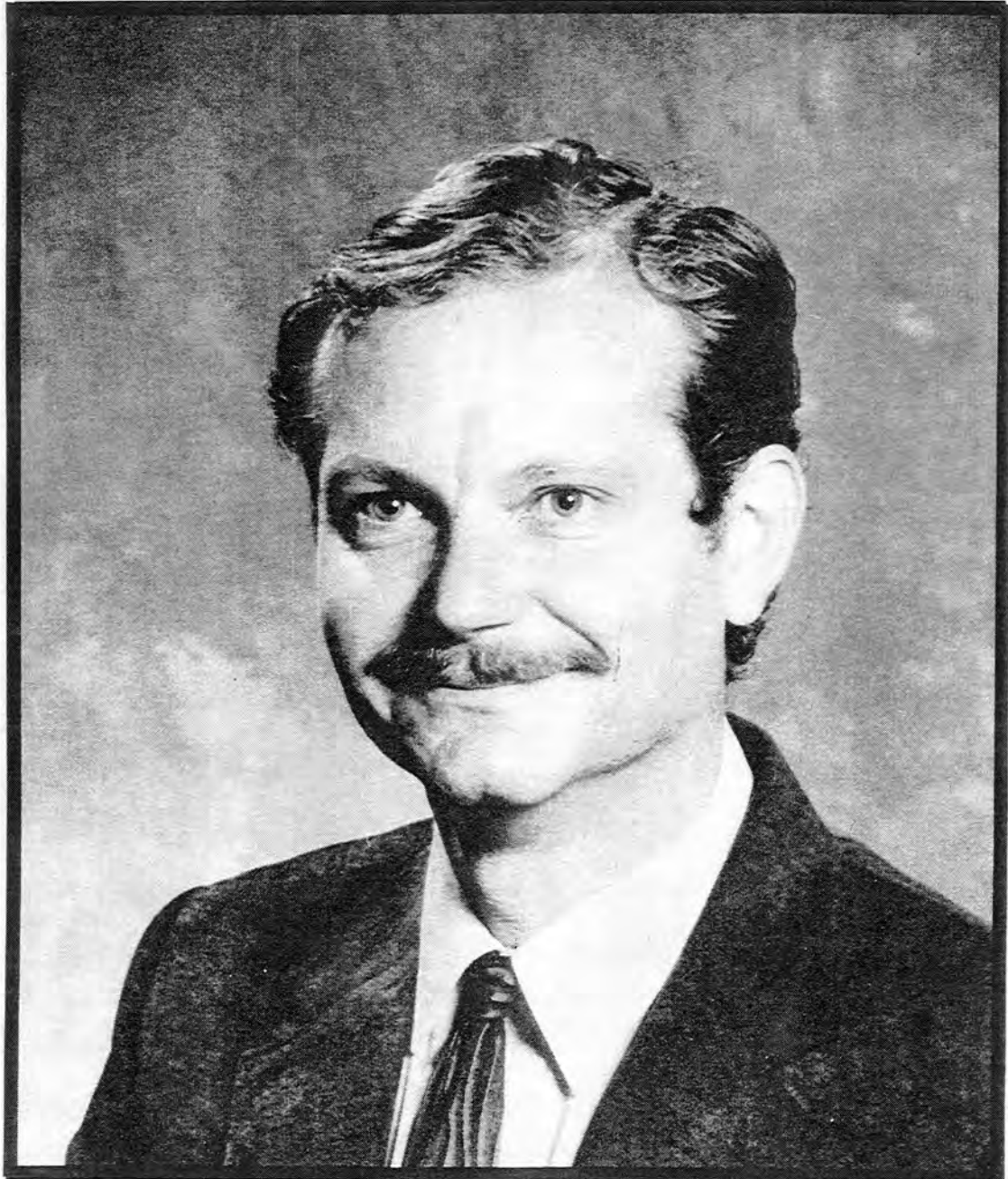




MAMMILLARIA THORNERI

Espinas y Flores

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Affiliate of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Inc.
VOLUME XXX NUMBER NINE, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 1995 @ NOON



RICHARD G. LATIMER, JR.
(1951 - 1995)



San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society Annual Picnic
Saturday, September 16th @ KATE SESSIONS PARK

WHAT: Yes, it's time for our annual picnic. For those of you who attended last year, it will be held in the same location. Potluck, Picnic and Plant Specimen Auction. **A SHADE TENT will be provided.** Please bring your own lawn chairs and something yummy to eat for the potluck. Please bring dishes that are picnic style and ready to eat: Fried Chicken, Fruit Salad, Deviled Eggs, Cookies, Potato Salad, etc! Cold drinks, ice, plates, napkins and utensils will be provided.

WHEN: Saturday, September 16th starting as early as you can make it. Lunch will be served at 12:00 NOON!

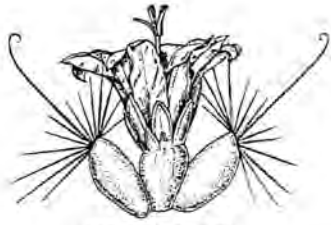
WHERE: The picnic will be held at KATE SESSIONS PARK, located in Pacific Beach.

