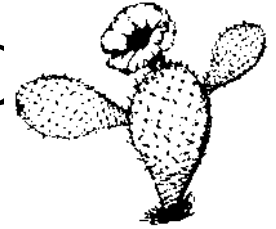




***Echinocereus
englemannii***
BJH

The Cactus Patch Πc



Opuntia basilaris var. treleasei

Volume 21 **June 2018** Number 6

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BAKERSFIELD CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

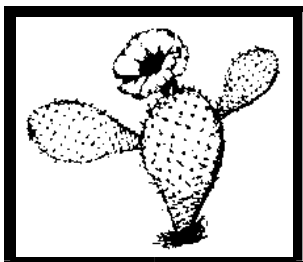
This Month's Program
"How About Haworthia"
J.D. Wikert
7:00 PM
June 12th @ 7:00
St. Paul's Church, 2216 17th St.

Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, June 12th
at 7:00 PM

@ St. Paul's Church,
2216 17th St.

Meet the Speaker!

Dinner at
Sizzler
5:00 PM
900 Real Road



The Cactus Patch

Volume 21 Number 6

June 2018

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.

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June 12th MEETING



How About Haworthia J.D. Wikert

J.D. is a fisheries biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service working on restoration of habitat for salmon in the Central Valley. Previously, he worked in Florida sampling fish and doing lake restoration. He has been actively propagating succulent plants for around 15 years and has figured out how to kill most succulent species over that time

period. He is also a member of both the Sacramento and Stockton Cactus and Succulent Societies, and even served a 2 year term as president for the Stockton Club.

His talk will be a broad overview of the genus Haworthia and will cover taxonomy, distribution, cultivation, and propagation as well as providing photographs of many of the species within the genus. Be prepared to be envious of all the cool plants that are not yet in your collection. J.D. has a number of presentations on succulent plants that he has given in the past, so if you like the Haworthia talk, feel free to request any of the others from this list: Adromischus, Aloe, Dudleya, Gasteria, Sedum, Senecio, Stapeliads, and a broader presentation on succulent plants geared towards newer members in the hobby. J.D. has developed these talks to teach himself more about these cool groups of plants, but by no means considers himself an expert. J.D. also spends way too much time on Facebook in various succulent plant groups.

May 8th, 2018

Look at all the smiling faces!



**What a fine picnic it was:
Food, fellowship and fine weather.**

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~4~

Garden of the Month



Just four years ago we moved to southern Oregon. This landscape was all hard dirt. The plum tree and a few small oaks were living here. The excavation took away most of our topsoil - decomposed granite - leaving all the white rock, boulders of what's called Ashland pluton on this south east side of the Siskiyou mountains. Plants have lived, plants have died. Each shrub and tree hole, hard to dig. Bless Bill, he is thorough. I am not allowed to plant any more trees. I slip small

things in, or replace a plant that already gets water.

We have two rock walls, placed by the excavation team. The succulents seem to thrive, even covered with a foot of snow. Then there is a newer rock garden that is just beginning to fill out. Deer snack, turkeys snack and scratch up some small plants. As a substitute for BCSS, we have joined the Siskiyou Chapter of the North American Rock Garden Society (NARGS). It is not the same, but we have adjusted.



[I just received this letter from Lynn & Bill McDonald who were very active members for many years.]

~5~



Farewell to Susanville

A Letter From Bruce

On the 15th the family went to Chuy's on Rosedale to celebrate my birthday. Afterward Polly and I went to the 1st Congregational Church and heard the BHS Chorale sing songs from around the world. They ended with a Zulu number. It was well sung, but lacked the emotion intrinsic in African music. On the 18th (my actual birthday) I was greeted by lawn flamingos and we went to Denny's with John and I had a free slam. That evening we had a birthday dinner at Anne's.



On the 21st we went to the Garden Fest at BC. There were even more booths this year and I had a chat at one pushing new varieties of fruit. One fellow there knew about Malawi and he said they have a great potential for undeveloped ones. I hope to hear more. Back at the BCSS booth I took home some cuttings of the



myrtle spurge. This has been labeled a noxious weed! (James had some in the yard at his first house in Susanville, but not at his present one.)



busy arranging everything for moving.

