

CACTUS COURIER

Newsletter of the Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society

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The Meeting is the **4th** Saturday

August 26, 2006

Palomar College Garden

1140 W. Mission Road, San Marcos
(At the North-East corner of the Campus)

10 “ish”

The Garden will open at 9 am, close at 1 pm.

There will be a guided tour of the Garden
at 11 am.



“Palomar Garden Picnic!!”



Photo by Art McCullough

BOARD MEETING • BRAG PLANTS EXCHANGE TABLE

Canceled due to Good Weather!

Parking for the meeting will be in Lot 3 (North of the Garden Gate.) To “Beat the Heat” the Pot Luck will start about 10 am. Think of it as a *Summer Brunch*.

There will be a Guided Tour of the Garden starting about 11 am.

From 9 am to 10 am, over 300 FREE Plants/Cuttings of 150 varieties of plants will be made available – 2 per member. After 10 am, all the

plants will be free, no limits. They will be available to non-members as well. Bring your own boxes for the cuttings. You are also more than welcome to bring some of your own plants to share. Richard recommends just outside the Garden Gate until to first wave of Garden plants are shared out.

For members planning to visit the Arboretum, the back garden gate will be open. Access this way is through a native plant preserve.



Bring something light to share. One of my favorite remarks about the Club has to do with how well we eat (we are Pros!), and the summer meetings certainly prove this. We ask people to bring their favorite summer potluck dish. Surprise us! Bring enough for 6-8 people. The Club will supply some liquid refreshment (perhaps Ron might be persuaded to bring his Famous Lemonade™) and the Garden will be sharing sunshine. We will set up some shade canopies on the upper terrace for that sun (and heat) we're anticipating. But remember, even on hot days the terrace is always breezy and remarkably cool. Bring a chair – the ones in the Garden are meant to be sat upon only in work clothes. The Club will supply plates, utensils, napkins, etc.

We want to extend a special invitation to those of you have never been out to our Garden. As you know, I always try to remind you that the Garden appreciates all our efforts and gifts each of us with something at every visit. Feel free to bring a friend!



OBSERVATIONS

– Ron Chisum

Wow has it been hot. I have been watering more than normal and inspecting my plants for signs of sun damage. I had to move several plants out of the midday sun. Yellowing is a sign that damage is eminent. A couple of years ago I replaced my greenhouse roof. The old fiberglass had degraded so I put in polycarbonate, which is much, more durable.

It also allows more infrared light into the greenhouse (i.e. it's hotter). To help control the heat, I installed a row of 6 mister heads along one of the rafters. They really work. Mid day the temperature is about 10 degrees below the outside temp. Most of my plants are thriving and the expense is minimal. This should also work in a lath house or shade cloth area. It's been a real blessing this summer.

I do not recommend starting cuttings now unless you can give them some shade. A couple of years ago I got a 5ft. pachycereus cutting in the middle of summer. I talked to Madeline at Grigsby's and she suggested wrapping it in three layers of cheesecloth after planting. Two months later I removed one layer. A month later I took off the second layer, etc. Bottom line, my cutting rooted in its permanent home and didn't get scarred from sunburn.

If you have any additional comments or want to discuss other topics, please let me know. See you at the next meeting. – Ron



Richard and the Garden Committee are re-implementing the “**Monthly Saturday Workday**” starting October 7th. The plan is to gather the first Saturday of each month.

This will provide an opportunity to visit/work in the Garden. Donations of specimen plants would be more than welcome. Richard can give you a letter for the tax-deductible donation.



I am sorry to have to report the recent passing of Palomar Cactus & Succulent Society past-President **Paul Steward**. He gave our Club and the San Diego Cactus Club many years of faithful service. Please join me in offering sympathies to his mother, Gloria Steward.