

# Espinas y Flores

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

Vol. XII, No. 9.

September, 1977.

September Meeting Date:

Saturday, September 10, 1977  
at 1:30 PM

Cactus-of-the-Month:

Matucana - Submatucana.

Succulent-of-the-Month:

Madagascar's Succulents.

PROGRAM:

"CONSERVATION, BOOM OR A BUST?"

By: Gary Lyons.

Gary Lyons - Chairman of the C.S.S.A. Conservation Committee - will trace the work on conservation during the past few years, with a look to its future. He will also speak on the Endangered Species Act, the International Trade Convention, Permits, and will focus in on the impact C.S.S.A. has had in shaping the final Rules.

This will be a most informative Report, and should provide us all with further information on a subject so important to all.

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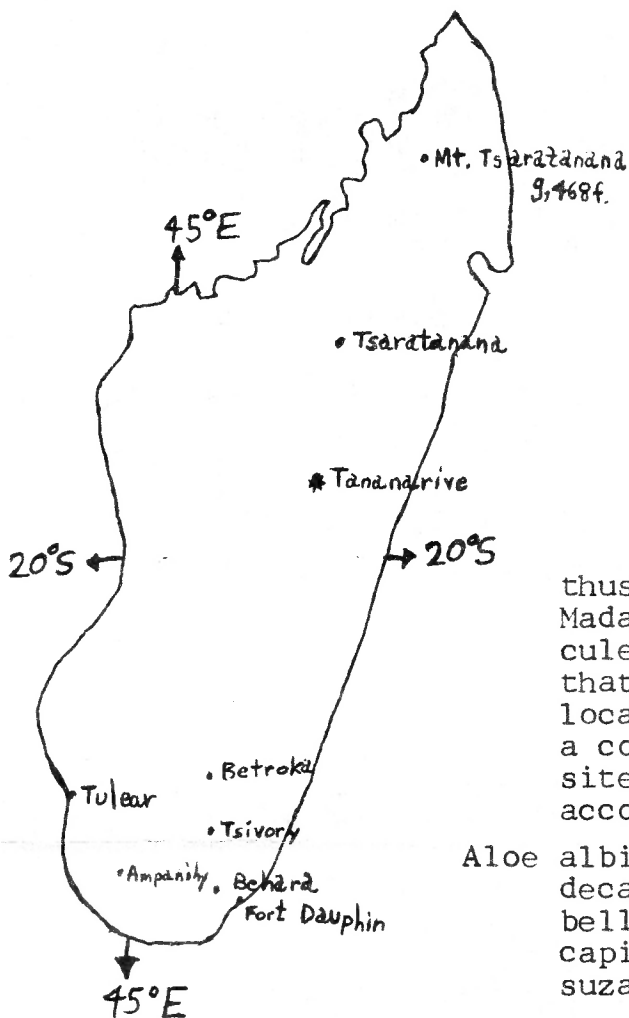
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Deadline for October Issue..... September 19th. PLEASE.

## SUCCULENT-OF-THE-MONTH

### Madagascar's Succulents

Rick Latimer



If you decided to go to the other side of the world, right this instant, you had best take a boat along, because you would be in the southwestern portion of the Indian Ocean (depth 2,000 ft.)! In fact, all 48 of the United States are opposed by the South Indian Ocean. About the only land that would be hit is obscure Kerguelen Island. The best you could do to reach land from San Diego's antipode is Fort Dauphin, Madagascar about 1,000 miles due northwest (Mauritius is about 1,000 miles straight north).

What a wonderful place for a succulent enthusiast to visit, because the southern tip of Madagascar is in the heart of one of THE succulent regions. I'll list some succulents that I have heard of and some of their type localities so that you will see that there is a concentration towards the south. The sites on my map do not represent an accurate account of population distribution (people).

*Aloe* albiflora-Tsivory  
decaryi  
bellatula  
capitata  
suzanne

*Kalanchoe* blossfeldiana-Mt. Tsaratanana  
daigremontiana  
fedtschenkoi-near the capital Tananarive  
gastonis-bonnierii  
tomentosa  
pumila, beharensis-behara  
tubiflora-widely distributed in south Mad.  
(it figures!)

*Xerosicyos* danguyi-both Western and Southwestern  
perrieri Mad.

*Stapelianthus* decaryi-I know nothing about these, just  
montagnaci-that that some of the Stapelians do get to Mad.

