

# THE OFFSET



## Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society

**JULY 2017**

*Editor: Rosario Douglas*



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

**Meeting time:** 7:00 pm Third Thursday of the month.

**Location:** Will Rogers Garden Center, Oklahoma City

[Oklahomacactus.com](http://Oklahomacactus.com)



## July 20th meeting



**Program: Using Adeniums and other succulents to create bonsai plants**

by Keith Warren

Keith is the cofounder of the Central Oklahoma Bonsai Society in 1987 and Vice-President of the Oklahoma Orchid Society.

**7:00 pm**

*Refreshments: Mark Ditmar*



# CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

[Oklahomacactus.com](http://Oklahomacactus.com)

July 2017

## President's message



Those members who have been involved in the club's activities this past summer are reporting that they are finally starting to recover from the Annual Show and Sale and the Dish Garden Workshop in June. It's been a pretty busy time for all those involved and again I would like to thank everyone who took the time to volunteer your services for both events. We had record sales for the Annual Sale and further reports will be presented to the group as final numbers are figured up --- Mark has been ill these past few weeks and we wish him the best and encourage him to take his time in working up final reports etc.

Rosario has the July meeting set and details are in the newsletter below. She also has several other reminders for the group so be sure and get the entire newsletter read.

Tony and I are still not back to our usual vim and vigor. He was able (with the help of the Douglas') to get the new cabinet down to the Garden Center but not all material and club books are permanently installed yet. The old cabinet remains for sale and if any member is interested in it, just give us a call (722-1718). We are more than ready to get rid of it from our garage. At this point if you wish to just make an offer for it, feel free. Hope to see you on July 20<sup>th</sup>.

Niki Furrh

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### LIBRARY NEWS

Tony Furrh, the club's librarian is happy to announce that with some help from members he managed to get all the books moved from his garage to the new location at the gardens. Our nice collection of cacti and succulent books is now housed in a brand new cabinet. Keep this in mind if you are interested in checking out some books at our next meeting. If you have any books you need to return please bring them to the next meeting.

In Tony's words: This Library is a very important and expensive part of our organization and I try my best to take care of it. I hope the membership knows what a big asset it really is.

One other FYI is that some time in the near (or far) ha ha future I will be offering some issues for sale or other means of reducing the inventory.. That is all for now. See ya at the Mtg. Tony

**Mark your calendars for July 22.**

You will have the chance to visit our third garden / greenhouse in our series of *Tea/Coffee in the Gardens* events.

9:00 - noon

2625 SW 52<sup>nd</sup>, OKC

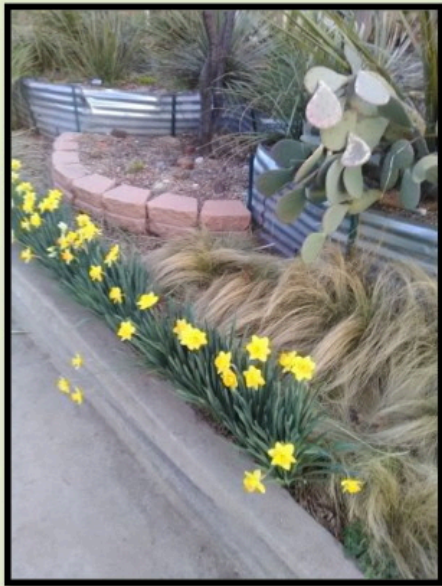


## CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

July 2017

### Central Oklahoma Cactus & Succulent Society "Coffe/tea in the garden" tour

9:00 am-Noon July 22  
2625 SW 52<sup>nd</sup>, Oklahoma City



Join us on this tour of member Robert Millison. The garden has raised succulent bed with numerous species of cold-hardy Yucca, Nolina, Dasyllirion, & Agave; the succulent bed also contains various other succulents, including Manfredas, a couple of "spineless" cactus, Delosperma, Bush Morning Glory, etc. There is a small cactus-only bed in front of the raised succulent bed which contains several different cactus, most of which have survived our winters with minimal problem. The front yard has various "cold-hardy" tropicals, such as bananas, elephant ears, bamboo, cycads, & palms. A small collection of potted Agaves, Yuccas, Cycads, and Beaucarneas is kept in the back yard for safety sake. Information at: 405-850-9388





## CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

July 2017

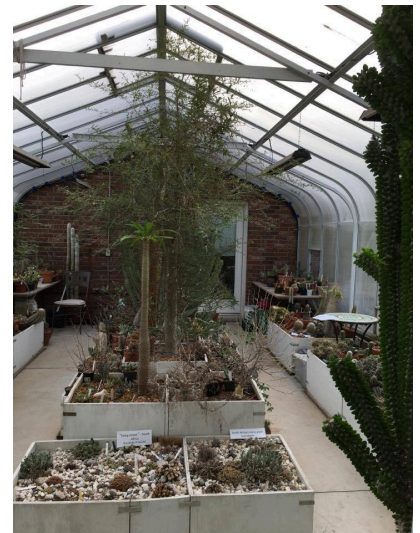
### Our June Dish garden Workshop



A well attended "Build your own dish garden workshop" with 28 people.



