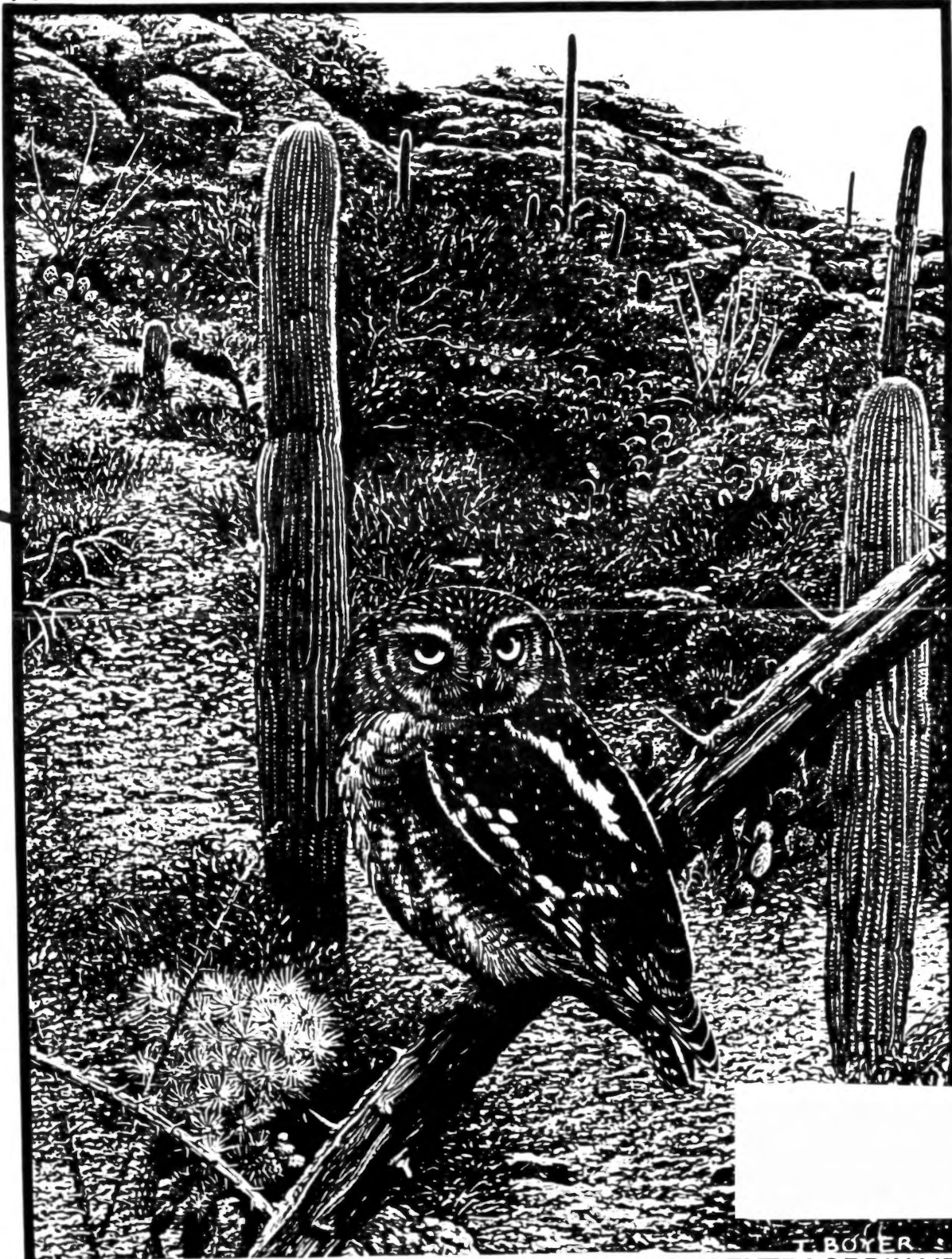


YES, BOARD MEETING @ 12:30!!
SEND IN YOUR HOLIDAY RESERVATIONS EARLY!!

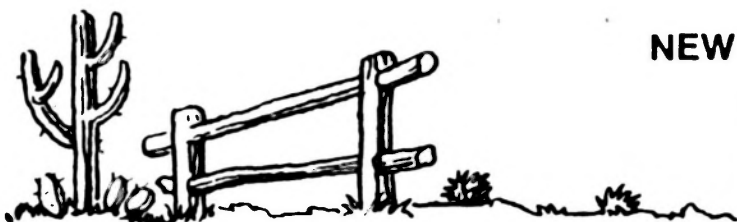
Espinas y Flores

BULLETIN OF THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY, INC.

VOLUME XXVII NUMBER ELEVEN, SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14, 1992



NOVEMBER PROGRAM: CHUCK HANSON, PLANTSMAN EXTRAORDINAIRE, FROM ARID LANDS GREENHOUSES IN TUCSON, ARIZONA WILL PRESENT A SLIDE SHOW OF THE BEST OF HIS NUMEROUS TRIPS TO SOUTH AFRICA HIGHLIGHTING THE RICHTERSVELDT FLORA AND THE NAMIB DESERT, SLIDES FROM BOTH SUMMER AND WINTER TRIPS. THE PHOTOGRAPHY IS SUPERB WITH A KNOWLEDGEABLE PLANT AND TRAVEL LOG. A NOT-TO-BE-MISSED PROGRAM. CHUCK WILL ALSO BRING A WIDE SELECTION OF SEED GROWN RARITIES FOR SALE TO MEMBERS. SEE AD IN THIS ISSUE.



NEW MEMBERS - WELCOME!!!

**DR. D.A. SMOTHERS
MATTHEW ORMOND**



PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP EARLY

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.

GREAT BUS TRIP TO THE HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS - SORRY, IF YOU MISSED IT! WELL, MAYBE NEXT YEAR.....

If you enjoy our nice refreshment break - coffee and treats - please remember that is 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!!

**NOVEMBER REFRESHMENT
VOLUNTEERS:**

- Ethel Standish
- Kirsti Hille
- Kay Quijada
- Marie Pearce
- Mitch Bahr
- Chloe Bajwa
- Elibet Marshall
- Virginia Innis
- Joyce Buckner
- Diane Peterson
- AND YOU!!!