*Pachypodium* brevicaule  
geayi  
lamieri-Fort Dauphin  
densiflorum

*Euphorbia* decaryi-Fort Dauphin  
milii/splendens-South and Southwest Mad.  
platyclada

(cont'd)

Didiereaceae

Alluadia humbertii

procera (Did you see Floyd Gable's fine specimen at the Fair? Some thought it was either a Crown of Thorns or an Ocotillo).

Alluadianopsis fiherersis (Pictures of this look like Boojum Trees.)

Didierea madagascarensis-Tulear  
trolli

Decarya madagascarensis

The Didiereaceae are one of the 7 endemic families of Madagascar.

Adansonia

There are 7 species of Adansonia endemic to Madagascar. In his recent article in the Journal, Rauh lists: A. madagascarensis

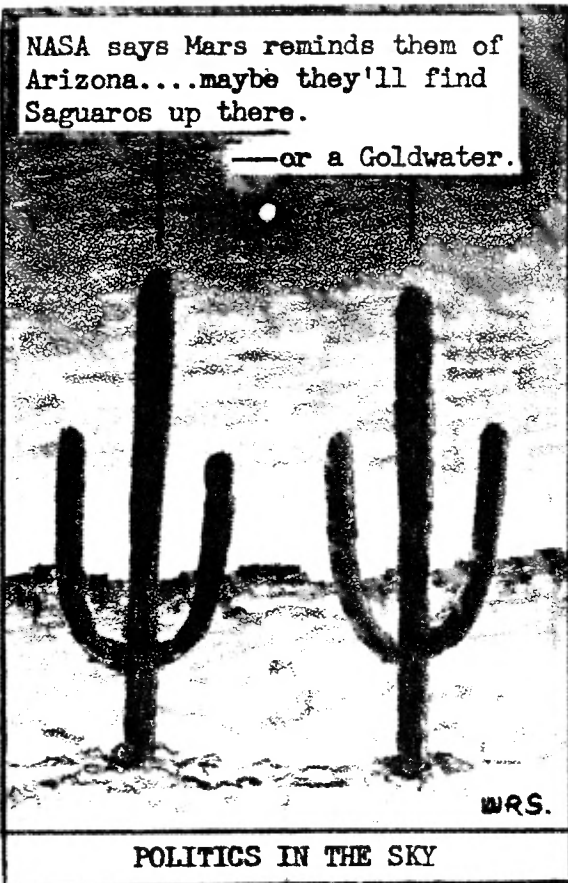
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All over the African continent there exists only the well-known Adansonia digitata. Maybe someone will bring at least this one to the September meeting.

P.S. Some of the above plants have a reputation of being frost tender.

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS

Audrey Johnson



In spite of a particularly crammed edition of "EyF" this month, I felt that I must just make room to include one particularly exciting piece of news in connection with the Gardens. At a recent business meeting of the Trustees and members of Quail Gardens Foundation, Inc., plans were finally approved to commence work on the waterfall in the Gardens, for the construction of which Mildred MacPherson left a bequest of \$33,000. Work on the waterfall will start at the beginning of January, 1978, with a proviso that it will be completed by May 1st. We will be able, therefore, to approve and admire this new and beautiful area of the Gardens at our Spring Plant Sale. How exciting this will be for all of us! At the moment of writing this, I am unsure of the definite dates for the Annual General Meeting and the next Educational Program at the Ecke Family Building; However, I am sure that information about this will be published in the near future.

*Audrey Johnson*

Publicity Chairwoman & Trustee  
QUAIL GARDENS FOUNDATION, INC.

The objectives of botanists and horticulturists-hobbyists often seem to be hopelessly at odds. This tends to confuse the non-botanists and erect intangible barriers of mistrust and frustration between them and the specialists upon whom all amateurs depend in the end. The specialists, whose motivations I can well understand, as I am a specialist in another field of natural history, are essentially interested in arriving at certain defensible scientific positions, approaching the objective truth as closely as is possible for we imperfect, subjectively flawed humans. In this he often overlooks the practicalities of the situation and seems callous to the concerns of the non-scientist. The amateur, and I qualify here by virtue of my experience with plants, a field in which I make no pretension to botanical expertise, wants practical determinations with an intensity that causes him to overlook or deliberately ignore scientific evidence.

