

MEETINGS START AT 1:00 PM NOT 1:30 PM

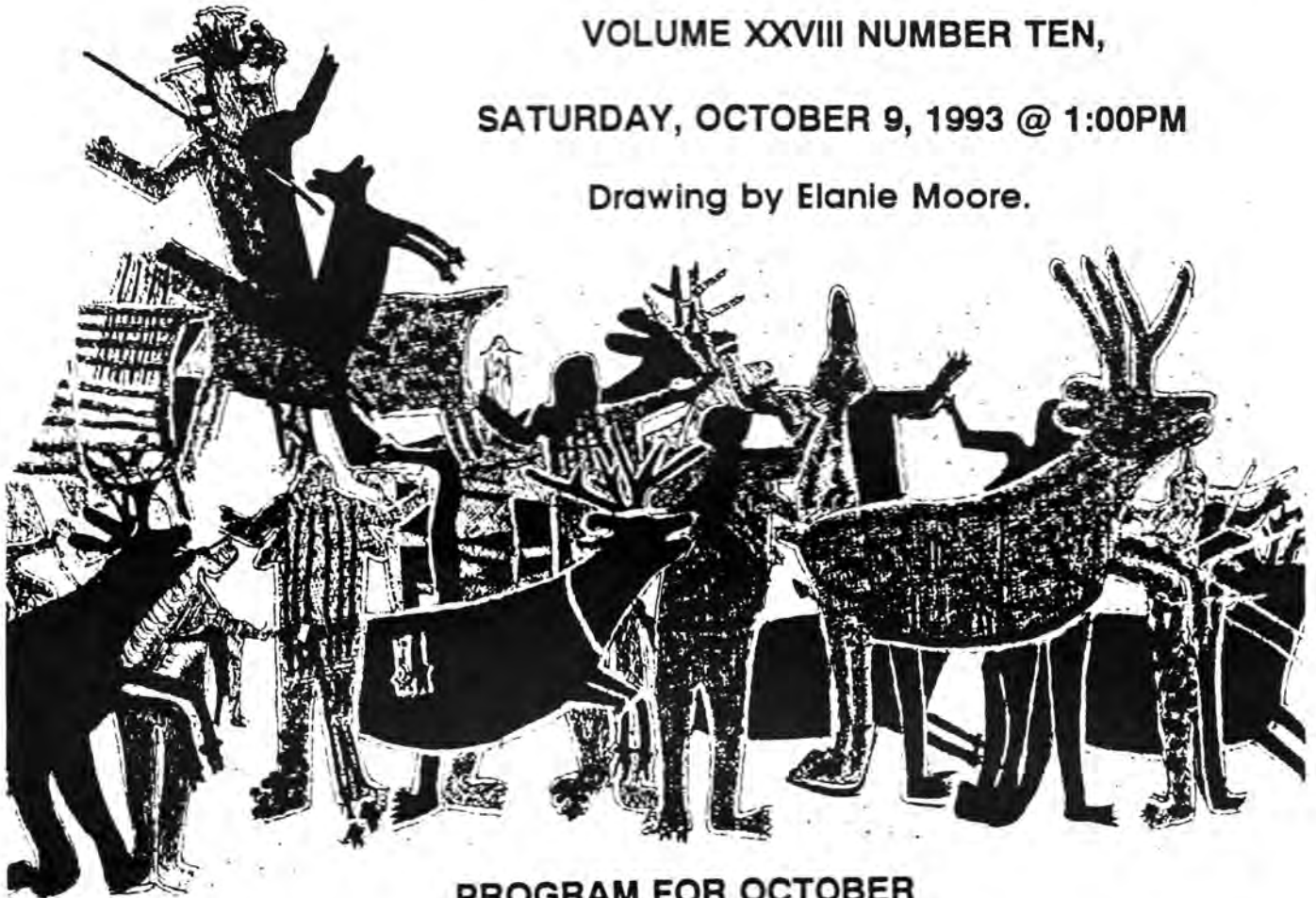
# Espinas y Flores

BULLETIN OF THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY  
AFFILIATE OF THE CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA  
AND THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR SUCCULENT PLANT STUDY

VOLUME XXVIII NUMBER TEN,

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1993 @ 1:00PM

Drawing by Elanie Moore.



## PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER

Baja California explorer, artist, plantsman, anthropological conservationist and chronicler, Del Cover, will present "The Aboriginal Cave and Wall Paintings of Baja; A History of the Primitive (Cochimi?) Indians". How did these people survive? What did they eat?, and what does their wonderful art tell us about them? Del has found new undisturbed sites and this will be a first-time expose' of the Sierra de San Francisco and Sierra de Guadalupe localities - a treat you won't want to miss. You may want to come early (meeting starts @ 1:00 pm) and visit The Museum of Man's new exhibit (Oct 1 through March 31, 1994) "The Cave Murals of Baja California", painting by Elanie Moore, who with Del has traveled to these remote and inaccessible locations to record them. There will be, of course, many botanical Baja slides! See you all there and bring a friend or neighbor!



## **S.D.C. & S. SOCIETY MEETINGS START AT 1:00 PM NOT 1:30 PM**

Please take note: After lengthy discussion and debate we voted nearly unanimously to begin our meetings at 1:00 pm!!!! Room 101 should be open and is available to us from 10:30 am on --- Please feel free to come in early for library use, plant, container & plant supply sales, and socializing, of course.

## **• OCTOBER •**

Our Program "Pinturas Rupestres de la Peninsula de Baja California" by Del Cover. The many sites of Cave Paintings found along the Peninsula of Baja California are considered an archeological discovery of world wide importance. A Rupertrian painting is one which has been done over a rock surface, the latin "rupestri" meaning "of rock". Come and meet Del, and witness the beauty of symbols left to us from a foregone age.

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We're still struggling to get Espinas y Flores out earlier and finally, thanks to all of you, we have purchased a computer, monitor, printer, and other totally essential items - all gets real complicated at some point. Unfortunately these items are sitting in boxes in our living room as neither one of us has any hardware expertise or even the confidence to attempt bringing up this system on our own! So, here sits your editor still at work - her place of employment @ 7:30 pm on Friday night - I can hear the Sky Show at the Stadium - and I wanna go home! On the good side: Just wait til next month - we'll be on time & smiling!!! A special thank you to Byte & Floppy Computers on Ruffner Road and our knowledgeable salesperson Dennis Bergeron.

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### **PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP**

MEMBERSHIP: LAURA DE MERRITT, 619-571-5127. DUES ARE \$10.00 FOR SINGLE MEMBERSHIP AND \$5.00 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL MEMBER OF SAME HOUSEHOLD (ONE ESPINAS y FLORES MAILED). CHECKS SHOULD BE MADE OUT TO S.D.C.& S.S. AND MAILED TO P.O.BOX 33181, HILLCREST STATION-102, SAN DIEGO, CA. 92163-3181.

MEETING TIME: MEETINGS ARE HELD THE SECOND SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH (EXCEPT FOR JUNE & DECEMBER) AT 1:30 pm IN ROOM 101 - MAJORICA ROOM, CASA DEL PRADO, BALBOA PARK. COME EARLY FOR PLANT, CONTAINER & SUPPLY SALES AND SOCIALIZING. BOARD MEETINGS ARE HELD AT NOON PRIOR TO GENERAL MEETING.

We have available for you at our meetings HASELTONIA, Number 1, 1993, The Yearbook of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America. We obtained a quantity of this exciting publication for your convenience. This is a worthwhile educational journal which publishes longer and more technical papers than appear in the C.S.S.A Journal.

Haseltonia is named in honor of Scott E. Haselton (1895-1991), founder of the CSSA Journal and it's editor for 37 years. Price at the meeting is \$20.00 for this publication. So don't be left out, ask your president Joey Betzler for a copy!