OCTOBER BRAG TABLE WINNERS WERE:

- FIRST: JOEY BETZLER - *Stapellanthus pilosus*
- SECOND: SHIRLEY BERRY - *Astrophytum ornatum x myriostigma*
- THIRD: SHIRLEY BERRY - *Euphorbia millii boojeri*

SEPTEMBER BRAG TABLE WINNERS WERE:

- (Our apologies for ommitting you last month!)
- FIRST: MARY HOLMAN - *Dioscorea testudo*
- SECOND: PHYLLIS FLECHSIG - *Brighamia*
- THIRD: MARYLYN HENDERSON - *Aeonium mystery hybred*

THANKS TO BEVERLY KIRKEGAARD AND BETTY ATHY FOR SUPPLYING LOVELY DOOR PRIZES AND GUEST PLANT GIFTS AT OUR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER MEETINGS. ALSO, THANKS & APPRECIATION TO DYLAN HANNON FOR DOING SUCH A GOOD JOB WITH JUDGING THE BRAG TABLE!!!

Thank you Chuck & Dana Adams for printing our mailing addresses each month - we appreciate your effort and dedication!!

Thank you new director Kay Quijada for filling in for 1993 on the Board of Directors.

HOLIDAY PARTY RESERVATIONS!

PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER: HAPPY HOLIDAYS
ELECTION OF OFFICERS
DINNER PROMPTLY @ 1:00 PM
SPECIAL PLANT EXCHANGE
SIGN UP OF VOLUNTEERS FOR EDUCATION & REFRESHMENTS
DISTRIBUTION OF GIFT PLANTS TO MEMBERS
MINI-AUCTION
NO LIBRARY AND NO PLANT SALES

DECEMBER HOLIDAY MEETING & DINNER PARTY STARTS AT NOON. WE WILL HAVE OUR HOLIDAY GIFT EXCHANGE - IF YOU HAVE NOT PARTICIPATED BEFORE, IT WORKS LIKE THIS:

ANY MEMBER OR GUEST MAY PARTICIPATE; ALL YOU DO IS BRING IN A CACTUS OR SUCCULENT PLANT WHICH IS DESIRABLE. IT SHOULD BE IN GOOD CONDITION AND NICELY POTTED. INCLUDE A LABEL THAT IDENTIFIES THE PLANT ON ONE SIDE AND HAS YOUR NAME ON THE OTHER SIDE. THE FIRST PLANT TO BE SELECTED WILL BE AUCTIONED OFF AT THE END OF MEETING. THE PERSON WHO BROUGHT IN THE FIRST SELECTION GETS FIRST CHOICE FROM ALL REMAINING PLANTS. WHENEVER A PLANT IS SELECTED, THE PERSON WHO BROUGHT IT GETS THE NEXT CHOICE, SO THE MORE APPEALING THE PLANT THAT YOU BRING IN THE EARLIER YOU WILL GET YOUR CHANCE AT THE "GEMS". PLEASE, ONE PLANT PER PERSON. WHAT A TERRIFIC WAY TO GIVE, RECEIVE, AND BROADEN YOUR PLANT COLLECTION ALL AT THE SAME TIME!!

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: S.D.C. & S.S.
SEND TO: MRS. LAURA DEMERRITT C/O SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 33181 HILLCREST STATION - 102
SAN DIEGO, CA 92163-3181

DEAR LAURA,
YES! PLEASE RESERVE CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR MEMBERS @ \$7.50 EACH:

MEMBER NAME _____

MEMBER NAME _____

PLEASE RESERVE CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR GUESTS @ \$10.00 (SORRY, NO GIFT)

GUEST NAME _____

GUEST NAME _____

I WISH TO ATTEND MEETING & RECEIVE GIFT PLANT, BUT PREFER NOT TO HAVE DINNER

MEMBER NAME _____

WHAT'S NEW?

This year we were finally graced with the revision of the genus *Gasteria* duval by Ernst Van Jaarsveld of Kirstenbosch National Botanical Garden. This opus is now available and is published in the journal of the Succulent Society of South Africa, Aloe No. 1, 1992.

From the multitude of plants and hybrids in horticulture only sixteen species survived and are recognized and placed in two sections: Longiflora and Multifariae.

New among the species is a clustering dwarf plant, *Gasteria glomerata* van jaarsveld, with attractive red-pink flowers. Hopefully this delightful plant will soon become available.

At the Huntington Botanical Garden Succulent Symposium in September, we were delighted to hear that Dr. Werner Rauh of the University of Heidelberg, has discovered and named a new species of *Didiera* which he will name *D. marnieriana* in honor of the late Marnier Lapostolle of "Les Cedres Botanical Garden" in France. *Alluaudiopsis Marnieriana* is also named for the late patriarch of the Grand Marnier Champagne and Liquor line. This plant will be a welcome addition to this fabulous family, *Didiereaceae*, endemic to Madagascar.

Also, new in January, we will have a new editor for the C.S.S.A. Journal, Myron Kimnach, formerly Chief Curator of the Huntington Botanical Gardens. We wish him much success! Also, and big thanks to outgoing editor, Charlie Glass - we are sure you shall be quite successful in any and all new endeavors and are looking forward to hearing about them!



The Elf Owl, *Micranthene whitneyi*, is threatened in its distribution zone of the southwestern USA and Mexico. This wonderful illustration is by Trevor Boyer from OWLS of the WORLD by Rob Hume. Hume states "A typical nest site is a hole made by a Gila Woodpecker or a Gilded Flicker, especially in any of the Saguaros riddled with such holes, although cavities in trees are also occupied. The Saguaros are central to the survival of the varied bird population in these regions. Their melon-like pulp is easily penetrated by a woodpecker and dries to a hard, dry skin inside the newly-bored cavity.

"Two to five eggs, but most commonly three, are laid in April or May in the base of such a cavity, where there is no real lining apart from the accumulated chips, food and feathers. The eggs, which are tiny for an owl hatch after two weeks of incubation by both sexes. The chicks are fed on insects and remain dependent on their parents for some time after leaving the nest. At that time of year, the saguaros grow white blossoms while the lower shrubs, prickly pears and other cacti have glorious yellow and vermillion-red flowers. It is a strange, wild and haunting region, the home of one of the most energetic and charming owls in the world."

