



Midwest Cactus and Succulent Society

***** NOVEMBER MEETING NOTICE *****

Location: Cleveland Botanical Garden Smith Classroom 11030 East Blvd Cleveland, Ohio 44106	R.S.V.P: 440-259-3501 or kdsnell@roadrunner.com
Date: Sunday November 18, 2012	Time: 1:00 – 4:00
Topic: Club Library Review	Plant of the month: Blooming

Next Meeting: The November meeting will be at Cleveland Botanical Garden in Cleveland's University Circle area. The Smith Classroom is on the parking garage level, down the hall past the security office. Garage parking is \$6.00; there is no admission fee. Bring snacks to share. Guests are always welcome!

Program: Club librarian Bill Hendricks and group to review our library materials, needs and policies

Plant of the month: Any in bloom

Website links:

- * The Cactus and Succulent Society of America (CSSA) www.cssainc.org
- * CSSA 2013 convention www.cssa2013.com
- * Central Ohio Cactus and Succulent Society <http://columbus-cactus-club.webs.com/index.html>
- * Cleveland Botanical Garden www.cbgbgarden.org
- * The Amateurs' Digest www.theamateursdigest.com
- * The Cactus and Succulent Plant Mall www.cactus-mall.com
- * Henry Shaw Cactus Society www.hscactus.org
- * Out of Africa www.out-of-africa-plants.com

Minutes (October '12 Meeting):

- * Meeting was held at CBG. We had 6 new members join, welcome all!
- * Treasurer's report: \$3444.39
- * MWCSS 2013 club dues are now due: \$20 for individual or family, cash or check. If you wish to join the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (optional), you need to pay their \$50 dues directly to them.
- * 2013 officer election committee volunteers are Beverly Dahms & Annie Kitral. Member voting will be at the December holiday meeting.
- * At next month's meeting we will inventory our club library. Please bring suggestions for future additions.
- * MEETING DATE CHANGE – Holiday meeting is December 8, 2012 at Laura Noble's.
- * 2013 Spring Show & Sale will be March 23rd & 24th at CBG. There will be no regular meeting that month
- * Karen will reserve the CBG meeting room for 2013.
- * CSSA 35th Biennial Convention is June 15-20, 2013 in Austin, TX. We are considering a club field trip.
- * Joe K to contact Glasshouse Works about attending a future meeting with Cleveland Indoor Garden Club or vendor at spring show.
- * Joe K is thinning his opuntia if anyone would like some.

October Program:

Joe Kulick led a group discussion about preparing our cacti and succulents for winter and dormancy. Several in our group have greenhouses and some grow under lights year round. Most of us bring our plants indoors to dark basements, windowsills or grow lights and that requires more labor, planning and vigilance to minimize plant loss. Here's some of what we learned:

- by trial and error, we learn what works and what kills plants
- everyone kills plants and some are smart enough to grow only what they grow best
- dormancy is important for good blooming, strong spines and avoiding weak growth
- healthy plants can die during dormancy if it's needs aren't met
- most succulent species are winter dormant, but some grow or bloom in fall and winter requiring different care so learn about each plant's growth cycle, bloom time, dormancy periods and general care requirements
- late fall and winter growers/bloomers need more warmth and water
- lower temperatures in late fall and winter usually mean less watering and less water means less growth, so greatly reduce watering and stop fertilizer; water succulents maybe every 2 weeks, euphorbia, pachypodium and globe cacti once a month or less
- root death can happen with some plants that are kept too dry and is not apparent until watering is resumed in spring causing the plant to rot and die
- group them by similar watering needs
- plants in dryer heated winter homes or under grow lights and very young plants may need a bit more watering than those kept in a cooler greenhouse
- it may be possible to keep some dormant cacti in a cool, dry basement without lights and water until spring
- keep winter greenhouse temps 40 and 55 degrees
- most cacti and succulents (except pachypodium and a few others) can tolerate temps into the 30'sF for short periods if frost doesn't touch them and soil is not wet
- protect from rain or over wet soil in the fall
- clean up plants before moving them inside, a spray of water will remove dust and many bugs
- healthy plants brought in from outdoors usually don't have damaging pests, but once inside they can become quickly infested, so frequently check
- if a dormant plant is infested, use topical or manual treatments; systemic treatments are used during active growth when it can be absorbed by the plant and can be used to help prevent bringing pests inside
- use inexpensive fans in the home and greenhouse for air circulation to reduce diseases; this is very important
- some succulents benefit under fluorescent lights while others are happy in the dark
- buy good quality grow lights and use timers set to come on about 12 hrs/day

See you this Sunday!

Karen Snell
Secretary, MWCSS
440-259-3501 (home)
440-415-3949 (cell)

Directions to Cleveland Botanical Garden:

11030 East Blvd in the University Circle/Wade Park area of Cleveland, 5 miles east of downtown

From I-90 Lakeshore Memorial Freeway:

Take Martin Luther King Drive and go south on MLK.

Cross E 105th and follow the traffic circle to East Blvd. CBG is at the end of East Blvd.