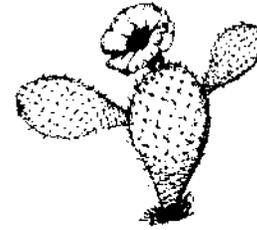




Golden Barrel *Echionocactus grusonii*  
Photo by Brian Adams

# The Cactus Patch



*Opuntia basilaris var. treleasei*

Volume 10    **July 2007**    Number 7

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BAKERSFIELD CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

This Month's Program

## Share the Experience

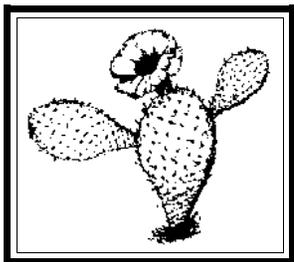
### Monthly Meeting

**Tuesday, July 10**

Olive Drive Church,  
5500 Olive drive  
at **6:30 PM**

(West of 99 freeway  
on corner of Olive drive &  
Victor street)

**Bring plants,  
photos, etc  
to share!**



# The Cactus Patch

Volume 10 Number 7

July 2007

The Cactus Patch is the official publication of the Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society (BCSS) of Bakersfield, California. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the times and places noted within.

GUEST ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

## 2007 Officers

**President – Ed Colley**  
**Vice-President – Jerry Garrison**  
**Treasurer - Maynard Moe**  
**Secretary – Anne Lee**  
**Editors - Stephen Cooley**  
**Linda Cooley**

## 2007 Directors

**CSSA Representative – Maynard Moe**  
**Past President – Vonne Zdenek**

## 2007 Chairpersons

**Hospitality - Bill McDonald**  
**Librarian – Rose Mary Maguire**  
**Field Trips – Lynn McDonald**  
**Historian – Stephen Cooley**  
**Show & Sale – Maynard Moe**  
**Garden Czar – Linda Cooley**

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The June meeting was held at the Cal State Environmental Studies Area – where the club has established a succulent garden. As usual, we had plenty of good food and good people at the meeting. It was also the first opportunity for some of our newer members to see the garden in person. We were pleased to have the Skillin



family back in town for the meeting, it's been a long time since Terry, Paul, Julia, and Anna were part of our group. Because they had been an active part of this club for such a long time, Paul Skillin and Jennifer Cooley were given some scholarship money to help them out as they head off to college.

The weather was nice and the garden looked good. Let's hope that this visit to Cal State has gotten us in the spirit to put in more effort

to get this garden looking even better when work resumes after the heat subsides. Let's not forget what a great opportunity Cal State Bakersfield has provided by letting us establish this garden.

This past meeting was really great, thanks to all who showed up, it was nice to see you again. The awarding of the scholarship was really awesome; it's like my old family sending me on to college. That brings me to something else I owe the club: thank you all for being a second family for me. I don't know how it could be that something like cacti and succulents could bring together such a great group of people, but it did. The group of people who comprise the club is unlike any other group I have seen or been a part of, and I will always cherish the memories which came from being a part of the club; from the intellectual discussions that I wouldn't be able to find anywhere else (partly because hardly anybody anywhere else would know what a Lithops was), as well as the great trips we once went on (for example the great Baja Trip). I always looked forward to all the club's events, and I am very proud to be a recipient of the club's scholarship.

Thank you all for your kindness,

**Paul Skillin**



photo by Terry Skillin

Jenny and I receiving scholarships from the Bakersfield Cactus and Succulents Society

## JULY'S PROGRAM

There is no formal speaker this month. Instead members are invited to bring photos and/or neat plants to share. This was popular the last time we did this. Members brought photos of their gardens, interesting plants, gardens visited on vacation, vacations in general, and others. Stephen Cooley and I went down to the CSSA Show and Sale at the Huntington Gardens. As usual it was very impressive, but the best part is we bought a few nice raffle plants for our meeting. So, bring your photos and/or interesting plants and check out the nice raffle plants.

--Maynard



[This would also be a good time to think about plants that you could enter in this years Show & Sale coming up in October. Bring in a plant, or 5 a photo of the plant and get some advice on how to get it ready for the show – don't be shy. – editor]

Membership in the Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society costs \$10 per year for an individual and only \$15 a year for a family. This extraordinarily reasonable price not only includes twelve issues of The Cactus Patch but entitles you to participate in club field trips to far-off (out-of-town) and exotic places (more exotic than Bakersfield). You will also receive a nifty name tag that will be your ticket to a members only plant raffle. All this is in addition to the wonderful programs and people at the meetings. To become a member contact:

Maynard Moe, treasurer  
[Lithops44@bak.rr.com](mailto:Lithops44@bak.rr.com)

**THE CSSA SHOW & SALE**  
**AT THE**  
**HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS**  
June 30, 2007



# Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society June 12, 2007





## A Final Fling

### A Letter From Bruce

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April we were introduced to a new director at the museum. He is Gaogakwe Phorano who was formerly head of culture. I suppose this is fitting as the museum is now in the new ministry of Youth, Sports & Culture which has been separated from the over-large Ministry of Labour & Home Affairs. That evening the film club showed Al Gore's film "An Inconvenient Truth" and I introduced it by praising Gore as one of the few American leaders who understands science. The deputy head of mission at the US embassy told me afterward that I make America look bad! Unfortunately there is too much information in the film. It should be a year-long course. Subsequent conferences and declarations support what Gore said about climate change. It was a timely showing.

