



THE OFFSET

JUNE 2013



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

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

NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President:	Niki Furrh	tnfurrh@cox.net 405-722-1718
Vice-president:	Rosario Douglas	rosariod@cox.net 405 447-7617
Secretary;	Mary Kaser	mk770r@att.com 405-476-0600
Treasurer:	Peggy Anglin	anglin@swbell.net 405-840-4583
Librarian:	Tony Furrh	tnfurrh@cox.net 405-722-1718
CSSA Affiliate:	Joyce Hochtritt	cactibud@cox.net 405-7371831
Newsletter editor:	Rosario Douglas	rosariod@cox.net

MEETING At Will Rogers Garden Center at 3400 NW 36th in Oklahoma City, the third Thursday of every month at **7:00 pm** (except in January, the month of our show, picnic and December).

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CLUB NEWS- FROM THE PRESIDENT**FROM THE PRESIDENT
JUNE, 2013**

We had our May meeting on 5-16-13 with approximately 12 members present.

Our secretary, Mary Kaser, has been dealing with some personal family issues and was not able to attend the meeting so we will have this message suffice as our minutes for May. Treasurer Peggy Anglin reported a balance of \$3,614.91 in the bank and the minutes from the previous meeting were approved as published. The Festival In The Park was discussed and several members are planning on attending this and representing the club. Joyce Hochtritt gave an informal program of getting plants ready for Show and miscellaneous questions were answered. Final details for the Annual Show and Sale were discussed and after refreshments the meeting was adjourned.

Niki Furrh for Mary Kaser

Tony and Niki Furrh, Mike and Rosario Douglas, Peggy Holland, Robert Milligan, and Fred Hill all attended the Festival In The Park and had a good time taking turns covering our booth while others did some shopping and looking around. It was enjoyable to talk with other members of clubs represented and we were actually able to get a speaker for the August meeting which I think we will all enjoy.

The Annual Show and Sale was last weekend and by all accounts it was a success and a good deal of fun. Although I don't think we broke any records, I was pleasantly pleased with the large turn out considering all the weather related issues we have all faced in the last couple of weeks. Pending credit card fees and related issues, Peggy will have more of an idea of how the club did at the next meeting. I have tentatively heard that we had a total sale of around \$11,000, which is very good and continues to support our thoughts that a good deal of Oklahomans enjoy cacti and succulents!

Update on Fred Hill & family –

We have all been greatly concerned about Fred Hill and the damage he and his family received in the recent two tornados which destroyed a great deal of Moore. Although Fred did not have his home completely destroyed by the tornados, he received enough damage to make his home unlivable until repairs can be made and he has lost his yard and most of his plants have been destroyed. Our thoughts continue to be with Fred as he tries to maneuver through all the red tape to get 'home again' and we hope that he realizes that a lot of us had tried to get hold of him shortly after the disaster, but telephone and cell lines made communication very difficult.

Fred did make it to the Show for a time on Saturday and it was good to hug him and remind him that we were thinking of him.

In an effort to help with what we can, the club will be available for a couple of Saturdays at Fred's choosing, to help in anyway we can in giving him a head start in getting his yard back to 'normal' and even better than before!

Fred has talked of doing a type of disability garden in the recent past so this will give him the opportunity to design what he wants and we can all give a hand in helping him achieve this!!

Fred and Sheila have a long way to go in getting their home repaired, cars replaced and all the hassles that go along with that, so it could be well into the fall or even next spring before Fred is ready for us but I know everyone will be ready whenever the call is made!! Workdays will be spread out so hopefully everyone can find a day or two in their schedules to help. (I've heard rumors that we will be joined by another club so, if so, Fred can take heart and not worry about his yard at all at this point and concentrate on getting back home to a 'new' home!) *Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the Hills.*

NO MEETING THIS MONTH

This month we are not having our regular meeting because we had our Show&Sale early this month. Next month we resume our meetings that take place every month on the third Thursday of the month at 7 pm. The meeting is at the Will Rogers Gardens in Oklahoma City

Our thoughts are with **Mary Kaser**, our club's secretary whose mother recently passed away. If you want to call her or send a card here is her information.
mk770r@att.com - her home address in 100I NW Eubanks, OKC 73118



Another great issue of the free online magazine **Cactus explorers**. You can see this and previous issues at:

<http://www.cactusexplorers.org.uk/journal1.htm>

NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!!

I would like to personally welcome all new and renewing members. For your information the newsletter is sent usually around the 8th of the month. We also have a webpage:

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

The webpage has all the newsletters we have put together since October 2011. As the editor and webpage master I would like to encourage all new and existing members to contribute with materials, thoughts, ideas, suggestion for the newsletter or webpage.

Rosario Douglas
Newsletter editor and vice-president

TOUR OF MEMBER'S GARDENS ON JUNE 8TH FROM 9-3 PM.

Remember that we are having our annual garden tour of member's gardens which is open to the public. This year the participating members are Robert Millison, Tony Furrh and Michael and Rosario Douglas.

Tony Furrh's garden: Tony Furrh, Master Gardner and cacti and succulent hobbyist for some 35+ years, has been a member of the Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society since the early 1980's. His large greenhouse will be open for tour although he places a good deal of his plants outside for the summer. A large winter hardy berm in the backyard is maturing since inception 4 years ago along with several species of other plants which he enjoys growing.