DIRECTIONS:

Take the **Grand - Garnet exit off I-5**; go West on either Grand or Garnet (they run parallel) until you get to Lamont Street; **take a Right on Lamont** (North) and go approximately .7 miles. Kate Sessions Park will be on the Right. Parking is available either in the park or on Loring Street, which is the side street right below the park. If you turn right on Loring Street, the park will be above you to the left. There are steps that lead up to the park, quite near the picnic spot. Signs will be posted.

NOTE: Bring a hat and sunscreen.

THE PLANT AUCTION WILL BE HELD AT 2:00 PM



Mammillaria thornberi

San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society

P.O. Box 33181, San Diego, California, 92163-3181

Presidents Message for September 1995

The news has spread throughout our society, throughout the world, but perhaps you have not heard . . .

It is with much sadness that I inform you of the death of Richard George Latimer Junior. Rick passed away sometime on the weekend of August 12, after our last meeting. I know that he was very happy with both programs on that Saturday; we discussed Monty's great Baja presentation and the neat DNA discoveries of Rob Wallace. His death was accidental and brings home to me how fragile life can be.

Though he was only 43, he had been a member of our society for about 27 years! Rick has been the 'historical glue' that has kept us in touch with our past. As the society's historian, he had lived most of the history and known most of our past members. Rick was voted a life member of the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society in 1990. His participation was priceless.

Rick was a 'low-key' person, but a 'key-player' in many aspects of the San Diego Botanical scene. He was a 'doer'. Rick did not always have much to say, but he could always be counted upon. In our Society Rick has held many different offices. He was a past President of our society, the San Diego Epiphyllum Society and the San Diego Botanical Garden Foundation. He will be sorely missed.

Today, while I am sitting here, I am surrounded by things that have to do with Rick: his writings on plants, photographs of him (from his sisters, for the newsletter) and a transcript of his Funeral Service. I feel a little strange about writing this note, yet he is gone . . .

I notified many people of Rick's death, Seymour Lindon of the Cactus and Succulent Society of America made a suggestion; I talked with Rick's sisters and the directors of the San Diego Epiphyllum Society about the idea of a research fund in Rick's honor. All agreed to cooperate in the creation of the Richard G. Latimer Jr. Research Fund.

Richard G. Latimer Jr. Research Fund -

For those of you that knew Rick Latimer and would like to donate research funds in his memory you may send checks to the San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society, P.O. Box 33181, San Diego, California, USA, 92163-3181. Make the check payable to SDCSS and make a note that it is to be used for this fund.

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society will cooperate with the San Diego Epiphyllum Society and see that these funds go to create a CSSA research fund in Rick's name. We will ask that the funds are applied toward the study of Epiphytic Cacti. Rick was especially fond of this group of plants, and this seems like an appropriate tribute to a fine man.

Both societies are non-profit, tax exempt corporations and your contributions are tax deductible.

Also, letters and cards can be sent to The Latimer Family, 3945 El Canto Drive, Spring Valley, CA 91977.

Others that knew Rick better than me have contributed to this memorial issue of *Espinas y Flores*. Please read their words and remember with them who Rick Latimer was.

At the funeral Jerry Crouch, Rick's life long friend, reminded all of us of an annoying habit that Rick had. He would often leave a gathering without saying "Goodbye". It has felt that way to me lately.

Goodbye Rick, you will be missed.

Sincerely, *Joseph A. Betche*



The **San Diego Hoya Group** is having a special summer meeting at Rainbow Gardens Nursery & Bookshop in Vista on Sunday, September 24th. The San Diego Hoya Group meets quarterly and always has a pot luck before the meeting. All SDC&SS members are invited to attend! This September meeting features a Round Table Discussion on Hoyas and other Asclepiads by the Board of Directors of the International Hoya Association. The pot luck food theme is "Bring Your Favorite International Dish". If you would like to attend, please arrive before noon. For more information please contact Chuck Everson @ (619) 758-4290. There are usually between 55 and 75 people who attend these meetings (about half a dozen are also SDC&SS Members!).

Chuck also noted in his letter: "Jerry and I will be going over to Rick Latimer's place tomorrow to pick up his epiphyllum seedlings. We will grow them and if the blooms are worthwhile, we will name them for him."

Preparations are underway for the annual **Garden Festival** at the Wild Animal Park, which will take place in October. The greenhouse currently houses the remainder of the SDC&SS's June sale plants which are being cared for by the SDC&SS Wild Animal Park Volunteers. There are also many donated plants in the Greenhouse Collection which provides a source of plant material for educational programs and research. If you would like to help with this project please contact Paul Steward @ (619) 486-0535.

Charles Spotts will be giving a program on **THE GENUS OPUNTIA** at our regular October meeting - Saturday, October 14 @ 1:00. The Cactus of the Month is **Cacti with Fragrant Flowers** by Amna Cornett and The Succulent of the Month is **Tropical Agaves** by Edward Nolan PhD.

