

# CCSS Newsletter

## Connecticut Cactus and Succulent Society

July 2010

### From the President

**T**HE BUS TRIP TO THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN WAS A GREAT success, in spite of a few difficulties: **Art Scarpa** and the **Pritchards** had to cancel because of car troubles, and the **Browns** were not feeling up to the expedition.

● For those of us who attended, the gardens and greenhouses were in spectacular shape. The rose garden was at its peak, and the rock gardens were especially beautiful. It was hard to find any faults with the **Enid A. Haupt Conservatory**, though apparently the sprawling Victorian glass-house structure is scheduled to close for renovations soon after our visit. I hope that the CCSS has a chance for a return trip to the NYBG sometime soon!

● Our July 11 meeting (the second Sunday of July, to avoid a conflict with Independence Day weekend), hosted by **John Spain** and **Becky Lynn**, should be fun and informative. John and the CCSS will provide basic materials and expert instructions for making a stone-like hypertufa pot, but see the list of supplies to bring in this newsletter, if you plan on participating in the workshop. [page 3] Even if you do not want to construct a planter, it will be worthwhile attending the meeting, just for the chance to see John's extensive winter-hardy cactus and succulent plantings.

● The annual picnic will be hosted by **Ken Mosher** in Andover on August 1. Looking ahead to fall, we will be meeting September 12 at **Woodland Gardens** in Manchester.

Matt Opel,  
President

### The Secretary's Report

**O**N SATURDAY, JUNE 12, APPROXIMATELY 49 PEOPLE FROM THE Massachusetts and Connecticut clubs went by motor coach to the **New York Botanic Garden**. This amazing 250-acre place is very near the **Bronx Zoo**.

● The weather that day was perfect for walking, but, nevertheless, many of us appreciated the numerous benches and free tram.

● **The Emily Dickinson Special** had been extended for a week, so her poetry was still posted along paths, and being read aloud under a tent. Many of the plants she had written about were displayed.

● There were succulents here and there in the outdoor gardens, but most were found in the expansive greenhouse. It was nice to be with the Massachusetts group again.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Becky Lynn  
Secretary



*The Enid A. Haupt Conservatory at the New York Botanical Garden. The 90-foot dome is the palm house.*

Photo by Matt Opel, PhD



*John Spain admires the hypertufa troughs and other plantings at the NYBG's 3-acre rock garden.*

Photo by Matt Opel, PhD

## New Member Reports On Visit to New York Botanical Garden

By David Lesage

**O**N SATURDAY, JUNE, 12 I HAD THE PLEASURE OF ACCOMPANYING my son, **Christian**, along with members from the CCSS and the MCSS on a trip to the **New York Botanical Garden**. What a wonderful day we had.

**“It is a place as beautiful as you are likely to see.”**

- It is a place as beautiful as you are likely to see. As you travel through the Bronx section of New York City, you are confronted with the reality of urban living: concrete and asphalt. Visiting the NYBG was a pleasant contrast, for once inside the gates, natural beauty abounds.
- We boarded the bus in a commuter lot across from the Naugatuck Valley Community College early Saturday morning. The day did not look promising—the steel-gray sky looked forebodingly of rain. Fortunately it turned out to be a beautiful day.
- From the moment we walked into the 250-acre oasis, we explored one beautiful garden after another. I was singularly impressed by the extensive collection of conifers in both the **Benenson Ornamental Conifers Collection** and the **Ross Conifer Arboretum**. After a pleasant walk through the native forests in the heart of the gardens, we stopped for lunch at the Garden Café and then in the afternoon we visited the **Haupt Conservatory** and the rock garden.
- Upon entering the Haupt Conservatory, we were confronted with the awe inspiring sight of huge Royal Palms, at every turn there was something new and intriguing. The variety of plant life was beyond imagination.

**“We also visited the Rockefeller Rose Garden, which is a sight and scent extravaganza.”**

- Of course the cactus and succulent section cannot go without mention, ranging from the huge agaves to the lithops it was an impressive display.