A good case in point is the group (or groups) of beautiful South American cacti that I have chosen as the cactus-of-the-month. Although species assigned to Matucana and Submatucana have a generally globular growth habit, the zygomorphic flower has prompted Kimmach (1960) and others to make these two groups synonymous with such slender-cylindrical forms as Oreocereus and Haageocereus under the genus Borzicactus. I understand Kimmach's motivation and reasoning for doing this but, although this may show true biological relationship, I prefer to consider that the level at which these groups are related is above the generic one. For my part I choose to retain these generic names for the sake of clearer understanding.

The genus Matucana was introduced for plants that occur in the central and southern parts of Peru, especially around the town of Matucan at an elevation of 8000 feet in the Andes. The plants are globular to briefly cylindrical and reach a maximum height of 12 inches and a diameter of 4 inches. The glossy green or yellow-green stem bears a series of large tubercles, generally aligned into axial ribs. Blooms arise from young tubercles near the apex of the plant and are trumpet- or funnel-shaped, with a long tube; they are incredibly beautifully colored, with hues ranging from orange through red and violet, often in combinations where an orange petal is rimmed with shimmering violet. The funnel-shaped flower has a long tube and two groups of petals, those of one more recurved than those of the other. Blooms are produced at differing seasons and, in local greenhouses, may be produced at almost any time during the year.

Matucana has been split, by some workers, into two subgenera, Matucana and Submatucana, based on the presence or absence of hairs on the flower tube. From a horticultural point of view, however, there are other distinguishing features. Matucana ss features a dense thicket of slender, curved spines arising from the apices of the tubercles that all but obscures the stem. It is almost always solitary (non-caespitose). Submatucana, on the other hand, features comparatively few spines, in some cases altogether lacking (e.g. S. madisoniorum); most species are caespitose, the "pups" developing roots while still attached to the parent plant.

Culture of these plants is comparatively easy, but good drainage is essential, as the habitats of most species are the very steep Andean slopes of central and southern Peru; areas in which all water drains very quickly into the lowlands.

- References: Britton, N.L. & J.N. Rose, 1922, The Cactaceae, vol. 3, Carnegie Inst. Wash. 255 pp.  
 Ginns, R., 1969, Matucanas. Nat. Cact. & Succ. Jour. 24(1): 6-7  
 Kimmach, M., 1960, A revision of Borzicactus. J. Cact. Succ. Soc. (U.S.) 32(2): 57-60  
 Marshall, W.T. & T.M. Bock, 1941, Cactaceae, Abbey Garden Press, Pasadena, 220 pp.

The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society Presents

## A SUMMER FUN FLING

A bus trip to visit three nurseries:

Grigsby Cactus Garden, Vista  
Desert Nursery, Riverside  
Tropic World, Escondido

Saturday, September 24th, 7 a.m. Bus leaves Balboa Park, Organ Pavilion parking lot. 7:40 a.m., Escondido: pick up North County cactophiles. (pick-up point to be announced).

8:00-9:30 a.m.: Grigsby Cactus Garden

Everyone knows Dave Grigsby's reputation for having one of the finest collections of specimen plants available anywhere. You'll find a visit here a rare treat.

11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.: Desert Nursery

This old, established nursery has recently come under new management. With much enthusiasm, Don Brown, offers an even wider selection of fine plants.

3:30-5:00 p.m.: Tropic World

In a recent Cactus & Succulent Journal, Paul Hutchison announced: "The first and only West Coast sale of stock from the Hummel Exotic Gardens...." Need more be said?

Bring a sack lunch; the Desert Nursery has graciously offered their picnic area. Coffee will be served by our host.

This eventful, funfilled day is yours for the mere sum of \$5.50. Bus capacity is 46 people; first come, first served.

NOTE: Please don't wait until the last minute to make your plant purchases. With a large group, it is very difficult for the nursery people to handle so many sales in such a short time.

For reservations and information, call Martin Mooney, 427-6796.

P.S. BRING MONEY \* \* \* \* \* (checkbook will do!)

.....THIS, THAT AND THE OTHER..... Ye Lady Ed.

Due partly to a crammed issue, and partly to my rush to get away on a brief vacation, I will try to make this as short as possible. If I have left out anyone (or any item), please forgive me - I assure you, it was not intentional!