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An apology to Michael Vassar (not Vasser) who delighted the membership with his excellent slides of the Geraniaceae, the succulent pelargoniums and sarcocaulons of south and southwest Africa. Michael is on the board of the National Geranium Society and the International Bulb Society and issue editor of **Herbertia**, an excellent journal devoted to the botany and horticulture of geophytic bulbous plants which is available for \$30 a year (four issues a year bound in two journals equals one volume per year, I believe?) and should be sent to: PO box 4928 Culver City, Ca. 90230-4928. Herbertia, Volume 48, 1992 includes these articles and more:

**Journeying in South Africa** by Clive Innis; **Salter's South African Oxalis and some new combinations** by Bruce Bayer; **The Genus Ferraria** by Maurice Boussard with color photography by Michael Vassar; **Conservation of South African Bulbs** by Richard Doult; and **Some problems regarding the In situ Conservation of Bulbous Plants in the Transvaal, South Africa** by David Hardy. This publication is well worth the cost and delightfully full of difficult to obtain information. We will look into obtaining this publication for our library. Thanks Michael!

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NEXT MONTH IN ESPINAS Y FLORES:

CACTUS OF THE MONTH: *Ferocactus acanthodes* by Frank Thrombly

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH: *Small Aloes* by Phyllis Flechsig

REMEMBRANCE OF A VISIT TO ED HUMMEL'S CARLSBAD NURSERY  
by Fred Keller

HOLIDAY ARRANGEMENTS AND PLANS: Nov & Dec issue of Espinas y Flores shall be a combined issue

Regular features by: Shirley Berry, Frank Thrombly & Michael Buckner

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: by Joseph Betzler

S.D.C. & S.S. NATIONAL - INTERNATIONAL 1997 CONVENTION NEWS!

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**Deadline for Holiday Issue of Espinas y Flores is October 20 - EARLY!!**  
**Please send your articles and art work, letters and requests in early.**

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## ABOUT THE SPEAKER:

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Del Cover worked at Scripps Institute of Oceanography for eighteen years on the deep sea drilling project and exploration ship, The Glomer Challenger, before embarking on his own business and dream of producing award winning (watch for his creative pieces to be published on the cover of Fine Woodworking Magazine in the near future) furniture and wood art pieces.

An intense interest in Natural History (you S.D. oldtime members will remember his succulent bonsai entries in our annual shows of the past) took Del to Baja California to explore its wonderful flora, fauna, and geography, but soon his major focus became the ancient Indians that inhabited the peninsula and their cave and wall art that they left behind.

As an amateur anthropologist, Del has explored the Sierra San Francisco and the Sierra Guadalupe remote mountain regions and has cataloged 60 new cave and wall painting sites. Del's slide lecture will be "Baja California's Rock Art. Many endemic plants will also be shown.

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# LETTERS

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Ferguson's Cactus & Succulents must find a new home. Any ideas are welcome. I would also be interested in finding a working partner.

I can be reached day or night at (619) 755-5455.

Thank you,  
Eugene Ferguson  
133 N. Acacia Avenue  
Solana Beach, CA 92075

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Dear Joyce & Michael,

I am enclosing a check in the amt of \$10 toward SDC&SS membership. I enjoyed meeting you both at the San Francisco convention. It was a great one and I am looking forward to Tucson in '95 and San Diego in '97.

I enjoyed the San Diego meeting which I attended last year and was delighted to received two of your newsletters afterwards. It's an excellent paper. Hope to be able to see you again, if I get to San Diego during a meeting time.

In good fun,  
Regina Bernes

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*editors note: Thanks Regina and welcome!! We're always pleased to get new members - long distance or short! And thank you Ethel Standish and Elizabeth Glover for always getting the names and addresses of our visitors so we can send them a complimentary issue of Espinas y Flores!*

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS, continued:

Dear Michael and Joyce,

How are you all? I'm working again in Korea; doing fine. Enjoying your Espinas y Flores, but more than that - Wise and Otherwise!