Any members who wish to donate a few plants to the V.A. Hospital for their annual sale in November, please bring them to the October meeting. The money earned at the sale goes directly toward buying craft kits, personal care & grooming products, and many other amenities for bedridden and wheelchair bound Veterans. Ruth Richardson will collect donations brought to the October meeting; Michael & Joyce Buckner will collect donations brought to the November meeting. Your contributions are greatly appreciated — plants are always sold! Thanks, Ruth Richardson

We certainly hope that Carol Wujcik is feeling better. The absence of her smiling face, good energy and the constant flash & click of her camera left a great big gap in the whole aura of the Inter-City Show at the L.A. Arboretum. We really missed you, Carol. If you would like to send Carol a Get Well Soon Note, her address is: 10860 El Mar Avenue, Fountain Valley, CA 92708-5320.

Congratulations are in order for SDC&SS member & Director Dylan Hannon, who has recently joined the staff of The Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden in Claremont. This garden is well known for its splendid collection of California Natives (including Baja), bulbs, and for its desert garden. Perhaps when the weather cools down, we can plan a tour. We're proud of you, Dylan! And wish you the very best — all the while hoping you remain active with the San Diego Society!

Once again the Inter-City Cactus & Succulent Show at the L.A. Arboretum was a smashing success. There were many SDC&SS participants including: Alan Weiss who received the Trophy for Best Educational Display, Karla Nolan who received a Blue Ribbon for a very special display of pressed Desert Wildflowers, Rudy Lime (also a judge) received the People's Choice Trophy for his *Operculacaria* Bonsai, Marylyn Henderson received The Best Echeveria Trophy, and Ed & Karla Nolan received the Best Cactus Trophy. There were many, many more SDC&SS winners — including yours truly, Michael & Joyce Buckner, who went home the The Best Staged Plant Trophy and The Tegelberg Trophy for Rarest Plant in Show, and Monte Woodworth, a first time participant, who received several ribbons and at least one Blue Ribbon for a very special *Euphorbia*.

REMEMBERING RICK LATIMER

BY FRANK C. THROMBLEY

Marianne and I joined the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society in 1978, but it was not until the June 1979 show that I met Rick. After entering a half dozen plants in the show as a single entry in the Displays Division, I was pleasantly surprised to have been awarded a third place ribbon. Rick Latimer was clerking that year and after the judging was completed he placed the ribbon on my display to 'encourage' new members. It was not until the 1980 show that I learned of this trait of kindness and caring that he had. For the next five years, Rick and I, with the help of others, worked together at the annual SDC&SS June Show and Sale. Each year we would give a new member or first-time-to-show person a ribbon for 'encouragement'. During that period we told no one.

In 1980 Rick Latimer became a General Atomic employee in the Quality Control Division of Electronics. I also worked in the Electronic Division. Yet another surprise was to unfold. In 1981, without anyone in GA knowing before hand, Rick took the first of two exams for the California State Certified Engineering License. He was one of the 20 out of 50 people who took this examination in Southern California to pass. I learned of this from an electronic engineer at GA who also took the exam and passed it. Rick did not follow through with the final examination because, as he told me, he was happy in the work he was doing at General Atomic.

The Electronic Division became a separate entity of GA and was

renamed Sorrento Electronics. Rick matured with the job and through diligent working habits, he became a supervisor in the Quality Control Department. As Quality Control Representative, he visited many nuclear power plants in the United States, during his tenure with Sorrento Electronics.

On some of these business trips he was able to visit with other Cactusphiles (is there such a word?). Whenever possible, while on these business trips, Rick would attend the meetings of any local Cactus & Succulent or other Botanical Society. He gave programs at these meetings whenever asked. Now he had friends with similar interests across the U.S.A. This led to his traveling, with his family, visiting Botanical Gardens throughout Europe. Rick gave programs in New Zealand, England, Germany, Switzerland, and on the Island of Malta. He was hoping to go to Czechoslovakia in 1996 for Sorrento Electronics and had been asked to give a slide program to the Cactus Society there.

Richard Latimer, the subdued, unassuming person, was really 'Ricky' the person with a low-key dry sense of humor. (*editors note: During set-up for one of our Del Mar Fair Exhibits, I took pizza orders. Asking him what he would like on his pizza, he answered that he could pretty much eat anything, and then added in the same nonchalant tone, that should he find any green peppers on his pizza he would "stuff them up my nose" no matter how huge or teensy-weensy they might be!*)

REMEMBERING RICK LATIMER by Frank C. Thrombley continued

Camping one night about 15 miles west of Bahia De Los Angeles in Baja, Rick and I set up our sleeping bags away from the rest of the group, to chat and gaze at the Milky Way. About 2:00am I heard Rick get up and pick up his bag and belongings. . . . I asked what the problem was and he replied he heard animal movement. As he passed my sleeping bag he said, in a very subdued voice, just loud enough for me to hear, "I'll be darned if I'll sleep with Grizzly Bears roaming about". He then returned to the group.

