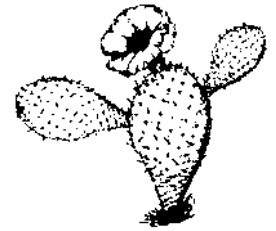


The Bakersfield Cactus & Succulent Society  
% Polly Hargreaves, editor  
pollypearl@hotmail.com



***Myrmecodia becarii***  
(Brian Nagles' ant plant)

# The Cactus Patch



*Opuntia basilaris var. treleasei*

Volume 22 September **2019** Number 09

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BAKERSFIELD CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

This Month's Program

**What you need to know about Successful  
Succulent Culture**

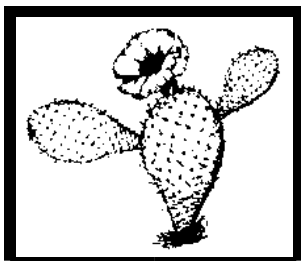
**J D Wikert**

**September 10<sup>th</sup>**

**7:00 PM**

Monthly Meeting  
**Tuesday, SEPT 10<sup>th</sup>**  
at 7:00 PM  
**@ St. Paul's  
Church**  
**2216 17<sup>th</sup> St.**

**Meet the  
Speaker!**  
Dinner at  
Sizzler  
5:00 PM  
**900 Real Road**



# The Cactus Patch

Volume 22 Number 00  
September 2019

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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Visit Us On the Web!

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

~2~

## **September 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

### **What you need to know about Successful Succulent Culture**

**J D Wikert**

"What you need to know about successful succulent culture" will include a discussion of succulent taxonomy, world distribution, cultivation, and propagation. The presentation is ideal for beginners and should leave the audience understanding why long term growers often have difficulty answering the question "How often should I water my succulent". Pictures of many of the more readily available genera will be shown in conjunction with information relevant to the particular plant group.



J.D. has a number of presentations on succulent plants that he has given in the past, so if you like the current talk but would like more detail on a smaller group of plants, feel free to request any of the others from this list: Adromischus, Aloe, Dudleya, Gasteria, Haworthia, Sedum, Senecio, and Stapeliads. 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 plant groups. Also, he is happy to talk about salmon or cichlid fish.

~3~

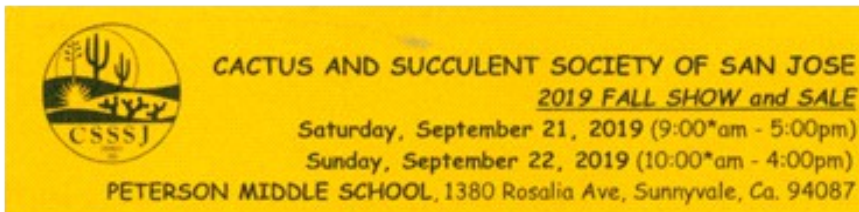
# August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Frugatti's Restuarant

Friends, Food, and Fun!  
What more is there to say?



Later this month:



## KERN COUNTY FAIR DISPLAY BY BCSS

The Kern Co. Fair begins on Sept. 18 and runs until the 29th. As we have done for many years the Bakersfield Cactus and Succulent Society will have an informational display. This is an opportunity to promote the club and show off some of our great plants. I need volunteers to display plants and to help set up the display. I plan to bring six or eight succulents but most of my collection is of Madagascar or African origin. (Pachypodium, Cyphostemma, Euphorbia) I need some cacti to round out the display. I would like volunteers to bring any good sized succulent, keeping in mind that we need a balance of cacti also. Nothing should be smaller than a softball. Small things can be stolen too easily. Keep in mind that plants will be in poor light and without water for two weeks. I think the lack of light will be more stressful than lack of water but it would be a good idea to water everything before displaying it.

**WE HAVE PERMISSION TO SET UP ON SUNDAY THE  
15th FROM NOON TILL 4 PM.**

**TEAR DOWN WILL BE THE MORNING OF THE 30th.**

We have the same bench space as last year. I think we can accommodate 25-30 plants depending on size. Last year it went very smoothly and I am thankful for that. Don't forget we will need application forms and any other literature about the club that can be made available. Thanks in advance to all you volunteers.

Jack Reynolds





## Return to Normal (?)

A Letter From Bruce

I have been seeing a lot of doctors and getting a lot of tests, but I am back on my feet and almost normal. I am still quite underweight and lack the energy I had, but hopefully this will improve with time.

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of August I made my first foray from home to attend a memorial service for a friend who died from ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease). It is heart breaking to see someone die so young. I realize how upset Polly must feel about my collapse (and I am beginning to realize it for myself), but at least I have had a

long and fruitful life.



