

NEW YORK CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

CACTUS COMMENTS / December 2009

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NEXT MEETING - HOLIDAY PARTY!

Our next meeting is on Thursday, December 17, 2009 at 6:00 P.M., at Jan Hus Presbyterian Church, 351 East 74th Street, NYC, First floor. This will be our annual holiday party, from 6 PM to 7:30 PM, so please join us.

HOLIDAY PARTY PROGRAM

Members should bring in edible and drinkable goodies of their choice, to be shared with everyone, for a relaxing evening before the hectic holidays. Please don't forget the essentials: plates, napkins, forks, knives, corkscrews, etc.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Lazaro Marrero

That anyone, in today's world, should not be attracted to the collection and cultivation of cacti and succulents is beyond me.

In a world that offers wars, economic downturns, blips, depressions, mud slides, earthquakes, tsunamis, epidemics, hunger, and where there is not hunger – mad cow disease, swine flu, fish riddled with mercury, Asian Chicken disease, fungus infected soy – collecting and growing cacti and succulents offers the perfect peaceful passive pastime.

I may not be able to heal the world of its countless thorny disasters, but I can take momentary comfort, in being able to remove a myriad of *Opuntia* glochids from my right forearm, with a simple piece of good old Scotch tape, and later, go on to explore my left index finger with a magnifying glass for a deeply embedded, wayward *Steno* spine.

I am the first to admit needing refuge from the world's travails, and what better refuge than the world of cacti and succulents, and the odd, wonderful, even dare I say: beautiful people that inhabit that world with me.

Peace be unto you and yours, today, and in the coming days of 2010.

To all our members

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!