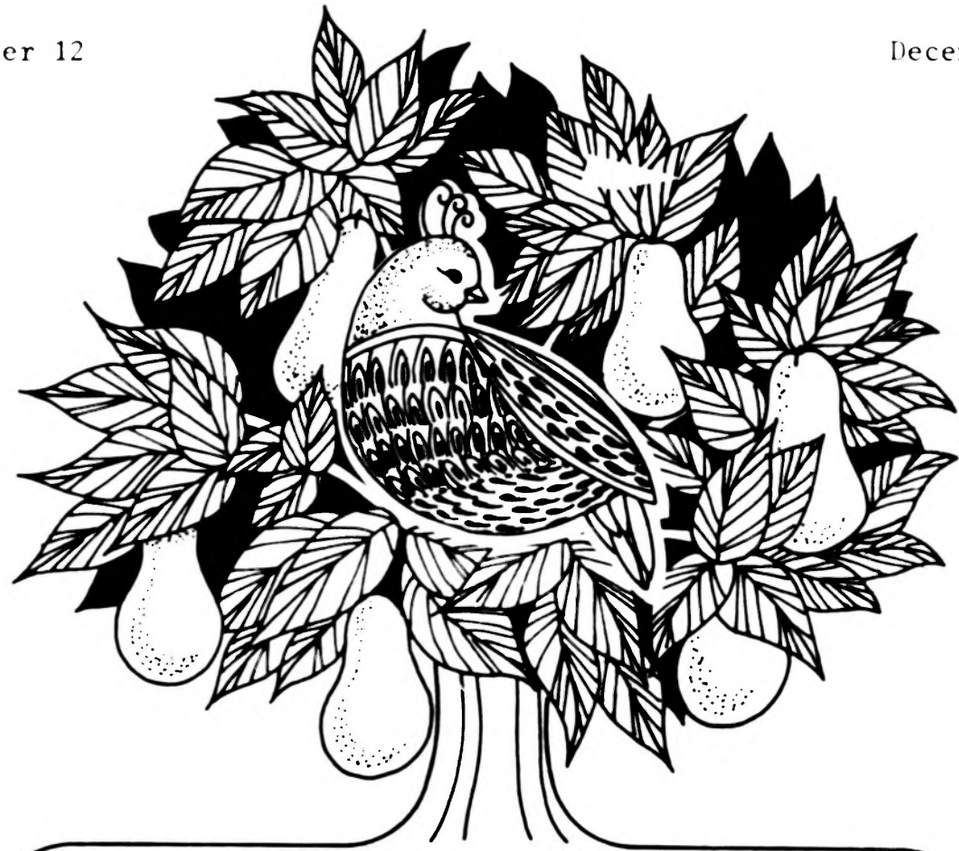
MAMMILLARIA THORNBERI

Espinas y Flores

BULLETIN OF THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Affiliate of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Inc.

Volume XXV, Number 12 December 1, 1990



December Meeting
Saturday, December 1st
1:30 p.m.

Allow time to look at the gift plants

Casa Del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park

DEADLINE ---- Anytime before the 1st of the year --- Thanks and Happy Holidays. Mary

PROGRAM

Election of Officers

Special Plant Exchange

Dinner Promptly at 2:00 pm

Distribution of gift plants to all members present.

NO LIBRARY NO PLANT SALES

PS. Deadline for dinner reservations is Monday November 26.

SLATE OF OFFICERS

ELECTION AT THE DECEMBER PARTY

The nominating committee had received the acceptance of the following candidates:

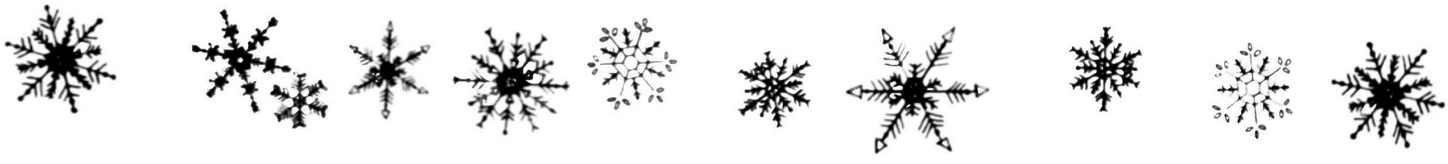
President ..... Mike Buckner

Vice President ..... Mitch Bahr

Secretary ..... Joyce Buckner

Treasurer ..... Laura Demeritt

Additional nominations may be made from the floor, but the person nominated must be willing to serve.



