

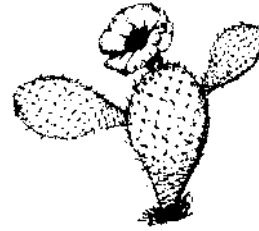
The Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society  
% Stephen Cooley, editor  
thecactuspatch@bak.rr.com



*Cerochlamys pachyphylla*  
always blooms in the dead of winter  
photo by Stephen Cooley

INTERNET EDITION

# The Cactus Patch



*Opuntia basilaris var. treleasei*

Volume 13 **January 2010** Number 1

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BAKERSFIELD CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

This Month's Program

## The Old Ridge Route

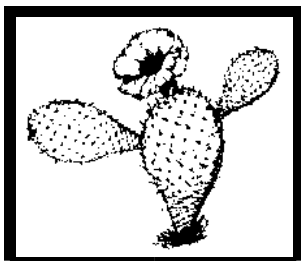
by Jack & Sidney Kelley

### Monthly Meeting

**Tuesday, Jan. 12**  
Olive Drive Church,  
5500 Olive drive  
at 6:30 PM

(Building 6, Room 604)

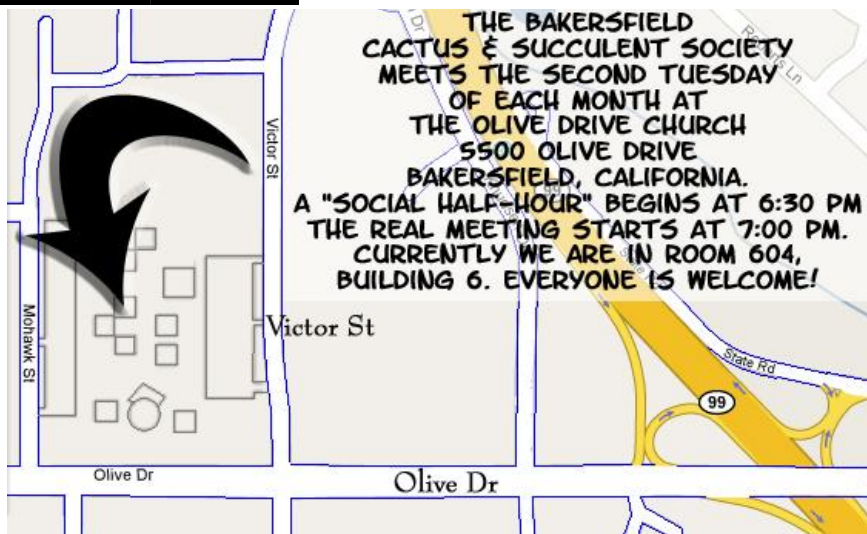
**Have You  
paid your  
Dues?**



# The Cactus Patch

Volume 13 Number 1  
January 2010

The Cactus Patch is the official publication of the Bakersfield  
Cactus & Succulent Society of Bakersfield, California



Membership in the Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society costs \$10 per year for an individual and only \$15 a year for a family.

**Visit Us On the Web!**

[www.BakersfieldCactus.org](http://www.BakersfieldCactus.org)

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

**President: Ed Colley**

CactusWoodsEd00@aol.com

**Membership: Maynard Moe**

lithops44@bak.rr.com

**Newsletter/Website: Stephen Cooley**

thecactuspatch@bak.rr.com

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PAST AND PRESENT PRESIDENT, 2010

### **Welcome to all the new members.**

The 2009 Officers are doing a fine job, they're going to continue their service in 2010. The Vice President Paul Bowles is going to step down because of classes at CSUB. Mark Shulman, a new member, has volunteered to be Vice President for 2010. (Its not set in stone yet, so let's hope for the best.) He and his wife Jaye have joined us as members, please, welcome them into our Club.

Our Show and Sale this year was a great success, with Nick Wilkinson from his Grow Nursery at Moonstone Gardens. His plants sold nicely. Will be putting together a field trip in 2010, I hope in the summer time, where we can visit his Garden. By the way Nick's place of business is located in Cambria, Ca. 7432 Exotic Gardens Rd (if you can't make the field trip).