The next day I gave a talk on "Baobabs, the biggest succulents" at the museum. I explained how they have living rings like an onion rather the woody structure of ordinary trees. I also showed how they are part of tourism in Botswana.



Maun to begin a holiday fling. We decided to see what it's like as a tourist rather than researcher.

Easter this year was the same day for both Eastern Orthodox and western Christians so the Mackenzie (Brian & Penny) invited everyone over for a midnight supper which is part of the Orthodox tradition. The food was great, but we got very little sleep when we got back home. As the day dawned we took a taxi to the airport and flew to

The Island Safari Lodge picked us up at the airport and we had a restful stay on the Thamelekane River. On the 9<sup>th</sup> we were driven out to Leroo la Tau ("tracks of the lion"), a new resort on the Boteti River. This is in the western boundary of Mgadikgadi National Park. (Years ago I had suggested at a conference that the solution to the conflict between cattle and livestock would be to stagger the boundary so that it wasn't the actual river. They've actually done this! The Game viewing area is across the river from the park, but included within the wildlife fence.)

We were taken on game drives both by day and by night. (Night drives are not allowed in National Parks.) The daytimes were spectacular with sightings of Bataleur eagles and other birds as well as the usual elephants, antelope, zebra etc. The night drives were even more exciting with genets, springhares, jackals and bushbabies. One of these latter was up close and sat in his tree blinking at the bright light. The hippos were pitiful. They used a small pool for drinking, but due to the drought, the pool they used for other purposes was a genuine smelly cesspool.

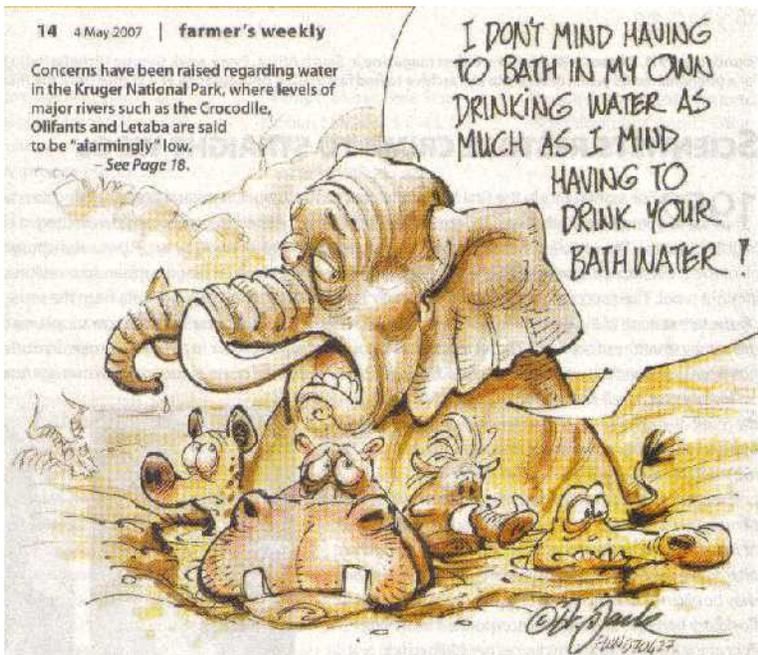
Back at the lodge we watched hornbills (yellow, red and grey) and other birds as well as squirrels cavort. The food was delicious and served by very friendly staff who ate with us as we were the only guests. As usual I ended up identifying plants for them. They even want me to come back and run a course for the guides. On the 11<sup>th</sup> we were driven back to the Island Safari. See more at <[www.africansecrets.net](http://www.africansecrets.net)>

On the 12<sup>th</sup> we went to the formerly burnt out Okavango Ceramics and were happy to see they were once more up and running. It's miraculous how some people bounce back from disaster. Unfortunately all things end and we flew back to Gaborone on the 13<sup>th</sup>, arriving just in time to join a play reading being done by the Capital Players. It was just for fun and not performance, but it was good to see even this little being done. They have been moribund for a long while.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> the new museum head came out to the Village to see our Natural History Division. I hope he is convinced we belong to the museum and should not become part of the Ministry of the Environment as has been suggested. That evening I gave a talk on "Rain Birds" at the bird club. I showed pictures of all the birds and other creatures that appeared in the heavy rain last year.