From your Editor ---

I would like to take this space to thank all of the contributors to the paper. Writing all the articles takes so much time and I appreciate getting them by deadline. Also thanks to Elibet Marshall for the drawings that have added spice and interest to the articles.

Mary

COTYLEDON & ADROMISCHUS

by Rick Latimer

"Cotyledon" was the name first applied to some unidentified plant by Hippocrates, the father of Medicine. Its earliest recognizable use to a plant known today was by Dioscorides, Cilician-Greek physician of Nero's Court, at about 50 A. D. In his Codex Vindobonensis is illustrated what we know today as Umbilicus erectus, but then was named Cotyledon. Cotyledon derives from the Greek root word "Kotyle", which means "socket", presumably due to the shape of a typical Umbilicus leaf. (The word "Umbilicus" is Latin for navel). When modern botany began with the publication of Species Plantarum by Linnaeus in 1753, seven species were listed under Cotyledon:

1. Cotyledon orbiculata-the type species of our modern Cotyledon
2. C. hemispherica-now Adromischus hemispericus
3. C. serrata-now Rosularia serrata (of the Sedoideae)
4. C. spinosa-now Orostachys spinosus (of the Sedoideae)
5. C. repens-now Umbilicus erectus
6. C. tuberosus-now Umbilicus pendulinus
7. C. laciniata-now Kalanchoe lacinata

All of these plants are of the Old World. It was forty years later that the first New World cotyledon reached Europe and was named C. coccinea (now Echeveria coccinea). (The word "cotyledon", of course, turns up in Monocotyledon and Dicotyledon).

In the modern-day Crassula family there is (among six) the subfamily Cotyledonoideae. Within this subfamily are six (or seven) genera-Adromischus, Chiastophyllum, Cotyledon, Mucizonia, Pistorinia, and Umbilicus. Adromischus derives from the Greek words "hadros" meaning thick and "mischos" meaning stalk. All of the species are native to southwestern Africa and mainly to Cape Province, Namaqualand, and Transvaal. A few species have a wide range to their habitat, but most are quite limited. Most species are short stemmed and form miniature clumps. The succulent leaves are mostly olive to pine green, often with purple spots, but some may have grey or reddish leaves. A. festivus (usually found under the name A. cooperi) has the typical leaf coloring, and with its elongated leaves, is commonly known as "Plover's Eggs". An unusual species is A. cristatus, with its undulate leaf tips and red-haired stems. The main period of growth for

this genus is in the fall and winter. The summer is usually taken up by the flowers. This genus is excellent for those with a limited space to grow plants or those who just like miniatures.

The genus Cotyledon consists of two vegetative types. First there are the "evergreen" species, which generally have been around longer, are more common, and may be grown just out in the yard. Such species as C. ladismithiensis (with its fuzzy leaves with brown tips gives it the common name "Bear Claws"), C. orbiculata, and C. undulata (the most beautiful of all with its chalky leaves with the undulate edges reminiscent of Adromischus cristatus) are well known. The "deciduous" Cotyledons are highly favored by succulent collectors. They loose their leaves in the summer and go dormant. A few such species are C. wallichii (a poisonous plant that kills livestock), C. dinteri, and C. grandiflora (aptly named). Cotyledons are native to, mainly southern Africa, but also Ethiopia and southern Arabia.

Adromischus was established by Lemaire in 1852. It is distinguished from Cotyledon in having flowers which are usually tubular and racemose rather than campanulate (buds look like chili peppers) paniculate. Yet, the leaf and flower characteristics intergrade in certain species between the two genera. For example, C. pygmaeum, C. sinus-alexandrii, and C. buchholziana approach Adromischus in having similar growth, nearly tubular flowers that are erect, and small growing habit. On the other hand, A. schaeferianus, A. casmithianus, and A. phillipsiae have colorful flowers resembling those of Cotyledon. A solution to this problem (pointed out to me by October 1979 speaker Walter Wisura) has been to place at least some of those species listed above in this paragraph in a new genus Tylecodon (an anagram of Cotyledon). See the Toelkin references below, if you can find copies.