We had 5 families that won the attendance prizes this year. They are:

Gary & Linda Green

Dave & Betty Morrison

Jack & Sidney Kelley

Bill & Lynn McDonald

Anne, Bruce, Polly & Alice Hargreaves

Congratulations to all these members.

Our Christmas Party and Silent Action this year was a success, the food and desserts were tasty. The Silent Action had great plants and nice prices.

We have great Presentations coming in the months ahead, make sure you mark it on your calendar, make our meetings to learn about different plants and travel all over the World. Also, many will bring plants with them to sale.

I'm going to have a place where you can drop your suggestions for the Club, and you don't have to put your name on them. Let me know which way would you like the Club to go or not, etc.

My pledge this year will be to work harder to make our Club a better place.

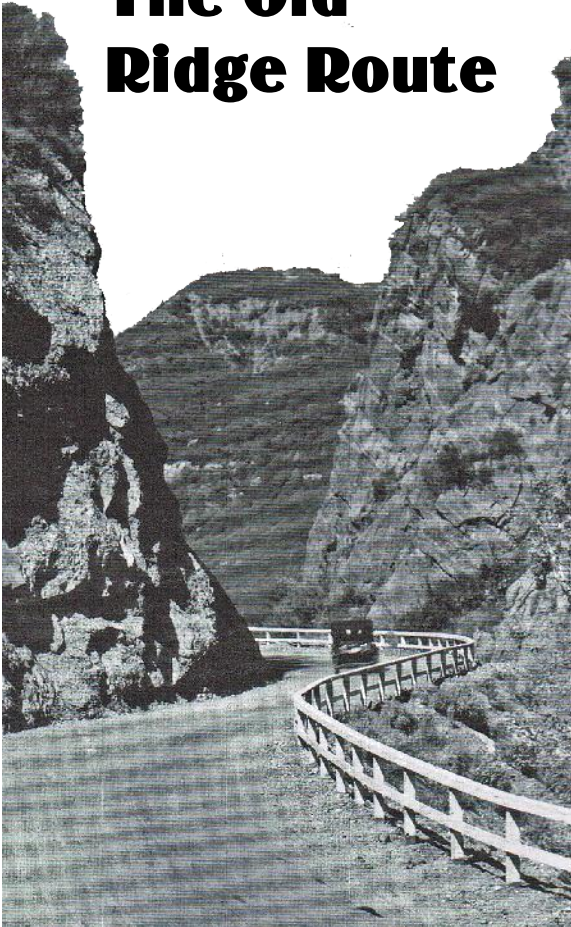
Ed Colley

President, 2010



## JANUARY'S PROGRAM

### The Old Ridge Route



**Presented by  
Jack &  
Sidney  
Kelley**

I have been asked to give a presentation on the old ridge route, it is one of three routes between Bakersfield and Los Angeles. Most people think it is on the west side of I-5, not true, it is on the east side of I-5. Nearly 100 years old and a very fascinating trip if you ever get a chance to take it.

JACK KELLEY

## December 8, 2009



Our Annual Holiday Potluck & Silent Auction was another great success. A good time was had by all!

There was some interest in the Jalapeno Dip served, Polly gives us the recipe:

#### **Jalapeño & Cream Cheese Dip or Spread**

One jar of jalapeño or green pepper jelly (about 8 oz).  
8 oz cream cheese cut into small cubes for ease of serving.  
Pour jelly over cheese and serve with crackers or chips



# Brag Table



*Melocactus zehntneri*

As I was paging through Innes and Glass hoping for inspiration, I spied a very attractive little cactus with a striking pattern of spines and there was our plant of the month. I don't own one so I hope someone who does can bring a specimen of *Melocactus zehntneri* to the meeting for us to admire.

This very attractive little cactus is native to northern Brazil where it grows as solitary plants up to 5" (15 cm.) in diameter and more or less globose in shape. There are 15-17 ribs with areoles about 1cm. apart each armed with six or seven grey to brown spines and one central spine. The spines are stout about 1 cm. long and contrast with the deep green of the plant in a very attractive way.

Flowers are borne in a cephalium, a large raised wooly structure on the top of the plant. The flowers are small about 1 cm. across and bright hot pink in color.

