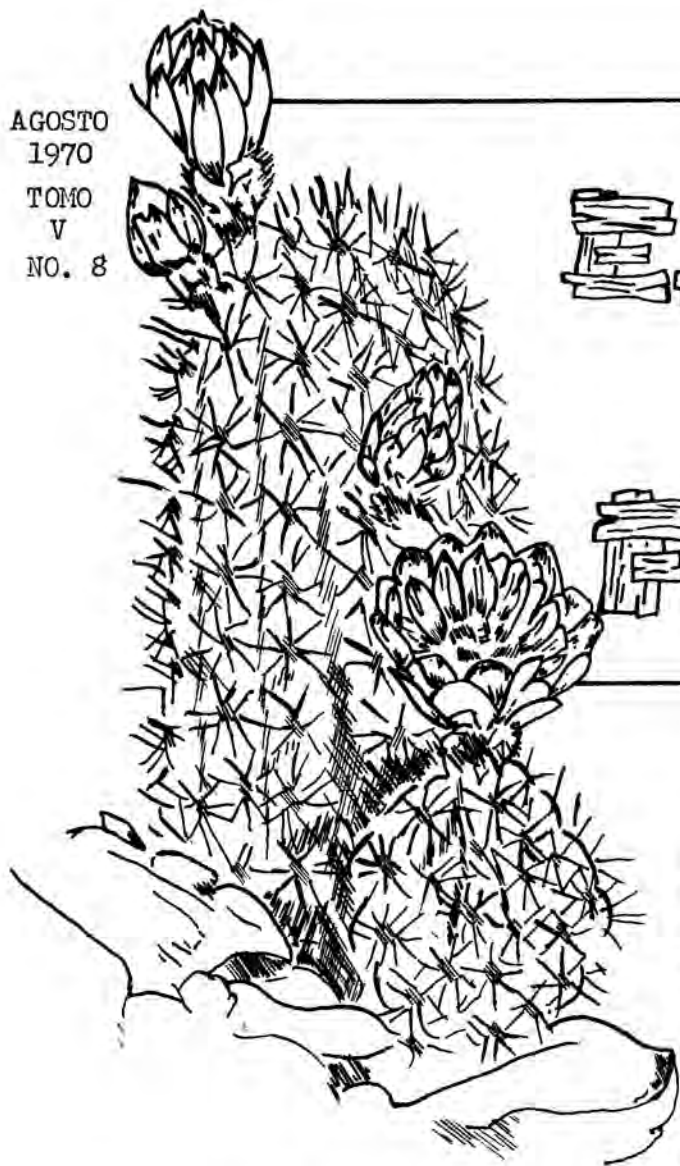


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1970
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NO. 8



ESPINA Y CLORES

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

BENEATH IT ALL

IT IS ONE THING to get a spray can or duster and drive all the tiny aphids and leafhoppers from your garden beautiful--or with a vengeance rid your plants of such enemies as rust or mildew. Evidence of them is all too apparent. However, when the underground portions of the plant are under invasion by subterranean pests, the symptoms are far from subtle. The plant may wilt in the heat of the day--maybe suffer a little die back, or just grow

and bloom poorly. One might think more water and a bit of super-hypo protein will put the plant back in top condition. Such is not the case when nematodes or soil meales or wireworms are at work. Death is slow but certain, unless proper corrective measures are taken in time.

Nematodes are universal, but are especially present in sandy soils. Evidence of their presence is generally swollen, tumor-like growths on the roots of the plant, found only by uprooting. With cactus this should pose no problem, except with very large specimens. Simply deroot, fumigate the soil in the troubled area, and replace after hardening off the plant and passing of fumigant. Another way that has come in to favor recently, is to drench the soil with Nemagon. This is not supposed to damage existing plants as other fumigants will.

Soil mealy bugs are usually found in old well established gardens where perennials have matured and remain undivided, in shade gardens and in certain host plants with extremely fibrous root systems, such as some members of the Aeonium family, lawn grasses, Acacias, and cacti are some of the more desirable targets for this pesky little creature. The adults excrete a waxy substance making it difficult for control material to make contact. Form a basin around the plant and flood it with a solution of malathion, diazanon or dibrom. In this case the control material used is not as important as making contact, so include in the solution a wetting agent like Water-in, and repeat treatment for three times with 8 days elapsing in between.