REFERENCES:

Myron Kimnach, "The Genus Adromischus", CSSA Journal, (25:2), March-April 1953, p. 41-48.

Gordon Rowley, The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Succulents.

A. W. Smith, A Gardener's Dictionary of Plant Names.

H. R. Toelken, "New Taxa and a New Combination in the Genus Cotyledon", Bothalia, (12:2), 1977, p. 191-194.

H. R. Toelken, "New Taxa and New Combinations in Cotyledon and Allied Genera", Bothalia, (12:3), 1978, p. 377-393.

Eric Walther, Echeveria.

Echinocactus Link and Otto 1827

Frank C. Thrombley

Echinocactus (ē-ki˘/-nō-kak˘/-tŭs)

Echinocactus Group

A genus of cacti from Mexico and the United States. The name of June's cactus-of-the-month is derived from two Greek words meaning "hedgehog or sea urchin" and "prickly plant". They are small to very large plants, some of the latter the largest of all spherical cactus. The stem is globular or cylindrical, with prominent ribs, usually straight and continuous. The crown of the plant is woolly with large areoles. The aeroles are very woolly at the top, and the flowers are borne on the new areoles at the center. The flowers are often deeply embedded in the wool. All plants have yellow flowers, with one pink exception. The fruit, like the flower, is scaly and woolly. The seeds are chestnut brown to black, smooth, glossy, with a minute scar at the point of attachment to its base.

In 1827 Link and Otto established the genus Echinocactus, describing and illustrating 14 species. Of the 14 species described, 12 of them were described as Melocactus. Karl Schumann, in his monograph of 1898, described 138 species, some of which were South American in origin. In all, there were more than 1000 names used in the Echinocactus genus.

Britton and Rose amended the genus in 1908 and described 9 species. They designated Echinocactus Platyacanthus as the type of the genus which was originally described by Link and Otto. Backeberg added Echinocactus Parryi to Britton and Rose 9 species for a total of 10.

Probably the most popular and best known specie is the "Golden Barrel Cactus", Echinocactus Grusonii, from Mexico. The young plants are globular with golden awl-shaped spines, hence, "Golden Ball". As the plant matures it becomes somewhat flattened at the top and the spines change color to pale yellow or white. This plant will grow to 4 ft. high by 3 ft. wide.

The largest of the genus is probably, Echinocactus Ingens, from Mexico. This plant can grow to six feet high by four feet in diameter. The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, near London England, possessed a specimen having a circumference and a height of 10 ft. It weighed about a ton. This was in 1846 and the plant was discovered and described in 1837. This means that this 10 foot giant, Echinocactus Ingens, was imported from Mexico, which was quite a feat.

The one species native to California, Echinocactus Polycephalus, is a plant of the most forbidding, hot, dry desert mountains. It grows from northern Inyo County and the panamints beside Death Valley to Randsburg and Victorville in the Mojave Desert. A small outlying colony occurs in the Coyte Mountains of Imperial County.

Two species, Echinocactus Horizonthalonius and E. Polycephalus, are difficult to grow in cultivation. They need a higher temperature than most, and are sensitive to stagnant moisture. The other species are easy to grow and seem to have a greater tolerance to mans lack of knowledge or experience for the requirements for growing these plants.

I know a person who received a "Golden Barrel" cactus as a gift at Christmas in 1971. The following is a sequence of happenings to demonstrate the tolerance this plant had.

- Christmas 1971/72 the plant was received in a 4" plastic pot. In January 1972 the plant was placed outdoors and left in the pot.

- Between January 1972 and summer of 1973 the plant received no care other than water, when watering the garden.

- In the summer of 1973 the plant was transplanted into a 6" clay pot. Dirt from the garden was used to fill the void in the new pot.

