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DESERT GARDEN CLUB

of Sun City West

“Open to Club Members and their Accompanied Guests!”

October 2023

<https://garden.scwclubs.com/>

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

CLUB MEETINGS BEGIN WITH AN INFORMAL SOCIAL AT 8:30 A.M.,
FOLLOWED BY THE 9:00 A.M. MEETING WITH DOOR PRIZE

Tuesday October 10 8:30-10:30 a.m. R.H. Johnson Rec Center Social Hall East

Speaker: Scott McMahon, Manager of the Cactus Collection at the Desert Botanical Garden from 2006 to 2020.

Topic: Echinocereus (Hedgehog) Cactus

November: No regular Membership Meeting

Due to the Fall Social scheduled November 10

Tuesday December 12 8:30-10:30 a.m. R.H. Johnson Rec Center Social Hall East

Election of 2024 Officers

Speaker: Tyler Clark, SummerWinds Nursery

Topic: Pest-Proofing Your Yard

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

Wednesday September 27 9:00-10:00 a.m. Beardsley Rec Center Agave Room

Topic: First Aid and Use of the CPR Device

Presenter: Robert Olmstead, Deputy Chief, Fire Marshal, Arizona Fire and Medical Authority

Wednesday October 25 10:00-11:00 a.m. Beardsley Rec Center Agave Room

Note time change

Topic: Desert Soils Management

Presenter: Tyler Clark, SummerWinds Nursery

Wednesday November 15 9:00-10:00 a.m. Beardsley Rec Center Agave Room

Topic and presenter to be determined.

December: No workshop scheduled.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday October 20 3:00-6:00 p.m. Beardsley Rec Center Courtyard

BOTANICAL GARDEN DEDICATION

Friday November 10 5:30-7:30 p.m. R.H. Johnson Rec Center Social Hall WEST

Desert Garden Club Fall Social/Dinner

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We have two new members in the Desert Garden Club!

Please welcome them when you see them at our meetings and events:

Virginia Ryan

Pat Telford

Botanical Garden Dedication Event

Friday October 20

3:00-6:00 p.m.

with a brief presentation at 4:30 p.m.

Beardsley Rec Center Courtyard

12755 W. Beardsley Road

Join us for the dedication of our fabulous botanical garden!

This celebration is open to the public.

Refreshments will be available for as long as they last.

An excellent opportunity to view a variety of landscaping concepts, as well as to learn the names of many plants we see in our neighborhoods.

Desert Garden Club board members will be available for questions and suggestions throughout the event.



DGC CHARITABLE DONATIONS

At the September Membership meeting, a donation in the amount of \$3,000 was made to the Posses of Sun City West, a 501(c)(3) organization. The donation was presented to Ed Stern, SCW

Posse Commander, who expressed appreciation from the Posses. Presenting the check was Carol Berka, Charitable Gifts Chairwoman.



WHAT'S GOING ON IN THE GARDEN

STABILIZATION: Following the September membership meeting with our guest speaker from the Design Tree Maintenance company, Pat Wanta asked them to stake and guy one of the garden's top-heavy Willow Acacia trees. (Photos taken on September 19th)



Pat giving instructions to Design Tree Maintenance crew.



WHAT'S IN BLOOM: All three Desert Willow trees (*Chilopsis linearis*) and recently transplanted Red Bird of Paradise (*Caesalpinia pulcherrima*), seen here in the western water retention basin photo.

Look for the small perennial Angelica Daisy with yellow flowers as well as several yellow wildflowers in the basin areas that are fall flowering members of the Aster Family (*Asteraceae*).



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



CLUBTRACK SYSTEM

Sun City West Rec Centers monitors all club activity/member usage through the ClubTrack system, using data gathered to make decisions about how meeting spaces are programmed, enhanced and expanded. It is important to our club, therefore, to log in, either by scanning your Rec Centers membership card or typing in your membership number, each time you drop by on club business, even if only for a couple of minutes!

GREENHOUSE ACTIVITIES

Do you enjoy planting? Come to the greenhouse and plant with us! Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:00 a.m. Drop-in volunteers are always welcome.

PLANT SALES

Our first big PLANT SALE this fall is scheduled for Saturday, October 7 from 8:00 a.m.-NOON

at the Beardsley Rec Center Greenhouse. We need members to sign up to help out with Saturday plant sales as well as our weekly Thursday sales (NO Tuesday sales this year). Please go to <https://garden.scwclubs.com/sign-up-for-club-activities-2/>. The password is **cactus**.



WATER WALL MAINTENANCE

It is time again to clean the greenhouse water wall after the summer. The date is Friday, October 13 at 8:00 a.m. We need volunteers to help clean the wall and we need to clean the floor as well before the Open House/Botanic Garden Dedication on the 20th. If you helped before or want to see what we do, please show up that morning. If you have any questions please contact Mike Anderson at manderso1717@gmail.com.

HARVESTING

The club is harvesting again. We will harvest only what we can save and replant, given the tough summer weather conditions. Early morning only harvest appointments are open for Tuesdays and Thursdays in October. If you have harvested surviving plants and would like to drop them off at the greenhouse, that would be appreciated. There is a table under the shade cloth outside the greenhouse side door, marked "PLANT DROP OFF". To place your name on the harvesting list, please email Mike Anderson at manderso1717@gmail.com.

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ID: *Selenicereus undatus* AKA: Dragon Fruit Cactus Submitted by: Bob Buerrosse

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