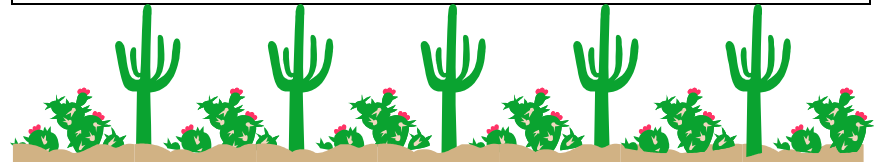


This is a species that is readily available in cactus nurseries and is easily grown from seed. It likes normal cactus mix and is not frost tolerant preferring minimum temps above 50 F.

**JACK G. REYNOLDS**

## AN EMAIL RECEIVED DECEMBER 21

The Brag table is a place for you to show off any of your plants. It doesn't have to be a blue-ribbon, show-quality plant, just one your proud of or find unusual or has some story connected to it. Bring in something to share!



I would like to speak to someone in your society. I understand one of your members dropped by Solera and was given a Mexican Hat plant. I am the gentleman that raises them and have the history. They are very uncommon and I have more plants if some of your members are interested. -- Gene Aylesworth

(contact the [editor](#) for more info)

## CLUB CALENDAR

There is a proposal on the floor for the groups' consideration. At the January meeting we will vote whether or not we would like to put forth a calendar to sell as a fund raiser for 2011. Nancy Harper has offered to put the calendar together with the help of submissions from members. Email questions regarding this potential project to:

[nancy@nancyharper.com](mailto:nancy@nancyharper.com)

**Too Much Celebrating!**

A Letter From Bruce



Holidays etc. seem to blur into each other. We began on the 21<sup>st</sup> of Nov. with a celebration of Compact Day at Hodel's with the Mayflower Society. (Alice is the local Governor.) The local group is rather small in attendance, even though the list is long. I guess they were saving their appetites for the following Thursday.

On the 22 we drove up to Ceres to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of great aunt Dora, my grandfather's baby sister. The party was held in the house built by my great grandfather. The house has been painted and the upstairs bedrooms are arranged museum-style. Downstairs is used as a law office by Patricia Cousins, Dora's daughter and my mother's cousin. Out front there is a row of *Agave americana*. Presumably this is the same clone



which my grandfather had at his house in Stockton and which I have planted at my mother's house in Bakersfield. There are also two palm trees which now tower over the two story house. Mother was impressed by the size of the black walnut out back. She

-8-

remembers it from her youth (when, presumably, it was smaller).

Ceres has always brought me nostalgic memories of summers spent there. Not only were there orchards and livestock, there was a greenhouse of exotic plants and an attic of South American insects. A paradise for kids.

Interestingly, there were two cakes, one labeled Dora Alice and the other Alice Dora. My great-grandparents could not agree on the order! We always knew her as Aunt Dora, which caused less confusion as mother is also Alice. The place was packed with relatives. Unfortunately, we have just received news that Dora died in the 10<sup>th</sup> of Dec. She did better than her husband, John, who died a month before his hundredth birthday!

From Ceres, Polly and I went further north to Sacramento for Thanksgiving with relatives there. In Sacramento we learned that our friend Ellen Drake, who had moved back to Kansas from Botswana had lost her battle with cancer. I never did get her to



autograph her book on Baobabs which came out just after she left Botswana. Mother, Anne etc. went back to Bakersfield and then to the LA area for Thanksgiving with relatives there. I think we have too many relatives.

Michael brought his parents down from Greenville for Thanksgiving, but John, who lives in Sacramento was absent with a cold. We went to a couple of thrift shops on

Friday with James and Emily and bought too much as everything

-9-

was half price. On Saturday John was better and we all went out for breakfast. Michael took his parents back to Greenville and we went to an antique store and a movie with John.

We returned to Bakersfield via Fresno on the 29<sup>th</sup> and had lunch with Polly's sisters there. We returned to Fresno on the 3<sup>rd</sup>

of Dec. for the annual Cactus & Succulent pot luck. Our “friend” Herb Thorn stole the beautiful pot I got in the gift exchange. I ended up with a funny vase. Oh well, the food was good. I also got a couple of nice pots in the silent auction, even if I did drop one and break it next morning. (A little gorilla glue put it back together.)

