



The Spine

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE MIDWEST CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Fall 2017

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Summer Recap: Club Members Attend CSSA’s 37th Annual Biennial Convention in Tempe, AZ

The Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) held its 37th biennial convention in Tempe, AZ from July 26-30, and several of our club members had the pleasure of attending. Club President Bill Hendricks and his wife Nancy, along with members Mike and Christie Briggs, Tammie Host and Jeff Havel enjoyed a series of lectures from cacti and succulent experts and got to take in many spectacular sights of the area as well (tours and field trips were available). Various types of merchandise, including plants, pottery, books, art and others, were available for all attendees to purchase also.

Club President Bill Hendricks provided a recap of the convention during the September club meeting at Klyn Nursery. This recap included photos and a rundown of each guest speaker who presented at the convention. Further recaps will be provided during the upcoming meetings.

Below is a group photo of club members who attended the convention.



Club members who attended this year’s convention: L-R: Club President Bill Hendricks, Mike Briggs, Christie Briggs, Tammie Host and Jeff Havel. Missing from picture is Nancy Hendricks.

Summer Fun: Recap

Groovy Plants Ranch Field Trip

On June 17, more than 20 individuals (MWCSS club members and guests/family members) made the trek to Marengo, Ohio, to explore the Groovy Plants Ranch. It was a wonderful and groovy time had by all (even though it was an extremely hot



day)! Groovy Plants Ranch's owners welcomed club members/guests/family and provided a brief overview of the grounds. Then, the owners opened the one greenhouse to members to walk through and view a variety of specialty plants (note this greenhouse is not normally open to the public). The owners were even kind enough to offer our club members/guests/family the opportunity to purchase these plants, which would otherwise not be available to the public.



After spending some time at the Ranch, club members/guests/family packed their purchased treasures into their vehicles and headed over to Der Dutchman restaurant for an enjoyable meal and wonderful conversation with fellow club members. Everyone then journeyed home with great plants and wonderful memories.

Thank you Bill Hendricks, Karen Snell and everyone who attended. Start thinking of other possible field trip locations for 2018 and be sure to bring up suggestions during one of our regularly scheduled meetings! More photos on page four!

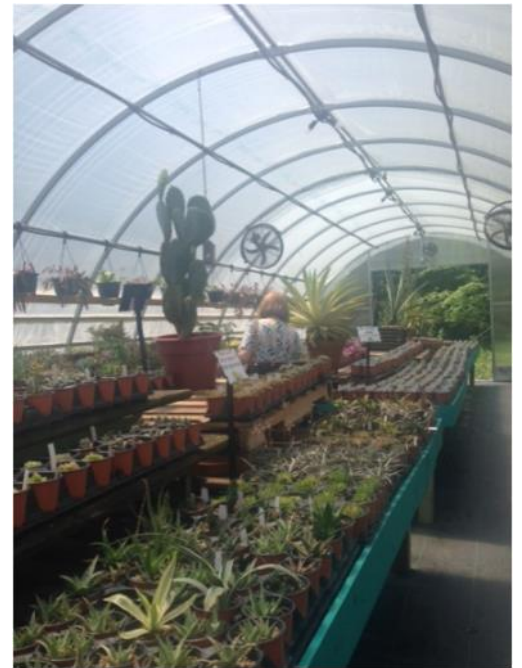


Above: Greenhouse with Specialty Plants (Unopen to the Public)

More Photos from the Groovy Plants Ranch Field Trip



Above: Specialty Plant Examples (Not for Sale)





NE Ohio Outdoor Fall Events to Visit

Fall Fun Days Harvest Festival
(Through Oct. 31)

9015 London Groveport Road
Grove City, OH

Goblins in the Gardens
Oct. 7-8

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Holden Arboretum

Warren H. Corning Visitor Center
9500 Sperry Road
Kirtland, OH

Botanical Bash

Oct. 21

Cleveland Botanical Garden

11030 East Blvd.

Cleveland, OH

Corn and Pumpkin Festival

Oct. 7-8, 14-15

9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Lake Metroparks Farm Park

8800 Euclid Chardon Road (Rt. 6)

Kirtland, OH



Club Member Spotlight: David Tidwell

By: Kathy Smith

REPRINTED FROM THE MWCSS FACEBOOK PAGE—JULY 3, 2017

Dave is an all-around garden and plant enthusiast. From a young age, he remembers getting his first cactus...then slowly killed it with no light in his dark bedroom. He has always been interested in houseplants and vegetable gardening (with his dad). Even now, Dave enjoys growing tomatoes from seed as part of his extensive raised bed vegetable garden.

His interest in cacti and succulents really took off about five years ago and has developed into a very diverse collection. He enjoys Euphorbia, Pachypodium, Adenium and (of course) cactus.