LETTERS

10/6/92

Dear Joyce & Michael,

Thank you for putting me on your mailing list. Your bulletins are great. Haven't seen anything as exuberant and diverse elsewhere.

I can't subscribe to be an active member of much more than my own mad self induced Hegira of publishing (22 in all, I hope) but I am enclosing \$10.00 for subscription to your journal. I know the effort and expense of putting them out regularly!

By the way you might tell your members that Ron Lafon is well again (sick for 6 months) - with all my computer equipment and 60 miles away - things ground to a halt. Meanwhile, I have all the articles for #9 and #10 (ed. EUPHORBIA). Eight just went to printer. Werner Rauh just visited and we went over his fabulous "Succulents of Madagascar" copy. He has wonderful photos to boot! 2300 slides - most of which I want to incorporate. Working on SENECIOS and OTHONNAS, TYLECODONS and COTYLEDONS. I have in hand Gordon Rowley's incredible "History of Succulents" with mind-boggling prints, photos, etchings, paintings, etc., etc.

Meanwhile Jerry Barad and Darrell Plowes are working on the Stapeliads in England and all the other succulent Asclepiadaceae. Just published a book - "ADA", Daughter of Lord Byron - a mathematician who with Charles Babbage produced the first computer in 1840. All quiet otherwise.

Herman Schwartz

With Volume 7, dedicated to Gordon Rowley, we continue our exploration of the Succulent Euphorbiaceae. Susan Carter continues her series on the Euphorbias of East Africa and discusses *Euphorbia heterochroma*; Steve Fourie concludes his series on the Euphorbias of the Transvaal; Werner Rauh describes several new Euphorbia species from Madagascar; Joseph Moreno on Euphorbias in Pakistan; Daryl Koutnik researches *E. trigona*, and Ulrich Deil and Klaus Müller-Hohenstein contribute the second part of Euphorbias from 'Arabia Felix.' Other articles include Christian Puff's discussion of *E. amplophylla*, Len Newton on *E. baioensis*, Larry Leach on *E. griseola*, Binoj Kumar and N.P. Balakrishnan on *E. antiquorum*, Paul Forster on *E. plumerioides*, Koos Venter on *E. lydenburgensis*, and more. Plus Part 1 of Daphne Pritchard's review of Euphorbia articles in the British Cactus and Succulent Journals. Capping it all is our Photographic Collection and Species Novae.

EUPHORBIA JOURNAL			
	PRICE	CALIFORNIA SALES TAX	POSTAGE U.S.A.
VOLUME 1	\$55.00	\$3.50	\$3.00
VOLUMES 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	\$45.00	\$2.90	\$3.00 ea.
VOLUME 7	\$45.00	\$2.90	\$3.00
VOLUME 8	\$45.00	\$2.90	\$3.00
FOREIGN SURFACE \$4. AIRMAIL Europe \$13. Africa, Japan, Australia \$17			

CAUDICIFORM BOOK		
PRICE	CALIFORNIA SALES TAX	POSTAGE U.S.A.
\$80.00	\$4.80	\$4.50
FOREIGN SURFACE \$6 AIRMAIL Europe \$24. Africa, Japan, Australia \$33		

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Dear Cactus People -

I have a suggestion for a newsletter of program topic: WINTER CARE. I need information regarding winter care of as many cactus and succulents as is feasible. And as is pertinent to growers in the San Diego area. Some mention of watering, temperature, protection, dormancy, etc. - could even be a panel of experts.

Any help would be appreciated. Thanks alot!! DP

Note from the editor:

Dear DP,

When in doubt and in Winter: DON'T WATER!!

We think your suggestion is for a article re: Winter Care is an excellent one - we shall even back it up with enticements for participation in January issue - so stay tuned in!

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH: ANACAMPSEROS

by AMNA CORNETT

Anacampseros is a genus of the family *Portulacaceae*. At present there are about 60 described species, but many of them are very similar. I suspect that if anyone is working on a revision of the genus such as Helmut Toelken did on the genus *Adromischus* there might be about 20 species left.

Anacampseros are found in the arid areas of South Africa and Namibia with one exception. *A. australiana*, which has a large underground tuber, is found in Southeastern Australia. It has been placed in its own section, *Tuberosa*. The genus owes its name, *Anacampseros*, to a superstition of South African natives. The plants are supposed to be able to return lost love. They are locally known as "love roses".

It is unusual for one genus to provide examples of all succulent growth forms - leaf succulents, stem succulents, and caudiciforms - but all are found in this genus, in one or the other of its two main sections.

Section AVONIA

These are stem succulents, the leaves being very small and completely covered by large, thin, silvery stipules which overlap like fish scales, making the shoots appear white and without chlorophyll, often like bird-dropping. Besides concealing the plant, these stipules also absorb water, thus catching dew which is often the only moisture available. Examples of Section *Avonia* are *A. albissima*, *A. alstonii* (also a caudiciform), *A. herreana*, *A. papyracea*, *A. meyerii*, *A. bremekampii*, *A. buderiana*, *A. neglecta*, *A. recurvata*, *A. rhodesica*, *A. ustulata*, and *A. wischkonii*.

Section ANACAMPSEROS

These leaf - succulent plants have fleshy roots and have low growing thin shoots with dense, succulent leaves. In the axils are long hairs which are modified stipules. Some members of this section have fuzzy leaves: *A. baeseckii*, *A. densifolia*, *A. karasmontana*, *A. lanigera*, *A. tomentosa*. Others have smooth leaves: *A. filamentosa*, *A. lanceolata*, *A. rufescens*, and *A. telephiastrum*.

The flowers are terminally located, have five petals, and range in color from white through pink to red and purple. Considering the modest size of these plants, the flowers are often quite large. Unfortunately, they only open when light conditions are ideal, but since they are cleistogamous, seed is produced anyhow.

Cultivation of plants in the section *Anacampseros* is easy. They will survive almost any abuse except overwhelming attacks of mealy-bugs. Growing plants in the section *Avonia* is quite a challenge, however, naturally they are the most desirable. They are chiefly winter growing, when they may be misted. I try to think of myself as a fog rolling in periodically on little cat's feet.

