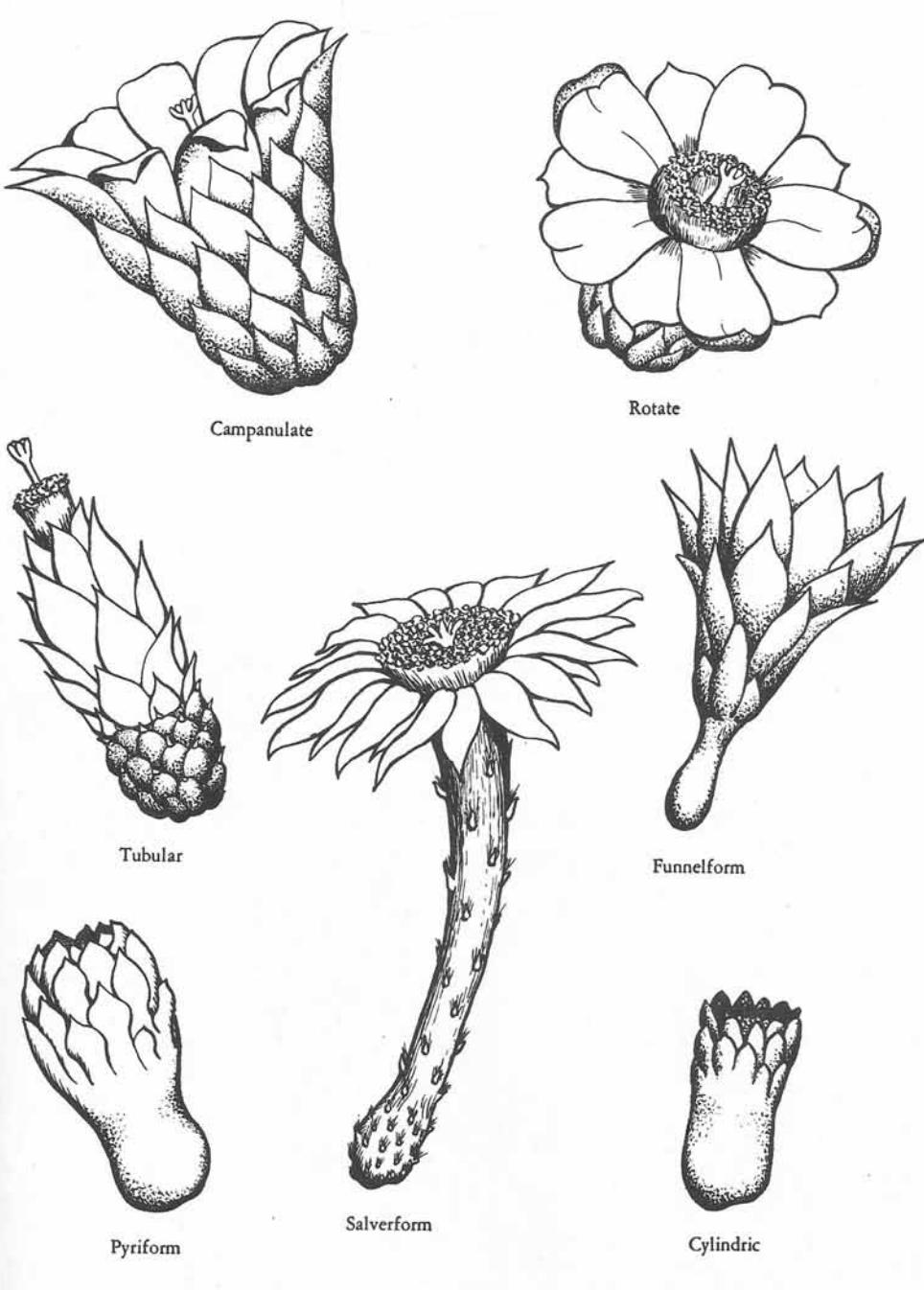
Photos by: Mike Douglas

Above: a Euphorbia species (I know it should be better identified than that!); this is a close-up, with depth-of-field helped by technique using Helicon Focus software and multiple images.

