

THE OFFSET



Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society

May 2017

Editor: Rosario Douglas



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

Oklahomacactus.com

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

Location: Will Rogers Garden Center, Oklahoma City

May 18th meeting



Program: Movie “**Big Bend: life on the edge**” and **plant give away/sale**

7:00 pm

Refreshments by Joan Galbraith

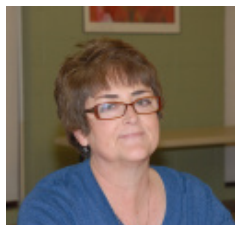
At the Will Roger Exhibition Center 3400 NW 36, Oklahoma City



CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Oklahomacactus.com

May 2017



President's message

Niki Furrh

Dejavu! We met in our regular meeting room for the April meeting, enjoying the new chairs, paint, window shades. Entirely raised to where you felt you were in a fish bowl, & a highly waxed floor. The available help was very friendly.

I have the Member Vendor contracts & qualified members can sign up at the May meeting. We will discuss more details of the upcoming Show & Sale at the meeting so have your **"YES, LET ME"** smiling face ready and we'll get things worked out & ready for a great time this year!

We will need items for the 'drawings' during the Sale - I'm collecting some stuff & everyone loves plants; items don't need to be worth more than a dollar or so. Bring your items Friday afternoon (June 2nd) to place on the table or Saturday when you get there. We will do the drawings as long as we have items to give away.

For the May meeting we will have a short documentary/movie about Big Bend National Park and then we will have a give away/sale event. One table will have 'give-away' plants and the other table will hold plants and/or other garden related items for sale. Members will handle their own sales (try to bring a little change if you can) - items can be any price you wish and do not have to be 'new'. That old short handle shovel which was replaced at Christmas might just be the thing someone else could use. Or that cactus plant which you absolutely are sick of getting stuck by may need a new home. The tables will not be available until 7:00pm so be on time and you won't lose out to an early bird. Email me if you have any questions, but this isn't rocket science, just some good ol' fun.

CONSERVATORY WORK DAY MAY 13TH - Tony has announced that WR would like our club to help with the care of the cactus and succulent plants in the conservatory and perhaps with planning an outdoor garden some time down the road. Some of the other clubs are being asked if they would be willing to contribute some time in 'their fields' so recording of time worked and by whom will be kept in a file near the office of the employees in the greenhouse area. It is anticipated that hours worked may translate to a decrease in our monthly rent - details of this will be addressed later. They are eager for us to get started so Tony has picked MAY 13TH (9:30 AM) as the first work day.

Bring work gloves and any hand tools you might want to work with (be sure your name is on anything you take). Look for Tony in the greenhouse area and he will get the scoop on current needs, their preferences, etc. Bring your questions with you and they will be answered as best possible at that time. Tony's cell is 819-6490 in case you can't locate him or any of the others. This is before our next meeting, so put on your calendar now.

Niki



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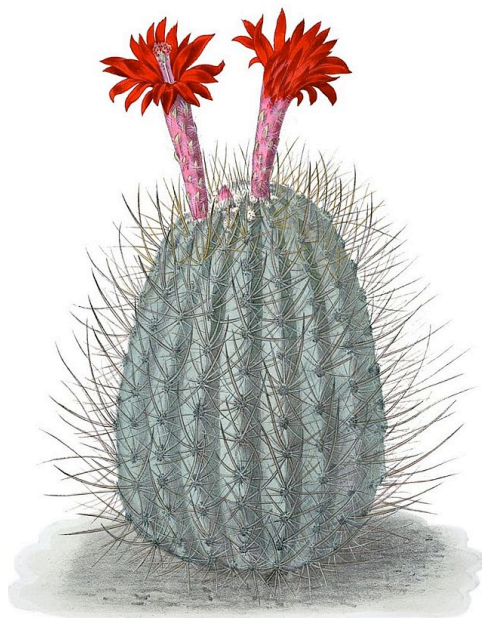
May 2017

Central Oklahoma Cactus & Succulent Society Annual 2017 Show and Sale

Saturday June 3 9:00-5:00 pm

Sunday June 4 9:00-4:00 pm

Will Rogers Exhibition Center
3400 NW 36th St., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
405-297-1392
Free Admission and hourly drawings for prizes



More information:

405- 737-1831 or

cactibud@cox.net

Thousands of succulents for sale. Also pottery, books, potting soil & other items. Members will be available to answer your questions.

Facebook search "Oklahoma cactus" and check out our webpage at: oklahomacactus.com



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From the Editor

Rosario Douglas



Hi everyone. As our Show&Sale approaches (June 2 and 3), I hope your plants are looking good. We would also like to encourage all members to participate in both the Sale and also in the Show part of our annual event.