On another trip we left Punta Prieta in a rainstorm and thought we would stop at Catavina for the night. It was raining so hard at Catavina that we decided to drive home. Before coming into El Rosario the road climbs to over 2,500 feet elevation. Just before the crest the old van I was driving had a flat tire. Jim Gibbons, Tom Parks and I got out of our respective vehicles (in a downpour of rain) and put on the spare. Jim was so wet he stripped all his clothes off and put on dry ones. We got back in our trucks and as we were starting to go Rick said to me, "I am glad I wasn't driving".

Rick's humor wasn't always dry; he consistently contributed "one liners" of wit, which flew over the head of many. He had a sense of fantasy. John Pasek told me that Rick, Dorothy Dunn, and John were camping on a remote beach in the vicinity of Santa Rosalia. They had the beach to themselves and Rick visualized the Hawaiian Islands. Rick was the King of Hawaii and Dorothy & John were his loyal subjects. John said Rick was funny, provoking

laughter and having a good time. Rick also enjoyed eating spaghetti in a rainstorm, on the main highway while delayed by a flash flood. The group had to wait for the river of water to stop before proceeding, John cooked spaghetti on the highway and Rick saw the humor in it all.

Rick's humor was of a serious nature at times. He brought his telescope on a trip to the San Francisco De La Sierra, about 4,500 foot elevation, with John & Dorothy. John said he kept them awake half the night showing planets and stars, all the while giving a dissertation.

Judith Hannula related a funny occurrence. In the early 1980's some members of the club went on a bus trip to the David Grigsby Nursery and Cactus Gardens. Rick purchased a specimen *Sansevieria* and on the return trip he was sitting between Anna Cornett and Judy. He turned to Judy and said, "Don't you dare tell my mother what I paid for this plant."

Ricky was very low-key and modest, but ever alert to his surroundings. He was a doer, always willing to help. His interests ranged from the plant world to the scientific world to the science fiction world; from Natural Science to the systemic and exact Science. I wonder how many of us really knew him. One that did know Ricky was Betty Athy. In reply to a question of mine, she said, "Ricky was my very best friend and I am going to miss him very very much."

Betty, we all will miss him very much.

"The soul would have no rainbow had the eyes no tears."

— J. V. CHENEY

Back in '82 or '83 I was helping (*for the first time*) Michael set up an exhibit for the SDC&SS June Show. Rick was in charge; I'm really not sure if he was Show Chairman or assisting Frank Thrombley at the time. In any case, this was basically the first conversation I ever had with Rick. As a neophyte, I was curious as to what motivated these people to such extremes that they would expend all this energy hauling their well-groomed, funny-named, botanical abnormalities into a room for presentation and competition. Rick was telling me that he was much more of an enthusiastic participant at the "Epi" show, and that he was president of the "Epi" Society, all the while cleaning the display tables and straightening entry labels.

My response (*Just color me Blonde, okay!*) was "Gee, I didn't know that 'Yuppies' actually had their own society here in San Diego."

Rick straightened up and his whole body gave a sort of shiver, then he smiled and very politely explained that "Epi" was a shortening of the word "Epiphyllum". He went on to explain that epiphyllums were cacti-succulent type plants that thrived hanging out of trees or in baskets filled with sphagnum moss. He asked me if I had ever noticed hanging plants growing out of the palm trees - twenty feet up. Thinking of the yellow flowering *Oxalis* growing from the palm tree across the street from my house I nodded an affirmative. Rick, now satisfied that I had some idea as to what an *Epiphyllum* was, added that this plant family produced brilliant showy blooms — perhaps I, too, would find them beautiful.

