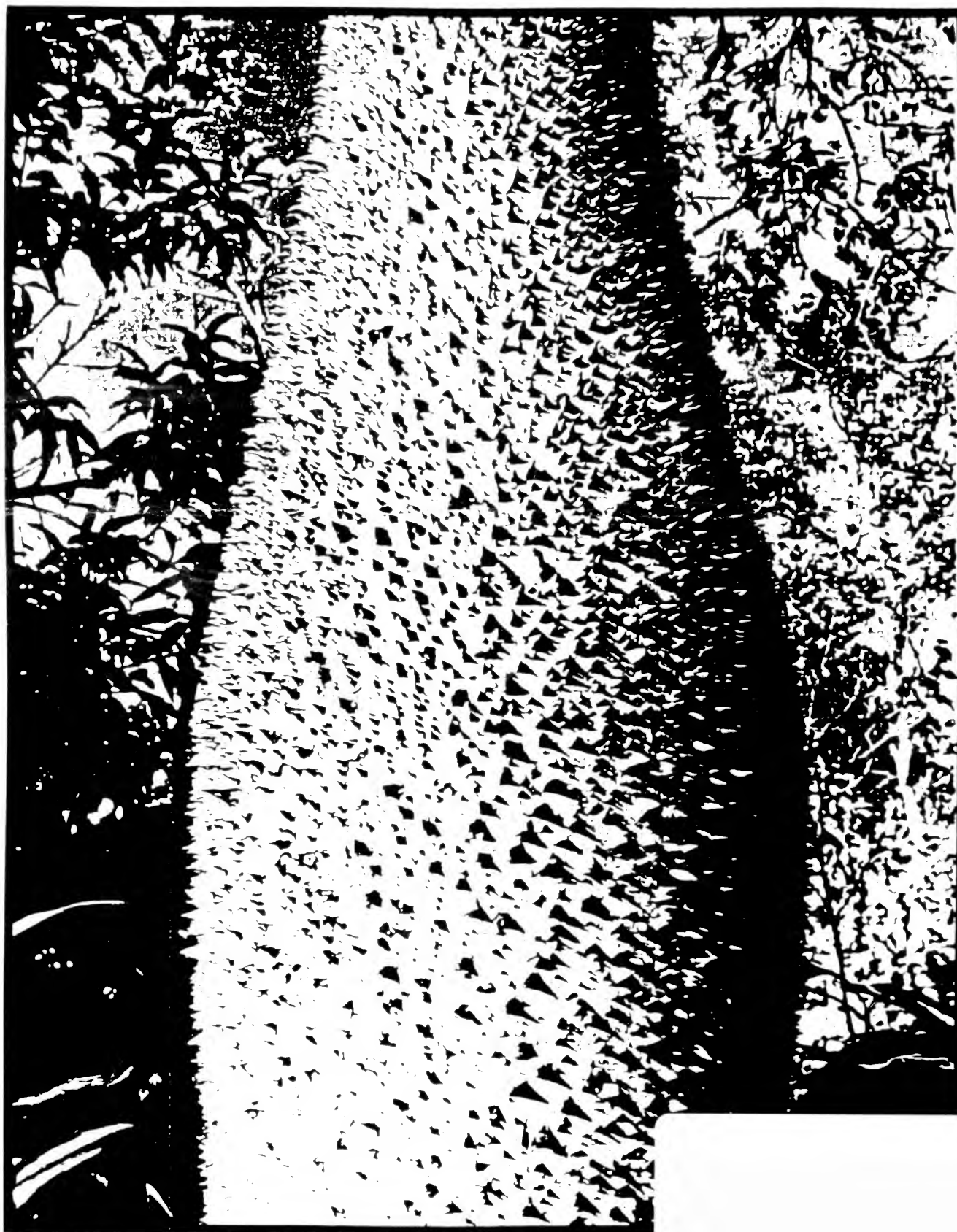


SDC&SS SHOW IS JUNE 5th & 6th!
Just thirty days to go!

Espinas y Flores

THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY, INC.

VOLUME XXVIII NUMBER FIVE, SATURDAY MAY 8, 1993



MAY PROGRAM: AMAZONIA, THE NATURAL HISTORY OF PERU



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

MEMBERSHIP AND MEETING INFORMATION

MEMBERSHIP: LAURA DE MERRITT, 619-571-5127. DUES ARE \$10.00 FOR SINGLE MEMBERSHIP AND \$5.00 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL MEMBER OF SAME HOUSEHOLD (ONE ESPINAS y FLORES MAILED). CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO S.D.C.& S.S. AND MAILED TO P.O.BOX 33181, HILLCREST STATION-102, SAN DIEGO, CA. 92163-3181.

MEETING TIME: MEETINGS ARE HELD THE SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH (EXCEPT FOR JUNE & DECEMBER) AT 1:30 pm IN ROOM 101 - MAJORICA ROOM, CASA DEL PRADO, BALBOA PARK. COME EARLY FOR PLANT, CONTAINER & SUPPLY SALES AND SOCIALIZING. BOARD MEETINGS ARE HELD AT NOON PRIOR TO GENERAL MEETING.



A GREAT BIG THANK YOU TO:

Helen Barkdol for designing the graphics for our show posters and schedule - Excellent!

Our hardworking and dedicated refreshment (regalement) committee: Lois & Elizabeth Zaranka, Mildred Richter, Don & Gail Bamber, and Stefy Mangold. Please lend a hand should you notice they're working too hard!!


Sundance Bus driver: Richard Laycock - excellent safe driving with a helpful attitude. The Living Desert Bus trip was a wonderful time, and again a sell-out. Remember to send your checks in early to reserve your seat when we have another bus trip, else you may get left behind.

To the Living Desert staff and docents, particularly Sandra and her wonderful accent.

To Joe Quijada and John Williams for embarking and debarking master Bromeliad specialist Dutch Vandervort's plants from curb to club and back. And thank you Dorothy Byer for providing show specimen Hectias, Dyckias, and other terrestrial Bromeliads for Dutch's expressive expose.

Not enough can be said about Michael Cullen - ditto, Rick (el Barbon) Latimer and Betty Athy, who will once again head clerk our June Show.

And to Rick Plant for all the procurement assistance he has been doing in preparation for the June Sale.



If you enjoy our nice refreshment break - coffee and treats - please remember that it's nice to contribute. You don't have to be on the list to bring something in, so please contribute to make us a better club!!

MAY PROGRAM: AMAZONIA, THE NATURAL HISTORY OF PERU

Slide show and talk by Guy Wrinkle, Professor of Biological Sciences, Ecologist, Nurseryman, and Natural Historian. Peru is considered the most biodiverse area in the world with a vast array of indigenous plants, insects, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and mammals. Guy has just returned from this exploration - adventure, and this will be a first-time exposure of the subject matter and photographs. Guy will also be offering some rare succulents and caudiciforms for sale. See you all there!



Our Cover: *Chorisia speciosa, st. hil.*, the beautiful Floss Silk Tree with its magnificently spined trunk is a favorite in the landscape in southern California. Native to Brazil and Argentina, *Chorisia* easily sets seed along our freeways and in our gardens. The flowers, three to five inches across, are showy and bloom naked (i.e. while the tree is still in its deciduous state without leaves). The tree with its green spiny trunk, bizarre shape, and pink-purple-reddish flowers is beautiful and unique.



The June and July - Show/Sale and Picnic/BBQ/Plant Auction Issues of Espinas y Flores will be combined this year. SDC&SS (and the editors personally) will be very active in this year's Del Mar - California State Fair. SDC&SS entries will include Plant Collection - Cacti, Plant Collection - Succulents, Plant Collection - Hanging Epiphytes and a Major Landscape exhibit - Xeroscape Garden. PLANTS AND VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED AND WELCOME - ALL DEL MAR FAIR PARTICIPANTS WILL BE REWARDED WITH FAIR PASSES AND OTHER PERKS!! It is really a lot of fun setting up exhibits as well as observing the whole fair coming together in a matter of days. If you wish to participate call Michael 222-3216; exhibits must be completed by June 15th.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE JUDGE'S LUNCH - THERE WILL BE A SIGN UP SHEET AT MAY MEETING. WE NEED SOME INTERESTING SALADS, APPETIZERS, AND DESSERTS. AND WE NEED YOUR HELP, HELP, HELP. GIVE IT SOME THOUGHT TO WHERE, WHEN, & WHAT YOU WILL BE CONTRIBUTING TO JUNE SHOW/SALE AND BE PREPARED TO MAKE A COMMITMENT AT THE MAY MEETING. WE WILL NEED HELP WITH THE SALE PLANT LABELS ON THURSDAY & FRIDAY, JUNE 3-4. WE WILL NEED SECURITY & INFO HELP BOTH INDOORS WITH THE SHOW AND OUTDOORS WITH THE SALE. WE'LL NEED CASHIERS & PLANT BOXERS - PLEASE START SAVING THOSE LITTLE BOXES! WE'LL NEED HELP SATURDAY @ 5:00 MOVING ALL SALE PLANTS INTO BUILDING. AND WE'LL NEED HELP ON SUNDAY NIGHT BREAKING IT ALL DOWN AND CLEANING UP! REMEMBER: A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING IS A MEMBER WHO HELPS WITH THE JUNE SHOW.



Deadline for June-July combined issue of Espinas y Flores is May 16 - EARLY !
Deadline for our August "Summer Sex Issue" is July 25th.