Both sections may be propagated by seed. Cuttings of *Anacampseros* will root, while cuttings of *Avonia* section may possibly root. Since the seeds are light, I often have seedlings appearing in pots of other plants, but never enough to be unwelcome.

To conclude, I think *Anacampseros* is a genus that people who enjoy small gems or have limited space will enjoy. They never outgrow their welcome.

REFERENCES:

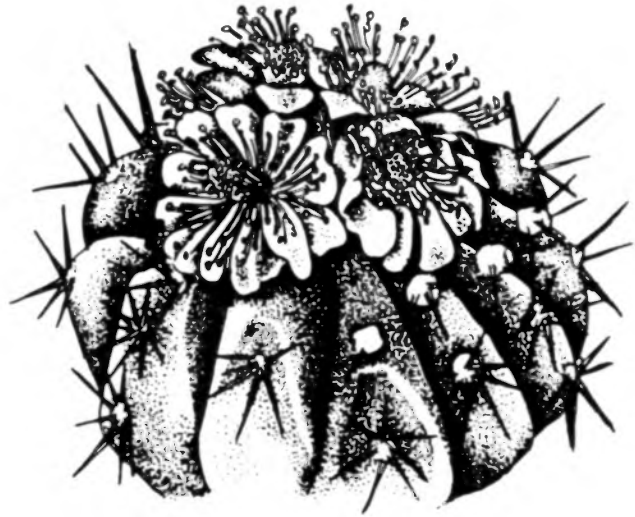
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SUCCULENTS OF THE MONTH

Illustration from *CACTI AND SUCCULENTS* by Haage c.1963



Anacampseros rufescens



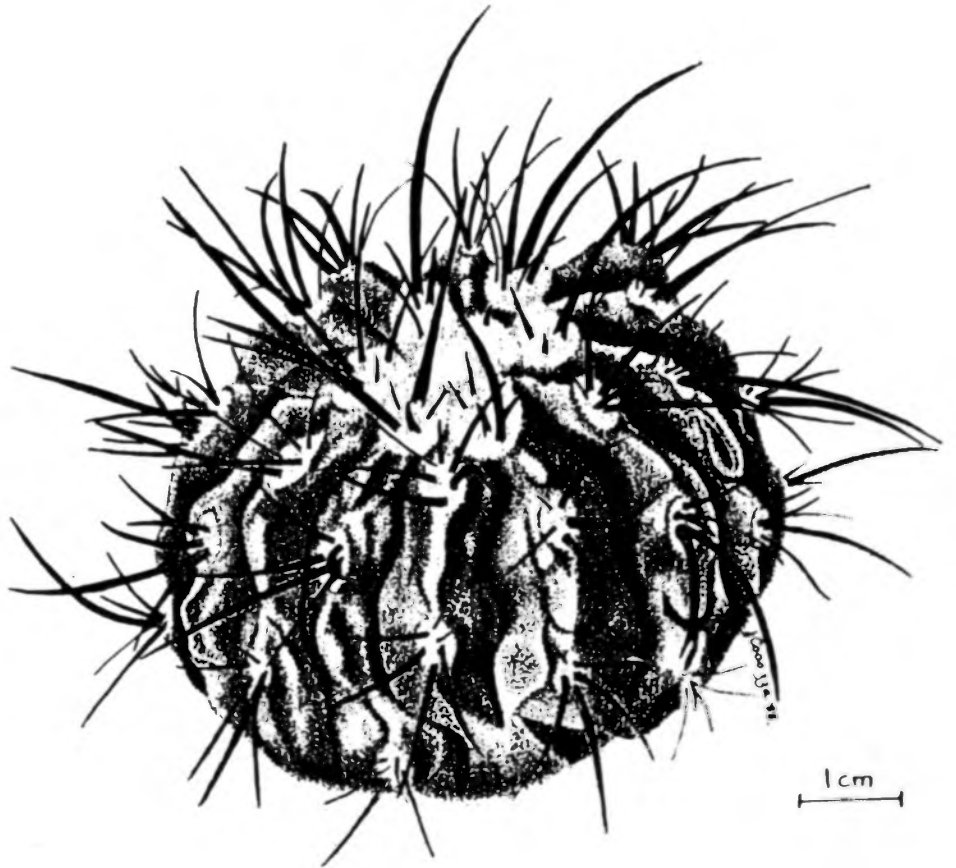
Copiapoa hypogaea

Copiapoa hypogaea

Illustration from *CACTI OF THE WORLD* by Brian Lamb c.1991



Anacampseros telephiastrum



Copiapoa dealbata

Drawing by Joyce Cocozza

Anacampseros papyracea

CACTUS OF THE MONTH: COPIAPOA by PHYLLIS FLECHSIG

This genus of cacti is entirely native to Chile, and to the northern half of Chile at that, largely in the fiercely hostile Atacama Desert. One of the driest places on earth, parts of the Atacama have never had any recorded rainfall. Instead, however, the Pacific coastal slopes have dense winter fogs that condense on ridges up to about 3,000 feet in altitude. In this fog zone considerable vegetation, including Copiapos, flourishes. The genus is named for a city and province in the center of its range, Copiapo, Chile.

Copiapos are very good-looking cacti; some are globular and clustering, while others are more upright. Most have strong ribs and short, strong spines, and old plants of many species have a white waxy bloom on the bodies. All have thick wool, either yellow or white, at the top; the flower buds emerge from this wool. Flowers are very short-tubed, usually yellow, and about an inch across. Many species will bloom at an early age, and are very free-flowering; other species must be quite large and old before blooming. Young plants may take several years to reach their "mature" looks.

Copiapoa as a genus was set up by Britton and Rose in 1922, for several species that had been placed in Echinocactus, and it does not appear to be closely related to any other genus. Backeberg lists 45 different species, along with a large number of varieties; other botanists have reduced the species to 28, with 4 varieties, and it seems likely that the number could still stand to be cut back even more.

