

# The Prickly Press

Newsletter of The Kansas City Cactus & Succulent Society

kccactus.com

May 2024



*Please Join Us for Our May Meeting!*  
**SUNDAY, MAY 19, 1:30 p.m.**

**The Trailside Center, 99th & Holmes Rd.**

Our program will be led by KCCSS member Roy Smith, who will give us pointers about repotting our plants as they come out of dormancy during the spring and early summer. We will also learn about staging our plants for personal enjoyment versus for judging.

The program will be followed by a business meeting and planning for our June 15 sale. Refreshments will be served!

**Please use the FLYER at the end of this newsletter to spread the word about our JUNE 15 SALE!**

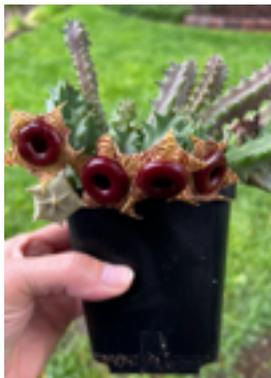
**From Shirley Grubbs, VP & Program Chair—**

## **Show and Tell**

*Plant Show and Tell* will be a new feature of our KCCSS meetings!

We would like to give our members an opportunity to bring a plant they would like to tell us about – one that excites you, happens to be blooming or one that you just want to tell the group about.

Also, as part of *Plant Show and Tell*, you may bring in a problem plant. It is likely one of our members may be able to give you some helpful advice.



Looking forward to seeing more of your great plants!

## **From the President—**

Hello Friends.

This Sunday we will have a presentation and discussion of Repotting and Transplanting. The discussion will also touch on staging plants to make them look their very best. Please bring your experience, your questions, and your plant to show to the group for our new plant Show and Tell! Also, check out the plant of the month categories—then bring your plants. It's all about seeing the plants.

### **News about the sale on June 15<sup>th</sup>.**

Connie and Al will have pottery for sale. The Wiley's will be selling plants and, our members will also be selling plants. The split is 80/20. In this newsletter, please be sure to check out our rules for how to label your sale items for the sale.

**If you will be selling plants, please contact Christy Sipek [CSIPEK@live.com](mailto:CSIPEK@live.com) to give her the initials you will be using on your plants' tags.**

**Free Lunch?** I'm including a sign-up sheet for the sale. Anyone who signs up *and works a shift* will be entitled to a free lunch! The club will order from KC Joe's and Waldo Pizza, so there's lots of choice. What a deal!

**PLEASE** save and bring cardboard boxes for our customer's purchases. If anyone has newspaper, please bring that for packaging the plants.

If you haven't worked a sale before, it's a chance to share information about growing our plants. I always come home with a new idea or two. And there are new plants to take home. **Please sign up for a shift.**

See you on Sunday!  
Linda

## 2024 KCSS Calendar

May 19 — “Transplanting and Repotting Plants as They Come Out of Dormancy”

June 15, Saturday — 10:00-4:00; Cactus Sale (members' plants), Trailside Center

**NOTE:** June 16 meeting has been **cancelled**

July 20-21 — Henry Shaw C&S Society, Show & Sale, St. Louis

July 21 — Program TBA

July 26-28 — Mid-States Conference Santa Fe, NM

August 18

September 15

October 20

November 17

December 15 — Holiday Party

These are the dates we have reserved for our regular meetings at the Trailside Center, 9901 Holmes, Kansas City, MO. All meetings are currently scheduled to start at 1:30 p.m.