### SUCCULENT-OF-THE-MONTH

In the future, Ricky Latimer will write the "Succulent-Of-The-Month" feature with Madelyn Lee describing the featured succulent family at our meeting. We look forward to an excellent and fruitful collaboration between these two knowledgeable people.

### REGALEMENT

Heartiest thanks to the following, who provided the delicious refreshments which we all enjoyed so much at our August meeting:-

Mrs. Monroe, Shirley Berry, Alma Moore,  
Helen Hewitt, Rose D'Atillio, Katherine MacDonald,  
Joan Flear, Veryl Snowhill, and Evelyn Chatham.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I enclose copy of a letter which I received from one of our members, Joan E. Flear. It includes the names of a number of additional flowering plants which you might like to add to your list of those already mentioned in Warren's fascinating account of the Springtime desert trip taken by the Club (see August issue):-

"Dear Editor:

As always, I enjoyed reading about past events, especially since I was able to participate in every one. The notes I took were about the many other flowering plants so easily overlooked and still so beautiful, 'though not as showy as those mentioned in Warren's report of our memorable desert trip.

Here they are:-

Indian paintbrush, Indian pink, persian carpet,  
yellow tiny daisy, Encelia -bridlebush-, coreolepsis,  
buckwheat, heronbill -filaree, white bushpoppies,  
dwarf white desert daisy, phacelia, lupine, chuparosa,  
cramery, scarlet bugler, lavender, Indigo, Creosote.

Any one of those, in my mind, is prettier than a rose.

Joan E. Flear.

P.S. I hope you will have a lovely vacation!"

### A BREATHING SPACE!

Geoff and I have been a trifle "bushed" of late, owing to a great variety of commitments, and we are off to make a leisurely (what a lovely word!) tour of some of the places we have wanted to visit for a long time - while our son, Mike, is away in Tennessee.

To those contributors of articles who rallied round (much earlier than usual), and to those members of the Board who volunteer to help get the finished bulletin off to our members -

OUR SINCEREST THANKS TO YOU, ONE AND ALL!!!

THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT OF 1973

Patricia L. Donner

May 24, 1977.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973 was created to protect endangered or threatened fauna and flora. An endangered species is close to extinction in all or most of its range. A threatened species has the probability of becoming endangered in the near future. The prohibitions under the Act include: exporting and importing any listed species; accepting, selling or transporting these species or any product made from them in interstate or foreign commerce; and trading or possessing any species listed in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (a national agreement that protects world-wide endangered and threatened species which the United States has signed). The Endangered Species Act of 1973 needs to be modified for the following reasons: the permit system is not a good method for protection of these species; regulating seeds and propagated plants does not help the survival of plants; protecting crucial habitats should be adopted as the most acceptable method for protection of species and enforcement of the Act because it is the only method that will ultimately protect endangered and threatened species; and, the Office of Endangered Species needs to be expanded or a new office needs to be created with adequate personnel within the Interior Department.

One of the four areas that needs amending is the permit system because it gives the government the right to monitor the nursery industry, and it does not adequately protect the endangered or threatened plants. Under this method of protection, anyone who receives a permit would end up in debt because of the paperwork and "red tape" involved. The application requirements for a permit include a written statement sent to the Director of the Interior Department by the applicant. This statement must provide evidence that proves the identification and origin of the species applied for. The evidence used has to be in the nature of a document or an applicant's testimony.<sup>1</sup> Many businesses would find this impossible to do because of the many plants in their possession, and because of the length of time they have had these plants in their possession. Most nursery businesses do not keep their receipts on all these plants for long, and it would be hard to find someone to testify where they found them. After a permit has been issued, the permittee is required to maintain books and records on the said plants and to keep the permit(s) with the plants at all times. A nursery with hundreds of plants would get buried in all the paperwork required if the permittee desires trade these or any plants in inter-state or foreign commerce. Any shipped fish or wildlife must be marked so on the package. No consideration is given to whether it is endangered or not. The permittee must also state the amount or weight of the species either on the package or to an attached invoice. If there are permits required for the plants, then they must accompany them. This adds to more "red tape" in trying to mark, weigh or count hundreds of plants and thousands of seeds. Because of all the paperwork involved in running the nursery industry, "all ornamental horticultural activities will be seriously affected and....the cactus and succulent industry will be affected most of all". Besides the problems of government interference in legal nursery activity and all the paperwork involved with the permit system, the Act, "to date, has not actually protected a single plant".<sup>2</sup> It is doubtful that the permit system, by regulating trade, will even reduce trade activities in countries. <sup>3</sup>The purpose of the Act was to protect species' crucial habitats. This system allows plants to be removed from their habitats--for a price. If the Act does not protect these plants, no

one is going to be willing to uphold the law. The Act must really protect the plants and not just create another source of revenue for nations through fees charged for trade.