Address: 6717 Chelsey Lane. Northwest OKC Riverbend addition.

Robert Millison's garden: I have a mixture of ornamental grasses, perennials, trees and shrubs, along with various "hardy tropicals" including bamboo, elephant ears, angel's trumpet, cycads and palms. Also have raised succulent bed with a collection of woody lilies, including *Yuccas*, *Hesperaloes*, *Nolinas*, *Manfreda*, *Dasyliirions* and other succulent plants such as thornless prickly pear, *Ocotillo* and a cold hardy Agave; this bed also contains my collection of Ice plants (*Delosperma*). **Address:** 2625 SW 52nd St. My home is located on SW 52nd St between May Ave. and Villa Ave.

Mike and Rosario Douglas's garden: We have two greenhouses exclusively with succulent plants (mostly in beds) and a cactus garden in the front yard. Many perennials also in front yard. **Address:** 1501 Goldfinch Ct., Norman. House borders Cleveland County fairgrounds property, but drive into "Sutton Place" neighborhood to get to street address. (Entrance to neighborhood is .5 miles north of the intersection of Porter and Robinson). Yard is "wild-scaped" with small pond.

I received the following message from Tom Dougherty

Rosario, I am an ex Cactus Club member from way back. I sent Joyce an email the other day asking about some cactus soil and mentioned that I have a Fero Cactus that has become to large to carry in and out each year. I would love to find a home for it and was wondering if you might know someone interested in buying it and would know what it might be worth? If you know of a green house or Arboretum that would have need of it, I would consider donating it.



It is very healthy and blooms each year. I bought it years ago on a trip to Arizona and purchased it from one of the nurseries in Phoenix. I actually had them put it in a box and carried it on the plane back to Oklahoma. Before security.

My phone number is 3761212 and I can be reached in the evenings.

Thanks for any help you give.

Tom Dougherty

tldoklahoma@gmail.com



CACTUS AND SUCCULENT HAPPENINGS IN THE REGION *By Joyce Hochtritt*

June 8 COCSS garden tour of member's gardens/greenhouses for the public.

Hours 9-3 pm

June 8-9 Tulsa Cactus and Succulent Society Show

June 15-20th CSSA 35th Biennial Convention in Austin, Texas <http://cssa2013.com/>

July 18 7 pm COCSS Monthly meeting

At the Will Rogers Exhibition Center, 3400 NW36th St., OKC, OK.

Program: 7 pm Deserts of North America by Mike and Rosario Douglas

Extra Activity: Book Review

Refreshments: Peggy and Helen Hill

2014 Cactus and Succulent Happenings

June 12- 15th The 15th Biennial Mid-States Cactus and Succulent Conference Hosted by the Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society in Oklahoma City, OK. More information to come!

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

Thank you, Joyce

Severe weather in the Heartland *by Rosario Douglas*



May 18th-20th will be remembered as one of the most severe outbreaks of severe weather in the Central US. Oklahoma was particularly affected with many homes destroyed and lives lost.

Mike, a meteorologist wanted to go chasing. In 21 years in Oklahoma we have only done this 3-4 times and have never seen a tornado.

The tornado above (our first) was the one that hit parts of the city of Edmond, north of Oklahoma City.

This one crossed in front of us on the freeway. The large hail, loud noise, rain and the panicked drivers around us made this an unforgettable experience.

The other two photos were taken on the 18th and show mammatus clouds.

Fortunately we decided to go hiking in the Wichita Mountains the day of the Moore tornado. So we were not chasing that day. The tornado went through Moore, about 6 miles north of our house, but fortunately we were not hit.

Long-time member Fred Hill lives in Moore and his house was damaged. Later on May 31st another tornado hit Moore again and also affected Fred's house and further damaging in outdoor garden.



COCSS SHOW AND SALE JUNE 1-2, 2013

Our Show and Sale this year- June 1-2 was a success. In spite of the bad storms that swept through our area yet again leaving many people without power and causing widespread flooding, people took the time to come and check out our plants. We also gained new members who joined



Our thanks to all the vendors and members who worked very hard to get everything running smoothly.

Joan Galbraith (upper left) and Robert Millison (bottom left). Middle photo: Socorro and Daniel from Rio Grande Cactus. Upper right: the plants and lower right Matthew, one of our members.



Upper left: Carol Eyster and Joan Galbraith, Upper right: Mike and Lawanda Keeling of Snake Farms Cactus, Middle left: Peggy Holland, Middle right: our cashiers Thomas Galbraith and Peggy Anglin with Lawanda. Bottom left: our president Niki Furhh. Lower right: misc items for sale made by our members. The paintings are by Niki.



Above is the plant that won the people's choice award.



Above left a view our show plant section. The other photos show some of our winners in the show.



The cleanup and packing stage



Jim Hochtritt and Peggy Holland helping Mike Keeling pack his truck. Jim did a great job again this year organizing the lunches and bringing great BBQ.

On the left our treasurer Peggy Anglin.

The room after the show and sale.



WHAT IS BLOOMING?



Our outdoor cactus garden has been looking good this spring. Upper right: a *Delosperma* sp blooming. Upper left: a view of the garden.

Below photos of our native *Echinocereus reichenbachii subsp baileyi*.