---continued on page 2

BENEATH IT ALL

(Continued)

Wireworms are normally more of a problem in a new garden or where new land has been converted for cultivation. They eat germinating seed, cut roots and bore into bulbs. The thing to consider here is not to give up gardening, but to use a hose proportioner with a lindane, dieldrin, or chlordane solution and cover the entire area all around the house and garden. This method will take care of many other pests too, especially with the latter in a treatment twice or three times a year. Gone are pillbugs, weevils, lawn moths, grubs, grasshoppers, crickets, ants, crabgrass and a host of others.

Commercial growers always leave a few untreated test areas to check effectiveness, but even rank green thumbs like us should know when our little ones begin to feel better. READ THE LABEL carefully, some control materials are broad scope and have different formulations for different pests. AND BY ALL MEANS, DON'T add a little for good measure!!

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
of the
CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY
of America

WHEN? SUNDAY, AUGUST 23rd, 1970 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WHERE? At the Los Angeles County Arboretum,
301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, California.
(Air conditioned and very comfortable)

WHO? MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY--that includes ALL
subscribers to the CACTUS & SUCCULENT JOURNAL.

PROGRAM—THREE FEATURES:

- 1) Harry Johnson will "show and tell" about his (and Mrs. Johnson's) recent trip to the fabulous Island of Madagascar.
- 2) ED and BETTY GAY will take us by "pictures and words" on a collecting trip to the FOUR CORNERS AREA (Colorado, Utah, New Mexico and Arizona). The Gays guided a "Collecting Car-A-Van" of Society members from New York State and California thru the area for a six-week period in May and June 1970. PS: A goodly number of "collected" plants are doing reall well in a San Diego garden, courtesy of, and thanks to the Lows--Bill, Ellen & Michele.
- 3) ELMER LORENZ of Los Angeles (Eagle Rock) will put you on the edge of your chair with his very unusual specimens (and knowledge of) Rhipsalis. His Rhips were "best of the show" at the National Show over the July 4th holidays. You should have seen them--now you'll have the opportunity. He says "anyone can do it", but we're from Missouri.
- 4) A PANEL DISCUSSION, moderated by CHARLES GLASS, Editor of the Journal. His "panelcers" and "peers" will be MYRON KIMNACH, el Presidente of the C & S S of America, FRED BOUTIN of Huntington Gardens and JAMES HENDRICKSEN of Cal State College. Not sure WHO, WHAT or HOW they will "pan" but you can be sure there'll be a lot of panning--and it will not be for gold.

So the 23rd of AUGUST (Sunday) is the day you'll have the occasion and the opportunity to see the members of the Society in action. That's when you'll be able to sit and listen--and learn. And meet and know the OFFICERS and the members of the BOARD. And you can vote--cast a ballot that is--for approval of the selections of the Nominating Committee for a slate of Officers for 1971 and three new Board members. (And sh-h-h, Mr. A. Ph'D says he heard a member of the San Diego Society might be one of the nominees to the Board. If Mr. A hears correctly, let's get out the vote for Mr. S. D., cops Mr. "X".

PLANT SALES--there just very well COULD BE, there usually IS!

PS: Mr. Wilson Wells, are you lissenin'? Or Alice will you tell Mr. W. W. If you should be there, would you record the proceedings for posterity, and Espinas y Flores (Septiembre) in your own elucidative, enlightening and interesting way? Hope to see you at the Arboretum!!

CACTUS AND SUCCULENT JOURNAL
CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA

and



What YOU should know about the JOURNAL and the SOCIETY!

The Cactus and Succulent Journal was founded in 1929 by Scott E. Haselton. It has the longest unbroken record of publication for specialized magazines of any in the English language, a world record. The Journal, a bi-monthly publication, is the most valuable source of information on cacti and other succulents. It contains approximately 46 pages per issue and each issue carries from two to six color plates. Black and white illustrations are to the point and highly illustrative of text. The cover usually is in color. An outstanding example of a color cover was a reproduction of a painting by John Hilton titled "Baja Morning" depicting Idrias and a Cardon (Mexican for some columnar cacti) forest in the May-June 1969 issue.