Of course, there was also the Bakersfield pot luck on the 8<sup>th</sup>. I didn't get anything on the silent auction! But, again, the food was great. How can I lose weight at this rate?

In addition, Polly & I have joined a senior choir, the Goldenaires, and we have performed ten times from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of December. Most of our audiences are elderly. It really brings home the population aging that I have read about!

We have decorated with cactus lights, chili lights and various artificial cacti for Christmas. I wish they made equal items featuring Euphorbias.



*Bruce J. Hargreaves*

-10-

# Possible Field Trip!

**GARDENS  
INVITES  
CSSA  
MEMBERS AND AFFILIATE  
CLUBS TO A FREE  
Desert Forum**

Saturday - January 16, 2010

9:30 to 10:00 A.M. REGISTRATION

Assembly and registration at the entrance pavilion.

Bring your club name badge.

(If you bring a sack lunch, please write your name on the bag and it will be transported to the teaching greenhouse for later consumption.)

## **10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. TOUR OF THE DESERT GARDEN**

Knowledgeable staff will be stationed throughout the

Desert Garden and Desert Conservatory.

Aloes will be flowering.

## **12:00 to 1:30 P.M. REFRESHMENTS, SALE, AND LUNCH**

Light snacks and beverages will be served in the teaching greenhouse.

Bring a sack lunch; or visitors may go to the Huntington Café (no reservations required) or Tea Room – Reservations required several days prior (626) 683-8131.

## **There will be a plant sale in the Desert Nursery.**

### **2:00 to 3:00 P.M. TALK**

Welcome by Jim Folsom.

Information related to the CSSA.

Location: Ahmanson Classroom.

Topic: “The future of the Desert Garden.”

### **3:00 to 4:30 P.M. FREE TIME**

Visitors are free to tour the Gardens and Galleries on their own

1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, California 91108 [www.huntington.org](http://www.huntington.org)  
exit the 210 Fwy at Allen, drive south down Allen to the entrance

-11-

prepared by Maynard Moe

The BCSS has been a formal organization for a little over eleven and a half years, during which we have had a considerable variety of programs. I thought it would be interesting for our new members to see what programs we have had since 2000. I also thought our continuing members would be interested to recall the range of programs we have had. If any member missed a program or would like to see it again, or if any of the programs look interesting to a new member, just let a Board Member know. (\* = present or past BCSS members)

**2000** Cacti of Big Bend – Woody Minnich \*

Succulents of Namibia – Naomi Bloss  
Pedaliaceae – Bruce Hargreaves\*  
Botanical Illustration – Dorothy Byer  
Shows, Showing & Judging – Woody Minnich\*  
Baja Cacti – Russ Lewis  
Microopuntia – Elton Roberts  
Travels with Lynn – Lynn McDonald\*  
Glimpses of Peru – Charles Spotts

**2001** Bechuanaland to Botswana – Bruce Hargreaves\*

Cacti & Conquistadores – Rob Skillin\*  
Germination – Jim Boehmke  
Amazonian Peru – Guy Wrinkle  
Crassula – Norma Lewis  
Treasures of the Sierra Madre – CSSA slides  
Showing Plants – Woody Minnich\*  
Mystique of Socotra – Mark Muradian  
Pottery – Joe Wujcik

**2002** Cold-hardy Succulents of England – CSSA slides

Succulent Baskets – Lynn McDonald\*  
Cacti of Brazil – Inge Hoffmann  
Succulent Karoo – Rob Skillin\*  
Sanseveria – Bill Kurtz  
Potting & Staging – Larry Grammer  
Potting workshop  
Members Slides and Photos  
Succulents of Maui – Kelly Griffin