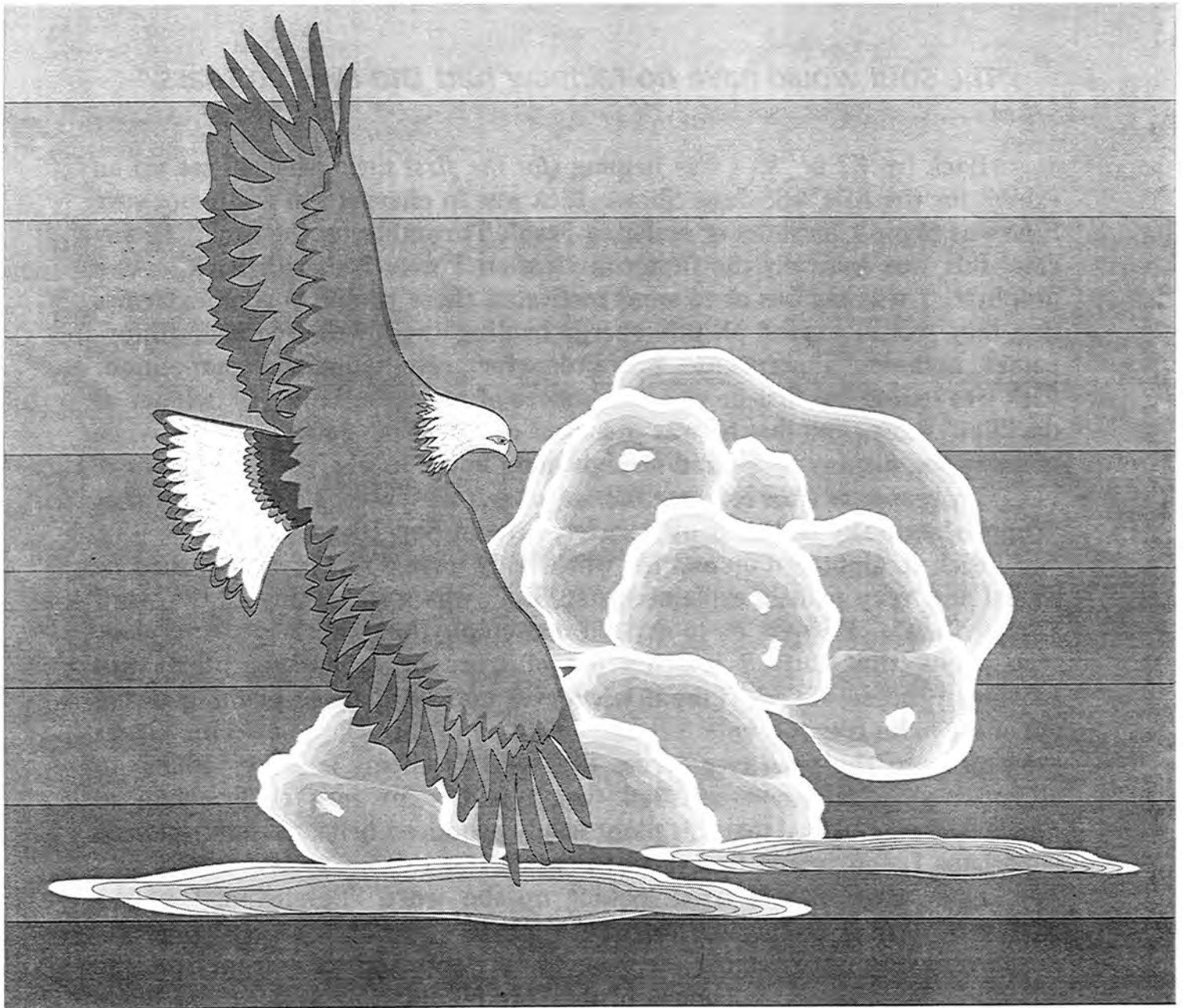
Later that night I tried looking up the word "Epiphyllum" in the dictionary — only finding the word: "epiphyte - *n.* *Bot.* a plant that grows nonparasitically upon another, deriving its nutrients and water from rain, the air, dust, etc.". . . . I thought of the "Air Plants" sold at fairs and home shows. By my observation these were dead and/or dying little long leafed plants (*which I now know to be tillandsias*) and dyed green fern-like wisps sprayed with shellac and glue-gunned to a piece of driftwood or a refrigerator magnet.

"Wow", I thought, "These plant people are bizarre."

On the following day Rick proudly showed me some *Epiphyllum* blooms displayed in chipped tea cups under the show category: "Specialties - Arrangements - floral and otherwise". I commented on the bright colors and lovely hues; then murmured unabashed admiration for "Christmas Cactuses". He smiled, ever congenial — never once poking fun at my total plant ignorance. The *Epiphyllum* blooms were impressive. His was the only entry and it sported a blue ribbon.

Thank you Rick for encouraging my interest and acknowledging my effort. I will miss you very much.





BRAG TABLE WINNERS FOR AUGUST 1995:
JUDGED BY RICK LATIMER

CACTUS:

FIRST PLACE: Emile Pierre's *Mammillaria hahniana*
SECOND PLACE: Virginia Innes's *Mammillaria celsiana*
THIRD PLACE: Floyd Gable's *Cephalocereus senilis*

SUCCULENT:

FIRST PLACE: Alan Weiss's *Adenium obesum var. multiflorum*
SECOND PLACE: Shirley Berry's *Senecio haworthii*
THIRD PLACE: Rudy Lime's *Adenium obesum var. multiflorum*

Funeral Service for Rick Latimer . . . Saturday, August 19, 1995
from the handwritten notes of Dr. Paul A. Manson, Minister,
United Church of Christ in La Mesa, as transcribed by Joey Betzler:

We also gather this afternoon to say goodbye. We bring with us a scrap book of memories about Rick as a friend, a neighbor, a co-worker, a brother. We carry with us a deep sadness of a life cut short by an accident. It would be all too easy to dwell on the accident and feel sorry for Rick and ourselves. In an ideal world we would all live long, happy, healthy lives free from all pain and disease. But our world and our lives are far from perfect. There is illness, injury, disease, famine, war and the endless capacity of humans to find new ways to make the same old mistakes. It is tragedy and loss that bring to mind the dark dimensions of life. It would be all too easy for us to use this opportunity to focus on Rick's death and forget his life.

Let us not forget that life also brings experiences of joy, laughter, love and personal accomplishments. If we were to open our scrap books of memories about Rick what pictures would we find?