Besides the problem of an inadequate method of protection, the regulation of seeds and propagated plants does not prevent but enhances the extinction of most plants. Seeds, roots, and other parts of listed plants under the Act apply to the prohibitions. "All cacti" should be removed from Part Four of the Act because "species in their natural habitats... are endangered, not commercial seed stock".<sup>5</sup> Most seeds grown by nurseries come from cultivated plants and not from the field because there are high labour costs in collecting seeds in this manner.<sup>6</sup> Even if the seeds were collected from the field, no harm would come to the plant populations since plants produce so many seeds which never germinate. If commercial dealers do not use seeds to cultivate<sup>7</sup> plants, then they usually propagate them from already cultivated plants.<sup>7</sup> Protecting rare plants means preventing the removal of live plants from the wild, and not preventing seed collection and propagation. This restriction causes a smaller plant population overall. Collectors cannot find these desired plants in the free market, so they go out in the wild to find them since the "taking" of plants is not prohibited. The government will have to stop this since it is bound by law to protect endangered or threatened plants. If seeds and propagated plants are deregulated, plant survival will be enhanced because the pressure on crucial habitats will lessen by the abundance of rare propagated plants on the free market. Dr. Bruce MacBryde, a senior botanist at the Office of Endangered Species, stated that the Fish and Wildlife Service has no desire to curtail propagation in cases that do not exploit wild endangered species. The Office is doing just the opposite by regulating seeds and propagated plants and by requiring permits, paperwork and fees for these plants. It is true that seed collection from a few plants have an adverse effect on their population, but seeds should be deregulated and the few exceptions should not. Licensed nurseries should be allowed to continue growing cultivated plants without any restrictions, but they should be occasionally inspected by qualified personnel.<sup>9</sup> Reasonable propagation and the marketing of plants is desirable,<sup>9</sup> thus the government should require propagation of plants from seed rather than removing the live ones. There is a black market for rare plants already, and it will grow larger if endangered and threatened plants grown from seeds or propagation are not available on the legal market.

Instead of using the permit system with the regulations of seed and propagated plants, the Interior Department should adopt habitat preservation as the method of protection for the Act's listed plants and animals because it alone will ultimately protect them. On July 9, 1973 the Senate Commerce Committee reported that the major causes of extinction for species were hunting and destruction of natural habitats.<sup>10</sup> The House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee on July 27, 1973 backed this statement up in their report, but added pollution as another prime factor.<sup>11</sup> Some of the causes of habitat destruction are insects, disease, urbanization, construction, farming, grazing, the introduction of new exotic species that compete with native plants such as the dandelion and the thistle (the United States has imported more than 1800 vascular plants to the mainland, and over 3,000 to Hawaii),<sup>12</sup> biocides, preventing natural fires and causing destructive ones, collectors, and land owners who allow plants to be stripped off of their land for a penny apiece. It would be hard to combat all of these forces, and that is why the government chooses to combat only two of them...commercial exploitation and over-zealous collection.<sup>13</sup> Obviously the other causes are still