Journal articles are by well-known authors, botanists, professors, students, collectors, photographers and novices. Articles are of interest to professional people as well as novices. The Journal is published in Reseda, California, and is mailed on or about the 20th of every month. Mailing address is Box 167, ZIP 91335. Editor is Charles Glass, Assistant Editor is Bob Foster and Editor Emeritus is Scott Haselton. A subscription to the Journal is \$6.00 per annum which includes membership in the Cactus and Succulent Society of America.

The Society is led by a Board of twelve Directors elected from its membership. Term of office is three years and elections are in November. Ballots are distributed within the Journal.

The Society sponsors several activities. After the Journal, perhaps most important is the Biennial Convention. Most recent one was in Pasadena in 1969. The 1971 Convention will be in El Paso, Texas. (Info later) Conventions bring together the most knowledgeable persons engaged in plant culture from over the world. Another Society activity is a three-day Cactus and Succulent Show held at the Arboretum in Arcadia, California, over the July 4th holiday. The 1970 show brought on display and to public view many of the most interesting and finest plant specimens from around the world. Interest was extensive and intense.

Another activity is the Slide Lending Program. The Society maintains a library of about fourteen sets of 100 slides each of subject matter of interest to plant enthusiasts and Club members. Mailing address is 7600 Verdugo Crestline Drive, Tujunga, Ca. 91042. Cost to affiliated Clubs is nominal, approximating shipping costs.

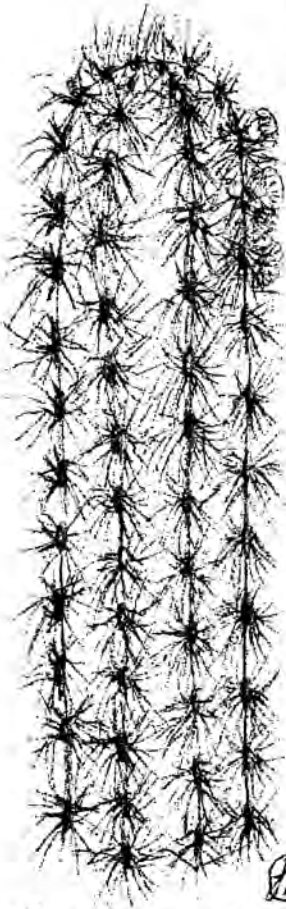
The Society sponsors an active and progressive Affiliate Organization of about 43 Clubs spread over the United States. The "Aff-Org" publishes and distributes a bimonthly bulletin known as the "Affiliate Reporter" which is a medium for the exchange of information between Clubs to their advantage and benefit. The "Aff-Org" is represented in local Clubs by an elected or appointed Affiliate Member whose obligation and responsibility is to receive and disseminate pertinent and useful outside information to local members and conversely to pass along in the opposite direction information of local activities of interest to other Clubs. Affiliate members are encouraged to attend Society Board Meetings and to participate in all Society activities. Address of the Affiliate Organization is 3036 Nebraska Ave., South Gate, Ca., 90280.

Some Clubs in the States include as a portion of their annual membership dues an amount to cover the cost of a subscription to the Journal which may be at a reduced cost when large memberships are involved.

The San Diego Club is currently engaged in Society activities and in Journal contributions. It is to your advantage, enlightenment and enjoyment to take the Journal and be a member of the Society. That is how and where you fit in as a Club member. A CACTUS CAR-A-VAN to Abbey Gardens and a visit to the Home of the Journal is planned for later this year. Start thinking NOW! Bus seating will be limited! And it will be on a "reservation" basis.