### Photos of our second *Coffee/Tea in the Gardens* tour



In spite of the very warm temperatures on June 17, 17 people made it to this second *Coffee/tea in the Gardens* tour.



## CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

July 2017

### Happenings *Joyce Hochtritt and Rosario Douglas*

July 8 – 9, 2017 – Henry Shaw Cactus and Succulent Society's Annual Show & Sale, Missouri Botanical Garden St. Louis, MO.

**July 20** COCSS Meeting & Program – 7:00 pm – Will Rogers Exhibition Center

**Program:** **Using Adeniums and other succulents to create bonsai plants** by Keith Warren.

Refreshments: Mark Ditmar

**July 22** Coffee tea in the garden at Robert Millison's house. Time: 9-12. Address: 2625 SW 52<sup>nd</sup>, Oklahoma City. Phone: [405-850-9388](tel:405-850-9388)

**July 26 – 30, 2017** - Cactus and Succulent Society of America's 37<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention at The Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in Tempe, AZ.

**August 12** Coffee tea in the garden at Fred Hill's house form 9-12. Address is: 609 S Howard Ave. Moore.

Wander through the wheelchair paths to our gardens, each having a different style and function. After the destruction of the May, 2013 tornadoes, some gardens were restored, some were redesigned for handicapped use. Included are butterfly gardens, keyhole garden, succulent gardens, prairie garden and plantings surrounding the area. Our water garden is a larger structure, with raised features, two bio-filter waterfalls and eye-catching plantings.

**August 17:** COCSS Meeting & Program – 7:00 pm – Will Rogers Exhibition Center

**Program:** **Zoological horticulture and a brief update on our cactus and agave collection** by Lance Swearengin, Horticultural Curator at the Oklahoma City Zoo and Botanical Garden.

Refreshments: Joan Galbraith





## CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

July 2017

Many popular succulents in cultivation come from South Africa and this books looks like a useful reference to have in your library .



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#### Succulents of Southern Africa - Honeyguide Publications



**SUCCULENTS OF SOUTHERN AFRICA**

Robin Frandsen

**ORDER NOW**

*Succulents of Southern Africa*, published by Honeyguide Publications, is the most extensive photographic publication of general succulent plants of this region yet produced. Nothing else is available currently to the extent, lavish style and user-friendliness of this work.

It has been made both possible and important due to the efforts of many photographers who, over the years, have accumulated the beautiful identifying photographs and have kindly permitted their use, to make this work remarkable and valuable.

Every species recorded is beautifully illustrated in full colour, with one or more photographs. The illustrations are always on the same spread as their relevant text. This feature makes the book extremely user-friendly. The text includes a description of the plant and its distribution.

There are over 2500 of the best available colour photographs in all, doing justice to this fascinating group of plants.

*Succulents of Southern Africa* is a valuable addition for all who are interested in succulent plants as well as for botanical faculties, libraries, universities and for the serious book collector.

The introduction includes an extensive section on cultivation. A full-colour map of the sub-region is included as well as a map of the western Cape region into Namibia, the home of most of the succulent species of the region.

*Succulents of Southern Africa* is now available and priced at ZAR R880 plus postage.

Booksellers may contact us at [david@honeyguidepublications.com](mailto:david@honeyguidepublications.com) to order the book at the special wholesale price.

No expense has been spared in the production of the book and one of the world's top printers in Singapore has been tasked with its production.

Aloe	Crassula	Euphorbia	Mesemb	Stapeliads	Order
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July 2017



## Article of the month

Rosario Douglas

### Is that a cactus or a succulent?

This is a very common question when we are talking about succulents. It would appear that because we often see the term “**cactus and succulents**”, we tend to separate the two. In reality cactus **are** succulents and succulents are plants that have the ability to retain water in order to survive in dry and hot environments.



The more technical term “**succulence**” best describes this amazing adaptation that plants from different **families** and **genera** share. The definition of succulence is: Having thick, fleshy, water-storing leaves or stems. Cacti are but one of the **families** that has been able to thrive in dry and arid environments by using succulence or the ability to store water. Of course succulent plants including cacti share other adaptations such as thick skin or **cuticle**, **CAM metabolism**, spines and thorns etc. that also help in their survival.