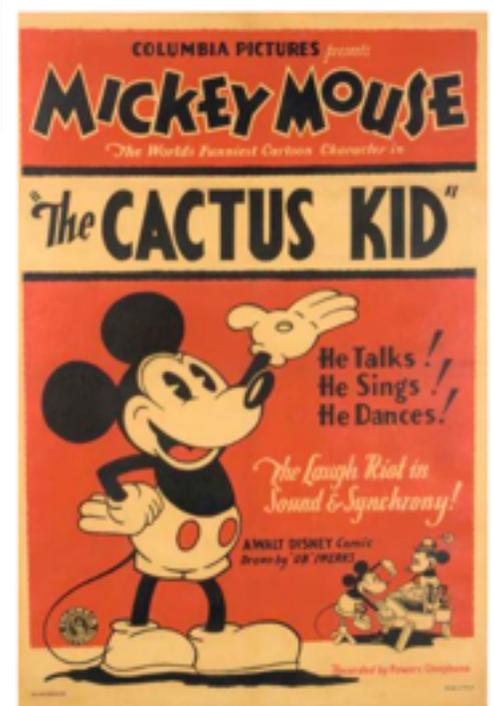
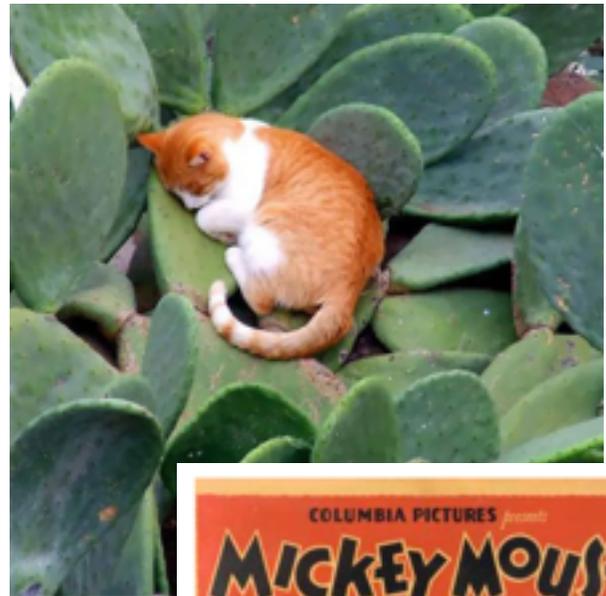
## TREASURER'S REPORT APRIL 2024

Beginning Balance - \$13,106.02

Income - \$40.00 (Membership dues)

Expenses - \$50.00 (Trailside Center Donation)

Ending Balance - \$13,096.02



The Cactus Kid is a Mickey Mouse short animated film first released on May 10, 1930, as part of the Mickey Mouse film series. It was the eighteenth Mickey Mouse short to be produced, the third of that year. [Wikipedia](#)

## Meeting Notes, April 21, 2024

President, Linda Tamblyn, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. 16 people in attendance.

Treasurer's report and notes from previous meeting were approved.

Business discussion included:

- Upcoming plant sale, scheduled for Saturday, June 15 (times to be determined)
- Sale set-up will be June 14 at 3:00 p.m.
- Sale will be held at the Trailside Center
- Anyone can sell plants and plant items (must have initials on all sales items)
- The sales split will be 80/20
- Lunch will be catered and paid for by the club
- The May issue of the *Prickly Press* will contain detailed information on the sale

- Sales needs include:

- + table covers
- + Cash Register
- + Signage/Advertising - Mary Lynn volunteered to serve on the publicity committee
- + Membership Info

Other Business:

- Possibly have another plant sale in September or October 2024
- Encourage people to go (and participate) on our Facebook Page, *The Kansas City Cactus and Succulent Society*

Door prize awarded to Michele Bartlett. Meeting Adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Michele Bartlett, acting secretary

## Rules for KCCSS Plant Sale Price Labels

- Plant stakes should have full botanical name (genus and species), clearly printed on them whenever possible.
- Price sticker must be at least ¾ inch in diameter or larger. Big enough to be easily seen and read.
- Vendor’s initials and price must be clearly written in non-smudgeable ink. (Christy Sipek needs to be emailed as soon as possible to give her the initials that you will use for your sale plants.)
- Price stickers must be affixed to the top of the plant stake, facing outward.
- Price stickers must be on the exterior of pots and other dimensional items for sale.
- Sellers may be asked to redo stickers if they do not comply to the requirements.

Please follow these guidelines to make check out easier and to ensure you are credited properly for your sales. Thank you.

### Sign up to work a shift at the KCCSS Plant Sale on June 15, Trailside Center, 9:30–4.

Sign up today! At [plums15@gmail.com](mailto:plums15@gmail.com)

Members who sign up and work a shift at the Sale get a Free Lunch. We will have group orders from KC Joe's and Waldo Pizza. Fluffy Fresh Donuts, OJ and cold brew will be available for the early volunteers.

Openers will help get plants in and on tables, put out plant sale signs, help anywhere needed.	8:00 – 9:30
OPEN	
OPEN	
OPEN	
OPEN	

	9:30 – 11:30	11:30 – 2:30	2:30 – 4:00	3:30 – 4:30
Register assistant				
Register assistant				
Register assistant				
Sales Floor				
Sales Floor				
Sales Floor				
Sherpa (helps people carry boxes to car)				
Sherpa (helps people carry boxes to car)				
Clean up				
Clean up				



*Echinopsis mamilliosa*, now known as *Lobivia mamilliosa*

*Lobivia mamilliosa* is widespread in the Bolivian departments of Chuquisaca and Tarija at altitudes of 1500 to 3000 meters.