- In March of 1975, once again the "Golden Barrel" was transplanted. This time into an 8" clay pot and once again with dirt from the garden.

- In the spring of 1976 this person became interested in cactus and cactus culture. In August of 1976 the Golden Barrel, now called Echinocactus Grusonii, was transplanted into a 10" clay pot with a prepared soil mixture which was thought to have the right texture. Further, the dimension of this Echinocactus Grusonii was recorded. Care in watering was adapted.

- November 5, 1978 the Echinocactus Grusonii was transplanted into a 14" clay pot. The plant measured 12" in diameter X 8" high.

- In September and October of 1979 my golden barrel flowered.

- On March 3, 1980, my Echinocactus Grusonii, sometimes referred to as "Golden Barrel Cactus", measured 13" in diameter X 9" high.

References Used:

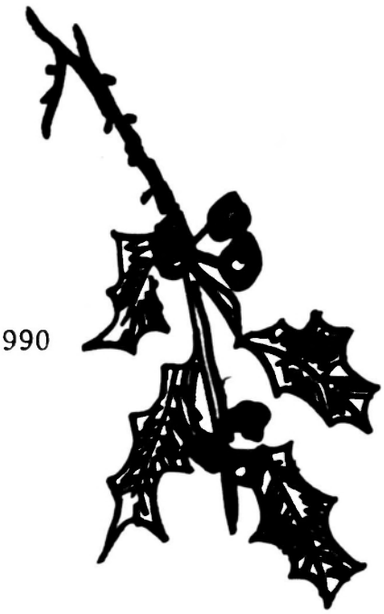
Backeberg, Curt, 1977 Cactus Lexicon Blandford Press, England

Barthlott, Wilhelm, 1979 Cacti Stanly Thornes, England

Borg, J., 1976 Cacti Blandford Press, England

Britton and Rose, 1937 The Cactaceae Dover Publications, New York City

Dawson, E. Yale, 1975 Cacti of California University of California Press, California



** DON'T FORGET ***

ONLY REGISTERED MEMBERS OF OUR CLUB ARE
INVITED TO THE CHRISTMAS PARTY
**NO GUESTS **

$5.00 Registration each member for the Christmas party Dec. 1, 1990

Name: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

**NOTE **
Registration MUST be in by November 26, 1990 AMOUNT ENCLOSED $ _____
** COMPLETE AND MAIL TO **
Dana Adams - Treasurer
7305 Rock Canyon Drive, San Diego, CA 92126 PLEASE NO REFUNDS ALLOWED !

- -

PLEASE NOTE: EVERYONE's dues are due by the end of the year. These are annual dues that come from January to January.

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

$8.00 - Single member per calendar year
$2.00 - Each additional member of the same household

** PLEASE PRINT **

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

Additional members;

name: _____ name: _____

PLEASE CHECK IF:

_____ You are a new member _____ You subscribe to the Cactus & Succulent Journal

** COMPLETE AND MAIL TO **

DANA ADAMS: Treasurer, 7305 Rock Canyon Drive, San Diego, CA 92126

AMOUNT ENCLOSED $ _____

There are no back issues of the Espinas y Flores availabe for late payment.
Have copies made of this if you do not want to tear up the paper.

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

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Vice President - Mitch Bahr
4945 Diane Court, San Diego 92117 571-0912
Secretary - Jeanette Dutton
1330 31st Street, San Diego 92102 239-8476
Treasurer - Dana Adams
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Immediate Past President - Dr. Leroy Phelps
4094 36th Street, San Diego 92104 280-9690

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Madelyn Lee, Rudy Lime, Mark St. Clair