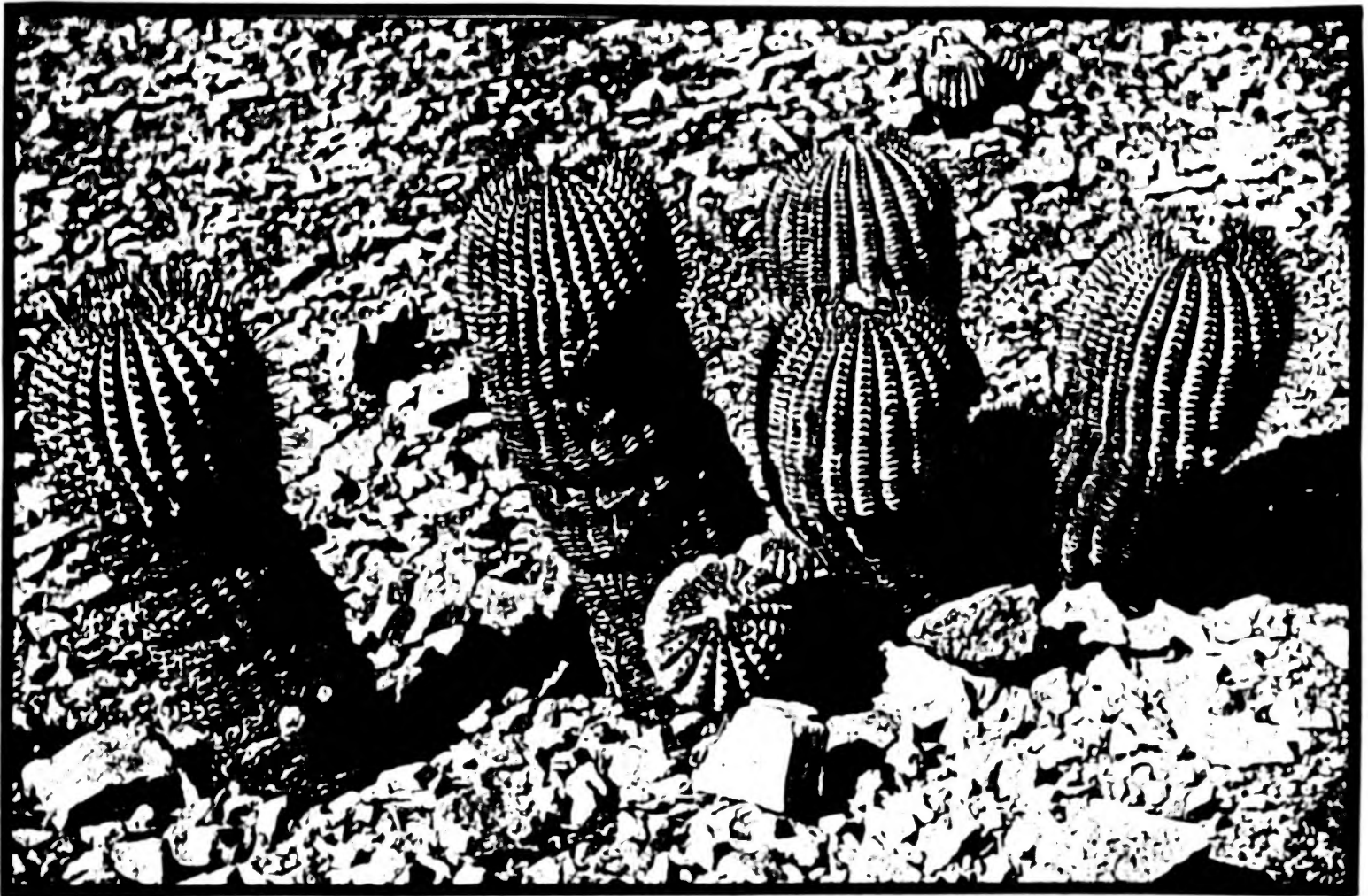
Copiapos are very easy to grow in the San Diego area, and are seemingly tolerant of both over-watering (they are more apt to split than to rot) and of neglect. They may burn in hot sun, however. For those who want quick results and plants that bloom all summer, C. hypogaea, C. humilis, and C. tenuissima are very good choices; the last named is particularly beautiful, with black skin and short spines. For those who can wait for long-term results, the very slow-growing C. cinerea and its variety haseltoniana would be good choices. C. cinerea will in time develop beautiful black spines with a waxy grey coat on the plant body; C. haseltoniana has yellow wool on top and a grey-green body. In the wild both will form clusters up to a yard across, but this process must take many years, especially given the harsh growing conditions in their native habitat. There are two very distinctive, very desirable species besides the ones already mentioned: one, C. krainziana, is a clustering plant covered with soft white spines; the other, C. lauii, is a fairly recent discovery and is a tiny plant that appears to be virtually spineless; you would swear it is a Blossfeldia until it puts out its Copiapoa-style yellow flowers.

CACTUS OF THE MONTH: COPIAPOA

by PHYLLIS FLECHSIG

This last plant is not nearly as easy to grow as other Copiapoa, and is generally grafted.

Culture is very easy for all the others; give these cacti bright shade and average watering during the growing season; they can be left dry in winter. They are easily grown from seed, too, and they do not seem to be much subject to insect pests. In short, they are to be highly recommended for both beginners and advanced collectors. In addition to their other virtues, they are slow-growing enough to be suitable for collectors with limited space--and isn't that most of us?



COPIAPOA CINEREA (Phil.) Br. & R.

LITERATURE CONSULTED

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Books

1218-Page HORTICA Is Color Cyclopedic of Garden Flora and Indoor Plants

Dr. Alfred Byrd Graf, author of *Exotica* and *Tropica*, has completed a long-term project, *Hortica*, which ended up as a 1218-page endeavor, billed as a Color Cyclopedic of Garden Flora in all Climates and Exotic Plants Indoors.

Dr. Graf, whose earlier efforts earned for him a reputation as an indefatigable, dedicated horticulturist, has taken his latest works to even a greater level, taking pains "to do it right," even though younger minds might be satisfied with early drafts of written text. Dr. Graf is on his way to becoming a centenarian, but age has not altered his mind or pen, or determination to complete *Hortica* and see it published. (Working out of an East Coast home base, he does enjoy spending increasing amounts of leisure time at his residence in San Diego County, which boasts of its mild cli-

mate, and favorable temperatures the year-round in Southern California, which may have added to the time required for Dr. Graf to complete *Hortica*).

As with all of Dr. Graf's books, *Hortica* will be welcomed as a convenient pictorial reference volume by nurserymen, landscape professionals, interior landscapers and decorators, scientists, educators, students of Botany, collectors, and plant fanciers.