W.R. SCOTT ---The Old Wagonmaster

CACTUS-OF-THE-MONTH
CEPHALOCEREUS PALMERI



Cephalocereus
palmeri

The cactus for discussion this month is one of those unfortunates that keeps being tossed from genus to genus. So

far as I can determine, Cephalocereus palmeri is the correct name for our plant, and Pilocereus palmeri should be considered a synonym. (sef-uh-lo-se-re-us pi-lo-se-re-us) It is a large, beautiful cactus by any name. It was named by Dr. Rose in 1909 for a collector. The genus name was coined in 1838 by Lemaire and it means the headed cereus (Greek) referring to the pseudocephalium, or thick hairy mass, where the flowers are formed. There are some species in the genus which do not form the hairy mass, such as C. polylophus. The most familiar member of the genus is C. senilis, the Mexican "Old Man".

C. palmeri will grow to 12 feet tall with many branching stems up to 6 inches in diameter. There are 7 or 8 rounded ribs with large areoles. From these come several short nearly black spined, but more spectacularly there are the many long (up to 2 inches) white hairs. The body of the cactus is blue-green, so you have a beautiful plant. The plant will flower with age, but who cares?

When you do see the flowers, they are borne along one side of the stem, usually, with many extra hairs from these areoles. The flowers are about 3 inches long and 2 inches wide with the pink petals turned back. The plant is a night bloomer, but the flowers remain open until well after dawn.

C. palmeri is a fast grower--one foot a year is not unusual--and roots very rapidly from cuttings. Several authorities state that the plant should be grown in half shade, but mine does very well in full sunshine. This cactus comes from eastern Mexico, indicating it likes more water than the usual cacti, and I have found this to be true.

If you like cacti which will grow well either in the ground or in pots, C. palmeri is for you. If you like spectacular cacti, then you must definitely have this plant.

---Leroy H. Phelps

NOTE: Remember last month--JULIO--when everyone was busy "bidding" and "eating"? You'll recall WILCOXIA (open) was the Cactus-of-the-Month, but we had too many other plants to look at. So-o, will someone bring in a WILCOXIA this month for everyone to see--and admire? Besides, Nema has never seen one and she has heard it has a "tuberous" root. She is V-E-R-Y MUCH interested.

And ECHEVERIA HARMSII (Oliveranthus Elegans) was the Succulent-of-the-month, and it didn't have a chance to be gawked at. Who will bring "Oliver--" to the meeting this month? The pencil notes on the original copy says: "No competition" but the notes say nothing about gawking and ogling and admiring.

Thank you,
Thank you,

Thank you all

To each and every participant
of the July picnic potluck...

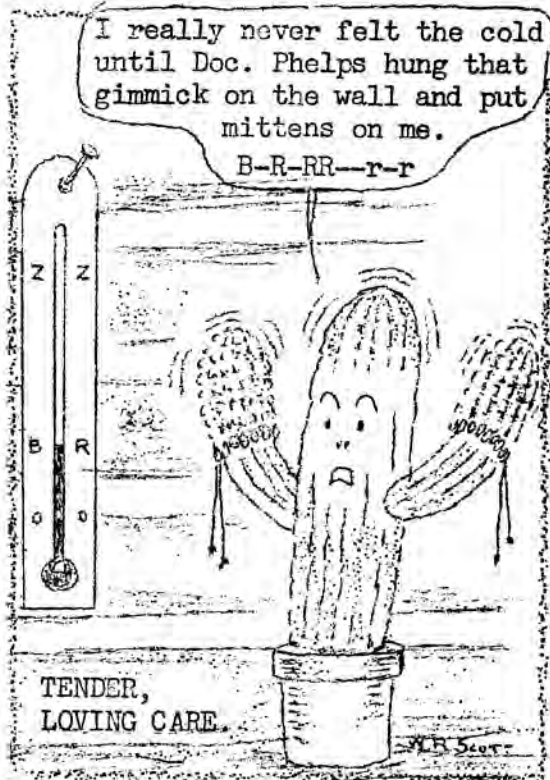
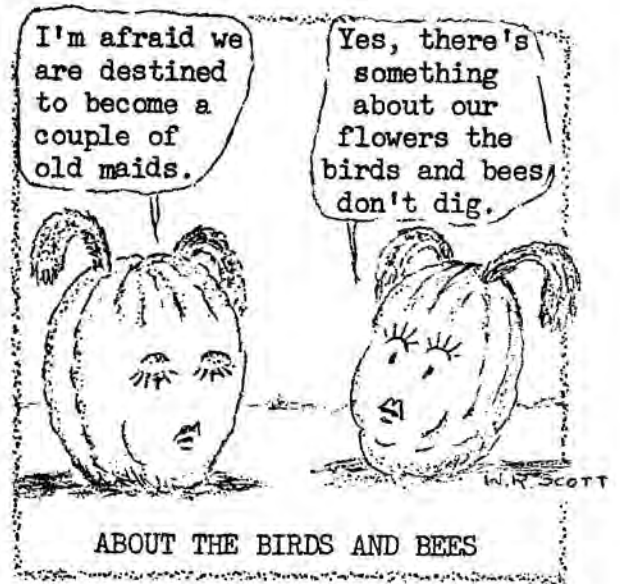
It was a "labor of love"
which paid off in silver dollars of excitement, anticipation,
and success. A special note of gratitude to our
generous hosts Bob and Suzanne Taylor... It was...