We would find a picture of Rick at work at Sorrento Electronics. He was dedicated not simply to doing a job, but to doing it right. Rick worked as a supervisor in the area of quality control. It was his task to find problems before problems developed. Considering that Sorrento Electronics manufactured parts and instruments used in nuclear reactors, I appreciate workers who want to get things correct the first time as opposed to waiting for mistakes. Rick had a deep love for science and technology and his mind loved to learn about developments in the field.

A scrapbook of memories about Rick would include not only his love for science but also his love for the imaginative creations of science fiction. Some of his prized possessions include an autographed picture of Counselor Troy from Star Trek, The Next Generation and a commemorative plaque from Star Trek II the movie. His library included an impressive collection of works from early Isaac Asimov, to Carl Sagan and Jules Verne. He also built models of the starship Enterprise and a Clington Battle Cruiser. From his library you could tell that he was happy to live in an era of space exploration and Rick had great dreams of the future of our human race. With his telescope he was looking not simply at the stars and planets, but with a hope for knowledge and future discoveries.

A scrapbook of memories would include pictures from all over the globe. Rick traveled extensively in Europe and enjoyed learning and experiencing new cultures from Germany to New Zealand. Travel provided Rick with his Star Trek expressions of enjoying strange new worlds and new civilizations - the opportunity to go where he could visit something unique, beautiful or historically significant.

Another picture we would have of Rick's life is that of working with cactus and Epiphyllums. He developed such an expertise on cactus that he worked as a consultant for the San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park. Rick also served as a local and regional judge at cactus shows in California. His love for cactus and Epiphyllums was well represented in his library and in the yard. I have never seen such an incredible display and collection of plants at an individual's home. You could tell that Rick took great pride in his cactus and Epiphyllums. He was awarded prize trophies for his work from the Epiphyllum Society of America in 1985, 1987, 1991, and 1993. He held an honorary lifetime membership from the Epiphyllum Society and also served as the editor of the Epi News which recorded all of the news in this area. Rick's love for plants was a vital part of his leisure time and weekends. It began as an inherited and shared joy with his father but Rick developed the interest himself and became an expert in his own right.

Many of us would share other pictures from the scrap book of memories. Pictures of Rick as a cross country runner in high school and as an amateur adult runner. In the past years he was involved in competitive running and placed first in his age group for runners. He was quick to add that his younger friends would always come in behind him.

Rick Latimer continued

Rick loved his family. He was the “John-Boy Walton” of the family who wrote letters and kept up with aunts, uncles, cousins and cherished their stories. He was keenly interested in tracing the roots of the family tree and developing a detailed genealogy. On trips to Europe he would go to small villages in Germany to seek out the roots of his family tree. He wanted to unveil the links to the past as well as keep in touch with the family in the present.

Rick appreciated art and music. He loved to paint, listen to classical music, and had a fondness for Asian art. This love for art and music was evidenced throughout the house. Everywhere you look there is a painting done by his father. His small statues of Beethoven were symbolic of his appreciation of the great master of symphonies. He appreciated the calm beauty and simplicity of Asian art. The power of Asian painting is not so much what you crowd into the scene, as much as what you wisely exclude. It’s goal is to entice the imagination into wonder and awe rather than represent a detailed reality.

There are other pictures some of us have to share about Rick’s life - memories of a brother, a friend, a good neighbor. Let us be grateful for the gift of good memories. I will ask now that anyone who has a memory to share would come forward . . .

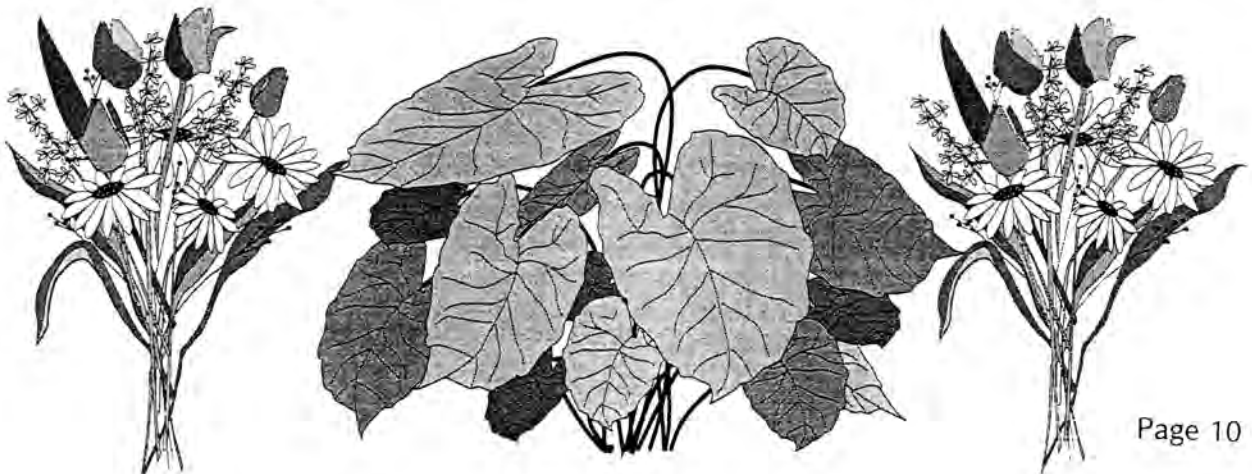
Jerry Crouch came forward and spoke about his lifelong friendship with Rick, they met when they were about 5 years old . . .

