

## Succulent Karoo

# Chronicles

A Newsy Letter from Calitzdorp, South Africa for Succulent Plant Enthusiasts Everywhere

March 2016 - Volume 2, Number 3

Artist Mize has just completed one of two murals on our wall. Now we have to explain to all the local passersby what the "H" stands for.

Buck and I commissioned the work last October and we are thrilled with the results.

# Upcoming Events in and near Calitzdorp

May 6-8 – Redstone Hills Mountain Bike and Trail Running weekend at Buffelskloof, Kruisrivier.

June 16-19 – Caltizdorp Winter Festival (formerly Calitzdorp Port Festival).

Material in the **SUCCULENT KAROO CHRONICLE** publication may be reprinted by nonprofit organizations (unless such permission is expressly denied in a note accompanying the material) provided proper credit is given to the SKC and the author, and that one copy of the publication containing the reprinted material is sent to the editor. Reproduction in whole or part by any other organization or publication without the permission of the publisher is prohibited.

## Editors' Message

Here it is Autumn already. Seems odd to think of March as the end of summer but we are all grateful here for some cooler weather. The last of the fall harvest is being picked with grapes, almonds and olives ripening one after the other. The Hemenway olive crop was just over 50KG (about 110 pounds). Buck and I picked them this week and the crop is on the way to the olive press to turn into olive oil.

Last week the Queen of Calitzdorp Hotel put on a book launching event. Author Sally Andrew gave a reading from her book, *Recipies of Love and Murder*. The book is set in a dorp (town) in the Little Karoo and her characters are delightful and the book is a fun read. There are even recipies for traditional Karoo food at the end. I recommend you read it.

We made good progress on our landscaping project. The Calitzdorp museum is planning a garden tour in May and they have asked Buck and I to put our garden on the tour. The pressure is on to complete by then.

We spent a day at the Klien Karoo Arts Festival in Oudtshoorn. This is a huge event with plays, musicians, dancers and other entertainers at various venues around the city. Then there is the beer garden and wine tasting tents and, of course, vendors selling food and local crafts. We had a great time and will go again next year.

Buck and I have a new piece of art. Local artists and restauranteurs, Mize and Deon, designed and installed a tile mural on our wall at the end of the driveway. It is creating quite a buzz in the village.

My veggie garden is giving us tomatoes and peppers and I can't keep ahead of the chard. I planted peas a few weeks ago and they are already climbing their trellis. Also planted some Aloe seeds (*microstigma* and *longistyla*). I guess we just can't give up being nurserymen.

Buck and I are on a week-long trip next week to the Addo Elephant Reserve and a few other interesting stops along the way. More about that next month.

**Buck and Yvonne Hemenway** 



Farmer Buck harvesting the olive crop.



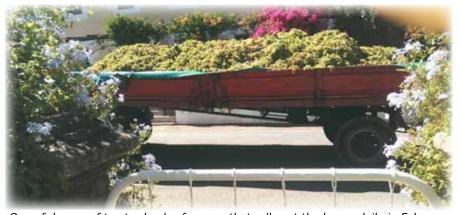
Author Sally Andrew stopped by to look at our succulent garden. She is holding her latest book, Recipies for Love and Murder, a Tannie Maria Mystery.



The garden is taking shape, and the plumbago looks spectacular this time of year.



Luscious tomatoes in the veggie garden, ready for picking.



One of dozens of tractor loads of grapes that roll past the house daily in February and March on the way to the wine cellars.

#### SUCCULENT KAROO CHRONICLES

2 Queen Street, Calitzdorp 6660 South Africa

Editors: Buck and Yvonne Hemenway Email: buck@pricklypalace.com

We have a new friend who visits the garden every morning. He is a Hoopoe.



Another view of our new murals.

Notice the grape leaves turning red over the carport.





A pretty Protoceae species growing in the Otenequa



Buck and I had lunch with friends Neil and Brenda Currie at this 'Feather Palace' just outside Calitzdorp. Reichtfontein was built in 1909, the same vintage as our house. I had the most delectable ostrich fillet washed down with a wonderful local sauvignon blanc.



Seen on a morning hike in the velt at the end of March.

L: Crassula capitella

R: Glottyphyllum carnosum