Hortica is said to contain 8100 photos "in living color." The pictorial section is grouped into 16 categories. A sampling reveals 570 exotic plants indoors, 215 palms and palm-like plants, 552 climbers and creepers, 319 conifers, 1662 herbaceous perennials and annuals, and 2408 flowering shrubs and trees. Also featured in separate pictorial sections are orchids, cacti and succulents, carnivores and curios, water plants, herbs and spices, bamboos and grasses, hedges (plus topiaries) and bonsai, along with edible fruit, nuts and berries.

The subjects were photographed in gardens, botanical collections and arboreta, or in habitat around the world.

Appended by concise descriptive text, giving family, origin, synonyms if

any, vernacular or common names, character with measurements and uses. All plants have cold-hardiness zones listed, or range of optimum climatic tolerance, as a guide for garden planting.

Dr. Graf's latest effort differs from the companion works, *Tropica* and *Exotica* by showing more of the garden flora of temperate and colder climates, while also including the best of warm-climate subjects, "in the interest of comprehensive coverage of plants as growing in horticulture, worldwide." Being "comprehensive" is an apt description of the author's work ethic.

There are also 16 explanatory essays on the various plant groupings in *Hortica*, a common names index, botanical terms with chart, pronunciation guide for Latinized scientific names, a bibliography, plus more.

An introductory price of \$238 has been established for *Hortica*. Order through the Roehrs Company, P.O. Box 125, East Rutherford, NJ 07073. (201) 939-0090.

- By Harold Young

Reprinted from PACIFIC COAST NURSERYMAN October 1992

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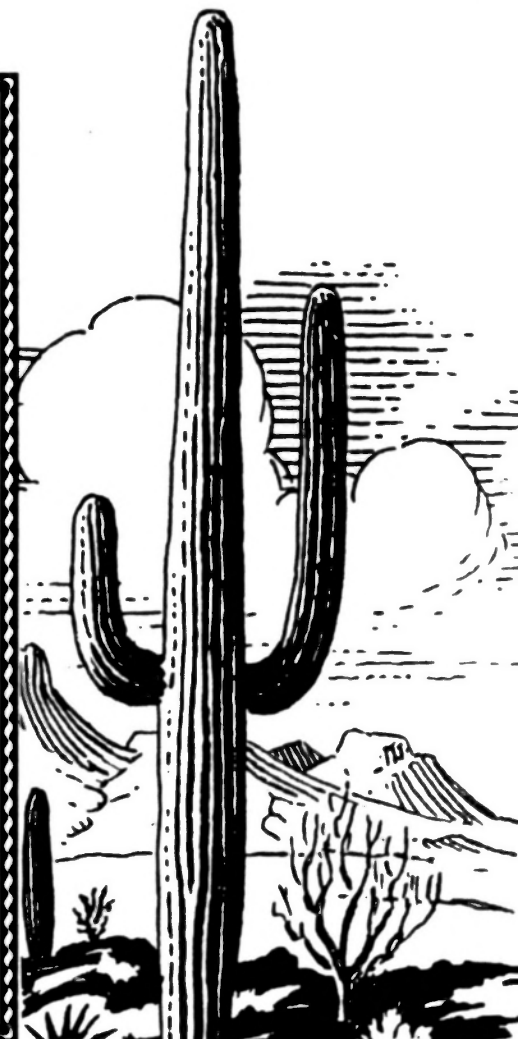
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**PRESIDENT: JOEY BETZLER
VICE-PRESIDENT: MICHAEL BUCKNER
SECRETARY: AMNA CORNETT
TREASURER: LAURA DE MERRITT**



HOLIDAY PARTY RESERVATIONS!

HOLIDAY BUFFET MENU

**ROAST TURKEY WITH SAGE DRESSING
MASHED POTATOES WITH GIBLET GRAVY
HOT BUTTERED CORN
TOSSED GREEN SALAD WITH TOMATOES & TWO DRESSINGS
RELISH TRAY INCLUDING FRESH VEGETABLES
CRANBERRY SAUCE
ROLLS AND BUTTER
COFFEE, TEA, FRUIT PUNCH OR WINE
APPLE OR PUMPKIN PIE**



LARGEST SELECTION IN THE COUNTRY (world?)

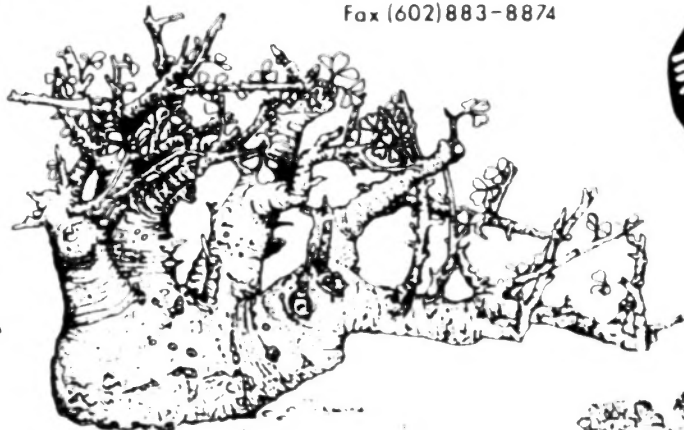
**EUPHORBIA
PACHYPODIUM
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**AND MANY OTHER
SUCCULENT GENERA**

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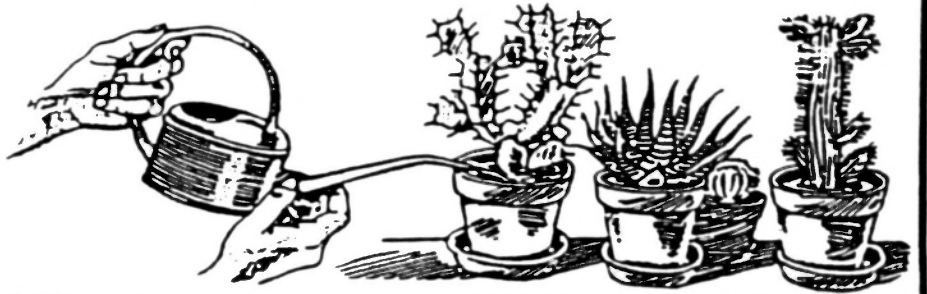


CHUCK HANSON

**WE DO NOT SELL
FIELD COLLECTED PLANTS!**



FROM ALL CORNERS
by Shirley Berry



As you may know, this column is written to present valuable information from past publications which may have escaped your notice or memory.