## The Connecticut Cactus and Succulent Society

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The CCSS Newsletter is published each month except January. Annual membership of \$12.00 includes subscription to the newsletter. This membership includes all members of an immediate family residing at the same residence. Payment is payable to the Treasurer, Mr. Ken Mosher, 8 Bailey Road, Andover, CT 06232.

### Connecticut Cactus and Succulent Society

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- A special exhibit in the Haupt Conservatory featured Emily Dickenson's Garden: *The Poetry of Flowers*. A re-creation of her own flower gardens showcasing her favorite flowers giving visitors the same feelings which inspired much of her writing.
- We also visited the **Rockefeller Rose Garden**, which is a sight and scent extravaganza. Throughout the day we were inspired with new ideas and enthralled by the diversity of colors, scents, and exciting new specimens. It is an experience that everyone should enjoy. My son and I spent the whole day wandering along secluded woodland paths, through tropical and desert landscapes, and along tree lined avenues.
- As a new member of the CCSS, I was able to meet new people on the trip, see fascinating and exotic things, and spend the whole day with my son. IT WAS GREAT! Thank you to everyone that made it possible. ○

David Lesage and his son, Christian, joined the Connecticut Cactus and Succulent Society last May.

## Shows 2011 and 2012

By David Schultz

**T**HE REQUEST FOR THE ANNUAL SHOW DATES FOR 2011 HAS BEEN submitted. Once the dates have been confirmed, I will pass that information along. However, the request for holding the show and Eastern Conference at Naugatuck Valley Community College in 2012 has met with a negative response.

- The policy of NVCC precludes granting requests for space that far in advance. There does not appear to be any way around that stumbling block. With the amount of planning and preparation required to bring in an International panel of speakers, we cannot wait until the middle of the summer 2011 to finalize space.

- Therefore, the society needs to make alternate plans for a location for the combined show and conference for 2012. We should look into conference centers such as the Southbury spot where we had the last conference.

- Are there other similar locations in Waterbury, Cheshire, Manchester, New Haven? We need to get a committee together to choose a site. Since we will not be at NVCC in 2012, we have to have flyers available at the show next April to announce the change of location. ○

## From the Bookshelf

By David Schultz

**J**OHN PILBEAM'S NEW BOOK, *STAPELIADS* WILL BE AVAILABLE LATER IN July. The book will be hardbound and cover 50 genera with over 600 photographs. The list price will be €39.00 —about \$65.00 at current exchange rates. We have received a group discount and our price should be \$50.00. Please give me a check for the book as soon as possible to secure inclusion in the order.

- *Hoya: Care & Cultivation* by Frank Supplie will be published in November. The 6" X 8" book will be hardcover, with 64 pages and 100 photographs. The text is English, German & French. The list price is €16.00, about \$25.00.

- *Rhysalis & Lepismium* by Frank Supplie, 6" X 8", hardbound, 144 pages with more than 250 photos. The list price is reduced to €19.00, about \$30.00. The book includes "all the information you need about the two genera, including a huge chapter on diseases which can be used for epiphyllum hybrids".

- *Epiphyllum 1 & 2* by Frank Supplie. Both books are 6" X 8", hardcover, 80 pages with over 500 photos each. *Epiphyllum 3* is due out in November and will also be 80 pages,

hardbound with 300 photos. List price for each is €19.00, about \$30.00.

- Get your names in for the books by Frank Supplie. We are expecting a discount, but do not have the details yet. The more books ordered, the better the chance of a good discount. ○



## Treasurer's Report

Income		
New York Trip Payments		\$550.00
Vendor Payments		181.00
Dues		48.00
Expenses:		
June Newsletter		289.65
Total Income (Expense)		<u>\$489.35</u>
<b>Bank Balance</b>		<b>\$11,111.61</b>

## Equipment Needed for July Meeting

By Becky Lynn

**O**UR JULY 11 MEETING, HOSTED BY JOHN SPAIN AND MYSELF, Becky Lynn, should be fun and informative. John and I and the CCSS will provide basic materials and instructions for making a stone-like hypertufa pot.