However, I came across page 6 of Nov'92 issue about Anacampseros, and I would like to inform you that I have been the Lucky one finding another Anacampseros out of the African region - and not in Australia, either! But in South America - the country of Argentina, province Jajuy City, Vulcan. It grows together with Aylosteria, parodia, and trichocereus. A truly miniature succulent and has as well the underground tuber. Needless to say that I took slides of the tuber, the plant and the flower, but no reference material was removed from locality. A further expansion of this interesting succulent!

MORE ON THESE NEW  
ANACAMPSEROS SPECIES FROM  
S.A. NEXT MONTH. !

Lots of joy in your life,  
Leo vander Hoeven  
Netherlands

*editors note: We met Leo in San Francisco at the CSSA Convention. He was looking for a ride to Southern California - he had a plane ticket, but he wanted to see California, not just fly over it. When he got into our rather small and very packed car - I told him it was our intention to stop in every local bar we could find on the way and that he was buying! "No problem" was his reply. "That's why I chose to ride with you!" We got along fabulously, and we hope to have the opportunity to travel with Leo again - in Africa someday soon!*

FRED KELLER  
22 Canyon Acres Drive  
Santa Barbara, California 93105

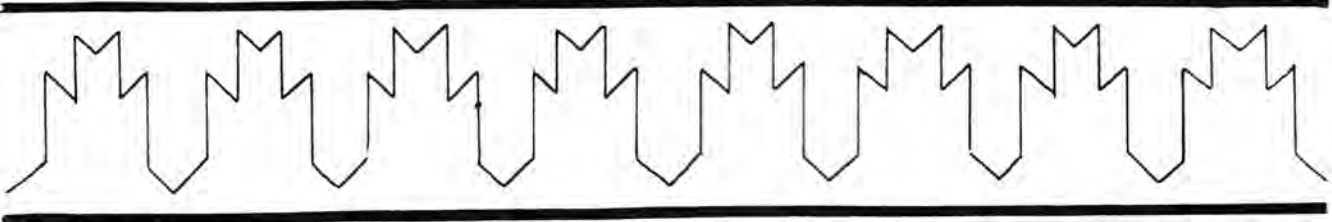
Dear Joyce and Michael:

It was very nice meeting you at the convention and having the opportunity to see your fine newsletter. I do appreciate the extra trouble which you took to bring me the copies Michael and was rather overwhelmed by your kind comments about my pieces which have appeared in the Santa Barbara newsletter. You are certainly welcome to use any of my articles that you may wish to. I would be honored if you did. In appreciation, I have sent the enclosed article to which you may have rights of first refusal.

Sincerely,

Fred

Thanks Fred!  
GREAT  
ARTICLE  
/ / / (M)



Ruth & Frances Richardson will be accepting donations of small plants, etc for the annual rummage sale that benefits all our convalescing Veterans and helps raise enough money to supplement their Christmas. Please look through your collection - certainly you have something worth donating - Thank you!

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Member, Virginia Innis, who was initially a guest speaker on flower arranging Cacti & Succulents prior to joining SDC&SS, is looking to enhance a collection of miniature and small cacti and succulents. She is making a collection of miniature dish gardens. Any suggestions or help will be greatly appreciated - with a promise from her of a future lecture and/or educational exhibit!! (We're gonna hold you to that Virginia!). Virginia attends most monthly meetings, and if you do not know who she is, please ask your editor - Joyce Buckner for an introduction at the break or prior to the meeting.

**THE EDITOR MUST APOLOGIZE - BRAG TABLE WINNER LIST IS NOW WHERE TO BE FOUND --- WE SHALL PUBLISH SEPTEMBER & NOVEMBER BRAG TABLE WINNERS IN THE NOVEMBER ISSUE.**



## NEW PASSPORT TO BALBOA PARK

Did you know there's a way to visit **9 Balboa Park museums** and **pay one price!**

The newly-revised

**Passport to Balboa Park**

provides visitors with **9 coupons**, each one offering admission to one of the 9 participating institutions (including the *Natural History Museum*), for **one week for only \$13!** When you have out-of-town guests, why not suggest this simple way to sample our local museums?!