One more month til our annual show! Are your plants ready? Need hints, help, or information? Please call our Show Chairman: Joey Betzler @ 239-0804.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

1993 PLANT SHOW and SALE

Our annual show and sale are coming up next month, June 5 and 6. This year will be my first year as chairman of the show. Please help make it a good show by bringing plants to display and volunteer, volunteer, volunteer! The show rules state, "Open to anyone with an interest in succulent plants.", therefore any one, member or not, can exhibit their plants. Please tell your friends and post the flyer (if you got one) in an appropriate place. This year we have a new award and a revitalized trophy. The new award will be for the Best *Agave*, the Doris Rake Plaque. The trophy for best *Euphorbia* will be revitalized and Russel will have his name added next to his wife, Lydia Evans. For those of you that have trophies and plaques, please dust and polish them and bring them to the next meeting. Also this year we will issue plaques that may be kept by the winners of: Most Artistic Display, Best Exhibit, Sweepstakes, and High Points 50 or Less Entries. In years past the winners of these trophies had no permanent record to keep, now they will.

THE BAJA GARDEN

This is my ongoing plug for the Baja Collection at the San Diego Wild Animal Park. If you want to see flowers go and visit the Baja Collection. We have many flowers on cacti and other plants in the collection. Right now is our peak blooming time. So if you did not make it out to the desert why not visit the park. If you want to come out and work on the Baja Collection for a few hours you can get into the park for free. If you are interested call me and we can make arrangements. Now there are a few people that I want to recognize for their support: Al Resnick, a member of the Palomar club, he has been very good in taking care of his particular section of the collection. Chris Jensen of our club has started another section recently. Bill, Shirley and their son Russ Kimmich have helped me start on the task of staking out the collection. We all worked very hard on some of the hottest days. Thanks also to Bob Herbst helping to maintain the greenhouse collection. Last but not least thanks to Frank Thrombly, he gave me the inspiration to volunteer my time for the collection. He is a wonderful person to work with and I have learned to appreciate those spiny cactus under his tutelage.

MEETINGS

Well I have presided over four meetings so far and I have a few to go yet. I am starting to get the hang of it, but I do not get to visit as much as I would like to. Also, I have a hard time remembering all that I have to do. I will try to get those door prizes out and the guests recognized with a new plant, though I may occasionally need help!

CSSA

The bi-annual CSSA convention is in San Francisco in July and our club will put a bid for the 1997 convention to be held here, wish us luck. Also we put in our orders for *Haseltonia*. They will be distributed as soon as we get them.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Rick Latimer, Librarian

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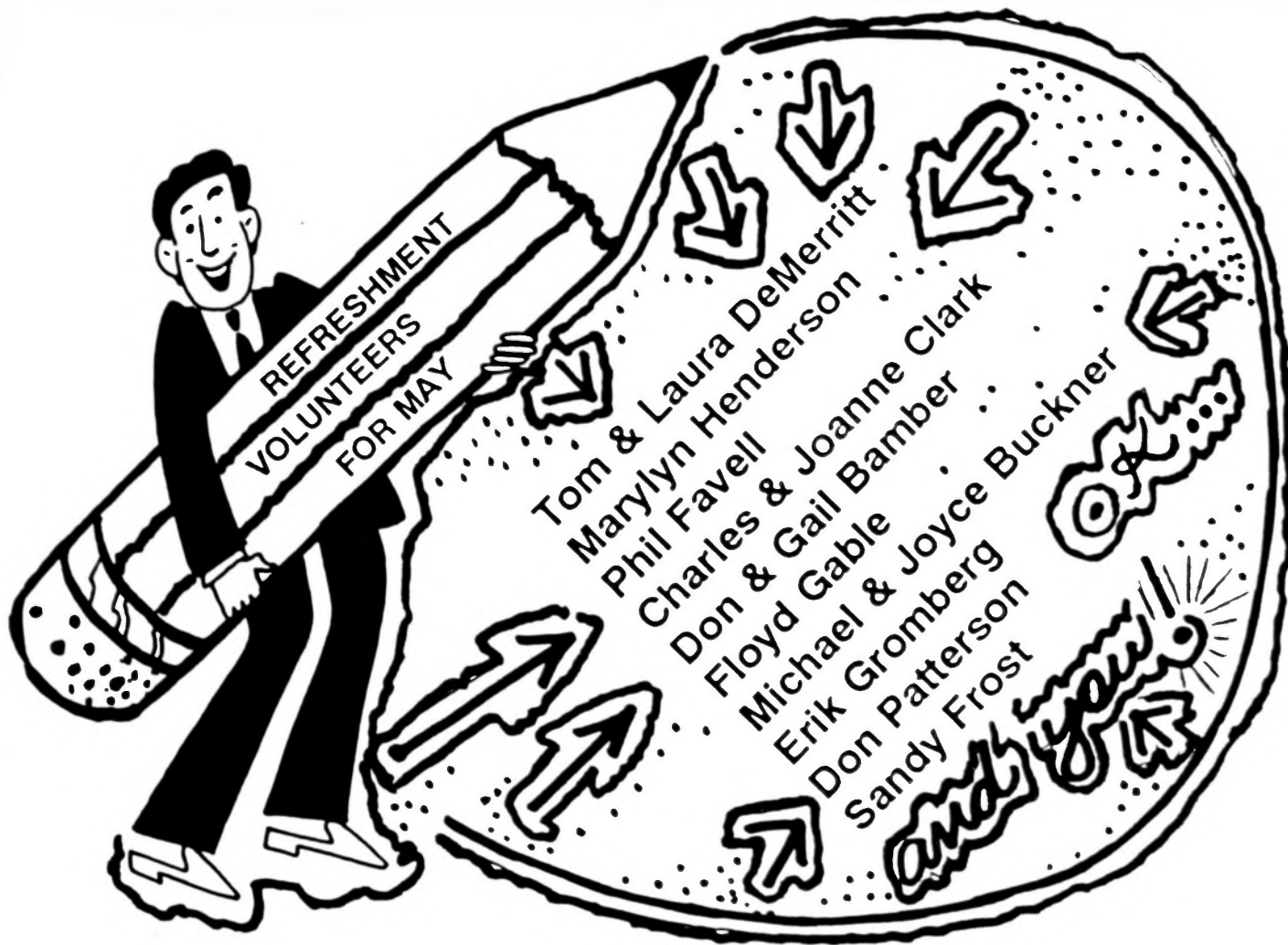
- Harold Bagust, THE GARDENER'S DICTIONARY OF HORTICULTURAL TERMS
CSSA JOURNAL, 1991-92, 92
Desmond T. Cole, LITHOPS OF SWA/NAMIBIA
Mark E. Cobia, ZYGOCACTUS (2)
Leonard Cronin, THE CONCISE AUSTRALIAN FLORA
Gerhard Groener & Erich Goetz, BEAUTIFUL CACTI - A Basic Grower's Guide
David Hardy, SUCCULENTS OF THE TRANSVAAL
Helia Bravo-Hollis & H. Sanchez-Mejorada, LAS CACTACEAS DE MEXICO -
Vs.II,III
Vera Higgins, CRASSULAS IN CULTIVATION
Adriana E. Hoffmann J., CACTACEAS - EN LA FLORA SILVESTRE DE CHILE
R.B. Ivimey-Cook, SUCCULENTS - A GLOSSARY OF TERMS & DESCRIPTIONS
Matthew Johnson, DESERT PLANTS - Bursera in Sonora and Arizona
Y.Nakanishi, CACTI & OTHER SUCCULENTS CATALOGUE
Gordon Rowley, THE ADENIUM AND PACHYPODIUM HANDBOOK (2)
Gordon Rowley, DIDIEREACEAE (2)
H.R.Toelken, FLORA OF SOUTHERN AFRICA - "Crassulaceae" (14)
Ernst van Jaarsveld, "The Genus Gasteria, A Synoptic Review" ALOE (29:1)
Peter Wild, THE SAGUARO FOREST
Marcus Schneck, CACTI
Herman Schwartz, THE EUPHORBIA JOURNAL - Volume 8 (2)
William T.Stearn, STEARN'S DICTIONARY OF PLANT NAMES FOR GARDENERS
Michael Allaby, THE CONCISE OXFORD DICTIONARY OF BOTANY
David H.Benzing, VASCULAR EPIPHYTES
Elizabeth Bibb, IN THE JAPANESE GARDEN
BRITISH CACTUS & SUCCULENT JOURNAL - Vs. 7-9 (1989-91)
CACTUS & SUCCULENT JOURNAL OF AMERICA, Vs. 63 (1991)
Eyewitness Visual Dictionaries, THE VISUAL DICTIONARY OF PLANTS
J.B.GILLETT, "Burseraceae" - FLORA OF TROPICAL EAST AFRICA
Glenn Keator, COMPLETE GARDEN GUIDE TO THE NATIVE PERENNIALS OF
CALIFORNIA
Edwin A.Menninger, FANTASTIC TREES
William C.Mulligan, THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO NORTH AMERICAN GARDENS,
Vs.I&II
Gordon Rowley, NAME THAT SUCCULENT (#2)
Eric Sigg, CALIFORNIA - PUBLIC GARDENS, A Visitors Guide
McGinnious, et al. DESERTS OF THE WORLD
Peter Dance, THE ART OF NATURAL HISTORY



"BOOKS ARE THE LEGACIES THAT A GREAT GENIUS
LEAVES TO MANKIND, WHICH ARE DELIVERED DOWN
FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION, AS PRESENTS TO
THE POSTERITY OF THOSE WHO ARE UNBORN."