"icing on the cake" to see all the happy shining faces...
Doc Vaughan colorfully clad with Indian headband
and all the Lows, carrying back to L.A. a fantastic

tree-graft, to the envy of everybody.
To Jim, Jim beamed, our "Master
of Ceremonies"... to Bill Seaborn,
for his kind donation (wow!)
and to...

"Jodo Las
Gentes"...

Gracias



SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY LIBRARY (BULLETINS AND PAMPHLETS)

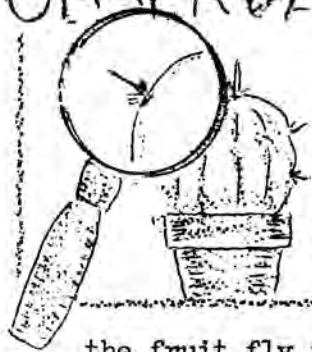
GUIDE TO DESERT PLANT COLLECTION, William Hertrich (Huntington Bot. Garden)
ALL ABOUT SANSEVIERIAS, Ladislak Cutak (pamphlet, 2 copies)
BROMELIADS, Ladislak Cutak (pamphlet, 2 copies)
CACTI AND OTHER SUCCULENTS, Esther Nesbin (folder)
CACTI OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY, George Lindsay (pamphlet, 2 copies)
CACTUS AND SUCCULENTS AND HOW TO GROW THEM, Scott E. Haselton (pamphlet, 2 copies)
CACTUS GROWERS GUIDE, California Cactus Growers Association (pamphlet)
DINOSAURS, Edwin H. Colbert (pamphlet)
EARTHWORMS (pamphlet)
EUPHORBIAS, Harry Johnson (folder)
GENERAL CACTUS NOTES, Harry Johnson (folder)
GROWING AND ENJOYING SUCCULENTS, Ladislak Cutak (pamphlet, folder)
HANDBOOK OF SUCCULENT PLANTS, Brooklyn Botanic Garden (pamphlet)
KAKTEEN, H. Winter (pamphlet, printed in German)
MAKING THINGS GROW, Thalassa Cruso (folder)
ME AND ZEBADIAH, Arthur Otis (pamphlet)
MEET THE SOUTHWEST DESERTS, Philip Welles (pamphlet)
MEXICAN SUCCULENTS, Harry Johnson (folder)
MIMICRY PLANTS, Harry Johnson (folder)
NIGHT BLOOMING CEREUS AND ITS ALLIES, Ladislak Cutak (pamphlet, folder)
ORCHID CACTI, Harry Johnson (folder)
PESTS (A scrapbook)
STARFISH FLOWERS, Harry Johnson (folder)
SUCCULENTS, Ladislak Cutak (pamphlet, 2 copies)
SUCCULENTS IN THE GARDEN, Robert Atkinson (pamphlet)
USES OF CACTI AND OTHER SUCCULENTS, Joyce Tate (folder)
VICTORY PICTURE BOOK OF CACTI AND SUCCULENTS, Hummel (pamphlet)
YOUR GARDEN, Los Angeles Bureau of Waterworks and Supply (folder)
100 DESERT WILDFLOWERS IN NATURAL COLOR, Natt N. Dodge (pamphlet)

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS

CACTOS Y SUCCULENTOS, August 1965 to September 1966
ESPINAS Y FLORES, Dec. 1966 thru Dec. 1969, '70 to date

August 1970

OBSERVATIONS



OF
CACTO
PHIL
CORLISS

INSECTS AND PESKY PLANTS

The most common pests of cactus are mealy bug and scale. Most books on cactus treat them adequately. I use rubbing alcohol applied manually with cotton-tipped applicator to remove scale, and Cygon 2-E as both spray and soil drench for mealy bug. It is also important to use chlordane liberally to prevent activity of ants which spread mealy bugs.