at work upon the destruction of habitats. Since the permit system does not curtail trade activities and the "taking" of plants, commercial exploitation and collection of plants has not been combatted either. Since the 1973 Act, nothing has been accomplished and no plants are as yet protected. If habitats continue to be destroyed at the current alarming rate, <sup>14</sup> populations of species and their ranges will be so reduced as to restrict population expansion and recovery. <sup>15</sup> One reason is that many species can only survive in small niches, such as mountain-tops and rock cliffs. If these limited niches are destroyed, so are the species. One very limited niche is Hawaii. The plant life there is not found anywhere else in the world, and so subject to total destruction. Over 50% of Hawaii's native plant life is listed under the Act as endangered or threatened; these plants make up over half of the list. Despite this, Hawaii's state officials want to convert their vegetation into commercial forests of exotic species. <sup>16</sup> This would not occur if the government were protecting habitats instead of monitoring the nursery industry. We must protect habitats because animal life depends upon the plant life for survival, and humans depend upon both of them. The government has the philosophy that it can do nothing to protect plants until after they are removed. Yet it outlaws the "taking" of animals such as the garibaldi fish. Actually, the government does have jurisdiction over listed plants because it owns sixty to seventy percent of the land where they occur. <sup>17</sup> The Act intended and provided money for habitat preservation, but the added proposals twisted this idea, and the money is being used to watch trade instead. <sup>18</sup> The Endangered Species Act needs amending if the government is going to be able to protect these habitats. The first provision needed is the right for the government to acquire the small amount of land which it does not already own where endangered and threatened species occur. The Secretary of the Interior only can acquire lands or waters where plants occur if they are listed under Appendix III of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. This provision is needed to allow the Secretary to acquire lands where the species listed under the Act occur. After acquiring these lands, the government should, if possible, attach them to adjacent national parks and monuments. The Nature Conservancy stated that there will be only fifty to one hundred new preserves needed. <sup>19</sup> Giving equal consideration to plants as is given to animals is the second provision needed in the amendment. The 1973 law has no restrictions concerning the removal of listed plants for interstate commerce, but "taking" listed animals is illegal under any circumstances. If the Act is modified to outlaw the "taking" of plants from all federal land, the need to use a permit system for seed or nursery-grown stock will be reduced. <sup>20</sup> In order to equalize animal and plant protection, plant varieties will also have to be included under the law. Only plant species and subspecies are on the list, but plant varieties are also in vital need of protection. <sup>21</sup> The third provision needed under the amendment is the requirement of surveys and environmental impact statements to be submitted to the Secretary before land use programs are begun. As of now, there is no law requiring consideration to be given to the effect of habitats unless the land use program is federally funded. The provision should require this statement to be submitted to the Office of Endangered Species for approval or rejection whether the project is federally funded or not. It should also require the statement to be processed in an accepted scientific method.

(cont'd)

Expanding the Office of Endangered Species, or creating a new office within the Interior Department with an adequate budget, is the final amendment needed in the Act. One reason is the need for more expert personnel. The Office of Endangered Species has only two botanists, and the Interior Department, as a whole, has only three. They review the Smithsonian Institution's list of endangered and threatened plants, and determine if they are indeed endangered or threatened. The three botanists are supposed to research these plants, but most of their time is spent answering questions for the public about the law. <sup>22</sup> In May, 1977, the Department submitted a final list to the Act. What is not included in this list are 1700 threatened plants, commercially exploited plants, non-vascular plants, naturalized plants, or domesticated plants. At the rate it is taking the Department to review the Smithsonian's list, the job will take many years to complete since each species requires more than thirty-person days to be studied and reported. If the species are really endangered or threatened, they will be extinct before they are under protection! Many knowledgeable botanists are needed immediately or plant survival will be dimmed. Another reason for an expanded office is the need for long-term research. These botanists do not even know the number of species required for a particular species to survive. Field surveys must be taken to make sure that the species are not already extinct, and to map out the species' ranges. Accepting scientific methods must be followed, or there will be no credibility to the reports. Habitat requirements and management practices must also be researched. The third reason for an expanded office is the enforcement of the Act. Harsh penalties must be kept and enforced. The 1977 fines range from \$1,000 for innocents to \$10,000 for knowing commercial dealers. They are harsh enough, but they usually are not enforced. <sup>24</sup> The Office will have to provide trained personnel to inspect nurseries and to identify plants. The expanded Office's duties should include informing the public, handling environmental impact reports, distributing the \$27.5 million of federal funds allotted to states for administering the Act and make sure the states are administering the Act, deciding where lands should be acquired, and directing human activities. The amendment needed is to appropriate a larger budget to accomplish their goals. Wages must be paid to experts, and offices must be rented. Needed scientific equipment must be purchased and used. If this is not accomplished, all of the endangered and threatened plants and animals will diminish because they cannot wait.

Every plant that becomes extinct "narrows man's future options for his own use of the environment". <sup>25</sup> Humans use plants for penicillin, quinine, and molluscide. We use the genes of wild plants to improve food crops, such as bio-indicators. Can there be a cure for heart problems in the plants? Human's chances to finding these and other such things in plants grows slimmer each day because we do not protect plants and animals. If we throw out the permit system and regulation system and establish habitat preservation as the method of protection, with an office large enough to manage this vast program, then these endangered and threatened species will have a chance of survival against the imbalanced human population.