Joseph Addison, 1711





LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

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April 5, 1993

Dear Joyce & Michael,

I have, as usual, overcommitted myself and have promised five new books this year. I have no idea how many shall be sold or when. But I would love to find out who is interested in them.....

- LEMAIRE'S ICONOGRAPHIE DES CACTEES, 1993-early
- ROWLEY'S SENECIO AND OTHONNA, 1993
- RAUH'S SUCCULENTS OF MADAGASCAR, two volumes - late 1993
- ROWLEY'S THE FAMILIES AND GENERA OF SUCCULENTS, 1994
- VOLUME IX - THE EUPHORBIA JOURNAL, late 1993
- ROWLEY'S THE HISTORY OF SUCCULENTS, 1993-94
- VON JAARVELD'S TYLECODON AND COTYLEDON, 1994
- VOLUME X - THE EUPHORBIA JOURNAL, 1994
- BARAD, LAND, EDITORS - THE SUCCULENT ASCLEPIADACEAE, two volumes 1994-95

It is obvious that I cannot print 5,000 copies of each of these books. Smaller numbers are extremely expensive so their printing will probably be the last for each. Your estimates will help in my decision about the size of printing. Please anyone who is interested in any of these write to:

Herman Schwartz MD - THE EUPHORBIA JOURNAL
 Strawberry Press, 227 Strawberry Drive,
 Mill Valley, CA 94941

Herman Schwartz MD.

CHARLES LEMAIRE'S

Iconographie Descriptive des Cactées

"The rarest work on Cacti ever published..." "The finest depiction of cacti ever published."

Thus was described the *only* copy of Lemaire's unfinished masterpiece to come up for auction in many decades. Even then it was two plates short of the unique copy in the Natural History Museum, London, representing all that remains of an over-ambitious enterprise. The 16 magnificent colour plates show cacti life-size or larger, and were drawn by M. Maubert, engraved on copper by M. Duménil, printed in colour and retouched by hand.

Strawberry Press has been granted permission by the Natural History Museum to produce a faithful copy, in original 13"x20" folio size. Gordon Rowley inspired this publishing effort and has written a detailed introduction. Publication of this limited edition bound folio is expected in the summer of 1993. Presubscription (before June 1st, 1993): US\$150.00 (dealer's cost).

The Succulent Compositae: **SENECIO & OTHONNA**

by Gordon Rowley

In this comprehensive review of the current status of the succulent compositae, Gordon Rowley is filling a longstanding gap in the literature on succulent plants. Members of an enormous, world-ranging family of familiar plants, these fascinating succulent representatives are finally, in text and color photographs, achieving the recognition they deserve. Expected publication date: late 1993, probable cost: \$45.00 + shipping + tax. Pre-subscriptions and queries are welcome. Telephone: (415) 388-5017

The Succulents of Madagascar

by Professor Dr. Werner Rauh

The first of two volumes of Werner Rauh's extraordinary and long-awaited study of the remarkable flora of Madagascar is scheduled for publication at year's end.

Professor Rauh has botanically explored Madagascar many times during the past twenty-five years, and has discovered and named a vast number of species. This revered and articulate botanist from Heidelberg University is recognized as a world authority not only on Madagascan succulents, but also on Bromeliads and Cacti.

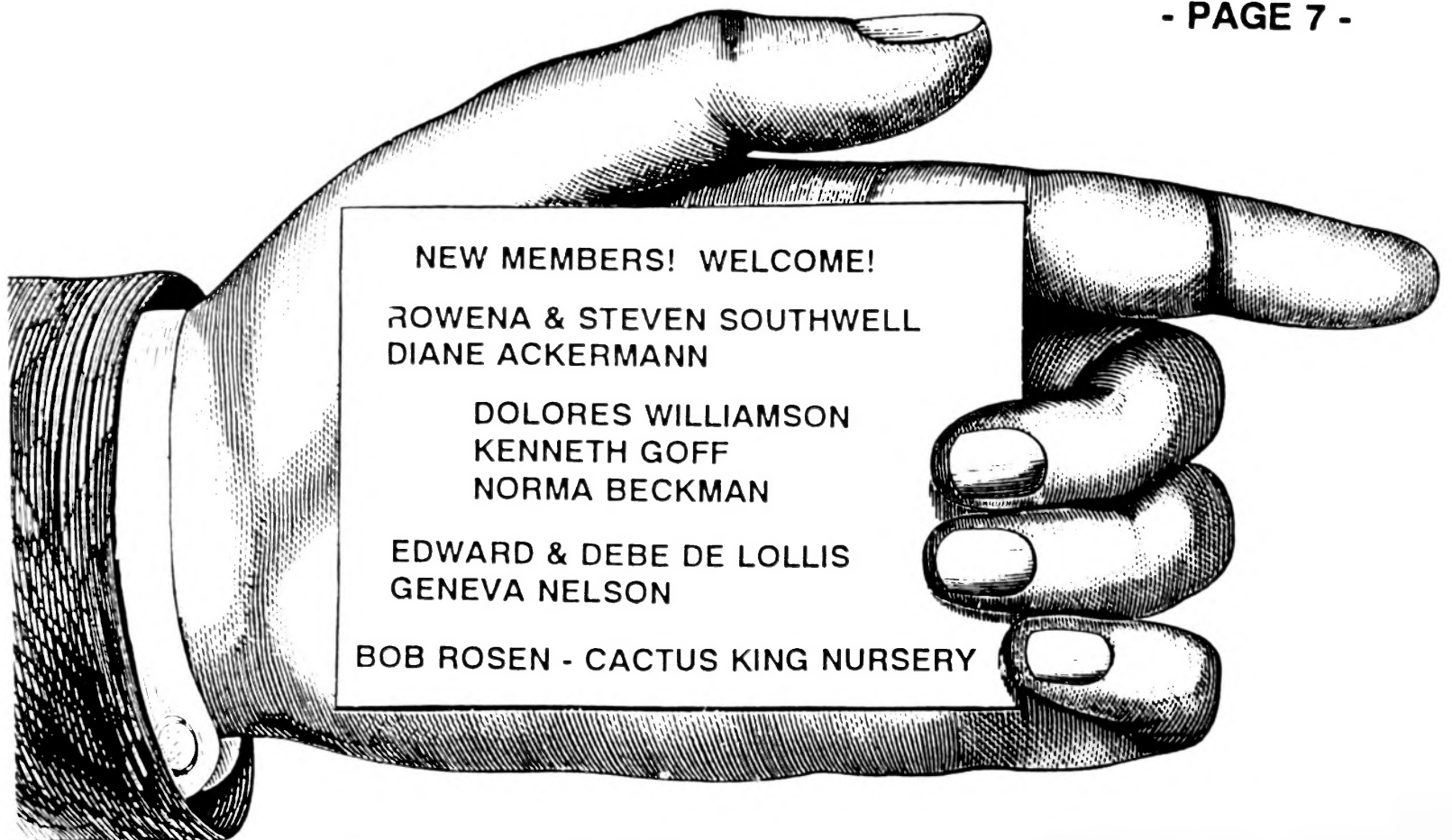
The two lavishly illustrated volumes will thoroughly review and illustrate all the families and genera of Madagascan succulents, and will be graced with literally hundreds of his spectacular color photographs.

The consequence of a lifetime of exploration and study, *The Succulents of Madagascar* will be a truly beautiful and monumental reference work. Indications of interest should be sent to:

STRAWBERRY PRESS, 227 STRAWBERRY DRIVE, MILL VALLEY, CA 94941 USA



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NEW MEMBERS! WELCOME!

**ROWENA & STEVEN SOUTHWELL
DIANE ACKERMANN**

**DOLORES WILLIAMSON
KENNETH GOFF
NORMA BECKMAN**

**EDWARD & DEBE DE LOLLIS
GENEVA NELSON**

BOB ROSEN - CACTUS KING NURSERY

CACTUS OF THE MONTH

THE MAMMILLARIAS OF BAJA CALIFORNIA

Phyllis Flechsig

The Mammillarias of Baja California fall into two broad groups: those with straight spines, milky sap, and brown seeds in the section Mammillaria (formerly Galactochylus); and those with hooked spines, watery sap, and (usually) black seeds in the section Hydrochylus. Their habitats vary from mountains to the seashore; often they grow in the shelter of bushes or rocks. Many are island species; some grow on one, and only one, island.

On the mainland, the commonest, most ubiquitous species is M. dioica, a variable plant. In most parts of the peninsula, except perhaps near the Cape, any clustering hooked-spined Mammillaria that you find is likely to be this species. M. dioica has a funnel-shaped flower, white or slightly yellowish, with a faint midstripe, and a greenish-yellow stigma. The axils of the tubercles have both wool and bristles. The name "dioica" means dioecious; that is, male flowers (pollen only) appear on some plants, females (stigmas and ovary only) on others; however, Benson says that this name was given in error and that almost all plants have both pollen and stigmas. Look under any bush in Baja California and the chances are good that you will find a Mammillaria dioica!

M. louisae, from the west coast near Rancho Socorro, has hooked spines, large white to pink funnel-shaped flowers and very prominent stigma lobes. It has an extreme dislike of cultivation and I, for one, have reluctantly given up trying to grow it.

