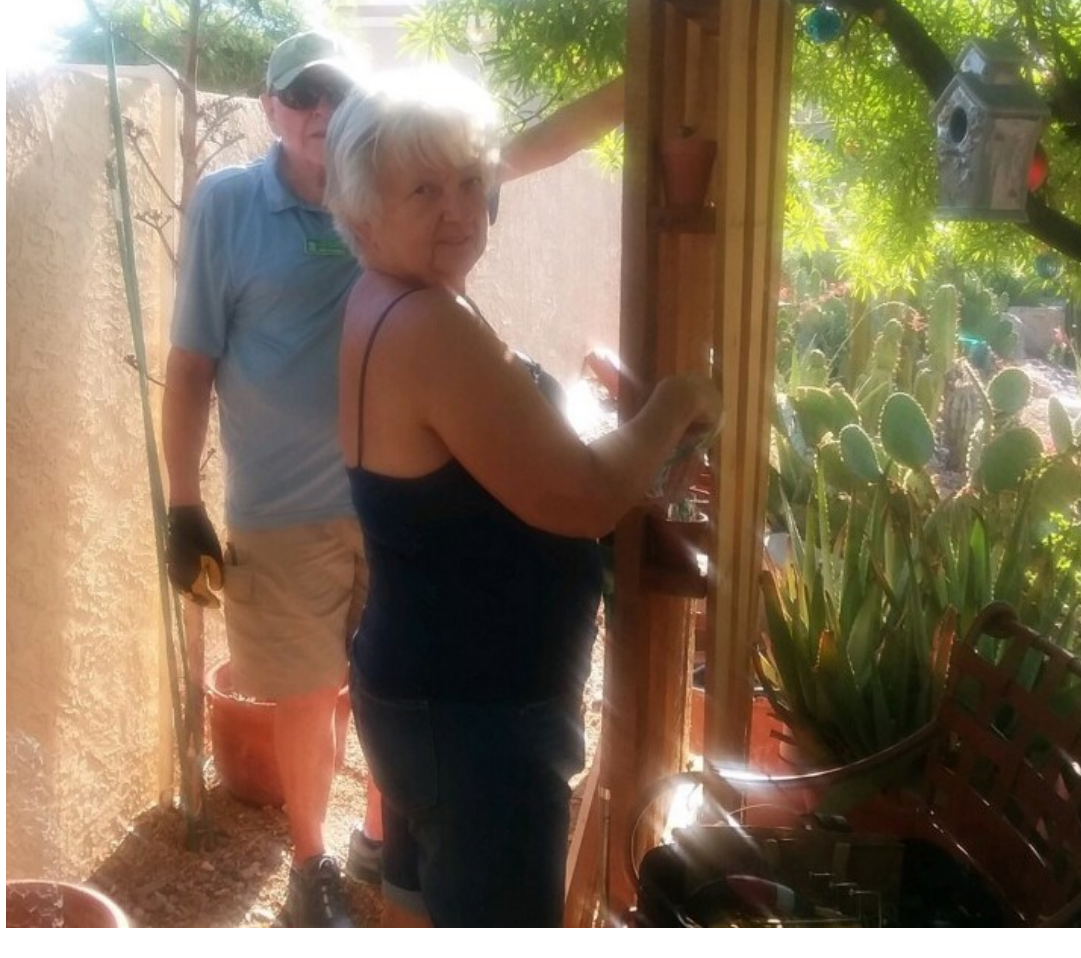


2023 Work continues in Summer Heat

While the club did not have meetings or regular plant sales during the summer, activity continued in the greenhouse and the Botanical Garden. The addition of shade cloth on the west and south walls, plus an improved water wall, kept the temperatures in the greenhouse much lower than in 2022.



Jan Cartozian, Sandy Warmuth, and Dan Hitchcock planted a recently harvested Saguaro. The water crew started at 6 am on Mondays and Thursdays so they would be done before it got too hot.



Head designer of the Botanical Garden, Pat Wanta, assembles a cabinet for her tools in the "Meditation Corner" where she has easy access but they are hidden from view. Jim Hussey and Diana Peppin (not pictured) Helped with this project.



This Orange Gulf Fritillary Butterfly stays in the Botanical Garden for quite a while in search of flowers.



Rob Baty repairs some of the shade cloth over the larger pots as the wind caused a bit of damage. The shade cloth structures were built to protect the rooting plants from being sun burned.



Jim Vanderpoel holds a small Prickly Pear *Opuntia engelmannii* that he harvested from a resident's yard. Jim was one of several who spent many hours during the summer keeping the club's programs running. It seemed that no what was asked of him, he was willing and ready to take on the work.



One of three Golden Barrel cacti that died this past summer in the garden from extreme heat, which causes physiological damage to most succulent plants.



With one Saguaro done, Jan Cartozian and Dan Hitchcock get ready to pot up a second cactus arm. The larger cactus potting was done outside where it was often warmer than in the greenhouse.



There are many plants in the Botanical Garden picked as ones that will attract bees and butterflies. Here an Orange Gulf Fritillary Butterfly checks to see if there are any blossoms on the Passion Flower vine.



Putting his pickup to work, Rob Baty harvests a large agave stalk. The club displayed these stalks to show visitors how an agave reproduces. The "mother" agave plant dies after sending up the stalk. In most cases there will be several "pups" or small new plants that will pop up from the roots. After blooming, several "plantlets" form on the stalk which can also grow into full plants.



One of the Water Crew leaders, Louise Mozealous, works with Carol Houtkooper in deciding which plants need to be watered. Carol was also responsible for caring for the mother plants which were used to propagate new plants.



Attacking a never-ending task, Jim Vanderpoel spends hours washing used pots. While both members and others generously donated hundreds of used pots, it was necessary to clean them before putting in new plants to avoid any diseases that might have contaminated them.



Head designer for the Botanical Garden, Pat Wanta, points out a tree that needs to be supported.



Employees of the Design Tree Maintenance company install stakes and attach supports to one of the garden's top heavy Willow Acacia



Several plants in the Botanical Garden start to bloom. All three Desert Willow trees (*Chilopsis linearis*) and two recently transplanted Red Bird of Paradise (*Caesalpinia pulcherrima*) plants can be seen in the western retention basin. Also, some small Angelica Daisy's yellow flowers as well as several wildflower members of the Aster Family (*Asteraceae*), sport their fall flowers.



Linda Bartelt, Sandy Warmuth, and Jan Cartozian work on potting a pair of golden barrel cacti. Many hours were spent at the greenhouse in the last weeks of September preparing for the first plant sale of the fall on October 7.