Frank Thrombley came forward to talk about meeting Rick in the Cactus club in the ‘70’s . . .

On the internet Sy Luu wrote the following note:

Having known Richard for 21 years, it is quite a painful experience for me whenever I think about him. I am deeply saddened by his sudden departure and understand that the San Diego Cactus Society plans to create a research fund in honor of Richard. I would appreciate very much if you could provide me with some more information on how I could contribute to this fund. My best regards, Sy Luu

Although saddened by his death, I find myself envious of the way he died. Although Rick may have died 40 years too early, he couldn’t have chosen a better way to go. Rick died outside in his own backyard while caring for his beloved plants! Death came without warning; death came without a diagnosis, prognosis, insurance claim forms, medications, or side-effects. Even in dying, Rick knew how to do it right!



August 8, 1995

Dear Carmen,

As a member of the SDC&SS, I read of your plight in the August newsletter. Don't worry! Working as I do at a nursery that imports and exports plants, we are in regular contact with the local Department of Agriculture. Today, I spoke with Mr. Neal Stalnaker of the San Diego County Department and asked him to look up the laws concerning Massachusetts and California.

Mr. Stalnaker later reported that they do look for Japanese Beetles, normally only inspecting commercial shipments. There is a provision in these import laws that allows for private collections (ie an assortment of plant species which are not being transported for sale) to pass freely across the Arizona - California border. Explain that your plants are a personal collection and you should encounter little or no difficulty in bringing your plants to Escondido.

Incidentally, please look my wife and I up at the next meeting - we do plan to attend the September 16th picnic & auction. I am from central Massachusetts and a graduate of University of Mass - Amherst, with a degree in Plant & Soil Sciences, 1975. Maybe we can share some stories.

*Sincerely, THE CHLOROPHYLL KID
Edward DeLollis*

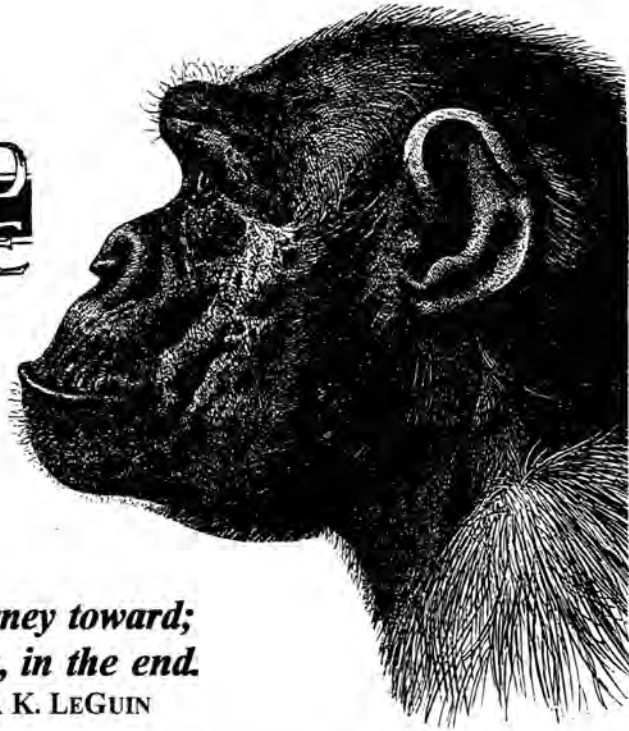
editors note: A few years ago I helped a girlfriend move; we drove a Ryder Truck filled with all from Baltimore to Los Angeles. Before the move she obtained this advise:

Prior to packing your plants for the big move, thoroughly inspect them, making sure they are pest free. Place them (and any outdoor furniture) in an easily accessible place in your moving van, so that if the California Department of Agriculture inspectors do wish to examine them, you need not unload half your furniture. Also, carefully clean all garden furniture, bicycles, and any other items that have been stored outdoors; inspectors sometimes peruse these for larvae and other evidence of pest infestation.

Our own experience during that move: They barely looked at our plants. They did, however, carefully scrutinize the bicycle and patio chairs and we were glad that they had been cleaned before moving!

WISE AND OTHERWISE

Michael Buckner



*It is good to have an end to journey toward;
but it is the journey that matters, in the end.*

URSULA K. LE GUIN

"Man is the only being that knows death; all others become old, but with a consciousness wholly limited to the moment, which must seem to them eternal. They see death, not knowing anything about it."

OSWALD SPENGLER, THE DECLINE OF THE WEST, 1926

The river is a billion years long and persons have traveled a million years on it, recording their passage for several thousand years. If the river were to stretch round the globe, the human journey would be halfway across a county and we would have kept a journal for only a few hundred feet. The individual's reach would be a couple of steps. Such a linear scale admits the natural length of the river, yet it does not record an increasing turbulence in the human epoch, owing to the augmented information-flow. What is upstream flows down so as progressively, logarithmically to become tributary to more depth and stir. This past distance traveled is only partially forgotten and gone; it is rather largely here. It survives in us, for the present is what endures out of the past.