A less difficult hooked-spined plant you might find is the tiny M. blossfeldiana, which is very hard to locate unless it is blooming; the large (for the plant) bright pink flowers with white margins on the petals are very showy. This plant has wool in the axils, but no bristles. It grows in the central part of the peninsula, often hiding under rocks.

M. insularis, another of the hooked-spined group, grows on some of the islands in Los Angeles Bay (on the Gulf side of the peninsula) and also on the nearby mainland. It is another small plant, generally solitary, with large light pink flowers with white margins on the petals. Axils may have a little wool.

In the Cape region grows M. schumannii, once segregated in its own genus, Bartschella, because of the fruit that breaks off in the middle instead of coming out intact. This plant has a bluish body and large, showy pink flowers. It is rather tricky to grow in cultivation, needing perfect drainage and strong light.

The group with straight spines and milky sap is not nearly as popular in collections, somehow lacking the glamor of the hooked-spined sorts; flowers tend to be smaller

and yellowish. The plants often grow very flat to the ground, and can be hard to see under all the debris that collects on them. One that is well worth growing is M. petrophila, which has pretty needle-like brown and white spines and bright greenish-yellow flowers.

Another straight-spined plant that grows in a wide area of the central desert of the peninsula is M. brandegeei, a flat-topped solitary plant. M. lewisiana is probably a variant of this species, which has very pretty black spines that arch over the top of the plant.

M. glareosa, which has short, straight spines, grows in silty flats on the Pacific coast southwest of Punta Prieta, at Santa Rosalillita Bay.

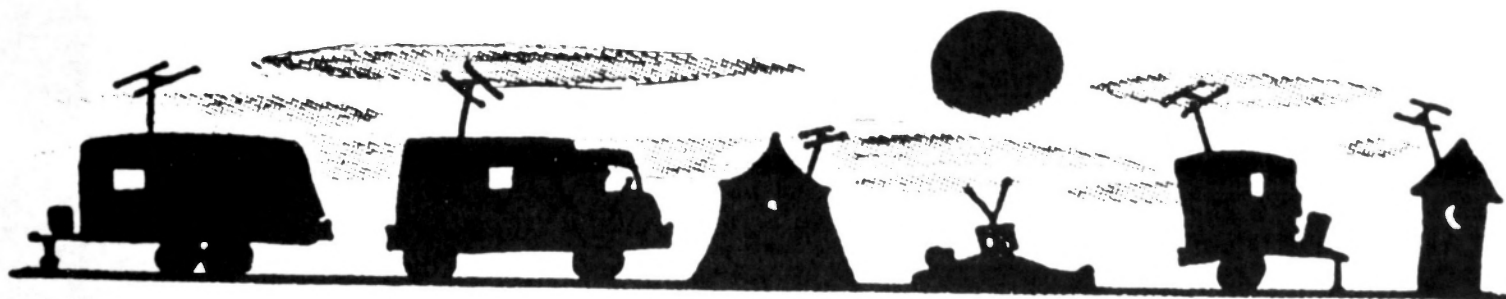
There are either several straight-spined species in the Cape region, or else one variable species, depending on your authority. M. baxterana is the one; the others sometimes considered to be synonyms are M. marshalliana, pacifica, arida, and gatesii. Most have one central spine and several radials, while M. arida has 4 to 7 centrals and 15 radials. All have flowers with purplish central stripes on the outer petals and greenish to yellow inner petals, sometimes with a stripe.

The genus Cochemiea is considered by some authorities to be a part of the genus Mammillaria, and all are endemic to Baja California. They are omitted from this report because they have been discussed here very recently.

Growing the Baja Mams can be tricky. Obtaining them is easy, as seed is available for most of them; don't dig up wild plants! Most wild ones are not happy in cultivation. They grow reasonably fast from seed, and bloom while young. Just see that the light is good (but remember that they grow under bushes in the wild) and the drainage super-excellent. "Dirty pumice" works well.

LITERATURE CONSULTED

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- Pilbeam, J. 1981. Mammillaria: A Collector's Guide. Batsford: London.
- Wiggins, I. L. 1980. Flora of Baja California. Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA.



CHECKLIST OF BAJA CALIFORNIA MAMMILLARIAS

I. Section Mammillaria

- M. arida* (may = *M. baxterana*)--La Paz
M. baxterana (incl. *M. pacifica*, *M. marshalliana*, *M. arida*)--Cape
M. brandegeei (incl. *M. lewisiana*)--
Vizcaino desert, San Ignacio
M. evermanniana--Loreto to Cape;
Cerralvo Island
M. gatesii (may = *M. baxterana*)--Cape
M. glareosa (incl. *M. dawsonii*)--Santa
Rosalillita Bay
M. peninsularis--Cabo S. Lucas
M. petrophila--Mts. of Cape

II. Section Hydrochylus

- M. albicans*--Loreto to Cape, and
nearby islands
M. angelensis--Angel de la Guarda
Island, and nearby mainland
(Los Angeles Bay)
M. armillata--S. Jose del Cabo
M. blossfeldiana--Pta. Prieta, Sta.
Rosalillita

II. Sect. Hydrochylus (cont.)

- M. capensis*--Todos Santos, Bahia de
los Muertos
M. cerralboa--Cerralvo Island
M. dioica--entire peninsula
M. estebanensis--S. Esteban Island
M. fraileana--La Paz & nearby islands
M. goodridgii--Cedros &
Guadalupe Islands.
M. hutchisoniana (incl.
M. bullardiana)--central &
southern parts of penin.
M. insularis--Los Angeles Bay &
its islands
M. louisiae--Socorro (west coast)
M. microcarpa--northeast corner of
peninsula
M. phitauiana--Mts. near Todos
Santos (Cape region)
M. schumannii--Cape
M. slevinii--San Jose & San Francisco
Islands
M. tetrancistra--northeast corner of
peninsula

HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

19th Annual PLANT SALE

Sunday, May 16th
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- New & hard-to-find trees, shrubs, & vines
- Rare palms, ferns and tropicals
- Outstanding selection of cacti & succulents
- Choice houseplants
- Roses, old & new
- A wide selection of unusual herbs & perennials
- Bamboos, bromeliads, bulbs & orchids

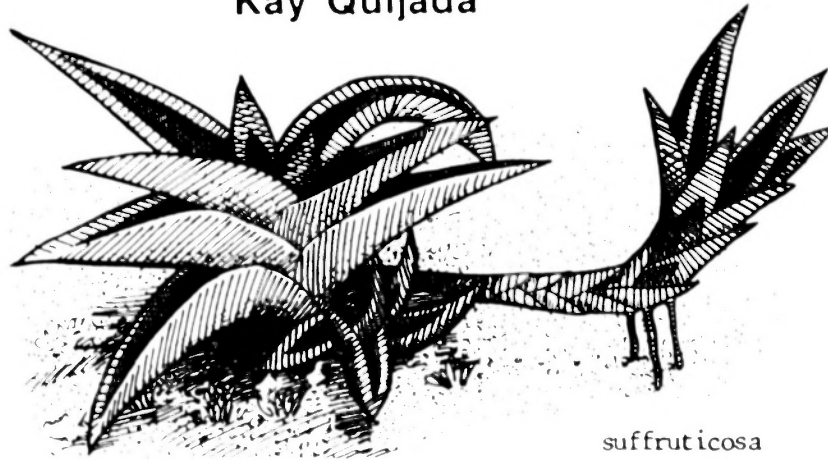
A preview sale for Huntington support groups will be held on Saturday, May 15, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. For information on joining one of our support groups, call (818) 405-2290. Memberships will be available at the door.

A descriptive list of selected plants will be available after April 1st. To obtain a list, please send a SASE to: PLANT SALE LIST, The Huntington, 1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108.

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH:

SANSEVIERIA: A Genus of *Creeping Rootstock*

Kay Quijada



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The *world's* most hardy and popular houseplant is one of 60+ described *Sansevieria* species, *Sansevieria trifasciata*, and is known to most of us as "Mother-in-law's Tongue", or "Snake Plant". The somewhat difficult to pronounce genus was named after an Italian patron of horticulture, Raimond de Sangro, Prince of Sansevierio, in the 18th century. Over the years these plants have had a number of different names such as Aloes, Acynthas, Lillies, and Sanseverinias. No matter what you may call them, after many years of neglect these ornamentals are slowly, but steadily, gaining attention.

The genus *Sansevieria* is currently placed in the Agavaceae Family, (formerly Liliaceae and still in debate), and is native mainly to the tropical regions and islands of Africa, India, and parts of Asia. They are described as stemless plants with *creeping rootstock* or rhizomes, having dark to light green marbled, striped or banded leaves that are cylindrical, channeled, or flat. The leaf texture may be succulent or fleshy (tropical species), semi-succulent, or leathery (arid species). *Sansevierias* take numerous forms occurring as tall (up to 9 feet), short, cylindrical, or small epiphytic species. The foliage is described as forming rosettes, whorls of swords, bundled spikes, fans, or prostrate and spreading. The flowerstalks are described as simple or branching, clustered with small whitish lily-like flowers, fragrant, and nectar producing. They are also described as hardy or tough, insect free, and long-lived.

The information available is limited at best with most publications in the form of articles, short descriptions, and botanical garden bulletins, such as the Missouri Botanical Garden Bulletin, of June 1966, by Ladislaus Cutak. The most complete descriptions are found in N.E. Brown's 1915 Kew Gardens, Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information, No. 5, a monograph of *Sansevieria*. Brown's information was taken from a Kew Bulletin published in May 1887 describing all of the species in cultivation at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. (It is in this bulletin the term "*creeping rootstock*" is truly exercised!)