Right: *Echinocereus triglochidiatus*.



## THE BOTANICAL CORNER



Flowers are an essential component of plants - this is also the case with cacti. The illustration on the left shows some of the names used for the different shapes of cactus flowers.

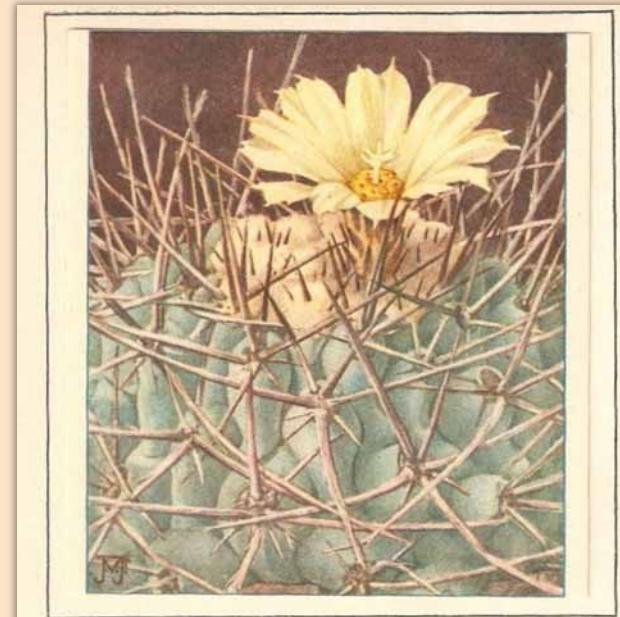
In the next pages I illustrate some of these shapes.

© T. M. Bock

Illustration taken from **Cactacea** with illustrated keys of all tribes, sub-tribes and genera by W. Taylor and ThorMethven Bock.



(Figure P)  
*Zygocactus truncatus*



(Figure O)  
*Thelocactus nidulans*

**Tubular flower type**

**Rotate flower type**



*Echinopsis mamillosa*

from Wikipedia commons file is licensed under the [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/)

**Salverform flower type**

## 2012 CACTUS AND SUCCULENT HAPPENINGS IN THE REGION

By Joyce Hochtritt

**April 14, 2012**, Norman Garden Center Festival – Saturday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm – Members (Fred Hill, Rosario Douglas and Many Kaser) volunteered to work. Other members are invited to participate as well. Will have a table set-up for information about the Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society.



\***April 14 – 15, 2012**, Austin Cactus and Succulent Society's Spring Show and Sale, Zilker Botanical Gardens, Austin, TX. <http://austincss.com/member>ShowSale.html>

**April 19, 2012**, Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society's monthly program and business meeting. Starting at 7:15 pm at the Will Rogers Garden Center.

**Program:** Photography Program by Tony Furrh, Mike Douglas, and Fred Hill. (Speakers) Categories will be Amateur, Novice and Professional. Program will start at 7:15 pm to allow each speaker time to explain their photos and photography knowledge.

**Refreshments:** Peggy Holland and Fred Hill

\***April 21 – 22, 2012**, Cactus and Succulent Society of Tulsa's Spring Show and Sale, Tulsa Garden Center, Tulsa, OK. (Car Pool?) <http://www.tulsacactusclub.org/>

\***April 26 – 27- 28, 2012**, San Antonio Cactus and Xerophyte Society's Annual Show and Sale, San Antonio Garden Center, San Antonio, TX. <http://www.sacxs.org/>

\***May 5, 2012**, "Repotting and Staging Workshop" by J. Hochtritt & Members – This program will be at the J & J Cactus and Succulent Nursery, 600 N. Pine Ave., Midwest City, OK., 405-737-1831 – [Cactibud@cox.net](mailto:Cactibud@cox.net)

\***May 11-12-13, 2012**, Ft. Worth Cactus and Succulent Society's Annual Show & Sale, Ridgemar Mall, Ft. Worth, TX. <http://affiliates.cssainc.org/fort-worth-cactus-and-succulent-society.html>

**May 17, 2012**, Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society's monthly program and business meeting. Starting at 7:30 pm at the Will Rogers Garden Center.

