



Midwest Cactus & Succulent Society

***** DECEMBER MEETING NOTICE *****

Location: Bill and Nancy Hendricks
Klyn Nursery
3322 S Ridge Rd (RT 84)
Perry, Ohio 44081

R.S.V.P: 440-259-3815
440-415-3949

Food: Potluck – the main dish
Provided by the club

Date: Sunday December 08, 2013

Time: 1:00 – 4:00

Topic: Holiday Party & Plant Gift Exchange

Plant of the month: Plant Gifts

Happy Holidays!

Next Meeting: Our 2013 holiday meeting/party is on Sunday December 8, hosted by Bill and Nancy Hendricks at Klyn Nursery 3322 South Ridge Rd. Perry (Lake Co), Ohio. We are having a plant gift exchange, bring a wrapped cactus or succulent to give. Dinner is potluck and the club will provide ham for the main dish. Members please bring a side dish of vegetables, salad, bread, desert... Everyone needs to RSVP Nancy Hendricks directly with number attending and what food you're bringing.

Program: Bill Hendricks will present *The Czech Republic*, from his summer 2013 trip with fellow nurserymen.

Plant of the month: If you want to be included in the plant gift exchange, bring a wrapped (gift bags work best) cactus or succulent (from your collection or purchased) that you would like to give as a gift. If you need help, there are beautiful, inexpensive plants in 2 – 3" pots, but not much bigger than about an 8" pot. Please don't be offended by this: most bring nice things to give, so be fair to others bring a nice sized, healthy potted plant you would be proud to give. Don't go crazy, either! Come prepared to talk about what you bring.

Website links:

- * Out of Africa www.out-of-africa-plants.com
- * Central Ohio Cactus and Succulent Society <http://columbus-cactus-club.webs.com/index.html>
- * Cleveland Botanical Garden www.cb garden.org
- * The Amateurs' Digest www.theamateursdigest.com
- * The Cactus and Succulent Plant Mall www.cactus-mall.com
- * Bob Smoley's Gardenworld www.bobsmoleys.com
- * Henry Shaw Cactus Society www.hscactus.org
- * Midwest Cactus & Succulent Society www.mwc ss.com

Minutes (Nov '13 Meeting):

- * The meeting was held at Cleveland Botanical Garden. It was well attended and informative. We welcomed new member Amber Dudsak from Wadsworth area.
- * Treasurer's report: club balance is \$ 3835.06
- * We are now collecting our club membership dues of \$20 for individual and family, cash or check. If you wish to join our national society, the Cactus and Succulent Society of America (optional), you can go to their website <http://cssainc.com> to join or renew annual dues for tax deductible \$50. Our new CSSA affiliated club chairperson is Chris Davis, who replaces Buck Hemenway after a 3 year term. Thanks to

Buck for his support and
work .

Minutes (Nov '13 Meeting) cont:

* 2014 Spring Show & Sale is 3/22 & 3/23 at CBG and again coincides with their Spring Fling opening day. I will send out the show announcement info on the usual websites, newspapers, community calendar event listings and local area garden clubs and guests. I would like your ideas for new listing sites.

* Glow Member Night at Cleveland Botanical Garden is December 10th, 5:30 – 8:30 pm. They are asking for advanced registration. Free admission and free limited parking.

* We discussed the 2114 club schedule and program topics. Bring your ideas for topics, field trips, club library materials...

* Don't forget about the library! If you want to check out any club library material, contact Bill Hendricks or Karen Snell before the meeting and it will be brought.

November Meeting Program:

Bill Hendricks lead a group discussion on 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 grow our plants outside spring into late fall and then move them 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:

- o By trial and error, we learn what works and what kills plants. Keep records.
- o everyone kills plants and some are smart enough to grow only what they grow best
- o dormancy is important for good blooming, strong spines and avoiding weak growth
- o healthy plants can die during dormancy if it's needs aren't met
- o 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
- o late fall and winter growers/bloomers need more warmth and water
- o bring plants in before starting to heat the house to avoid plant shock
- o 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
- o 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
- o group them by similar watering needs
- o 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
- o it may be possible to keep some dormant cacti in a cool, dry basement without lights and water until spring
- o keep winter greenhouse temps 40 and 55 degrees, but know what your plants can tolerate
- o 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
- o thermometers that read the day's maximum and minimum temps are handy and inexpensive
- o protect from rain or over wet soil in the fall
- o many non-native plants can't survive prolonged periods of cold temperatures, but seem to better tolerate quick episodes of severe coldness
- o clean up plants before moving them inside, a spray of water will remove dust and many bugs
- o healthy plants brought in from outdoors usually don't have damaging pests, but once inside they can become quickly infested, so frequently check
- o 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
- o use inexpensive fans in the home and greenhouse for air circulation to reduce diseases; this is very important
- o some succulents benefit under fluorescent lights while others are happy in the dark
- o buy good quality grow lights and use timers set to come on about 12 hrs/day

Let me know if you have any questions.
Hope you can make the party!

Karen Snell
Secretary, MWCSS
440-983-4176 (home)
440-415-3949 (cell)

Directions: From east or west take Interstate 90 in northeastern Ohio to Lake County:
From the east, exit I-90 at Madison Route 528 exit #212, turn right (north) and go 0.8 miles to stop light at RT84 (S Ridge Rd). Turn left and go 6.5 miles; nursery is on the left (south) side. Park and enter behind office.
From the west, exit I-90 at Vrooman Rd exit #205, turn left (north) and go 1.6 miles to stop light at RT84 (South Ridge Rd). Turn right and go 1.4 miles, nursery is on the right (south) side. Park and enter behind office.