Formerly, *Sansevierias* were valued as an agricultural crop for their fiber used mainly in rope making and, like the *Opuntia Prickly Pear*, were transported to a wide range of tropical areas where they were propagated and later abandoned to a wild state. The plants were imported to this country by the U.S. Department of Agriculture during or right after World War II and were housed in tropical places such as Florida and Hawaii for hemp production studies. Later, the U.S.D.A.'s commercial interest in *Sansevieria* declined when synthetics such as rayon and nylon were introduced.

SANSEVIERIA: A Genus of *Creeping* Rootstock, Cont.

References:

N.E. Brown, XXI. - *Sansevieria*, A monograph of all the known species.

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Conservation and Commerce of Cacti and Other Succulents, Traffic (U.S.A.), World Wildlife Fund, 1987

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Crown Publishing, 1978

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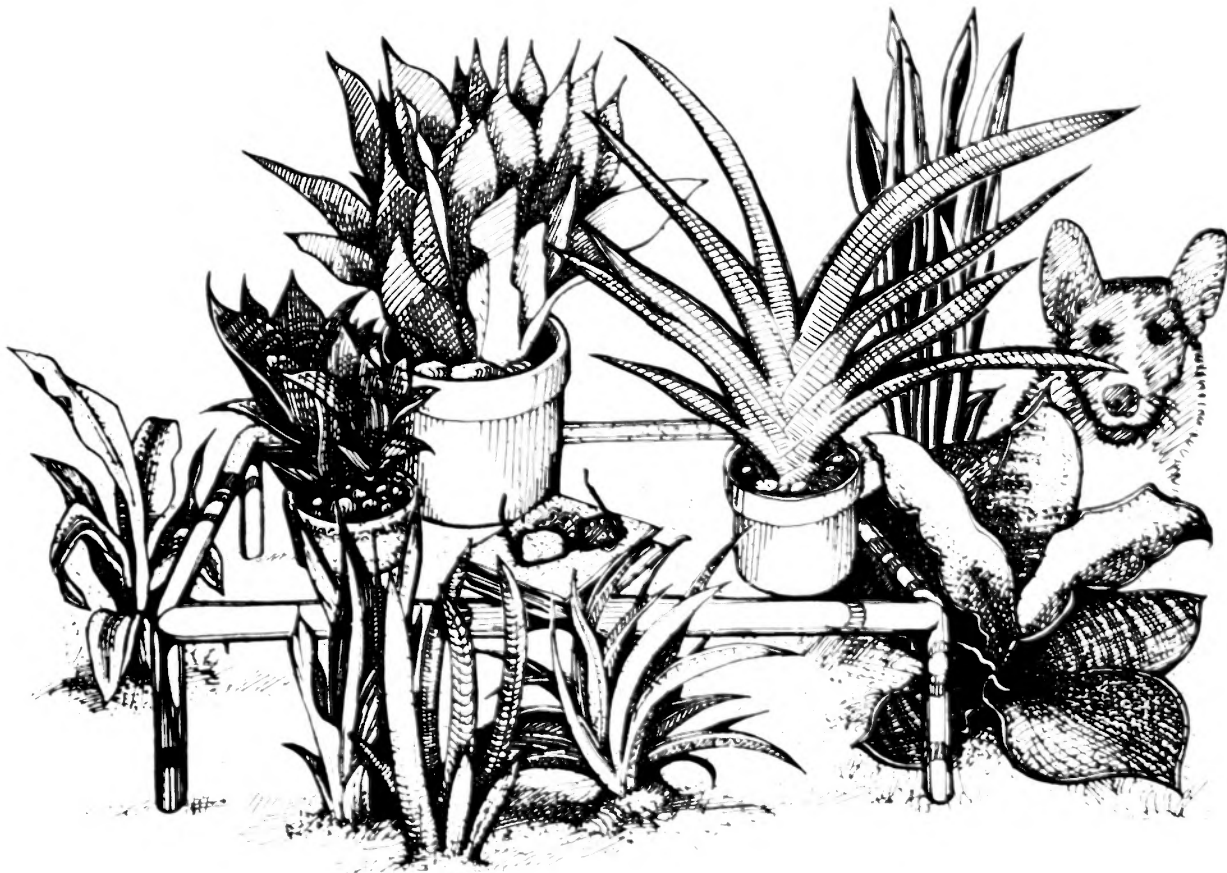
Hermine Stover, **The *Sansevieria* Book**, Endangered Species Press, 1983

D.C. Speirs, Some Notes on the Genus *Sansevieria* (Liliaceae). **British Cactus & Succulent Journal** Volume 1 (1) 23-25 (1983)

B. Juan Chahinian, **The *Sansevieria trifasciata* Varieties**, Trans Terra Publishing, 1986

The *Sansevieria* Journal, Vol. I, B. Juan Chahinian, Editor, Trans Terra Publishing, 1992

Rick Latimer, *Sansevieria*, Espinas y Flores. **Bulletin of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society**, May 1990



Illustrations from Hermine Stover's THE SANSEVIERIA BOOK, c.1983, Endangered Species Press - A wonderful book we are proud to have in our library, check it out.

Message Found on Spoon

Wolley Segap, a local cactus hobbyist, noticed an odd pattern on the back of a spoon he used for coaxing potting mix into pots. Peering under his bifocals, Segap notice a rectangular pattern apparently etched into the metal.

Experts at the CIA's code cracking facility at Alexandria, Va. assure us that the message, in a curious script, translates as follows:

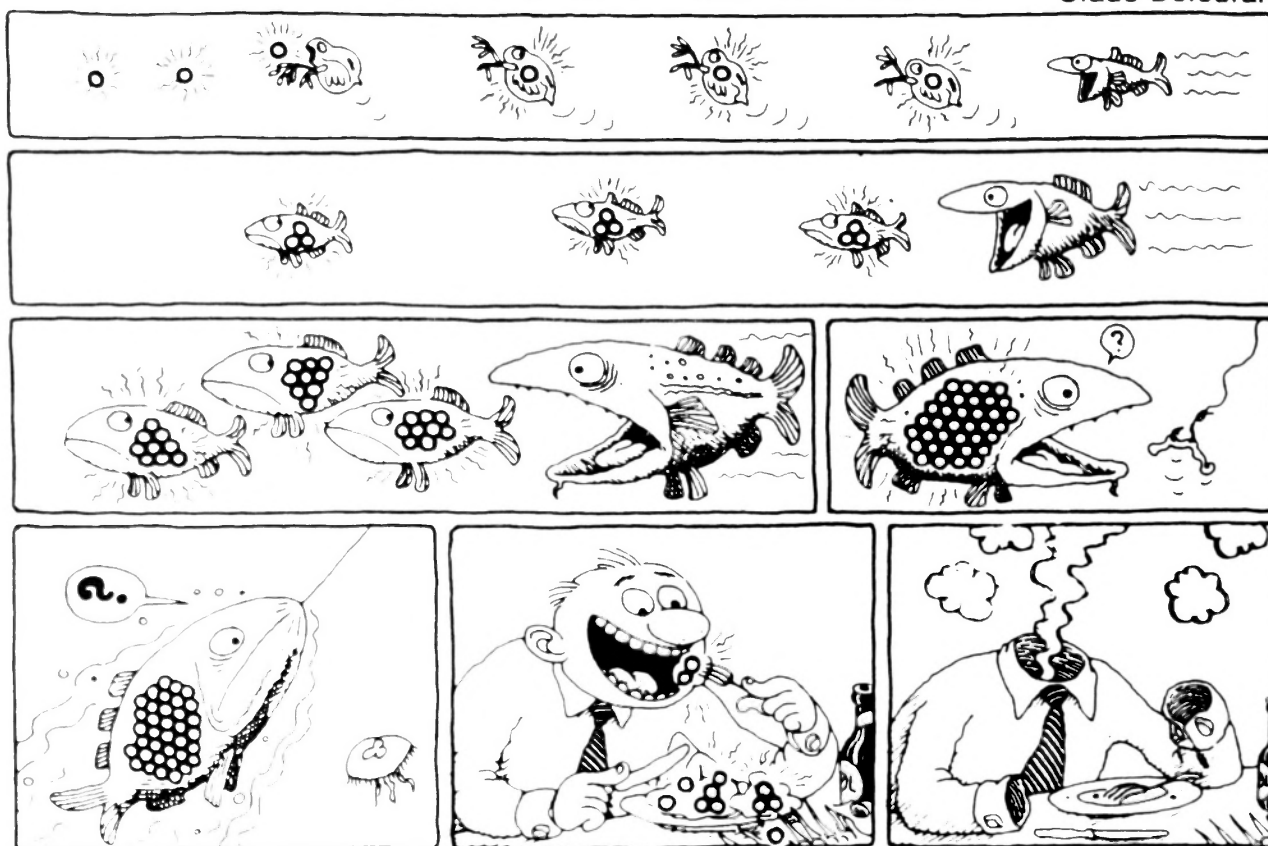
I, Ypxtlpot, King of the Mealy Bugs thank you on behalf of my people for the hospitality you have shown. Your providing for all our needs is most appreciated. Alas, your planet has proved too hostile for our continued colonization and we are going home. We are amazed at your hardiness and congratulate you on your ability to survive the frequent toxic storms. Live long and prosper.

Segap reports his plants are doing well, particularly the stepeliads.