**2003** The Old Ridge Route – Jack Kelley\*

Succulent Care and Identification - Woody Minnich\*

Quiz Program #1 – CSSA slides

Organ Pipe Cacti & Tucson Nurseries – Jerry Krulik

Northern Chihuahuan Desert – Gary Duke

Gems of Mexico – Charles Spotts

Honeymoon in South Africa – Petra Crist

Show & Sale preparation

Oldies but Goodies – CSSA slides

Succulent Bromeliads – Tom Glavich

**2004** Dish Garden Workshop – Bonnie East\*

Crassulas – Tom Glavich

Cacti & Conquistadores – Rob Skillin\*

Cactus Name Changes – Maynard Moe\*

Hoodia Hoodoo – Bruce Hargreaves\*

California Cacti – CSSA slides

Staging Plants – Joe Wujcik

Marvelous Mesembs – Stephen Cooley\*

Mammillarias – CSSA slides

**2005** Insects on Cacti & Succulents – Mickey McGuire\*

Socotra – Mark Muradian

Cacti of Chile – Rob Skillin\*

Xeriscaping with Succulents – Larry Nichols

Northern Argentina – Woody Minnich\*

Echinocereus Hybrids – Gary Duke

Show & Sale workshop

South African Diversity – Maynard Moe\*

Photography – Les Oxford\*

**2006** Canary Islands & the Sahara – Bruce Hargreaves\*

Bolivia to Patagonia – Woody Minnich\*

Epiphytic Cacti – CSSA slides

Succulents of South Africa – Rob Skillin\*

Small Plants, Small Pots – CSSA slides

Members sharing

Cold Hardy Succulents – Barbara Coelho

Show & Sale preparation – Stephen Cooley\*

Taxonomy of Succulents – Maynard Moe\*

-13-

**2007** Copiapoa, etc. of Chile – Rob Skillin\*

Basic Training – Stephen Cooley\*



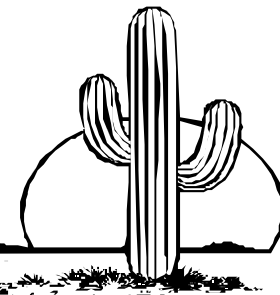
Northern Argentina – Mark Muradian  
 Meteorites – Jack Kelley\*  
 Cooking with Cacti – Mary Carrisalez\*  
 Members sharing  
 Unusual Containers – Jerry Garrison\*  
 Show & Sale Preparation – Stephen Cooley\*  
 General discussion (ideas for programs)

**2008** Karoo in Botswana – Bruce Hargreaves\*  
 Succulent Bonsai – Jack Reynolds\*  
 Lesser-Known Opuntia – Charles Spotts  
 Namibia – Rob Skillin\*  
 Northwest Argentina – Guillermo Rivera  
 Cooking with Cacti – Mary Carrisalez\*  
 Bolivian Highlands – Mark Muradian  
 Brazil to Minas Gerais – Woody Minnich\*  
 Baobabs – Bruce Hargreaves\*

**2009** Great Balls of Fire – Jack Kelley\*  
 Caudiciforms – CSSA slides  
 Something Old, Something new – Stephen Cooley\*  
 Cacti of Peru: Land of the Incas – Guillermo Rivera  
 Desert Hot Spots – Joe Clements  
 Paul's Plants – Paul Bowles\*  
 Succulent Wreaths – Dean  
 (Bolles Nursery)  
 40 Years in Botswana – Bruce  
 & Polly Hargreaves\*  
 Baja California Norte – Nick  
 Wilkerson



# UPCOMING EVENTS



## BAKERSFIELD CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY EVENTS

**Jan 12 BCSS Meeting** at 6:30PM Olive Dr. Church.  
 program: The Old Ridge Route  
 speaker: Jack Kelley

**Feb 9 BCSS Meeting** at 6:30PM Olive Dr. Church.  
 program: A Haworthia Survey  
 speaker: Charles Spotts

**Mar 9 BCSS Meeting** at 6:30PM Olive Dr. Church.  
 program: Diversity of Cacti in Central Brazil  
 speaker: Guillermo Rivera

## OTHER CACTUS AND SUCCULENT EVENTS

Jan 16 Desert Forum. Huntington Botanical Gardens 9:30am-  
 4:30pm. Free to CSSA affiliate clubs

Feb 13 San Diego C&SS Winter Show & Sale. Room 101, Casa  
 Del Prado, Balboa Park. 9am-4pm

To have your article or picture (or whatever else you might have)  
 printed in **The Cactus Patch** contact:  
 Stephen Cooley [thecactuspatch@bak.rr.com](mailto:thecactuspatch@bak.rr.com)