



DESERT GARDEN CLUB



JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

January 5, 2021 Canceled due to COVID Restrictions
February 2, 2021 Canceled due to COVID Restrictions
March 2, 2021 @ 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

R H Johnson Rec Center Lecture Hall

Presentation by Noelle, Arizona Plant Lady on "Creative Container Gardening"

PLANT SALES

At this time plans are to resume plants sales as of Jan 6th. They will be held on Wednesdays and Fridays, NEW TIME 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, by appointment, masks required, recreation card needed.

Call Sue @623-213-9085 or Sandy @319-429-0234



BIG NEWS

Our replacement greenhouse is moving closer to reality!

On December third, Mike Anderson gave a Power Point presentation to the Properties Committee. While there were a few general questions from the committee, there was strong support for building a new greenhouse at Beardsley. Following Mike's presentation, the proposal was approved. You can watch this by going to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xsng7pIUAtw> . The portion on the greenhouse starts at the 19:00 minute mark.

The next step will be a similar presentation to the Chartered Clubs Committee on January 12. That group will again be allowed to ask questions followed by a request from the club membership to approve the building of a new greenhouse.

On January 19, the club goes before the Budget and Finance Committee to determine the club's pay back plan to cover the construction cost in excess of the \$150,000 that the SCW Recreation Centers will contribute to the project. The preliminary estimated cost of demolition, site prep, and construction is \$300,000. The commitment to pay the club's portion is made by the club and does not make any member personally responsible for the debt.

Then, on February 5, the proposal goes before the Governing Board. This presentation will be put forth by Karl Wilhelm, the SCW Project Manager, but Desert Garden Club representatives will be in attendance to support Karl and field any questions from that group.

The estimated timeline has us moving our plants and equipment out about October 2021 and probably into the new greenhouse in January 2022.

We will give you more details in the next few months. If COVID-19 precautions restrict us doing this in a person-to-person club meeting, we will create an electronic presentation to give members a clearer picture of the new greenhouse.

What can Club Members do to help us with the new greenhouse?



Our primary funding source for this is selling plants. While plant sales are suspended as a COVID-19 response until at least January 6, we will be selling our cactus and succulents as soon as it is safe for everyone. Encourage your friends and neighbors to come to Beardsley to purchase cactus and succulents for their yards or as gifts. There are thousands of plants and many dish gardens to pick from at prices well below the commercial nurseries.

Second, as soon as the present COVID-19 restrictions are eased, we will need cuttings to replenish our stock. Do you have plants in your yard that could spare a few sections? As you travel around the city, look for potential homes that might be willing to let our harvest crew trim a few pads or branches off a cactus. We also dig up many small “pups” that spring up around plants like agaves. We have forms that invite residents to contact us for plant harvesting. You can get some of these forms at the greenhouse – just drop off a form at any home where you see a potential plant harvest opportunity.

If you want the harvest crew to come to your house, please send an email to Mike Anderson (manderso1717@gmail.com) or Dave Wiegand (davidwieg@aol.com).



Third, encourage others to join the club. The more people involved in our activities, the better for all of us. The membership form can be found at <https://garden.scwclubs.com/files/2020/03/Desert-club-membership-form-15.pdf>.

MEMBERSHIP

As posted in the December Newsletter, SCW Desert Garden Club to Roll-Over 2020 Dues!! That's right folks! Your Board has decided all members of Desert Garden Club during year 2020 will automatically be Renewed Members in 2021 at NO ADDITIONAL COST!! And, you need to do nothing to take advantage of this special one-time offer. Renewal normally begins December 1st (2020) and ends January 31st (2021). 2021 renewed Membership Cards will be mailed to all existing 2020 members. Folks wishing to become brand New Members can sign up by visiting the greenhouse with a check in hand for \$10, or mail in the membership form available on the club's website: <https://garden.scwclubs.com/>

If any current member feels they absolutely have to give us money, we appreciate all donations for the new greenhouse project. DONATIONS ALWAYS ACCEPTED AND APPRECIATED !!! Send donations to the same address as noted for submitting the Membership Application.

Membership provides us with a 15% discount at Summer Winds Nursery and 10% at True Value Hardware in Sun City West.

BADGES

Our supplier has had to raise the price for our club badges, so going forward the cost of badges will be \$7 for badges with a pin and \$9 for those with a magnet. Badges can be ordered from our website, <https://garden.scwclubs.com/membership/> .



Submitted by Bob Buerrosse on behalf of the SCW Desert Garden Club Board