Dave grows his collection outside in the summer and moves everything inside, under grow lights, for the winter. Now that he has run out of space inside, he's focusing on hardy cacti, sempervivums and sedums that can stay outside in our northeast Ohio winters. Thanks so much Dave for showing us around your collection!



David Tidwell



See more photos from Dave's collection [here](#).

From the President's Desk...



The season is changing as summer comes to a close. The days are getting shorter and the nights cooler. Plant growth is slowing or has stopped for many of our plants while others are just waking up to start their winter growing season.

The Conophytums and Lithops are in full bloom and bursting out of their skin starting to grow as they awaken from their summer rest. Plants like Haworthias and Adromischus do most of their growing in fall and spring and slow during the summer and winter. I like to transplant as many of my Haworthias as I can in September and October, as new roots form quickly at this time of year.

It is a time to reduce water for most of our plants as we prepare them for their winter rest. Remember to check your plants for pests. It is also a time to look for ripening seed pods and save the seed for starting this winter under lights. A hummingbird figured how to fly into the greenhouse and pollinate a *Seticereus icosogonus* that has always flowered each summer but set seed for the first time this summer. I also noticed an unusually heavy amount of Haworthia and Gasteria with seed pods probably as a result of this regular visitor.

I have moved a lot of plants out for the summer to enjoy the growth and vibrant colors they get when outdoors. I am slow to move them back in until temperatures regularly dip in the mid-to-low 40s. This will ensure bud set, as most of the plants need cool night temperatures to set bud. Jade plants need these cool night temperatures to provide a great display of flowers in a few months.

Some of us were fortunate to have been able to attend the national CSSA conference in Tempe, Arizona in late July. All of us have stories to share about the tours we participated in and side trips we did while there. We will share some of these side trips at the October and November meetings.

Mike Briggs and I will keep you updated on preparations for the March show. Start looking over your collections to see what you can bring to display. We'll have expanded space for exhibits and will need as many members as possible ready to show off your plants. If you were busy propagating this summer there will be adequate space for you to bring plants to sell.

October should be an interesting meeting, as Bob Raack shares information on lighting, as he is in the process of visiting several members to evaluate their light sources. It will be interesting to hear his findings and suggestions for improved plant performance under lights.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the October meeting.

-Bill Hendricks
MWCSS Club President



Book Nook—*Suggested Reads*

Want an in-depth look at the history, cultivation and uses of hundreds of cacti and succulent specimens? Then take a read of *The Complete Book of Cacti and Succulents* by Terry Hewitt. The first version was published in 1993 and again in 1997. This book features step-by-step photographic sequences and instructions for care, propagation and display, and much more. Check it out (literally and figuratively) today!

Quarterly Calendar of Events



October 2017

Meeting will be on Oct. 15 at Cleveland Botanical Garden at 1 p.m. This is a combined meeting with the Indoor Light Society. Speakers are Bob Raak and Tim Malinich on photosynthesis, lights and lighting.

November 2017

Meeting will be on Nov. 19 at Cleveland Botanical Garden at 1 p.m. The presentation is on winter-flowering succulents. Guest speaker TBA.

December 2017

This will be a Christmas party and meeting. It will be held at Harry's Steakhouse in Independence, OH. Further details to be discussed at upcoming meetings.

MWCSS Mission:

Cactus and succulent collectors and hobbyists helping each other succeed.

New Membership Information:

Contact Karen Snell at kdsnell@roadrunner.com for new membership info.

Other Club Resources:

www.mwcss.com—Fresh content is always needed for the club's website. Email Tim at timj@hearthstonefarm.net.

<https://www.facebook.com/mwcss/>—Fresh content is always needed for the club's Facebook page. Email Kathy at kesmith913@gmail.com.

MWCSS Club Officers:

Bill Hendricks—Club president

Tim Malinich—Club vice president/webmaster

Karen Snell—Club secretary/treasurer

Melissa Mezgec—Club newsletter writer/editor/designer

Kathy Smith—Club publicity (Facebook page)/CBG affiliate

General Club Meeting Information

The MWCSS generally meets the third Sunday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Cleveland Botanical Gardens (CBG) in the Smith Classroom (unless otherwise noted). Directions are below.

For exact monthly meeting information, see Karen Snell's email she sends out monthly.

CBG Directions

11030 East Blvd.,
Cleveland, OH 44106

CBG is in the University Circle/Wade Park area of Cleveland, five miles east of downtown.

From I-90 Lakeshore Memorial Freeway: Exit at Martin Luther King Drive and go south on MLK.

Cross E. 105th and take right curve. Turn left on Jephtha (at art museum) to Wade Oval.

CBG is across the park and at the end of East Blvd.

