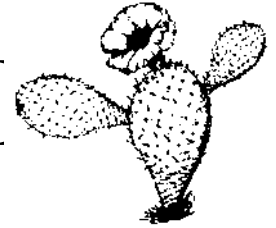


The Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society
% Polly Hargreaves, editor
polyppearl@hotmail.com



Aloe biflora hybrid
From Madagascar
B.J. Hargreaves

THE CACTUS PATCH



Opuntia basilaris var. treleasei

Volume 18 **January 2015** Number 1

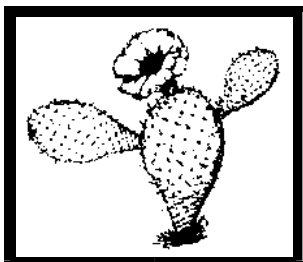
THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BAKERSFIELD CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

This Month's Program
**Haworthias –
Up Close and Personal**
by John Matthews
“The Haworthia Guy”

Monthly Meeting

**Tuesday
January 13th
at
6:30 PM**

**The 2015 Dues
payable now**



The Cactus Patch

Volume 18 Number 1

January 2015

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



Membership in the Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society costs \$20 per year for an individual and \$25 a year for a family.

Visit Us On the Web!

www.BakersfieldCactus.org

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January 13th MEETING

Haworthias - Up Close and Personal by John Matthews



I will start with a very brief summary of Haworthia history and some of the important people involved with them. I will then start discussing the individual plants (1-2 flats total) and pass them around if that is OK with you.

Questions about culture and care invariably arise during the talk. This is strictly hands-on, no slides or computer presentation.

I have collected Haworthias off and on for 40 years. I started collecting Haworthias in the early 1970's and was a member of the Sunset Succulent Society for 5 or 6 years. I dropped out of the hobby when I moved to a condominium and had to get rid of all my plants. In 2002 I rediscovered the Sunset Club and my fascination with these succulents. I rejoined the Sunset club, then the Los Angeles club, then the San Gabriel Club, and then the Long Beach club where I was the newsletter editor. I also volunteer at The Huntington Gardens (when I can) where I mostly take care of the Haworthias.

I am not trained in any botanical field. I made my first trip to South Africa in October 2013. I just got addicted to succulents and cactus and the plants just kept growing. I love to propagate plants and have had to rent 2 separate growing grounds to accommodate them all. Naturally, I call myself 'The Haworthia Guy'.

Visit Us On the Web!

www.BakersfieldCactus.org

~3~

December 9th, 2014

End of Year Potluck Dinner
As always, lots of variety



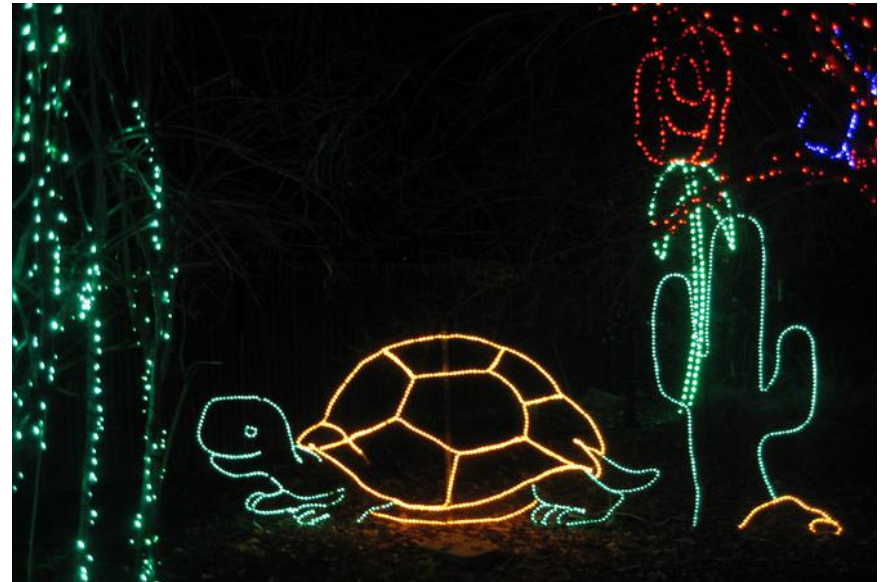
Fellowship and Food



Interesting auction plants

~4~

Lights at CALM



~5~



Alice Mary Hargreaves 1917- 2014

A Letter from Bruce

I hope no one was upset at how brief my statement on my mother was last month. Polly had already finished putting the newsletter together and it was inserted at the last minute. Much more fitting was the service we had on 20th Dec. My sister Lora was primarily responsible for organizing us. We had instrumental music by Jean and Phil Dodson, our Goldenaires sang and our friend Chuck Shawver officiated. All ten grandchildren and the four surviving children spoke. Others added their memories and we ended with a video put together by our son John. Part of the video showed my mother with her grandson Joshua (then a baby) among the wild flowers at my grandfather's ranch at Calpella. I was especially moved when she sang "Poppies, golden poppies". It was hard to do, but we managed to celebrate rather than mourn.