*Wikipedia*

## MAY PLANT OF THE MONTH CATEGORIES

**Cactus:** Mammillaria, Lobivia, Rhipsalis, Favorite

**Other Succulent:** Aloe, Dorstenia, Peperomia, Favorite

Participants may enter 1 plant in any size pot per class, for a maximum of 8 entries per person. Each plant entered will earn 5 points. Additional points are awarded according to placement in the class (1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc., to be voted on by members). Any plant in bloom will receive 2 bonus points.

### Results from March

#### Succulents:

##### Dracaena (Sansevieria)

1st Sansevieria parva	Shirley Grubbs	14
2nd Sansevieria masoniana(?)	Renee Becka	10
3rd Dracaena hybrid tiger	Eva Allen	6
3rd Sansevieria pinguicula	Dorothy Posey	6

##### Kalanchoe:

1st Kalanchoe fire rainbow	Renee Becka	14
2nd Kalanchoe fedtschenkoi	Roy Smith	9
3rd Kalanchoe little dragon	Shirley Grubbs.	8

##### Variegated:

1st Adenia kerananthus	Eva Allen	10
2nd Ledebouria socialis	Shirley Grubbs	9
3rd Crassula ovata sonata	Roy Smith	8

##### Favorite:

1st Adenium sp.	Eva Allen	11
2nd Peperomia obtusifolia	Doris Duke	8
2nd Euph. capsaintemariensis	Roy Smith	8
2nd Senecio herreanus	Renee Becka	8
2nd Echeveria Hybrid Dick Wright	Shirley Grubbs	8
3rd Pacisaeria (???)	Judy Pigue	6

#### Cacti:

##### Variegated:

1st Ferocactus hybrid var.	Roy Smith	9
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##### Favorite:

1st Gymnocalycium	Roy Smith	12
2nd Hatiora salicornioides	Eva Allen	11
3rd Parodia	Judy Pigue	8
4th Gymnocalycium friedrich	Shirley Grubbs	6



Peperomia caperata  
"Red Ripple"

Peperomia metallica



### Results from April

#### Succulents:

##### Favorite:

1st Ipomoea platensis	Eva Allen	6
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##### Cacti:

##### Parodia:

1st Parodia leninghausii	Victor Gress	6
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##### Grafted:

1st Blossfeldia liliputiana	Victor Gress	6
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##### Favorite:

1st Astrophytum Asterias	Victor Gress	6
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### Peperomia Radiator Plants



From *Cactus Corner News*,  
Fresno Cactus & Succulent Society,  
March 2023

## Lekhala kharatsa (Sesoatrho)

Spiral aloe (English)

*Aloe polyphylla* (Latin)

By Bruce Hargreaves

This unusual aloe is found only in the mountains of Lesotho. It is a protected species, and I was in charge of protecting it back in the 80s when I was chairman of the Lesotho Protection and Preservation Commission. (At the time I was teaching botany at the National University of Lesotho and was in charge of their herbarium and botanic garden.) Despite our efforts, people continued to buy uprooted specimens on the roadside. Beverley, a former Peace Corps Volunteer, managed to cultivate it artificially at the University of California at Santa Cruz and it is available in the US, although it is very expensive.

Recently I found it for sale at Lowes at a more reasonable price. It even had two heads. (It rarely divides, but when it does one head spirals in the opposite direction from the other.)

It is difficult to grow in cultivation because it is adapted to the high mountains with steep basalt slopes found in Lesotho. Even at the slightly lower altitude of the University there it would flower, but never set seed even though sun birds, the alleged pollinator, fed on them there.

In 1984 I included them in a lecture at the CSSA convention (later published in the CS Journal) on the succulents in Lesotho which I called Succulents in the Snow. It is again an appropriate subject as the convention will be held in Colorado this year.

The attached picture shows an unusual, yellow-flowered plant. Usually, they are pink to red.



The Kansas City Cactus & Succulent Society, Inc. was established in 1976. It is incorporated as a Non-Profit Organization in Missouri. The Society is affiliated with The Cactus & Succulent Society of America, Inc. Meetings are generally held at 1:30 p.m. on the 3rd Sunday of each month at the Trailside Center, 99th & Holmes. Dues are \$20 for a single membership and \$25 for a household. **OFFICERS:**  
**President** — Linda Tamblin, 913-231-1020, [plums15@gmail.com](mailto:plums15@gmail.com); **Co-Vice Presidents** — Shirley Grubbs, 785-760-2394, [sdgrubbs@sunflower.com](mailto:sdgrubbs@sunflower.com); Barbara Roy, [brbnkke@gmail.com](mailto:brbnkke@gmail.com); **Secretary** — Doris Duke, 913-649-3660, [daduke66212@yahoo.com](mailto:daduke66212@yahoo.com); **Treasurer** — Christy Sipek, 816-824-1028, [csipek@live.com](mailto:csipek@live.com); **Newsletter Editor** — Eva Allen, 816-444-9321, [evaal@att.net](mailto:evaal@att.net)  
**Website Administrator** — Linda Tamblin, 913-231-1020, [plums15@gmail.com](mailto:plums15@gmail.com); **KCCSS Publicity and CSSA Affiliate Representative** — Mark Raduziner, 913-742-0670, [cactimark@gmail.com](mailto:cactimark@gmail.com)

## Rhipsalis: The Fascinating World of Epiphytic Cacti

Rhipsalis is a genus of cacti that has actually been gaining popularity over the last few years. These distinct plants belong to Central and South America and are understood for their uncommon appearance and development practices. Unlike most cacti, which grow in dry, desert environments, Rhipsalis are epiphytic, suggesting they grow on other plants or objects, such as trees or rocks. They have actually adapted to grow in the damp, rainforest environment of their natural habitat by soaking up moisture and nutrients from the air and rain.

Rhipsalis plants are reasonably simple to care for, making them a popular option for beginners and knowledgeable plant lovers alike. They prefer bright, indirect light and must be kept out of direct sunlight. They ought to be watered regularly, but not overwatered, as this can trigger root rot. A well-draining soil mixture is recommended, as is periodic fertilization.

Among the most unique features of Rhipsalis plants is their ability to enhance indoor air quality. They soak up pollutants and release oxygen, making them an outstanding option for offices and homes. They are likewise non-toxic to animals, making them a safe choice for animal lovers.

In addition to their appeal and low-maintenance care requirements, Rhipsalis plants also have an abundant cultural history. They have been utilized for medicinal purposes by native people for centuries, and some species are still used in conventional medicine today. They have actually also been utilized for food, with some species being eaten in salads or used to make a revitalizing beverage.

In general, Rhipsalis plants are an interesting addition to any plant collection. Their distinct growth practices, low-maintenance care, and cultural significance make them an excellent option for plant enthusiasts of all levels.

<https://asucculent.com/30-types-of-popular-rhipsalis-pictorial-guide/>  
<https://asucculent.com/30-types-of-popular-rhipsalis-pictorial-guide/>



*Rhipsalis campos-portoana*



*Rhipsalis crispata*

**18<sup>th</sup> BIENNIAL  
MID-STATES  
CONFERENCE**  
JULY 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Santa Fe, New Mexico

*Nothing like the summer in historical Santa Fe!*

**SIX OF THE BEST SPEAKERS IN THE COUNTRY  
SIX OF THE MOST OUTSTANDING CACTUS & SUCCULENT VENDORS  
AFFORDABLE HOTELS, SHOW PLANT AUCTION & FABULOUS OUTINGS**

For more information, go to [www.santafecactusclub.org](http://www.santafecactusclub.org)  
contact conference chair Woody Minnich at [cactusdata@msn.com](mailto:cactusdata@msn.com) or 661-406-9816

If you have questions and need details (*speakers, vendors & event schedule*), feel free to go to our website or contact me, as listed below. **The website will be up and running by April 3.** Also, you may visit the Santa Fe CSC web page for registration info. **Register early and get your hotel reserved quickly!** (*The conference is not being sponsored by a hotel, see our hotel and restaurant listings.*) July in Santa Fe is a very popular time of the year, and our conference weekend coincides with the extremely well-liked and well-attended Traditional Spanish Market. Join us in the Enchanted Land of New Mexico!

<https://www.santafecactusclub.org/midstatescon>  
Woody Minnich [cactusdata@msn.com](mailto:cactusdata@msn.com) 1-661-406-9816

Thank you! Cheers, From our Santa Fe Cactus & Succulent Club leadership team.

**Nothing like the Summer in Historical Santa Fe!**

The Kansas City Cactus & Succulent Society

**Big Sale!**

**CACTUS, SUCCULENTS,  
POTTERY**

**ONE DAY ONLY—**

*Saturday, June 15, 2024*

*10 a.m. — 4 p.m.*

The Trailside Center  
9901 Holmes Road  
Kansas City, MO 64131



[kccactus.com](http://kccactus.com)

*The sale is open to the public.  
Admission is free.*

