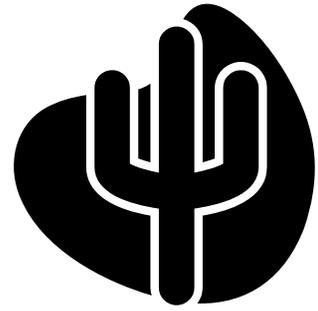




NEW YORK CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY



CACTUS COMMENTS / OCTOBER 2008

President: Lazaro Marrero, (917) 363-7640, yemaya75@hotmail.com

Vice President: Ivan Black, MD

Treasurer: Richard Stone, (212) 744-2265

Editor: George J. Cambourakis, (718) 706-7196, rockgjc@aol.com

NYCSS website: www.nycss.org

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting is on Tuesday October 21, 2008 at 6:00pm at Jan Hus Presbyterian church, 351 East 74th Street, NYC, room 101 (above lobby). The meeting will be from 6:00pm to 7:45pm

PROGRAM

George Cambourakis will give a slide show presentation on his vast plant collection, focusing on the flowers of his cacti, epiphyllums, and outdoor hardy cacti and succulents. The weather was great this past summer, with plenty of heat and sunshine, and the plants responded in kind. This will be a very colorful slide show, so we look forward to seeing you all there.

SEPTEMBER MEETING REVIEW

By George Cambourakis

Ok, I admit it, last month's mailing got screwed up. As my staff was on vacation at the time of that newsletter's mailing, my temporary help used an older mailing list to make up the envelopes. I believe most of you got the newsletter, but too many of you did not. So for this I apologize, I should have checked the envelopes more carefully. I deserve to be whipped by a jumping Cholla Cactus.

As it turned out, only seven of us attended the September 13th gathering at my place. But we had a great time, as we first met at the office to view the terrace greenhouse collection there, then drove to the house where we viewed the greenhouse, in-ground cacti and succulents, and landscaped grounds of bamboo, ferns, conifers, and other perennials and annuals. We then had a great lunch at a local diner, and then returned to my office terrace where my good friend and fellow melo-maniac John Senior told us all about his 18-day trip to the cactus habitats of Brazil.

John took over 1,100 photos, and we viewed many of them through his digital camera. Hopefully, John will prepare a digital presentation for a future meeting. Prior commitments kept yours truly from going on that trip, I'll get there someday. I've received several calls from members inquiring about the September meeting, and tried to have an informal gathering for them on October 4th or 11th. Due to un-anticipated conflicts, it didn't pan out. So, I will make up for my blunder by having a similar outing next May or June. At that time, the plants should all be outside again, all perky and flowering. The announcement will be made in March or April, so stay tuned.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

All organizations such as ours must collect memberships dues in order to survive and hopefully, thrive. Sadly, many of you have not submitted your dues yet. PLEASE send in your \$25.00 yearly dues NOW, payable to Richard Stone, and mail to him at 183 East 80th Street, New York, N.Y. 10021, or bring your dues to the next meeting. These dues will cover you from September 2008 to September 2009. With the cost of living in New York City being what it is, \$25.00 is a relative bargain, so please, folks, our treasury is severely depleted. Send in your dues.

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

After reviewing the latest membership roster, it was noted that the majority of you indeed have e-mail. So, we are considering e-mailing the newsletter to all paid members within the next month or two. If any of our members wish to confirm their e-mail info, please e-mail either Laz or George with that info. or any comments you may have on this. If you do not have an e-mail address and are a paid member, the newsletter will still be mailed to you.