May Meeting: This month we will start the meeting with a follow up to February's talk about Big Bend National Park. This time we will show a very nice 24-minute movie made in 2016. This movie put out by the National Park Service has outstanding photography and information about the flora, geology and fauna of Big Bend National Park. Nice photos of cacti and other succulents as well as breathtaking aerial views are only some of the elements that make this a great short movie about the Chihuahuan Desert and Big Bend National Park in Texas.

After the movie and refreshments we will have a give away/**sale of plants and other items** brought by members.

Members wishing to check their entry forms for their show plants can bring them and get help with identification. Books may not be available, but members could help with identification if you have a picture of your plant.

ALL ENTRY FORMS you need for entering your show plants are available in our webpage at: <https://oklahomacactus.com> go to the EVENTS tab and select COC&SS Show&Sale. Also available in our webpage is the flyer advertising our annual event.

About work days at the garden center: I would like to preface the minutes concerning working on Saturdays when this occurs. I would strongly suggest contacting Jim Wooley at the gardens to be absolutely sure he or someone will be there and the times. He can also give info as where to park, etc. Niki

Coffee/Tea in the Garden Two members attended the April event at Stillwater Nursery. Hopefully more members will be able to enjoy the interesting gardens/nurseries that will be open for visits this season.

Refreshments: Volunteers are needed for October and November refreshments.

Membership renewal: To all members that have forgotten to renew their membership, please renew soon. You can send your check to our treasurer Mark Dittmar or you can pay at our next meeting.



CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

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Minutes of last meeting

Robert Millison

7:04pm Tony presented a program on Grafting. Reasons for grafting can include: rare plants; monstrose plants; plants with decreased chlorophyll (variegated); slow growing plants. The scion is the plant to be grafted,

and the root-stock is the base to which the scion will be grafted. The root-stock needs to be a vigorous grower. Be sure to use sterile cutting implements to decrease the chance of spreading disease. Make a flat/level cut to both the scion and the root-stock & trim off the tubercles/ribs. Line up the interior growth rings of both the scion & root-stock and use rubber bands (or strips of panty-hose) to secure the scion to the root-stock. Leave the grafted plant in the shade for at least 5 days to allow the scion to securely take/attach to the root-stock.

Meeting called to order at 7:50pm with 10 members and 3 guests present.

Treasurer's report: \$8,533.56 Bank balance 25 paid members

Tony related information regarding the WRGC. WRGC will be providing a new library storage cabinet (two sizes available - Tony chose the larger). WRGC has allocated part of the west greenhouse for COCSS use. Be sure to sign in/out when working at the WRGC greenhouse, as work-time spent at the greenhouse will be deducted from the COCSS rent for meeting rooms; COCSS members who wish to work on Saturdays should be able to access the greenhouse from 7:30am-11:30m on Saturdays (this is the time frame that the WRGC supervisor is usually at the gardens on weekends).

Tony informed members that he has committed at least one COCSS member to speak to the Canadian County Master Gardeners in El Reno on Tuesday October 3rd; the presentation will most likely focus on propagation and cold-hardy plants.

"Tea/Coffee in the Garden" - Fred & Peggy Hill drove to Stillwater for the Stillwater Succulents Open House. They reported that there was a very nice selection of succulent plants, as well as a winery. Up-coming scheduled tours: August 12 - Freddy Hill's garden 609 S. Howard Ave, Moore; September 16 - Joyce Hochtritt's greenhouse 600 N. Pine, Midwest City.

If you need a name tag, please sign up on the name-tag list.

The Festival in the Park is scheduled for Saturday May 20th at Will Roger's Garden; Fred Hill has offered to man the COCSS table.

We still need someone to sign up to bring refreshments for the October & November meetings. (The November meeting may be held in a different room as the WRGC had already reserved our usual room for another club/activity). If you plan to sell items at the Show/Sell, be sure to sign a Vender Contract & return to Niki. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm



CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

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Happenings *Joyce Hochtritt*

May 18 COCSS Meeting & Program – 7:00 pm – Will Rogers Exhibition Center

Program: **Movie “Big Bend Life on the Edge” and give away/plant sale**
Refreshments: Joan Galbraith

June 3 – 4, 2017 – Central Oklahoma Cactus and Succulent Society’s Annual Show & Sale, Will Rogers Exhibition Center, Oklahoma City, OK.

June 15 Build your own dish garden Workshop. 7-8:30 pm at the Will Rogers Garden Center.