--Santa Barbara Cactus & Succulent Society Newsletter--

FOOD CHAIN REACTION

Claus Deleuran



For those of you who have queried: the invasive South African Oxalis which has successfully naturalized southern California gardens is *Oxalis Pes-capraem* Lin., (synonym: *Oxalis cernua*).

The wonderful yellow (several tints) annual daisy (composite) which covers our fields and less traversed areas is *Chrysanthemum coronarium* L. Hortus states, "Much grown in the Orient for the young leaves are eaten as greens; the flower heads are also eaten in Japan."

Also common now throughout southern California is the San Diego Sunflower, *Viguiera laciniata* a. gray, with its grey slender stems and yellow cymes.

Keep your eyes open and maybe you'll find our wild Hyacinth, *Dichelostemma pulchellum* A. Heller, a corm (bulb) growing in California and Baja with its thin scapes and leaves and lovely purple pedicels. Happy hunting!

FROM ALL CORNERS
by Shirley Berry



Some experiments in cultivation from half a century ago may be worth reviewing and evaluating in terms of what we know today. The following method may hold some interest for those who either forgot about it or those who never heard of it.

An article on rooting medium in the February 1948 Cactus & Succulent Journal introduced a "new" product called Vermiculite. Herman Tobusch, the author of this piece, was convinced it would be a great help to cactus enthusiasts.

He says in his article that after using vermiculite for rooting cuttings of various garden plants he tried it with succulents and was amazed at the results in a few days some cuttings had put out healthy roots, and he felt the rooting process was much simpler than any he had ever tried.

Mr. Tobusch states, "In my first experiment I took a 8" pot and filled it 3/4 full with vermiculite which had been soaked well by placing the pot in a container of water until the surface was wet. Then I put in about a dozen cuttings and pressed them into the medium according to size. Some cuttings were calloused well, some only for a few days, and other succulents were just cut off and thrust immediately into vermiculite."

He went on to say, "The temperature went over 100 F quite often in my greenhouse, but the vermiculite stayed moist for several days. Then, when necessary, I watered as before, placing the entire pot in a container of water until the surface was wet. No matter how wet the medium was, not one cutting rotted. Most of the plants showed root formation in a week, and all were rooted by three weeks."

In transplanting he allowed a good amount of vermiculite to cling to the roots and then filled in with potting mix. In germinating Lithops seeds, "I sprinkled three varieties in three 4" pots, 3/4 full of vermiculite. I did not think I had put more than 100 seeds in each, but I transplanted 540 plants with roots 1" long and well branched; the bodies were only as thick as a match head and were so close together that the surface of the pot looked solid green. The seeds were not covered, just sprinkled on top of the medium, soaked in water, and left alone in the shade of larger plants..... there was not one single casualty from damping off."

"Vermiculite is a mineral of the mica family the particles of the crude ore are made up of thousands of tiny separate layers, but unlike mica the ore has microscopic quantities of water trapped between its layers. The ore is run through a furnace heated to over 2000 F which causes the small particles of water and air between the layers to turn to steam and pop the layers apart. As the particles of ore pop, they form tiny sponge-like porous kernels.

It is the sponge-like quality of vermiculite which makes it so beneficial to plant growth. The kernels are both porous and absorbent, thus they can give newly forming roots both the necessary moisture and oxygen they need for growth."

As valuable as this system may be for rooting, I would add a word of caution about adding it to your potting mixture. It dries out too slowly and can create a compound that looks like sludge!

APRIL BRAG TABLE WINNERS - JUDGED BY SHIRLEY BERRY

FIRST: Dorothy Byers - *Brachstelma vahrmeijeri* R.A. Dyer

SECOND: Marylyn Henderson - *Euphorbia stellata* Willd.

THIRD: Elibet Marshal - *Crassula Ausensis* P.C. Hutchis.

MEMORABLE MOMENTS

by Frank Thrombley

- PAGE 15 -

It was a cold, clear, crisp morning at 3:00 AM in Catavina, Baja Mexico. The telescope was in position, the year was 1986 and my friend shook me awake. To leave a warm sleeping bag was a task, but a must if one wanted to see that once in a lifetime event on the clear horizon. My friend must have slipped out of his sleeping bag about 2:00 AM to set up the scope in order to find and tract that moving spectacle in the sky. What a dedicated person this *RICKY LATIMER* is, he has to be cold (no coffee either) but he is ready for the show. After he wakes me he got Tom Parks up, who put the coffee on.

Now observations of Halley's Comet go back at least to 240 B.C., according to Chinese records. Seen by Edmond Hally in 1682 when he was 26 years old - he predicted that it would return in 1759. It actually reappeared on December 25th of 1758; seen by an amateur Astronomer, Johann Palitzsch, a farmer near Dresden. This discovery confirmed Newton's theory of gravitation.

After the 1910 appearance it was 'rediscovered' in the constellation of Canis Minor on October 16th of 1982 by two astronomers at the California Institute of Technology. It was on its way back.

Others were awake now and we all took turns at the telescope. Rick showed us a view of other heavenly bodies also - what a morning!

There was one, however, who did not wake up. He gave us strict orders to be sure to wake him in time. Rick and Tom shook him until he was aware of what the morning brought. He sat up (with sleeping bag around him) looked to the south and from his vantage point at ground level said, "Yep, that's it." Jim Gibbons then fell back and was asleep before his head came to rest.

Thank you Rick for a memorable moment.

Looking Down Memory Lane...

April 12, 1993

Dear Michael,

The enclosed article is for your approval for the Espinas y Flores. If you believe it can add to the enjoyment of the readers; I have in mind quite a few anecdotes concerning present and past members of the SDC&SS. Each will include at least one of the members. In this article both Tom Parks & Jim Gibbons were members at some time in the past. Tom is presently living in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico. Jim is living in Henderson, Nevada. Jim is the director of horticulture for the Mirage Hotel/Casino and its subsidiary hotels.

Kind regards,



(editors note: THANK YOU FRANK THROMBLEY!! We love your story and we're looking forward to many more! At the time of this story, Jim Gibbons was horticultural Director of The Wild Animal Park.)

"Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall,
It's the same for an egg
As for eggshell ceramics
You can't beat the second
Law of thermodynamics."

Dr. Earle Hackett, 1971

WISE AND OTHERWISE

by Michael Buckner



".... to the determinedly scientific botanist a queer plant, a beautiful plant, or even a rare one, is no more interesting than the most common or the homeliest. Occasionally he may, like the great insect taxonomist, William Morton Wheeler, feel a passing twinge of envy for what he calls "the damned amateur" who is free to pluck beautiful blossoms or chase gorgeous butterflies while the expert is condemned to spend his hours peering into a binocular microscope and worrying over the question whether some slight differences observable between specimens of an organism included in his specialty are, or are not, sufficient to justify him calling one of them a separate variety or even (an almost frightening possibility) a new species. But most experts are less sympathetic than Wheeler and more likely to regard the amateur as merely frivolous.

The commonest, least striking little herb is quite as likely as any other to present one of the "problems" which it is his duty to solve. This is equally true whether he be taxonomist, ecologist, or biochemist. After all, it was nothing more exotic than the pea which put Mendel on the track of the secrets of heredity; the common evening primrose which first revealed to de Vries the enormously important phenomenon called mutation; and the insignificant fruit fly from which Morgan learned the meaning of genes.

. Your amateur, on the other hand, is delightfully if perhaps almost sinfully free of responsibility and can spread himself as thin as he likes over the vast field of nature. There are few places not covered with concrete or trod into dust where he does not find something to look at. Best of all, perhaps, is the fact that he feels no pressing obligation to "add something to the sum of human knowledge." He is quite satisfied when he adds something to *his* knowledge. And if he keeps his field wide enough he will remain so ignorant that he may do exactly that at intervals very gratifyingly short. A professional field botanist, for instance, has done very well if in the course of a lifetime he adds a dozen new species to the flora of the region he is studying. Even a hitherto unrecognized variety is enough to make a redletter day. But to the amateur, any flower he has never seen before is a new species so far as he is concerned and on a short trip to a new area he can easily find a dozen 'new species'."

THE FORGOTTEN PENINSULA - A Naturalist In Baja California by Joseph Wood Krutch, U of AZ, c.1961.