**Program:** "Succulent Bonsai" by Mike Hellmann (Speaker)

**Refreshments:** Joan Galbraith

**May 19, 2012**, Festival in the Park, Will Rogers Exhibition Center, 3400 NW 36<sup>th</sup> St. OKC, OK. (9:00am – 3:00pm) Open to participants at 7:00am – public 9:00am

\***May 26, 2012**, J & J Cactus and Succulents – Open House Sale – 20% Off – 8:00 am to 2:00 pm – 600 N. Pine Ave., Midwest City, OK. <http://jjcactus-succulents.net>

**June 16 – 17, 2012**, Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society's Annual Show and Sale, 3400 NW36th St., Oklahoma City, OK. - Saturday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm - Sunday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. <https://sites.google.com/site/cocssok/>

\***June 21 to 24, 2012**, The 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Mid-States Cactus and Succulent Conference Hosted by the Kansas City Cactus and Succulent Society at The Hilton Garden Inn, Independence, MO. For more information contact:

Eva Allen, Conference Chair - 816-444-9321 - [emallen@earthlink.com](mailto:emallen@earthlink.com)

## 2012 CACTUS AND SUCCULENT HAPPENINGS IN THE REGION

**July 7 – 10, 2012**, Henry Shaw Cactus Club's Annual Show and Sale, Missouri Botanical Gardens, St. Louis, MO. <http://www.hscactus.org/>

**July 19, 2012**, Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society's monthly program and business meeting. Starting at 7:30 pm at the Will Rogers Garden Center.

**Program:** "How to Build a Dish Garden" Fred Hill will host along with Joyce Hochtritt. More information to come!

**Refreshments:** Club (Niki & Mary)

**August 16, 2012**, Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society's monthly program and business meeting. Starting at 7:30 pm at the Will Rogers Garden Center.

**Program:** Library Knowledge. Tony Furrh with host and Speak about the COCSS library. The types of books we own with a book review to follow.

**Refreshments:** Vicki Brabits (snacks) and Mat Baginski (drinks)

\* **September 1 – 2, 2012**, Austin Cactus and Succulent Society's Fall Show & Sale, Zilker Botanical Gardens, Austin, TX. . <http://austincss.com/member>ShowSale.html>

**September 16, 2012**, Sunday at 5:30 pm, Club Picnic – Pot Luck to be held at Peggy Anglin's home. (2700 NW 56<sup>th</sup> St., OKC, OK. 405-840-4583 – [anglin@swbell.net](mailto:anglin@swbell.net)) Open swap program will be held at the picnic. Members to bring their items they want to swap out with other members.

**September 22 23, 2012**, Cactus and Succulent Society's Fall Show and Sale, Tulsa Garden Center, Tulsa, OK. (Car Pool?)

\***October 20, 2012** – Speaker, Leo Chance from Colorado – 9:00 am to 1:30 pm. Leo will present a program and his new book "Cold Hardy Cacti" with a book signing. We will also have sale plants available for sale. More information to come!

[http://www.timberpress.com/books/cacti\\_succulents\\_cold\\_climates/chance/9781604692648](http://www.timberpress.com/books/cacti_succulents_cold_climates/chance/9781604692648)

**November 15, 2012**, Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society's monthly program and business meeting. Starting at 7:30 pm at the Will Rogers Garden Center.

**Program:** CSSA Judging Workshop – Presented by J. Hochtritt. How to judge and present plants to be judged.

**Refreshments:** Joyce Hochtritt (snakes) and Deb Trimble (drinks)

## 2013 Cactus and Succulent Happenings in the Region

\***June 15 – 20, 2013** - CSSA 35<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention - Hyatt Regency Hotel – Austin, TX.  
<http://cssa2013.com>

If you know of any plant happenings, please send me the information. Thank you, Joyce