Many of us admire the lovely members of the Commelinaceae family such as Tradescantia, Cyanotis and Setcreasea. An article in the Bulletin of the African Succulent Plant Society Volume 10, #2 of May-June 1975 features an article by Gordon Rowley, who was then President of the A.S.P.S.

Mr. Rowley states, "The family Commelinaceae has many representatives in Africa, but the genus Tradescantia is exclusively American the species T. navicularis is reported to come from northern Peru and Mexico. Snap a leaf in half and view it against the light: you will have no doubt why it is regarded as a succulent. A deep layer of clear watery tissue covers the upper surface like a window, increasing the thickness many times. The same is found in other species of Tradescantia and Cyanotis to a lesser degree the alternate leaves terminate in false umbels of attractive pinkish purple flowers, each with three petals. If you want masses for quick propagation, grow it moist and shady. For best coloration and compactness, keep it on the dry side in full sun. It does well as a house plant."

On an altogether different subject, water staining on some white spined plants can be very frustrating to the hobbyist when it is blighted with a brownish stain creeping up the sides. An article in the A.S.P.S., Volume 10, #3, title "Cuticular Water Absorption in Succulent Plants" by H. Mays takes issue with this scourge. He feels that a layer of grit on a soilless compost will act as a barrier to some extent.

In brief, Mr. Mays states that some plant bodies are more prone to water creeping than others the result of the morphology of spine or epidermis, for example, Normanbokea, Epithelantha, Crassula deceptor, and Anacampseros papraceae. These plants from almost rainless areas are equipped to absorb dews and fogs.

At Heidelberg, water absorption was studied by placing radioactive water on spines and epidermis and measuring the penetration of this water into the vascular bundles. "Discocactus horstii which has a unique spine morphology had the best power of water absorption, as well as some species of Turbinocarpus.

These findings are important for the cultivation of these plants. Some are prone to rot or difficult to root. Less water could be given at the roots and foliage feeding undertaken more frequently."

In the words of one our most talented bonsai masters, Lit Phan, upon seeing some of my caudiciform plants grudgingly putting out some leaves, his terse advice seems sound: "Spray! Spray! Spray!"

.....
DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ISSUE IS: MONDAY NOVEMBER 30th -- PLEASE SEND US YOUR CARTOONS, DRAWINGS, LETTERS, POETRY, AND ARTICLES!!!!
.....

"Living wild species are like a library of books still unread. Our heedless destruction of them is akin to burning the library without ever having read its books."

U.S. Democratic Representative, John Dingell, co-author of the RARE & ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT in his publication, "BALANCING ON THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION: the Endangered Species Act and Lessons for the Future" c.1972.

WISE AND OTHERWISE

by Michael Buckner



"I have but two suggestions for the young and girthless. In their zeal for the big things, let them not forget the small. Size is only a relation - and the least significant, often the least valuable. The great peaks, the great rocks, the great trees, are few; the lesser, myriad; and myriad are the carices, shrubs, and insects. More revealing, more enthralling often, are these miniature books in the running brooks, these sermons in the smallest stones - these microcosms in the great macrocosm.

The other suggestion is, it's a good thing - I speak from experience - to go into the High Sierra at least every forty years. Get the habit!"

From "After Forty Years" by Theodore S. Solomons, February, 1933:

"According to MARLOTH the interior of South Africa, the major distribution area of most succulents, is one of the sunniest areas on earth. "Don't think that the intensity and long duration of the light has stunted the plants; we find exactly the opposite; the succulents, especially in their vegetative organs as well as in their inflorescences, are most surprisingly sensitive to differences in the intensity of the light." That is also the reason that many asclepiads such as *Trichocaulon*, *Hoodia*, etc., which grow in extremely sunny habitats, also present such great difficulties in cultivation, since one simply cannot give them sufficient light."

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SUCCULENTS by Werner Rauh, Smithsonian Institute Press, c. 1984

Tequila, mescal, and pulque are alcoholic liquors made from the agave plant (different species, but not surprisingly *Agave tequiliana* mostly) and years ago in Mexico the distillers began pickling the grubs they found in the Agave plants in the alcohol as sort of a trademark or "machismo".

Now a company in Pismo Beach, California, is selling transparent tequila flavored lollipops with a grub (mealworm) encapsulated inside. The lollipop, a kind of see-through mausoleum on a stick, is called HOT LIK , and a company spokesman says they're selling at the rate of 20,000 per day. To order, simply call the toll free number: 1-800-EAT-WORM!!

WISE AND

"What did the world stand to lose by the disturbance, if not the total destruction, of Aldabra? (by Anglo-American airfield radio transmitter development..ed)

In short, the loss of a unique natural wonder, one of the few islands in any ocean that remained relatively unspoiled by man – the violation of a 'living natural history museum'. ...

Aldabra was the last home of the giant Indian Ocean tortoise – a creature once widespread in the region that had been exterminated in the wild state everywhere else. It was the breeding-ground for a vast number of sea-birds, including the frigate bird of seven-foot wingspan, the red-footed booby and the red-tailed tropic bird. Aldabra alone of the Indian Ocean atolls had never been mined for guano and therefore retained most of its original vegetation; among the 170 species of plant so far identified, no less than eighteen were unique. Many of its land-birds were distinct species or sub-species forming links in evolutionary series which extend from Madagascar and the Comoros north-eastwards through the scattered chain of islands to the Seychelles.