. We sometimes think of the past as a kind of corpse; the dead are nothing but memories and phantoms. But if life is an on-rushing current, this is not so; for it is the past that germinates us. Our present life is just that past life in a cumulative, contemporary incarnation. In a legal phrase, we are both the executors and beneficiaries of the "wills" of our forebears, which outlast them. We do well to "will" that this providence lasts on, to ensure the "*will-be-ness* of the *is*." In a natural idiom, we have roots, and we ought to have fruits.

Wise and Otherwise by Michael Buckner continued . . .

Life is a splendid sort of "project," the ultimate drama. Some of its meanings are, and ought to be transient. But the deepest meaning is found not merely in the present but, as in all narrative, when leading features of the past survive, deepen, and cohere to govern across repeated chapters in a whole plot. Incidentals may be delighted in for the present, but they pass away, peculiar to an era. Discontinuities and emergents surprise us; still each generation's noblest adventures are tributary to a meaning flow that is intergenerational. In the flow of a symphony, the present melody is enjoyed in itself, but not only so; it often recapitulates and leads. Else there is less beauty and no real movement. That we cannot entirely foresee the outcome is a positively dramatic feature, and so we do not and cannot know the future course of this life tide, whether of success or catastrophe. But that does not diminish in present actors a duty to thrust forward what they most cherish. Nor does this duty diminish their own immediate integrity; it rather establishes it."

— *The River of Life: Past, Present, and Future* from PHILOSOPHY GONE WILD—ESSAYS IN ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS by Holmes Rolston III, Prometheus Books, Buffalo, NY c.1986.

The happiest moments of my life have been in the flow of affection among friends.

Thomas Jefferson

About Rick . . . I have so much to say, but I can't seem to put it down — maybe later, when his absence has sunk into my psyche. Perhaps then I will be able to put into words — a feeling — having met Rick when he was a kid — 14 or 15 or so, he has always been synonymous with the SDC&SS. During my term as club president, Rick was always there. He had the key to that last locker; he knew the history of the politics and the politics of the history of the club, which he shared without subscribing to any judgement; he knew about all the books in our wonderful library; he knew where those signs for the Del Mar Fair Exhibits were hidden and who had originally made them!

When Rick was show chairman he would find room for another table when you showed up with a truck full of plants at a quarter to ten. As show chairman Rick spent his time helping little old gentlemen & ladies carry their plants, assisting new members with spelling & protocol, and sweeping up. When Joyce & I were seriously considering throwing in the towel, and quitting Espinas y Flores and all . . . Rick actively persuaded us to stay with the editorship . . . and oh, how he loved a homecooked meal!! I must say that he never lost touch with his youth . . . a good man . . .



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Espinas y Flores

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Standing Committees and Sub-Committees

Conservation:

Joey Betzler and Kelly Griffin

Education and Exhibits:

Brag Table - Shirley Berry
and Kay Quijada

Del Mar Fair -

Tom DeMerritt, Marylyn
Henderson and Susan Hopkins

Plants of the month -
Beverly Kirkegaard
and Phyllis Flechsig

Show - Joey Betzler
and Tom Knapik

History:

Liaison:

Balboa Park Desert Garden

- Susan Hopkins

CSSA Affiliate Rep.

- Michael Buckner

Quail Botanic Gardens

- Phyllis Flechsig

San Diego Botanical Garden
Foundation -

San Diego Floral Association

- Elizabeth Glover

S.D. Wild Animal Park's Baja
Collection - Frank Thrombley

Library:

Elizabeth Athy, Amna Cornett

Membership:

Elizabeth Glover (264-6769)
and D'erdra Smothers

Plant and Seed Exchange:

Plants - Sara Schell
Seeds - Kelly and Sean Griffin

Plant Sales and Supplies:

Annual Plant and Auction Sales

Richard Plant

Monthly Plant Sales - Michael Cullen,
Marylyn Henderson, Gloria

and Kenny Graham

Monthly Supply Sales - George
and Jerry Plaisted

Publicity: Tom DeMerritt

Programs: Michael Buckner

Reception:

Laura DeMerritt, Perlso Lewis
and Marylyn Henderson

Regalement:

Monthly Meetings - Gail
and Donald Bamber

and Stefy Mangold

Picnic - Tom and Laura DeMerritt

- Other Committees -

Correspondence: Virginia Innis

Host Society Chairman for 1997 CSSA Convention:
Martin Mooney (427-6796)

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society, Inc. is open to all persons interested in growing cacti and other succulent plants. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month (except Sept. and Dec.) at 1:00 PM in room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Executive Board meetings are open to all members; call any officer or director for the time and location. Annual dues are \$10.00 per single member per year, \$5.00 for each additional member within the same household. Single copies of Espinas y Flores are \$1.00 per copy sent within the USA; foreign subscriptions are \$20.00. Affiliated with the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Inc. Fax available - please call editor at (619)222-3216 for number.