Next day the director returned with Tikey Pule, former museum head, who is now Permanent Secretary (the highest civil servant) in the new ministry. They sang to me as it was my birthday. The Millennium Seed Bank Project also met at the garden and we had refreshments. Afterward Polly and I went to Spur for a special lunch of prawns.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> the museum opened a show of works by “Artists in Botswana”. Our friend Wendy Borello won “best in the show” which is quite something as the quality keeps improving each year. On the 28<sup>th</sup> we saw a one-man play called “The Creature” at Mau a Pula. The play wasn’t much, but the actor was fantastic. He managed to sustain interest even though it was all taking place in a cage which allows little scope for movement. He made us really feel what it is like to be on “exhibit”. On the 29<sup>th</sup> we made one last drive down to Good Hope where the quilting group Polly has been helping feasted us and gave Polly some pots as farewell gifts. It is beginning to feel like the beginning of the end.



*Bruce J. Hargreaves*



# Fullerton Arboretum

The Potting Shed & The Orange County Cactus & Succulent Society

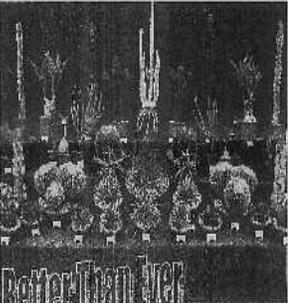
## Cactus & Succulent Show & Sale



**Saturday—Sunday \* December 1 - 2**

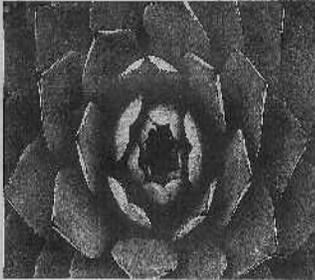
**Sale hours 10:00am to 4:00pm**

- Our annual sale will feature thousands of cactus and succulents from dozens of vendors for sale. Experts will be on hand to answer questions.
- The show will highlight beautiful specimens of cactus and succulents.



*Bigger and Better than Ever*

This sale is for collectors as well as home gardeners alike.  
The perfect place to get your holiday gifts.



Visit the desert garden on the grounds of the Fullerton Arboretum while you are here.

**Educational Talks**

**Both Days**

**Admission and parking are FREE**

Yorba Linda Blvd. at Associated Road • (714) 278-3579

[www.arboretum.fullerton.edu](http://www.arboretum.fullerton.edu)

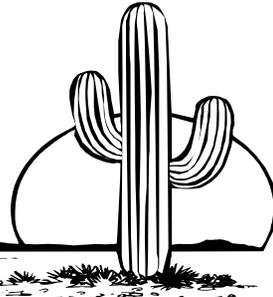
**NEW VENDORS ON SUNDAY**

**22ND  
INTERCITY CACTUS &  
SUCCULENT SHOW  
AND SALE  
AUGUST 18-19 9:00-5:00**

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM  
301 N BALDWIN AVE ARCADIA**

Information: Tom Glavich 626-798-2430 Jim Hanna 562-920-3046  
Harry Fletcher 310-538-4078 Barbara Hall 818-368-6914

# UPCOMING EVENTS



## **BAKERSFIELD CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY EVENTS**

- July 10 BCSS Meeting. 6:30pm Olive Drive Church  
program: Members share their collections
- Aug 14 BCSS Meeting 6pm? At Cactus Valley restaurant
- Sept 11 BCSS Meeting 6:30pm Olive Drive Church  
program: Planting in Unusual Containers  
speaker: Jerry Garrison
- Oct 9 BCSS Meeting 6:30pm Olive Drive Church
- Oct 13-14 BCSS SHOW & SALE
- Nov 13 BCSS Meeting 6:30pm Olive Drive Church
- Dec 11 BCSS Meeting 6:30pm Olive Drive Church  
program: Holiday Potluck, Silent Raffle, Fun

## **OTHER CACTUS AND SUCCULENT EVENTS**

- Jul 14-15 LA Cactus and Succulent Society Show and Sale Sepulveda  
Garden Center 1633 Magnolia Blvd. Encino, CA
- Aug 18-19 21st Annual Intercity S&S. LA County Arboretum 301 N.  
Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, CA
- Sept 2 Huntington Botanical garden Succulent Symposium.
- Nov 10-11 San gabriel Valley C&SS Show and Sale. LA County  
Arboretum 301 N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, CA
- Dec 1-2 Orange County C&SS Show and Sale. Fullerton Arboretum  
1900 Associated Rd, Fullerton. Show & Sale open from 10am – 4pm

contact the editors for more information

**Stephen Cooley**

**Linda Cooley**

[thecactuspatch@bak.rr.com](mailto:thecactuspatch@bak.rr.com)