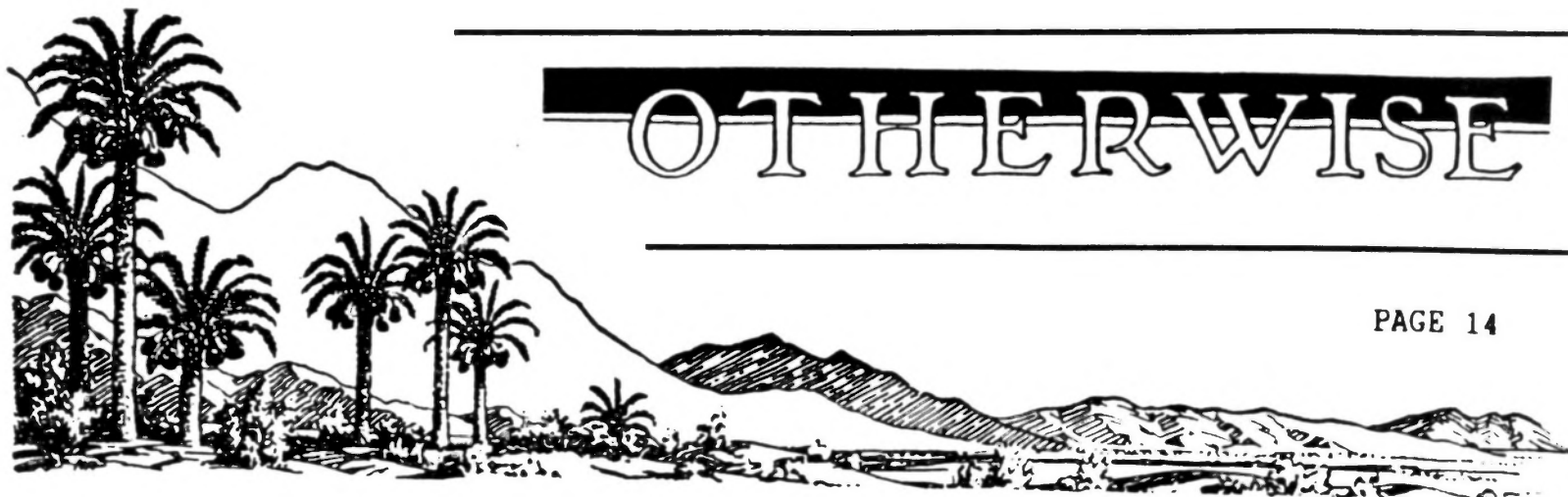
Aldabra was an elevated atoll, raised fifteen to twenty feet out of the sea, unlike the sea-level atolls found elsewhere in the Indian and Pacific Oceans; consequently its range of habitats was much more varied. It was also close to continental land – Madagascar and Africa – and had therefore had unusual opportunities for colonization by plants and animals but, since it was at the same time an oceanic island, these immigrants had, in isolation, sometimes evolved into distinct species.

Insects were known to be three times more numerous on Aldabra than on any other Indian Ocean atoll. In the most obvious group, the butterflies and moths, tentative studies had so far revealed that nearly a quarter were endemic, that is, restricted to the atoll. The atoll also claimed endemic crustaceans, freshwater fish and a distinct form of fruit bat.

On Aldabra alone, in a region once famous for the extinct dodo, a flightless bird survived.

Among the Indian Ocean islands, Aldabra alone had a largely intact ecosystem, a community of plants and animals almost undisturbed by human interference. Its vegetation had not been cleared for coconut planting nor its land devastated by guano diggers. Because it had been spared large-scale human settlement, there were few weeds, its waters were free of pollution and man's escort of predators, cats, dogs, and rats, had not wrought havoc on its defenseless wild life."

From ALDABRA ALONE by Tony Beamish, San Francisco Sierra Club Press, c.1970



OTHERWISE



The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

JOIN US

The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society is a non-profit, hobby organization created to stimulate interest in succulent plants. This society brings together people (and plants) with a common interest for the purpose of educating the public about the beauty and uniqueness of these remarkable plants, encouraging proper collecting and maintenance of the plants through preservation of native habitats and horticultural propagation, and to foster good fellowship. You are invited to join our society, whether you are an expert, amateur, or beginner, who loves unusual plants and flowers. VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME. BRING AN INTERESTED FRIEND.

Regular meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park at 1:30 p.m. (One may come as early as noon just to socialize or obtain a parking space easily.) Annual dues are \$10.00 for a single membership with an additional \$5.00 for each additional member at the same mailing address. The dues are payable at time of joining, and January of each succeeding year. Members receive our monthly publication Espinas y Flores, are entitled to library check-out privileges, and may partake in our many field trips and other activities. We offer knowledgeable speakers at our programs; many are world renowned scholars, botanists, explorers and authorities. We have a number of shows each year, especially our Annual Show and Plant Sale in June. We have a wide range of plants and supplies for purchase as favorable costs at most meetings. We also have a plant exchange table and monthly door prizes. All members will be consistently encouraged to contribute and participate in our many functions. Please join us and help us grow.

MAIL TO: MRS. LAURA DE MERRITT, TREASURER
P.O. BOX 33181-HILLCREST STATION, S.D., CA 92163-3181

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ALL 9 NUMBERS OF YOUR ZIP CODE PLEASE! _____

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WELCOME

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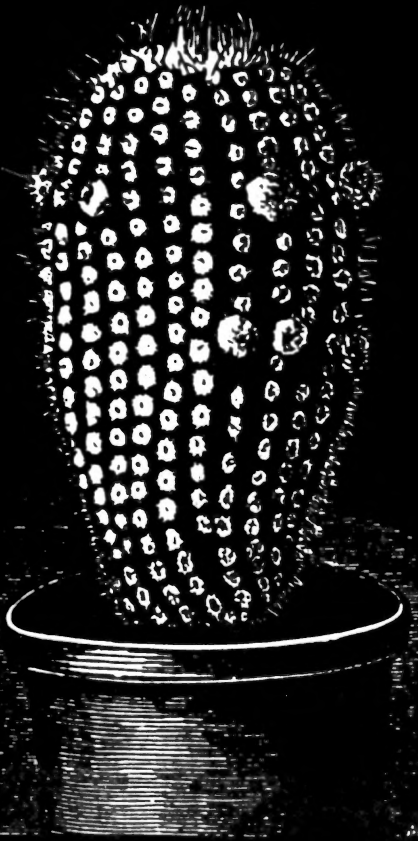
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San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 33181
Hillcrest Station 102
San Diego, CA 92163-3181



Editor - Michael Buckner Joyce Buckner
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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 11:00 A.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 U.S.A. Affiliated with the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Incorporated.

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