The scarid fly is a small black fly similar to the fruit fly in size, which infests the soil in which cactus seedlings are grown. Its larvae eats cactus seedlings. Constant vigil and the use of sprays and soil insecticides (Terrachlor, etc) are indicated.

The larvae of numerous moths attack cacti and other succulents. They seem to choose my choicest grafted cactus rarities, eating into the body before being discovered, and producing a cavity in which rot may develop. They seem immune to sprays and must be picked off by hand.

The white fly, so fond of geraniums, will spread to all leafy succulents. Most sprays will control them—my favorite is Cygon 2-E, since Malathion is phytotoxic to crassulas.

Red spider mites are also a major threat to cactus. You should be able to see their threads even if you cannot see the mites. They seriously impair the health of cactus, and lead, I believe, to some of the discoloration which troubles many of us. There are effective sprays for mites (Kelthane, Aramite, etc). Technically, spiders are not insects!

PESKY PLANTS: Nut grass is a universal menace to gardeners. Don't let it get a start! If you cannot eradicate every bit of the nut grass, take up all your plants and fumigate the soil.

Oxalis, like nutgrass, can regenerate from bits of root that are missed. In addition, the oxalis seed pods dehisce in a rather unique manner, virtually exploding to shoot their seeds a considerable distance in every direction. The specific herbicide for oxalis is completely effective IF YOU FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS!

Many of the weeds in our gardens come from bird droppings or in the city water. Preventing these is impossible; controlling them is laborious, but herbicides are helpful. The seeds of certain weeds, such as dandelions, are wind-borne. Manual control is indicated.

The dictionary definition of "weed" is "Any unsightly or useless, troublesome plant". Many of my "pesky plants" do not fit this definition! These are plants, usually desirable flowering plants, which seed themselves or spread so vigorously as to become bothersome for me: 1) crassula coccinea, 2) kalanchoe (bryophyllum) scandens—both of these plants will reproduce from leaves and the entire plant must be removed to prevent regeneration, 3) petunias, 4) compositae (the daisy family). Almost all members of this family may be pesky in San Diego, the worst offenders in my garden being gaillardia, cosmos, and painted daisy. 5) primula, 6) calceolaria, 7) coral flower, 8) most of the mesembryanthemums, and 9) stapelia variegata.



ESPINAS Y FLORES

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

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-----MEETINGS-----

Meetings are held on the first Saturday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in the Floral Association Bldg., in Balboa Park in San Diego, California. VISITORS ARE WELCOME! Ample AND convenient parking.

NOTE: The stamps--collectors' items--last month, again this month, were and are by the courtesy of one of our esteemed members, a stamp collector and fancier, we accept with appreciation, gratitude and CON MUCHAS GRACIAS! SI--MUCHAS !!

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| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| CARTOONIST | ILLUSTRATOR |
| Walter Scott | Eydie Kemp |

MEMBERSHIP: Single \$2.00, family \$3.00
(Includes "Espinasy Flores")

PROGRAM: AGOSTO MEETING

"DR. TROXEL'S 'EPS' AND OTHER VERY INTERESTING FLOWERING PLANTS"

PHOTOS & NARRATION BY.....Alice Taylor
---and a demonstration of HOW she does it and WHAT she does it WITH.

CACTUS-OF-THE-MONTH:

CEPHALOCEREUS PALMERI

SUCCULENT-OF-THE-MONTH

AEONIUM TABULAEFORME

(You bring 'em, WE vote on 'em, you MAY win.

EXCHANGE TABLE, BRAGGING TABLE, & REFRESH.