Technically, cacti are a family with many genera found in the Americas (the genus *Rhipsalis* being an exception). Other structures of cacti such as flower types and size, lack of persistent leaves (except for the genus *Pereskia* and *Pereskopsis*), areoles, different types of spines etc. differentiate cacti from similar-looking succulents that are found primarily in Africa.

Succulent plants in the genus *Euphorbia*, a genus in the large Euphorbiaceae family, are a good example of cacti look-alike plants. Succulent *Euphorbias* and cacti share similar adaptations (spines and thorns for protection and shade, thick skin to minimize water). These adaptations allow cacti and succulent *euphorbias* to survive in dry and hot environments. Most succulent *euphorbias* are found in Africa.

**A.** *Echinocereus reichenbachii*, **B.** *Beaucarnea gracilis* (a stem succulent from Mexico, **C.** *Euphorbia* sp.  
Photos by Mike Douglas



## Is that a cactus or a succulent? cont.

So the next time you hear this question about cactus and/or succulents remember that many different types of unrelated plants including cacti **are** succulents. They all share the ability to store water via different adaptations and they may look similar. This does not mean that all succulents are cactus. Of course there are many different types of succulents based on where they store water (e.g stem, leaf, or root succulents), but that is the subject for another article.



Sources: The free dictionary by Farley (online)

**D.** *Frithia pulchra*, a succulent from South Africa. **E.** *Yucca* sp. **F.** *Cephalocereus senilis* (old man cactus). All photos by Mike Douglas





July 2017

## Is that a cactus or a succulent? cont.

**Binomial nomenclature** The concepts of genus and species are key parts of the binomial system of classification. “**Binomial nomenclature** (also called **binominal nomenclature** or **binary nomenclature**) is a formal system of naming species of living things by giving each a name composed of two parts, both of which use Latin grammatical forms, although they can be based on words from other languages. Such a name is called a **binomial name** (which may be shortened to just "binomial"), a **binomen**, **binominal name** or a **scientific name**; more informally it is also called a **Latin name**. The first part of the name identifies the genus to which the species belongs; the second part identifies the species within the genus. For example, humans belong to the genus *Homo* and within this genus to the species *Homo sapiens*. The *formal* introduction of this system of naming species is credited to Carl Linnaeus, effectively beginning with his work *Species Plantarum* in 1753.” Taken verbatim from Wikipedia

### Terms underlined in **red** in the text

**Genera** Plural for the word **Genus**. A genus is a taxonomic rank used in the biological classification of living and fossil organisms in biology. In the hierarchy of biological classification, genus comes above species and below family. In binomial nomenclature, the genus name forms the first part of the binomial species name for each species within the genus. E.g. *Opuntia violacea* and *Opuntia leptocaulis* are two species within the genus *Opuntia*. *Opuntia* is a genus within the family Cactaceae.

**Family** In biological classification, **family** (Latin: *familia*, plural *familiae*) is one of the eight major taxonomic ranks; it is classified between order and genus. A family may be divided into subfamilies, which are intermediate ranks above the rank of genus.

**Cuticle** the **cuticle** is a water-impervious protective layer covering the epidermal cells of leaves and other parts and limiting water loss.

**CAM** **Crassulacean acid metabolism**, also known as **CAM photosynthesis**, is a carbon fixation pathway that evolved in some plants as an adaptation to arid conditions.<sup>[1]</sup> In a plant using full CAM, the stomata in the leaves remain shut during the day to reduce evapotranspiration, but open at night to collect carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). This was first observed in plants of the Crassulaceae family. From Wikipedia

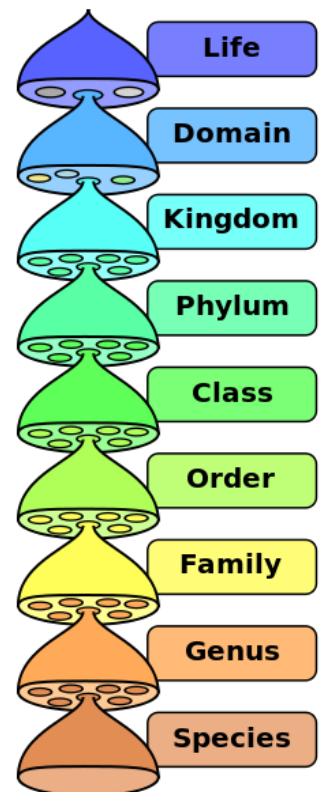


Illustration from Wikipedia Commons. Definitions from Wikipedia.



## CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

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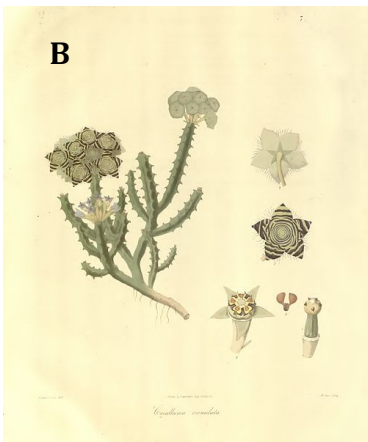


### Succulent Plants

Rosario Douglas

## The Genus *Caralluma*

This genus of succulent plants is found primarily in Africa (some species are found in India, Pakistan, the Arabian peninsula and even Myanmar). They derive their name from the Arabic word qahr-al-luhum, which means wound in the flesh. This is a reference to the unpleasant odor emitted by the flowers in this genus. Smelling and looking like rotting meat (deep red flowers and textures that resemble meat) attracts flies that regularly lay eggs in rotting meat. Thus *Caralluma* flowers fool the flies, that in turn inadvertently pollinate the plants. You can read more about this fascinating strategy to attract pollinators [here](#).



This succulent is in the Apocynaceae family and there are about 120 species in the genus.

**Photos:** **A.** *Caralluma socotrana* photographed in Kenya. Wikipedia Commons. **B.** *Caralluma crenulata* from Myanmar. *Plantae Asiaticae Rariores*, volume I (1830), plate 7. Wikipedia Commons.



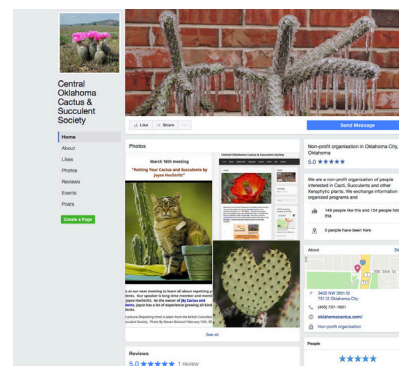
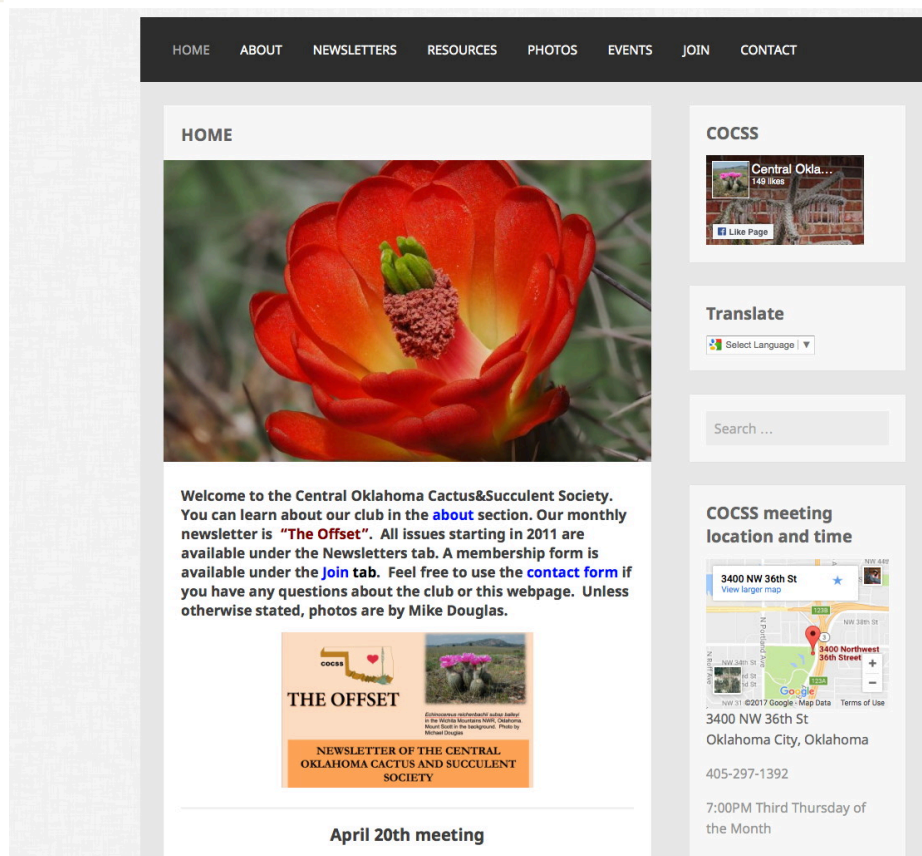
**Needed:** Refreshment volunteers are needed for our October and November monthly meetings. Let me or Niki know if you are able to volunteer.





# CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

July 2017



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[Oklahomacactus.com](http://Oklahomacactus.com) and our Facebook page (upper right)

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