



Midwest Cactus and Succulent Society

***** MAY 2013 MEETING NOTICE *****

Location: Laura Noble
31141 Huntington Woods Pkwy
Bay Village, Ohio 44140

R.S.V.P: 440-899-9806 or
kdsnell@roadrunner.com

Food: Potluck

Date: Sunday May 19, 2013

Time: 1:00 – 4:00

Topic: Agave

Plant of the month: Agave

Next Meeting: The May meeting will be at Laura Noble's home in Bay Village. If you would like to take home perennials from Laura's shade gardens, bring plastic bags or small box with you. Lunch is potluck; please bring a dish (vegetable, salad, fruit...) to pass. Be courteous to our hostess and remember to RSVP. I am sending her personal information to club members only.

Program: Laura will present a program on Agave. Bring yours to show.

FYI: Open house orchid & plant sale, May 25 & 26, 11am-5pm. Hosted by Kim & Edgar Stehli. 2 greenhouses of unique plants on beautiful grounds. Great after show orchid bargains. Address: 8066 Skyline Drive, Broadview Hts, OH 44147. 440-838-5757 Directions: I77north, exit at Wallings Rd, turn right, go up hill 1000 ft to blinking light at Skyline Dr, turn right to 5th house on left, white Colonial w/ black trim & iron fencing.

Also: Email from moving Shaker Hts man, cacti needing new homes. Click link: <http://cleveland.craigslist.org/hsh/3788249324.html>

Minutes (April '13 Meeting):

- * Was held at CBG with 18 attending, including a guest and 2 new members who joined at the show. Welcome everyone!
- * Treasury Report: Acct balance \$4372.00 (less \$500 outstanding show expenses)
- * Show review was discussed and changes for next year listed. Because of everyone's hard work (and CBG maintenance staff!) the show went smoothly despite the new location, setup changes, CBG events, new vendors and many members' first show. We had 29 people working over 3 days, plus 6 guests helping and 3 new members joined. Thanks to Kevin White who sold stone planters and rock items made a nice addition to the show, both sales and exhibit plant displays. Our overall gross sales equaled last year and expenses slightly more d/t show supplies needing replaced. The club approved continuing the members 20% show discount, taken from the club's net sales. The club voted to donate \$500 to CBG for show expenses and the purchase of Madagascar Glasshouse plant material. See treasurer for a copy of the final show accounting.
- * Please use our website! We need to populate our blog and keep it current to attract outside attention. Post simple comments, questions, links by sending emails to our webmaster Tim Malinich at timj@hearthstonefarm.net. Tim has asked that we bring a few digital pictures on a memory stick to meetings and he will copy and resize them to post on the web site. Any from shows, field trips, you and your collection or a special plant would be great.
- * The club decided against attending the June CSSA Biennial Convention in Austin, TX as a club sponsored field trip.

Program Review: Potting Media by Bill Hendricks

We can't duplicate the desert, so we need to adjust things like plant location, light, temperature and watering in our collections. Desert soil is mineral based and gritty, so we must modify our organic based media to drain fast, hold minimal moisture and remain airy for good root function.

- * Good materials to use are coarse, gravelly, gritty pea gravel or 'chicken grit', pumice, 'Turface' brand type material, perlite and coir coconut husk fiber (make sure it's salt free).
- * Use a good commercial base potting media like Metro Mix 360 with coir base
- * Avoid peat based commercial cactus potting mix as peat can dry out, compact and not rewet easily.
- * Avoid fine sand which compacts and clogs air pockets choking roots. If buying builder grade sand, ask if it was washed with water or kerosene when processed.
- * To see if you have a good potting mix recipe, check you plant's root system during growing season. When you repot, look for healthy roots growing into the bottom of the pot with good color, no rot and root tips with fuzzy new growth.

Sad News: Our dear club member Annie Kitral lost her 43 y/o son Walter unexpectedly April 20, 2013. Walter lived at home with his family and was the center of their world. Annie had told me he was a sweet little boy, always happy, a blessing. The club has sent an orchid and donation to the family, along with our love, thoughts and prayers for comfort and peace.

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

Directions to Meeting: Bay Village is west of Cleveland, so depending if your east or west...
Take I90 to the CROCKER RD exit north toward BASSETT RD. CROCKER RD becomes BASSETT RD. Turn LEFT on LAKE RD / US-6 . LEFT on BRADLEY RD. RIGHT on HUNTINGTON WOODS