WISE AND

"I suggest it is a true image of both scientists and writers to see them all as a scattered procession of explorers, small as ants as compared to the world, each climbing his grassblade to view the universe, uttering triumphant cries now called a poem, now a scientific fact, one here, one there, until the world we know gets mapped and remapped, over and over; that is to say, gets invented again and again in every generation"

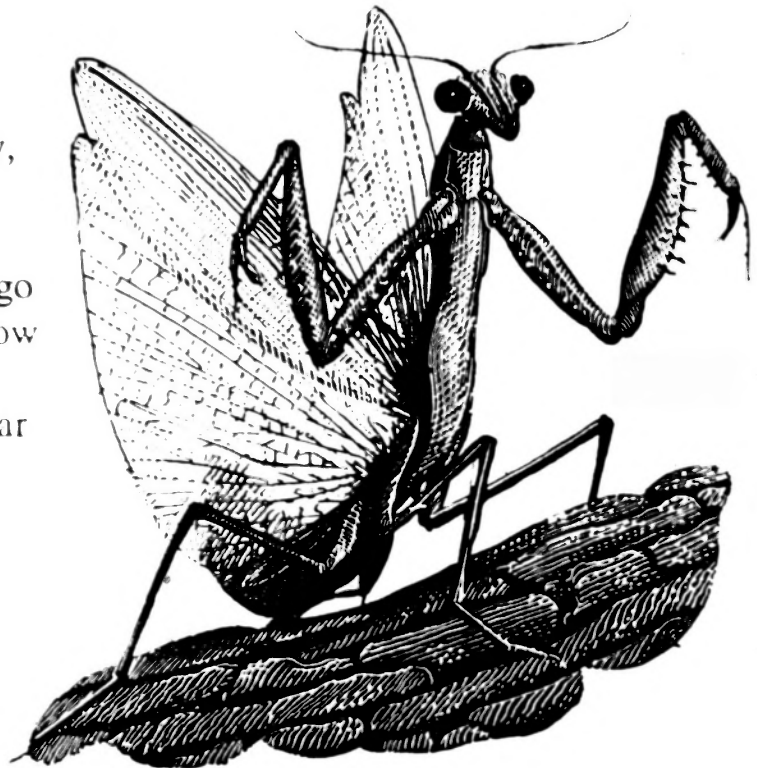
Sean O'Faolain

OTHERWISE

WHY WAIT FOR SCIENCE

Robert Frost

"Sarcastic Science, she would like to know,
In her complacent ministry of fear,
How we propose to get away from here
When she has made things so we have to go
Or be wiped out. Will she be asked to show
Us how by rocket we may hope to steer
To some star off there, say, a half light-year
Through temperature of absolute zero?
Why wait for Science to supply the how
When any amateur can tell now?
The way to go away should be the same
As fifty million years ago we came--
If anyone remembers how that was.
I have a theory, but it hardly does."



A few more "DEVIL'S DICTIONARY" by Ambrose Bierce, as requested:

Alone, adj.	In bad company.
Bore, noun.	A person who talks when you wish him to listen.
Consult, v.t.	To seek another's approval of a course already decided on.
Discussion, noun.	A method of confirming others in their errors.
Eccentricity, noun.	A method of distinction so cheap that fools employ it to accentuate their incapacity.
Friendship, noun.	A ship big enough to carry two in fair weather, but only one in foul.

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY, INC.

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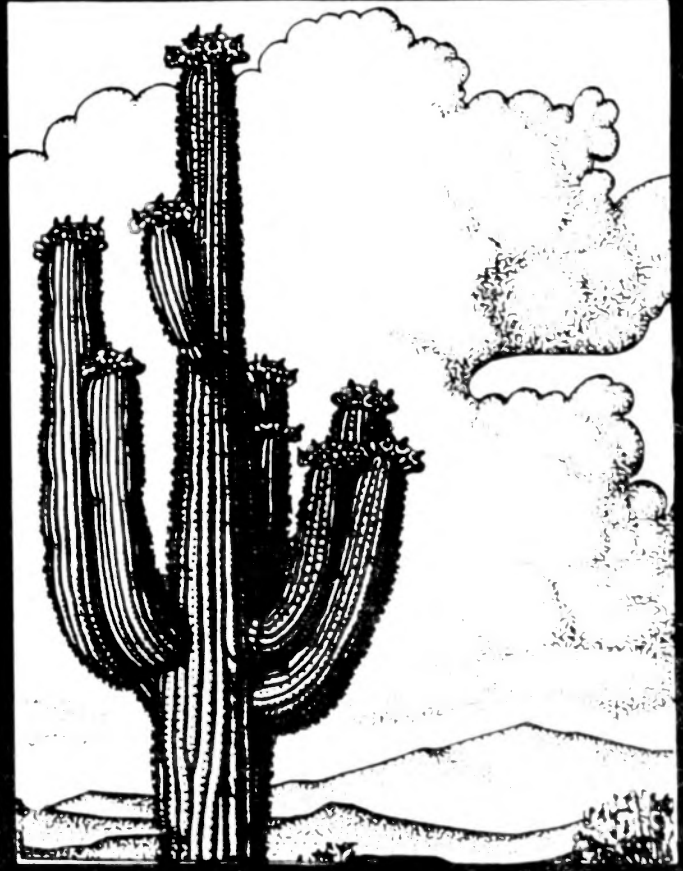
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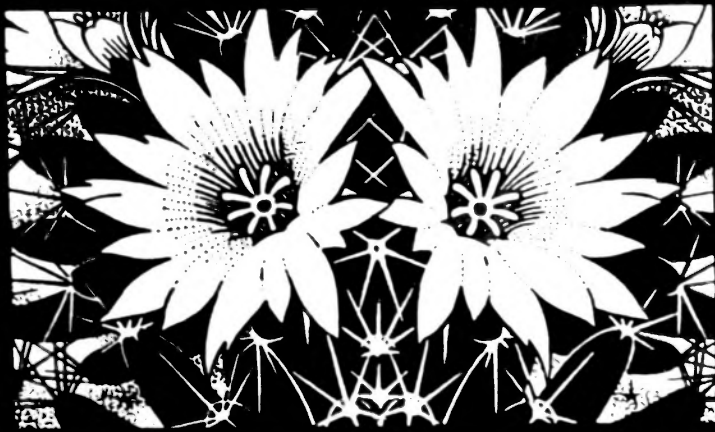
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VISITORS WELCOME

San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 33181
Hillcrest Station 102
San Diego, CA 92163-3181



Editors - Joyce & Michael Buckner
1958 Sunset Cliffs #103, San Diego CA 92107

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society, Incorporated is open to all persons interested in growing cacti or other succulent and exotic plants. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 1:30 P.M. in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Board of Directors meetings are held at 12:00 P.M. prior to general meetings. Annual dues are \$10 per single member per year, and \$5 for each additional member of same household. Single copies of Espinas y Flores are \$1 per copy sent within USA. Affiliated with the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Incorporated.

A NON-PROFIT,
TAX-EXEMPT
ORGANIZATION

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

SET UP TIME

Friday, June 4, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 5, 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

TAKE OUT TIME

Sunday, June 6, after 5:00 p.m.

JUDGING SCALE

SPECIMENS, COLLECTIONS and DISPLAYS

Condition	70%
Staging	15%
Size & Degree of Maturity	10%
Nomenclature	5%

EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY

Educational Value	80%
Staging & Originality	20%

AWARDS POINT SYSTEM

Individual Plants & Specialties	1st - 3 pts., 2nd - 2 pts., 3rd - 1pt.
Collections	1st - 7 pts., 2nd - 5 pts., 3rd - 3 pts.
Exhibits	1st - 12 pts., 2nd - 10 pts., 3rd - 8 pts.
Best of Show Trophies	10 pts.

Two or more educational entries are necessary for the Education Plaque to be awarded.

SHOW COMMITTEE

SHOW CHAIRMAN	Joey Betzler
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JUDGES

CACTI	SUCCULENTS
Duke Benadom	John Bleck
Peter Sharp	Myron Kimnach
Brigitte Williams	Seymour Lindon

Judging - Saturday, June 5, 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Aloe drawing by Helen Barkdoll



ANNUAL SHOW AND PLANT SALE JUNE 5 & 6, 1993

ROOM 101

Casa del Prado
BALBOA PARK
SAN DIEGO, CA

Saturday, June 5, 1 - 5 p.m.
Sunday, June 6, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

PLANT SALES

10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday
Casa del Prado

CLASSIFICATION

Classes 1 through 55 are "A" and "B"

"A" = 5" pot size and under, "B" = over 5" pot size

Class "A" and "B" sizes will be measured at the inside dimensions of the container

DIVISION I: Cacti

(one plant per pot)

CLASS

1. Frailea, Blossfeldia, Uebelmannia
2. Parodia
3. Notocactus, Malacocarpus, Wigginsia, etc.
4. Gymnocalycium, Discocactus
5. Rebutia, Sulcorebutia
6. Echinopsis, Lobivia, Weingartia, Soehrensia, etc.
7. Melocactus, Buiningia
8. Copiapo
9. Neoporteria, Neochilenia, Islaya, Pyrrhocactus, Horridocactus, Eriosyce, etc.
10. Borzicactus, Matucana, Oroya, Denmoza
11. "Tubular flowered Cereoids": Arrojadoa, Haageocereus, Cleistocactus, Oreocereus, Espostoa, etc.
12. "Wide flowered Cereoids": Trichocereus, Pilosocereus, Cephalocereus, Pachycereus, Stenocereus, Myrtillocactus, Peniocereus, Wilcoxia, etc.
13. Echinocereus
14. Thelocactus, Hamatocactus, Neolloydia, Pediocactus, Sclerocactus, Turbinicarpus, Ancistrocactus, etc.
15. Coryphantha, Escobaria, Ortegocactus
16. Mammillaria (single head)
17. Mammillaria (multiple headed)
18. Cochemia Mamillopsis, Dolicothele, Krainzia, etc.
19. Ariocarpus, Obregonia, Strombocactus, Aztekium, Epithelantha, Pelecypora
20. Astrophytum, Leuchtenbergia
21. Ferocactus
22. Echinocactus, Echinofossulocactus, Stenocactus
23. "Epicacti": Selenicereus, Hylocereus, Heliocereus, Aporocactus, Epiphyllum, Discocactus, Rhipsalis, Schlumbergera, etc.
24. Pereskia, Opuntia, Tephrocactus, Pterocactus, Quiabentia, Maihuenia, etc.
25. Crests and Monstrose
26. Variegates

DIVISION III: Collections

(6-10 Different species and/or varieties of any genus)