My mother was not a succulent enthusiast, but she always supported me (as she did everyone) in whatever crazy endeavor we were involved. I am only grateful that Polly and I were able to be there to support her in her last years as she had supported us earlier. It was especially hard on Polly as principal caregiver. We are extremely grateful for the support we have been given in recent weeks.



97th Birthday Breakfast at Denny's

Bruce Hargreaves

~6~



Lora, Robert, Anne,
and Bruce



Great-
grands
at lunch



All related. . .

~7~

Plant of the Month

Nopalxochia phyllanthoides

It is time for a cactus to be plant of the month and we need one with bright flowers for this time of year. A random search through Innes and Glass brought me to *Nopalxochia phyllanthoides*. We will have to practice pronouncing it.



This is an epiphyte from Mexico (Puebla). The bright green strap-like, pendant branches grow to 1.5 ft. (45 cm.) in length and about an inch (2.5

cm.) wide. Areoles lack spines and are about 0.5 in. (12 mm.) apart. Flowers are bright pink 3-3.5 in. (8-9 cm.) long on a tubular base about 0.75 in. (20 mm.) long. Flowers are prolific and come in the spring.

This cactus makes a good house plant growing in a hanging basket, preferring filtered light and temperatures above 50 F. They are easily rooted from cuttings in a standard well drained cactus mix.

Jack G. Reynolds

The Succulent Garden at Cal State



Opuntia aciculata

We have had Chenille cactus in the garden for 9 years. I don't know where we got it, but I have a picture of the just-rooted pads from July 2005. In that time it has grown into a beautiful, moderately sized prickly pear. Now (late 2014) it is about 3 feet high and 6 feet wide. Though this may seem

somewhat big, for a large-padded *Opuntia* it is quite reasonable. Our other large-padded varieties have required much pruning to keep that down to size, and pruning prickly pears is not fun.

This relatively slow growth makes *Opuntia aciculata* a wonderful landscape plant. It also helps that the flowers are big and orange-red and the pads are dotted and lined with contrasting bundles of glochids (watch your fingers!). It is a very nice looking cactus.

If you come to our potluck at the garden later this spring, there should be some pads to take home to root if you desire.

Opuntia aciculata is native to northern Mexico and Texas.



Stephen Cooley

The Huntington Botanical Garden



and Art Galleries

will be open free of charge to CSSA affiliated club members on Saturday, **January 17**. Be sure to wear your club name badge or have your membership card or other proof of membership available.

Schedule

9 a.m.--10 a.m.: Registration

9 a.m.--11 a.m.: Desert Garden and Conservatory open; staff and docents stationed throughout the area; aloes should be in bloom.

11a.m.--1p.m.: Plant sales. Gates open by the Teaching Greenhouse for plant sales; cash, checks, credit cards. *No early birds, please.*

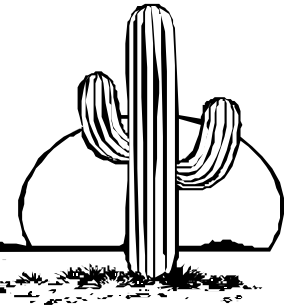
1p.m.--4:30p.m.: Free time. Attendees are welcome to tour the gardens and galleries, which are open from 10:30 to 4:30.

The Desert Garden is probably the premier cactus and succulent display garden in the world. You owe it to yourself to take advantage of the free admission provided by the Forum. Lunch is available at several locations within the Gardens.

(Thanks to the Fresno CSS for bringing this opportunity to my attention. P.H., Ed.)

~10~

UPCOMING EVENTS



Jan. 13th: BCSS meeting

John Matthews "Haworthias, Up close and Personal"

Jan. 17th Saturday

HUNTINGTON DESERT FORUM
Free Admission to all CSSA members.

Feb. 10th: BCSS meeting

Paul Klaassen

March 10th: BCSS meeting

Woody Minnich
"South Africa, The Land of the Halfman"

April 14th: BCSS meeting

Buck and Yvonne Hemenway
"Why We love South Africa"

April 18th: Garden Fest

@ Bakersfield College

MAY 2015

BCSS Yard Sale

**June 14th-19th: Cactus and Succulent Society of America,
Biennial Convention**

Pitzer College, Claremont, CA

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