### Bring:

1. a flat board 12-inch square or larger.
2. something to mix material in, like a bucket or dishpan
3. a small object to use as an inner mold, not over 8-inches in diameter. A plastic box or Cool Whip® bowl or shallow cup will do.
4. If you can bring an old card table or a plastic sheet to work on and/ or cover it, please do.
5. Wear old clothes.



Ingredients for the hypertufa troughs will be provided. ○

## The 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Barad Event Saturday, July 10

By Dr. Jerry Barad

IT IS GETTING CLOSE TO THAT TIME AGAIN AND I THOUGHT I HAD better get my invitation out so that the local clubs can post it in their newsletters in a timely way.

- We had our first open house when we moved to Hunterdon County, New Jersey in 1957. That makes this year's picnic the **54<sup>th</sup> annual Barad event!!** This may be a record for a continuous, annual cactus picnic.

### “We have still controlled the depredations of the blue heron . . .”

- We have continued to enlarge the gardens and greenhouse collection and look forward to sharing it with any of you who can get to the Flemington area on **Saturday, July 10.**
- We have still controlled the depredations of the blue heron with our motion activated sprinkling system and the koi are doing nicely. The bog garden is still weedy but I am working at it. The woodland garden and the little hardy cactus bed are growing nicely. It looks like a deer got through our fences and chewed up a few of the hostas, but most are doing well. The hardy mesembes from the Kellaidis collection came through single-digit weather without protection again, although a few were again lost to hungry mice.
- We will have some plants to sell and will also have our current cactus mix with Diatomite. Unfortunately, the Diatomite is no longer available in the US. I have a fair supply of it still on hand and will be selling it for the last time at an increased cost.

## Name Tags

By Herbert (Sully) Sullivan

**M**embers who have not yet received their name tags, please send me your name as you wish it to appear on your tag. **Also**, indicate whether you wish to attach the tag to your clothing with a magnet or with a pin. Send your request to: **<irish\_dragon94@cox.net>**. As a courtesy to your fellow members, always wear your name tag at all our gatherings.

- The material was very expensive since it had to travel here all the way from Australia via Buffalo, New York. The results have been outstanding especially with the more difficult fleshy rooted *Haworthias*. I have seen huge improvements in the *Stapelia* collection since moving them into this material.
- Any of you with extra propagations to sell are welcome to set up in our tail-gate sellers' area. This is only for your own propagations. I do not want to make this a commercial event with the reselling of plants you have bought elsewhere.

### “The pool is functioning better than ever . . .”

- The pool is functioning better than ever since I changed the sand in the filter, so bring your bathing suits. We had to paint the pool once more with a dark blue pool paint that really makes it gleam. We have had some major problems with leaks in the piping to the filter, but I sincerely hope that will all be fixed by the time of the picnic.
- If you have not come here before, e-mail me at **gsbarad@earthlink.net** and I will send directions from your starting point. **Plan on arriving around noon** and follow the signs I will put up to get you to the parking area.
- Bring your lunch and drinks. We have tables and chairs for the picnickers. Children are welcome, but must be supervised by their parents in ALL areas. As usual, we will all be hoping for a nice clear day and not too much heat.

Regards to all,  
Jerry and Bea Barad

## Upcoming Events

**Sunday, July 11:** The July meeting will be held at John Spain's home, 69 Bayberry Road, Middlebury, Connecticut. John and Becky will present a workshop on making hypertufa vessels. (203) 758-9549

**1:00 PM**

**Bring Chairs**

**Entrées: H-S**

**Appetizers/Sides/Salads: T-Z**

**Desserts: A-G**

**Sunday, August 1:** Ken Mosher will host our annual picnic at his home in Andover, Connecticut.

**Sunday, September 12:** The September meeting will be held at Woodland Gardens in Manchester, Connecticut.