65. Cacti
66. Other Succulents

DIVISION IV: Specialties

67. Arrangements
68. Dish Gardens, Planters

DIVISION V: Displays

69. Displays, Exhibits

DIVISION II: Other succulents

(one plant per pot)

CLASS

27. Alluaudia, Didierea, Decarya, etc.
28. Lithops, Conophytum, Pleiospilos, Fenestraria, etc.
29. Trichodiadema, Mestoklema, etc.
30. Other Mesemb
31. Anacampseros, Portulaca, Portulacaria, Ceraria, Talinum
32. Kalanchoe
33. Cotyledon, Tylecodon, Adromischus
34. Crassula
35. Aeonium, Aichryson, Greenovia, Monanthes, Sempervivum, Jovibarba
36. Sedum
37. Pachyphytum, Tacitus, Graptopetalum, Orostachys, etc.
38. Echeveria
39. Dudleya, Stylophyllum, Hasseanthus
40. Euphorbia (spiny)
41. Euphorbia (non-spiny)
42. Euphorbia (caudiciform)
43. Jatropha, Pedilanthus, Monadenium, etc.
44. Senecio, Kleinia, Othonna, etc.
45. Pelargonium, Sarcocaulon
46. "Stapeliads": Caralluma, Huernia, Hoodia, Edithcolea, etc.
47. Ceropegia, Folotsia, Sarcostemma, Cynanchum, etc.
48. Fockea, Brachystelma, Raphionacme, Gonolobus, etc.
49. Pachypodium, Adenium
50. Cissus, Cyphostemma and Ficus, Dorstenia
51. Fouquieria, Idria
52. Ibervillea, Gerrardanthus, Kedrostis, Seyrigia, Xerosicyos, and Adenia
53. "Pachycauls" (other than those listed in other categories): Bursera, Commiphora, Bombax, Adansonia, Chorisia, Pachycormus, Operculicarya, Moringa, Pyrenacantha, etc.
54. "Caudiciforms & Geophytes" (other than those listed in other categories): Ipomoea, Dioscorea, Testudinaria, Bowiea, Reichsteinaria, Sinningia, Oxalis, Dolichos, etc.
55. Aloe
56. Gasteria
57. Haworthia, Astroloba, Poellnitzia
58. Sansevieria
59. Agave, Yucca, Hesperaloe
60. Nolina, Beaucarnea, Calibanus, Dasylirion
61. Dyckia, Abromeitiella, Hechtia, etc.
62. Any other genus
63. Crests and Monstrose
64. Variegates

SHOW RULES

Open to anyone with an interest in succulent plants. There is no limit to the number of entries per class or the number of classes entered. No entry shall be entered in more than one class. All property shall be marked with the owner's name, not visible to the judges. Plants must be grown by the exhibitor for at least six months. Plants may be species or hybrids. Grafted plants will be accepted in any class. All entries must have entry cards and exhibitors are responsible for placing entry cards with their entries. Plant name tags in pots must be removed. Awards must remain with exhibits until close of show. Classes with few entries may be combined, classes with too many entries may be split, classes with many oversize entries may be split into "B" and "C" ("C" for oversize). The show committee reserves the right to reject plants or exhibits and to readjust entries for the good of the show. Show hours must be followed. The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society will exercise due caution in safeguarding exhibits, however, it cannot assume responsibility for loss of property. Entries are judged against perfection. The judges' decisions are final. The Show Chairman shall make all final decisions, except in matters of judging.

AWARDS

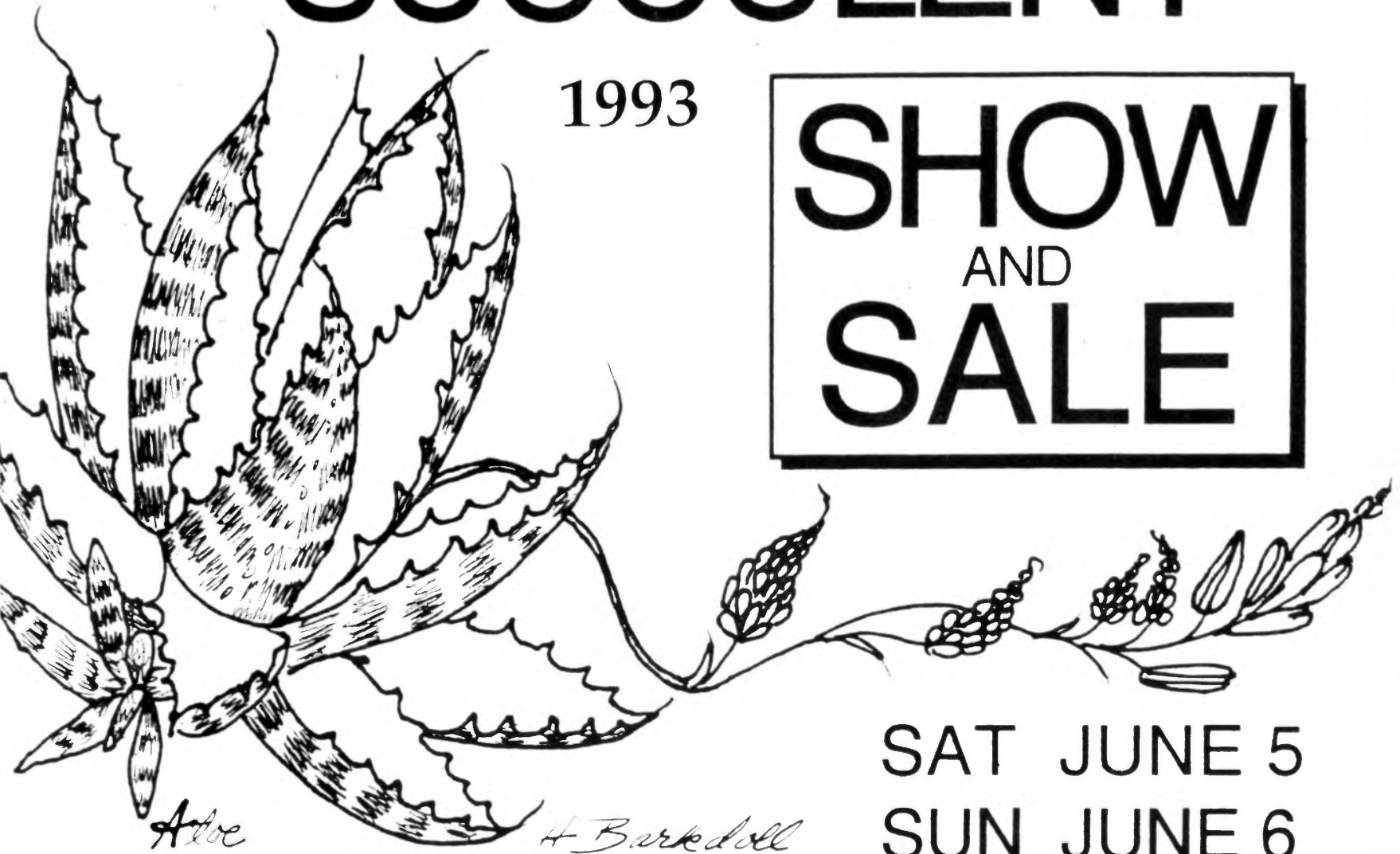
FIRST, SECOND and THIRD place ribbons will be awarded in each class; however, should the judges feel that a FIRST, SECOND or THIRD place is not merited, it will be withheld.

BEST AGAVE	Doris Rake Plaque
BEST CACTUS	Phillip Corliss Plaque
BEST SUCCULENT	Ruby Falk Plaque
MOST ARTISTIC DISPLAY	Walter & Hazel Scott Plaque
BEST EXHIBIT	Reuben Vaughan Plaque II
BEST EDUCATIONAL DISPLAY	C.S.S.A. Award
BEST ALOE	Barbara Jeppe Trophy
BEST ECHEVERIA	Oliver & Sophie Loyland Trophy
BEST EPIPHYTE	William & Ruth Nelson Trophy
BEST EUPHORBIA	Lydia & Russel Evans Cup
BEST GRAFT	Bob & Suzanne Taylor Trophy
BEST MAMMILLARIA	Elibet Marshall Trophy
BEST MESEMBRYANTHEMUM	Samuel & Adela Markey Trophy
BEST MEXICAN PLANT IN SHOW	Dudley B. Gold Trophy
BEST PACHYCAUL OR CAUDICIFORM	H. Warren & Virginia Buckner Trophy
BEST PELARGONIUM OR SARCOCAULON	Wilna Johnson Trophy
BEST SAN DIEGO COUNTY SUCCULENT	Julianne Rice Trophy
BEST SANSEVIERIA	Richard G. Latimer, Sr. Trophy
BEST SUCCULENT BONSAI	Rudy & Teresita Lime Trophy
BEST OPUNTIEAE	James & Shirley Berry Trophy
HIGH POINTS 50 OR LESS ENTRIES TROPHY	James & Shirley Berry Trophy
SWEEPSTAKES TROPHY	Dr. Ronald & Marcia Moore Trophy

CACTUS & SUCCULENT

1993

SHOW
AND
SALE



SAT JUNE 5

SUN JUNE 6

CASA DEL PRADO

BALBOA PARK

SALE HOURS

SAT 10:00 - 5:00

SUN 10:00 - 5:00

SHOW HOURS

SAT 1:00 - 5:00

SUN 10:00 - 5:00

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY