

CACTUS COURIER

Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

Volume 53, Number 9

September 2007

The Meeting is the 3rd Saturday!

September 15, 2007

**Joslyn Senior Center
724 N. Broadway, Escondido**

12:15 PM

On September 29th, PCSS will be celebrating **50 years** at Palomar College! The Garden will be open on that day for a special Open House and picnic from 10 am to 2 pm for everyone. There will be cake for everyone. Please bring a dish to share at the picnic. Feel free to bring a guest. The Garden loves visitors!

How long have you been coming to the Garden? A \$50 gift plant will go to the member who remembers the earliest date they've worked out here. I can only go back to the mid-70's, so I'm betting on Reese Brown!

Speaking of Reese Brown, this date will be the dedication of our new "Reese Brown Euphorbia Garden!" Come check it out.



Photo by Vicki Broughton



Photo by Art McCullough



Photo by Vicki Broughton

PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MEMBERS PLANTING THE CACTUS GARDEN AT PALOMAR COLLEGE IN 1964. SOME OF THE MEMBERS WERE - MILDRED GREGORY, HELEN HEDGI, ALAN CHAMBERLAIN, MITCHEL BRANCHAMP.



REFRESHMENTS

**There will be a 50th Anniversary cake for everyone!
If you'd like to bring something in addition, it will be very welcome.**



Royal Akin has offered to present the Plant(s) of the Month on **Sedum and Senecio**. He has asked me to encourage people to bring their plants to help flesh out the program.



Sedum spathulifolium



Sedum kamtschaticum



Senecio sp.



S. haworthii



2006 Meeting Schedule

15 September Joslyn Center
NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!

27 October Joslyn Center

17 November Joslyn Center
NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!

15 December Joslyn Center
NOTE !!! 3rd Saturday !!



Garden Days *Dick Henderson*

August

The Garden Committee did general clean-up of the Garden paths plus spot weeding.

Attendees were Susan Snow, David Aguilar Martinez, Carlos Daub and Dick Henderson.

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The next Committee meeting will be on the 6th of **October** from 10 am to 2 pm.

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I was looking at an old 1992 newsletter. There 16 peoples working in the Garden that month, and two truckloads of trash! Wouldn't it be nice to do that again?



Don't forget to bring back your library books!! They need to go along to new readers.



The Garden hasn't always had a smooth life. In 2004, a vandal broke in and wreaked havoc throughout. But the members pitched in to make repairs. Numerous people brought plants from their personal gardens to fill in the gaps. The Garden is better for their help. No garden thrives without help.



Photo by Art McCullough



I thought it might be fun to read one of Dennis Miller's columns from 1993.



The Garden Says Happy Birthday!

(as told to Dennis Miller)

Yes, he's one year old today. One year ago today he was born into the world of cactus and succulents. The day before that, he didn't even know I existed.

I remember the day well. The morning dew was still clinging to my every leaf and spine. A few of my groomers had arrived already. In he walks with a weedwhip in his hand. The inquisitive look on his face quickly turned to one of astonishment. I could tell he had never seen a cactus garden before.

Groomer Al [*Resnick*] invited him to inspect me closely. His wonderment radiated like the warm sunlight as he moved slowly through me. I could feel his thoughts caressing my flowers, exploring the richness of the inflorescence. It always thrills me when a newcomer enters my gate for the first time.

In fact, it's nice to see all of the humans that visit me. It makes me feel needed. You come to me and share your innermost feelings. And when you listen very carefully, you can hear me whisper my opinions and happy thoughts. You're all my personal friends. I know you all by name. I know your secrets. But I won't tell. I'm here to comfort you.

I'm here to teach you. I'm here to refresh you. I'm here to give you pleasure. In return I demand little. On hot days a drink of water will cool me off. When my coat gets shaggy, trim it neatly.

Since Dennis came here a year ago, many new faces have entered my gate. A new friend for me to please. And I create a bond among you. As a group, you really enjoy yourselves. Nothing but happy and cheerful gatherings.

And the parties! Boy, do I love a party. Dennis brought cake, punch, and balloons. And can you believe it, I didn't get to break even one? Well, maybe next time.

My present to him, you ask? The flowers of course. You see, most of his plants at home are clippings and other small plants. He visits me to see what those plants will look like when they get older and to see what the flowers will look like. You should see his face light up when he sees a nice inflorescence and realizes it's on a plant he has at home. And believe me, he's not the only one. All of you marvel at my blooms. Some of my plants need to be very old to bloom at all. Many of you get to see these blooms only at the garden.

So in closing, I will say happy birthday to Dennis and thank all my friends for visiting.