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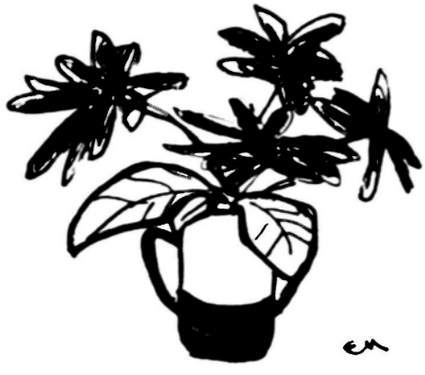
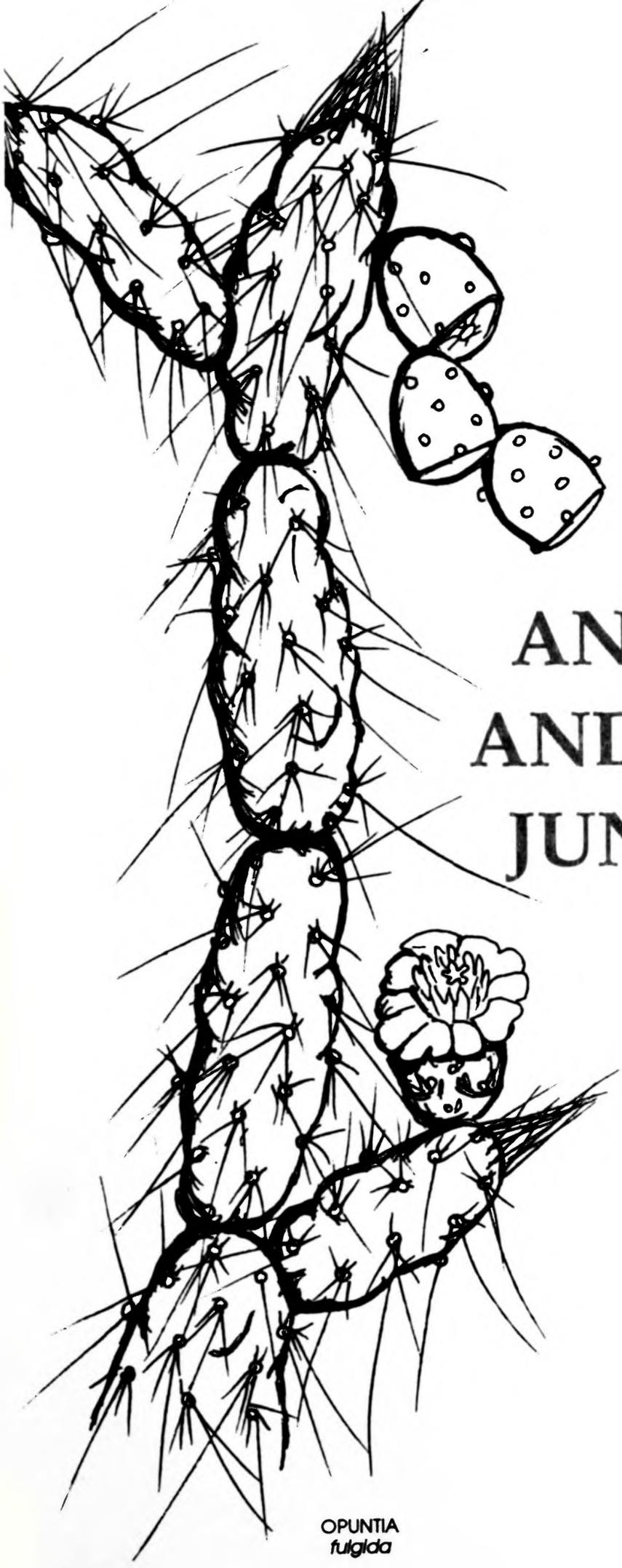
The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society is open to all persons interested in growing cacti or other succulent and exotic plants. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Board of Directors meetings are held after the general meetings. Annual dues are $8.00 per single member per year, and $2.00 for each additional member of a household within the family. Single copies of Espinas y Flores are 60¢.

Editor
Mary Aubuchon
1058 5th Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 92011



FIRST CLASS **FIRST CLASS** **FIRST CLASS**



OPUNTIA
fulgida

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

ANNUAL SHOW AND PLANT SALE JUNE 2 & 3, 1990

ROOM 101
Casa del Prado
BALBOA PARK
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

Saturday, June 2, 1 - 5 p.m.
Sunday, June 3, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

SET UP TIME
Friday, June 1, 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 2, 7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
TAKE OUT TIME
Sunday, June 3, after 5:00 p.m.

PLANT SALES
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Saturday & Sunday
Casa del Prado