(cont'd)

FOOTNOTES

- 1 Gary Lyons, Appendix 1 February 11, 1977. p.4.
- 2 Gerald Moore, "The Deflowering of the Endangered Species Act," Horti-  
May, 1977 p. 37. Gary Lyons, p. 4. culture.
- 3 Gary Lyons, pp. 3-4.
- 4 Gary Lyons, pp. 3-4.
- 5 Gary Lyons, p. 2.
- 6 Robert Kirkpatrick, Appendix 111, December, 1976.
- 7 Gary Lyons, p. 3.
- 8 "Bureaucratus delayus", National Parks and Conservation Magazine, October.
- 9 L. Benson, "Cacti, Bizarre, Beautiful, But in Danger", National Parks and  
Conservation Magazine, July 1975, p. 21.
- 10 "Endangered Species", p. 672.
- 11 "Endangered Species", p. 672.
- 12 D.W. Jenkins, "At Last--A Brighter Outlook for Endangered Plants",  
National Parks and Conservation Magazine, January, 1975, p. 14.
- 13 L. Benson, p. 21.
- 14 "Plant Lovers Needed", National Parks and Conservation Magazine,  
August, 1976, p. 27.
- 15 National Parks and Conservation Association, "How to Save a Wildflower",  
National Parks and Conservation Magazine, April 1975, p. 11.
- 16 "Plant Lovers Needed", p. 27.
- 17 Gerald Moore, p. 39.
- 18 Gary Lyons, p. 2.
- 19 J. Goldstein, "How Gardeners Can Help Save Endangered Plants", Organic  
Gardening and Farming, February, 1976, p. 111.
- 20 Gary Lyons, p. 6.
- 21 National Parks and Conservation Association, p. 14. "Not a Single  
Species of Plant", National Parks and Conservation Magazine, December,  
1975, p. 19.
- 22 Gerald Moore, p. 37.

23

"Threat of Extinction for Many Species of Plants Grows Each Day", National Parks and Conservation Magazine, October, 1975, p. 21.

24

"Endangered Species", p. 670. M. Gosness, "Please Don't Pick The Butterworts", National Wildlife, April, 1976, p. 35.

25

J. Goldstein, p. 111.

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Permission granted to publish all, and only all, of this article.

(Sgd.) Patricia L. Donner  
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One year term: John Pasek and Perlso Lewis  
Two year term: Shirley Berry and Julianne Rice  
Three year term: Joan Johnson and Ricky Latimer

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the end of each program we have our plant drawing; people scurrying back to the sales table; people gathering up their plants, books and belongings so that there is rarely time to adequately thank the person presenting the program. I have not adequately expressed my appreciation to the past two presentors, Joan Johnson and Floyd Gable. On both occasions I'm sure that my "inadequateness" was due to a severe case of "green with envy". The slides of the Johnson's trip to Barranca de Venados with Dudley Gold, the display of collected plants from the trip along with Joans description was a treat for any cactophile. Joan it was a wonderful program, beautifully presented, thank you. As for Floyd Gable, what can I say; beautiful photography of outstanding flowering cacti and succulents. He claims that he gets that bloom from "Watch Us Grow"; it doesn't give those results for me! Floyds beautiful slides of his garden are a joy to see and if you get a chance, don't pass up a chance to visit his garden. (Mr. Activity, how about some garden tours next spring?). Thanks, Thanks and many Thanks to Joan and Floyd.

We have been invited to participate in the San Diego Wild Animal Park's "Beauty and the Beast" flower and plant exhibit on October 1-2. Tables are 96" x 30" and may be set up between 7:00 AM and 11:00 PM on Thursday and Friday, or from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM on Saturday, October 1. Top awards are for Most Artistic, Most Original and Most Educational in each class. Tables must be reserved by September 15. John and Verna Pasek will handle this project for our club, please contact the Paseks at 271-0515 between 5:00 PM and 9:00 PM.

Printing and mailing costs for Espinas y Flores have inflated to an estimated \$7.10 for 1977 per person (based on first six month expenses). With this data in hand the executive board voted to raise yearly dues to \$6.00 per year. Since the dues are part of the bylaws this action must be confirmed by the entire membership as an amendment to the bylaws. More details and action at the September, October meetings.

Mr. & Mrs. H. W. Buckner  
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