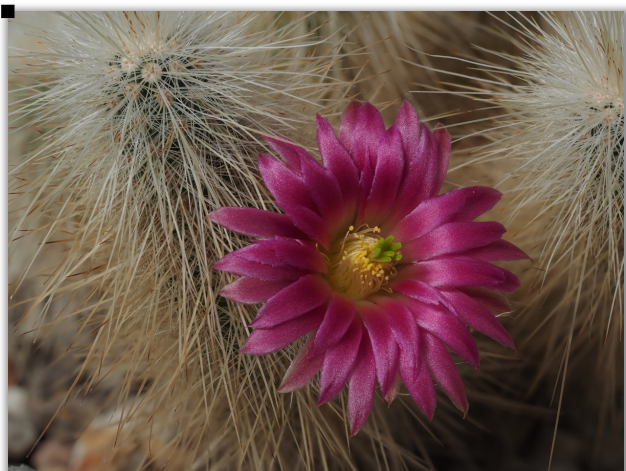
July 8 – 9, 2017 – Henry Shaw Cactus and Succulent Society’s Annual Show & Sale, Missouri Botanical Garden St. Louis, MO.

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

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

Refreshments: Mark Ditmar

July 26 – 30, 2017 - Cactus and Succulent Society of America’s 37th Biennial Convention at The Tempe Mission Palms Hotel in Tempe, AZ.



Echinocereous rayonensis flowering in our greenhouse in mid March.

Photo by Mike Douglas



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Succulent travels

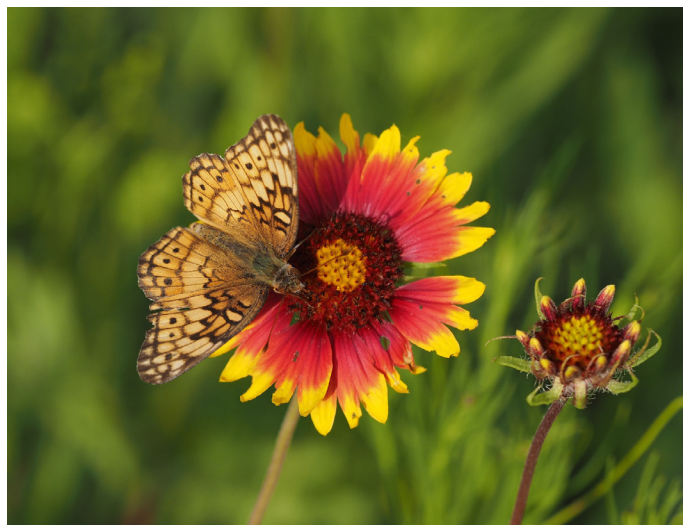
Rosario Douglas

The Wichita Mountains in Spring

Now is the time to start making plans to visit the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge, a jewel, in southwestern Oklahoma.

Wildlife like Bison, prairie dogs, birds, insects etc and many wildflowers and our beautiful native cactus *Echinocereus reichenbachii subsp. baileyi* was already showing signs of blooming in early May. By mid to late May many more should be flowering. Our native sedums and Opuntias will also be blooming at the refuge.

The photos shown here were taken on the last day of April. The Wichita Mountains is a great place to visit any time of the year, but it is especially beautiful in Spring.



photos by Rosario Douglas



Article of the month

The following article is reprinted with permission from Bill Utley from the Fort Worth Cactus club.

The Post Label Trial *by Bill Utley*

One of the more important aspects of my cactus and succulent hobby is the plant label, usually inside the pot, which accompanies each plant. I try to place a label with every plant in my collection because I think it's important to have the information they provide. I like to know it's correct name, origin, cost, date it was last potted, etc. My labels are a record of each plant's history since it became a part of my collection.

Having a good and legible label keeps me from having to remember these things about my plants. However, since recording this information on small pieces of plastic can be tedious and time consuming, I want the label to be as durable and long lasting as possible.

The first few types of labels I tried invariably became brittle, yellowed, or had surface deterioration within 12 to 18 months of exposure to the elements, hot sun being the worst culprit.

So, several years ago I purchased some new labels made of Styrene. In view of my disappointment with other tags I decided to put the new ones to a test. I wrote on my test tag with a felt-tip pen and also a No. 2 HB lead pencil for comparison. I then nailed the tag to a fence post beside my garden. Its location is exposed to full sun and all other elements of our Texas weather.

That was nearly seven years ago. The tag is still very pliable and shows no signs of deterioration. The felt-tip pen writing lasted about one year and the pencil writing stayed legible for about four years. The Styrene tag is still attached to the fence post, and is still pliable and in good shape after six years. However, the writing has weathered away.