We arrived in time for dinner at the Happy Garden Chinese restaurant which treated us like royalty. There are some advantages to small towns where everyone knows everyone. Next day James had the day off and we got reacquainted with the family (Alice is a real talker – and not yet three) and had a BBQ on the back porch. They then opened Christmas presents which had been waiting in Bakersfield. This was followed by birthday presents for me (including three different flamingos).

On the 26th we went to the opening of a branch of Marshall followed by lunch at Taco Bell and on the 27th I photographed the few wild flowers blooming early (mostly greasewood).



On the 28th we went to the Home and Garden Show at the fairgrounds, but it had few garden exhibits. There was one seller with succulents, however.

In the afternoon we watched a TV series called The Good Place which has a strange view of the afterlife and gets more confusing with each episode. That evening we went to a local show called Hollywood Vibe which had a lot of Hollywood songs I never heard of (plus two I actually knew). Emily's brother was one of the soloists. He will be staying in Susanville, but Emily's mother has already bought a house in Taft. (Moving can be difficult with extended families!)

On the 29th we had brunch at the Copper Kettle and it hailed. In the afternoon we watched "Newsies", a show which was filmed from its Broadway production. James had sung in a local show which featured Broadway numbers. Polly and I sang a version in the spring Goldenaires show in Bakersfield. Next day we watched more of the Good Place and on May 1st we drove back to Bakersfield.



On the 3rd of May we heard Rob Skillin speak on Kenya in Fresno. He showed a number of caudiciforms, ending with *Pyrenacantha malvifolia*, an odd plant in the family Icacinaceae. I knew the genus from Malawi, but, unfortunately the species there has a smaller underground tuber, quite unlike the huge aboveground caudex of the one in Kenya. Terry was also there as a plant seller.

On the 5th we celebrated at Anne's with a feast prepared by her son Daniel in honor of her birthday. There were flamingos and other birds in a heart shape on the lawn lit by tiki torches. Next morning we had breakfast at Denny's (with Anne getting the free slam). For lunch we went to the new Texas Roadhouse Grill and had a two hour wait. (Contrary to the review in the Californian the next Sunday, they would not take reservations!) Polly and I left as we were being seated as we were at three different tables and we were lied to as to one of these being available. It turns out the music was loud, the orders were scrambled and the protest was loud enough that they got compered! We should have stayed.

We had a much better time on Tuesday at the BCSS potluck, although the number of people was noticeably lower than in previous years. The garden is looking good and a few things were in bloom.

Bruce Hargreaves

[Bruce's opinions are his own and are not necessarily that of the BCSS]

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The Succulent Garden at Cal State



Opuntia basilaris var. *brachyclada*

Opuntia basilaris var *brachyclada*, the “short joint beavertail” is an endangered cactus found on the desert side of the San Bernardino Mountains.

This is one of three recognized varieties of *Opuntia basilaris*. The others are the ‘normal’ *basilaris* and our very own Bakersfield Cactus. It is hard to tell *brachyclada* from regular *Opuntia basilaris* unless you have the two side-by-side and can see the difference in the size of the pads. *Brachyclada* pads tend to be much smaller and rounder than regular *basilaris* making the plant a much tighter, shorter looking clump. The flowers are the same. If you desire to grow a *basilaris* in a pot, this one would be a good choice.

All the varieties of *Opuntia basilaris* do well in full sun. They will survive with almost no irrigation but look much better, and flower more profusely, if you give them some extra water here in the Southern San Joaquin Valley. They are also very cold hardy. *Brachyclada* has no stout spines but does have those pesky glochids – little hair-like spines that are nearly impossible to get out.



Stephen Cooley

~10~

CALENDAR



June 12th
J D Wickert
“Haworthia”

June 29th ~ July 1st
53rd ANNUAL SHOW AND SALE
CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA
Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens
1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino CA

July 10th
Ernesto Sandoval
“South Africa”

August 11th & 12th
33RD ANNUAL INTERCITY SHOW AND SALE
AT THE L.A.COUNTY ARBORETUM
9am - 5 pm daily
301 NO. BALDWIN AVE., ARCADIA, CA

September 1st
HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS
SUCCULENT SYMPOSIUM
INFO: 626-405-3504

~11~