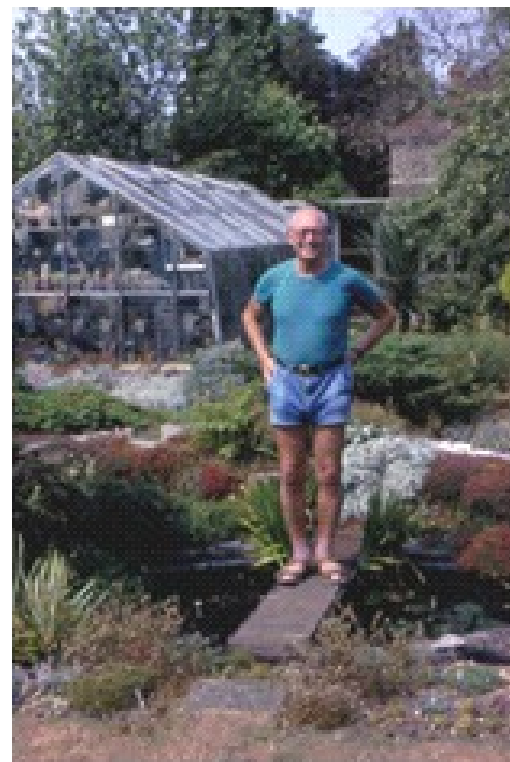
We even made it to the August meeting of the Fresno Cactus and Succulent Society, but it was on the 8<sup>th</sup> instead of the 1<sup>st</sup> because of a scheduling conflict. Unfortunately, that coincided with a fall by the president Sue Haffner who missed the meeting because she was in the hospital with a broken leg.

Steve Frieze did manage to give us a talk on Oaxaca, Mexico, but he repeated too many pictures (often with the statement, "And here is another example of..."). At any rate, I survived the trip and we got to see our new nephew Jedediah.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of August the family had lunch at the BBQ Factory Steakhouse which has replaced the Cactus Valley. It was noisy and the food was disappointing. (Although I must add that my sense of taste is gone away from the infection.)

On the 13<sup>th</sup>, of course, we were at Frugatti's and enjoyed socializing with the BCSS, on the 18<sup>th</sup> we had lunch at John's Incredible Pizza (not my favorite place) in honor of a friend's baby and on the 19<sup>th</sup> we returned to exercise with our Silver Sneakers group. I guess I'm getting better. ~6~

## Gordon Rowley, 1921 – 2019



Gordon Rowley, for a long time a leading figure in succulent studies, died 12 Aug. at the age of 98. He is known for many publications such as *Caudiciform and Pachycaul Succulents* (1987). He even coined the names for these "fat plants". I met him in 1990 when I was visiting friends in Reading, England. Knowing my interest in succulents, they suggested I meet Gordon as he lived at "Cactusville" in Reading. And to think I almost missed this opportunity! I had a great day visiting and seeing his forthcoming book on a History of Succulent Plants. It was eventually published in 1997, but without the elaborate 3-D pop-up pages which it was originally designed to have. I was privileged to see the extraordinary original, but it would have been too much to produce. I took this picture of Gordon at Cactusville in 1990.

**Bruce Hargreaves**

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

~7~

# The Succulent Garden at Cal State



## Desert Marigold *Baileya multiradiata*

Desert Marigold is a common, small shrubby daisy in our Mojave desert. It occurs in many places in the California desert but becomes more common as you head East. It also occurs throughout the southwestern deserts all the way to Texas.

*Baileya* is easily grown from seeds and withstands heat, cold and drought, though it is short lived. It will reseed itself in open ground, usually in late winter.

*Baileya* has beautiful, felty silvery leaves and blooms continuously if water is available, but tends to rot if kept too wet. It is an excellent



companion to cacti as it takes the same conditions. It can get a bit large; about 2 feet across and 18 inches high. *Baileya* should be grown in the sun and is unlikely to do well in shaded conditions.

Stephen Cooley

ARCHIVE

## Kern County Fair



## Show and Sale

## **BONSAI FOR BEGINNERS CLASS**

INSTRUCTOR - JACK REYNOLDS

FIRST MEETING SEPT. 18

AT SILVER CREEK REC. CENTER  
7011 HARRIS RD.

6:30 PM TO 9:30 PM

REGULAR MEETING WILL BE ON THE THIRD  
WED. OF EACH MONTH THROUGH JUNE

REGISTER WITH BAKERSFIELD RECREATION  
AND PARKS DEPT.

FEE FOR THE ENTIRE CYCLE IS \$20.00

This class will teach you how to select, care  
for, style and display bonsai.

**Advice and instruction will cover the  
horticultural as well as the artistic aspects  
of the bonsai art.**

~10~

## **CALENDAR**



**September 10<sup>th</sup> BCSS Meeting**  
**What you need to know about Successful Succulent  
Culture**  
J D Wikert

**October 8<sup>th</sup> BCSS Meeting**  
**Exploring Euphorbias**  
Tom Glavich

**October 11<sup>th</sup> Set up for BCSS Show and Sale**

**October 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>**  
**BCSS Show and Sale**

**November 12<sup>th</sup> BCSS Meeting**  
**Astrophytum Revisited**  
Gunnar Eisel

Visit Us On the Web!  
[www.BakersfieldCactus.org](http://www.BakersfieldCactus.org)

**Facebook:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/BakersfieldCactus>

~11~