For the thrifty among us, these labels are easy to re-use. To remove the old pencil writing and dirt just clean them with a piece of Scotch Brite and powdered cleanser. This type of cleaning will leave a nicely textured finish for pencil written information at the next use.





May 2017

Wouldn't you know?

What succulent is this?

Is it a *Gymnocalycium*,
Echinocereus, or another genera?

See the answer in the June
issue of The Offset



On our recent trip to Big Bend National Park and while hiking in the Chisos Mountains we came across this *Echinocereus triglochidiatus* (claret cup). First time we have seen this cactus growing (very happily) on a tree.





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The Botanical Corner

Rosario Douglas

Fenestraria A genus of “window plants” in the Mesembryanthemaceae. From the Latin fenestra, window.

Ferox Bold or fierce

Ferruginous Resembling iron rust

Ferus Wild

Ficoides Resembling a fig

Filament The stalk upon which is borne the anther or pollen sac.



Photos:

a. *Fenestraria rhopalophylla* in habitat near Port Nolloth, South Africa. Photo by Mike Douglas

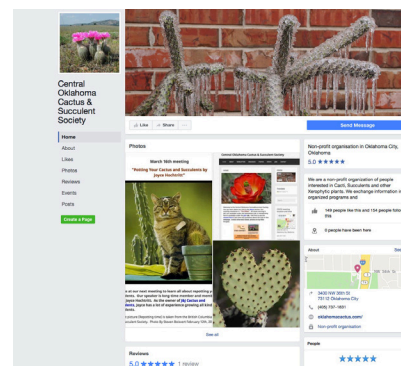
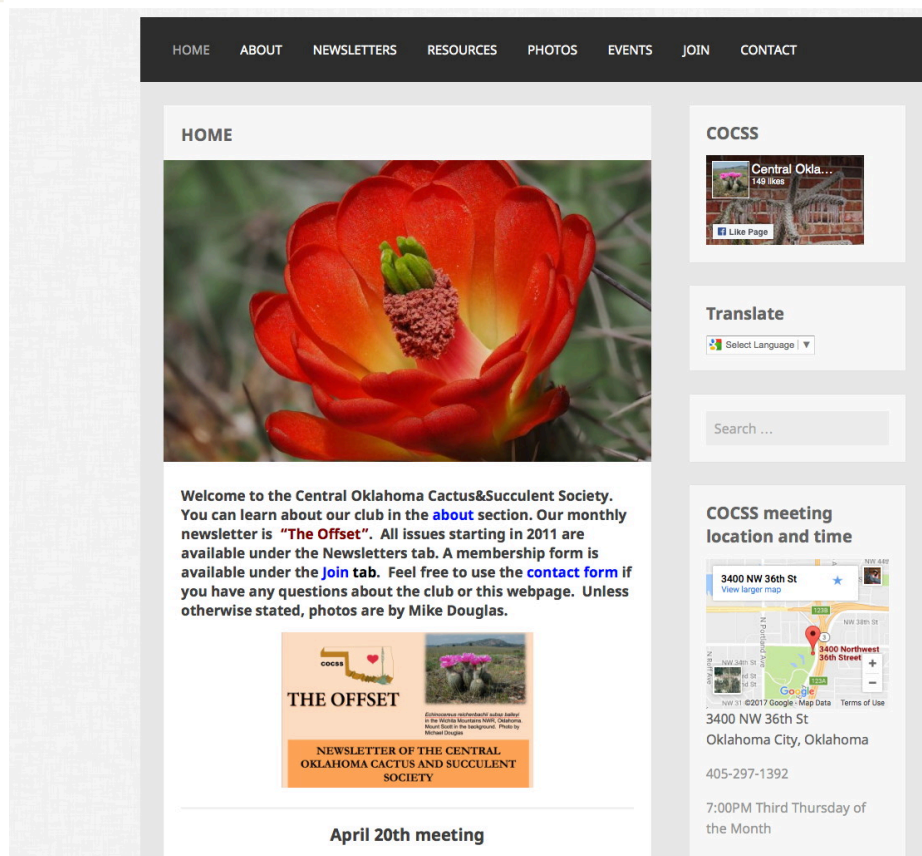
b. Stamens of a *Hippeastrum* flower. Pollen attached to white filaments. Work by André Karwath. Wikipedia Creative Commons.

Terms from a book by W. Taylor Marshall and R.S. Woods. The book is titled, *Glossary of succulent plant terms*, published in 1938. Also Wikipedia and from CactiGuide.com at <http://cactiguide.com/glossary/>.



CENTRAL OKLAHOMA CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

2017



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