ONE LUMP OR TWO, IT'S STILL A BIG PICKLE: *Kleinia obesa*  
by Fred Keller

The genus *Kleinia*, a section the Senecionae, has been the center of controversy dating back to the time of Linnaeus, who first described it in 1737. Later taxonomic changes found the stem and leaf succulent *Senecios* being variously designated *Cacalia*, *Notonia*, and *Senecio*.

In my own experience, I saw some of these plants regularly offered under such names as *Kleinia pendula* (the familiar inch worm plant), *Kleinia articulata*, and the less common *Notonia petraea*. Suddenly, in the 1950's, a groundswell movement reflected in Jacobsens's "Handbuch", saw all of these familiar friends going into the huge genus *Senecio*. This lumping suddenly placed me in an awkward position of having "Senecio" as a second language and I would catch myself, at time, reverting to *Kleinia* during conversation.

Sometime ago, one of our former members, Kyle Elliot brought one of her many prize winners to a meeting for display under the name: *Senecio deflersii*. The plant, one which I had not been familiar with, was a magnificent representative of the group, which I thought of as *Kleinia*, being a stout leafless light green column about one & a half inches in diameter and ten inches tall. Those who knew the plant referred to it by the common name "Big Pickle". To use the old catalog note, "To see it was to want it". I must confess to a slight case of "pickle envy" and thenceforth always kept on the alert as I scanned plant offerings. However, as usual when I really want certain plants they go out of style and *Senecio deflersii* seemed to go "off of the radar screens".

Recently, a listing by Arid Lands Greenhouses included: *Kleinia obesa* – Big Pickle. I wasn't sure what I would be getting, but figured that I couldn't go far wrong and placed an order. The plant which I received, though a mere gherkin, appeared to be right and in less than a year is developing into full "picklehood" rivalling the one which I had first seen in size, plus developing two saguaro-like arms.

My interest in the nomenclature was piqued as well and I placed an order with Myron Kimnach for P. Halliday's recent monograph, "Noteworthy Species of *Kleinia*". From this, I was able to further learn that the genus had again been determined to be a "good one" by C. Jeffrey and to consist of about 40 species. Halliday has only chosen to include 25 species in his monograph and Jeffrey does even less in listing the species included in the resurrected genus. So the interested amateur is left in the dark as to further inclusions. The situation is rendered more murky when it is noted that even under the new classification by Jeffrey, *Kleinia obesa* is an aberrant species. Our Big Pickle just doesn't seem to be strictly Kosher! Unfortunately, the rules of nomenclature preclude the name *Kleinia deflersii* and so the epithet "deflersii" assigned by John Lavranos to honor the plants' discoverer could not be used. Happily he was able to honor Deflers in the naming of *Caralluma deflersii*.

ONE LUMP OR TWO, IT'S STILL A BIG PICKLE: *Kleinia obesa*  
by Fred Keller

As mentioned by Lavranos, the plant is somewhat variable as to growth habit. I have since seen other specimens which tend to be freer branching and it appears that the plant takes kindly to cultivation far exceeding the size of those found in the single locality on an isolated hillside in Yemen. *Kleinia obesa* is certainly the most unusual plant in the genus and worthy of greater attention by the hobbyist.

References:

Lavranos, J., C&S Journal - USA, 43:150, 1971  
Halliday, P., Hooker's Icon. Plant 39(4):3892, 1988



**REFRESHMENT VOLUNTEERS - OCTOBER**  
**PLEASE PARTICIPATE THIS MONTH!! AS WE EXPECT MANY GUESTS FROM**  
**THE SUNSET SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF WEST LOS ANGELES!!**

SUSAN HOPKINS  
REED PIERCE  
ROBYN NATWICK  
MARY HOLMAN  
BETTY ATHY  
BOB & SUE MARDER  
JOSEPH BETZLER  
KURT HAMMEL  
AND YOU!!!

MILDRED & HAROLD RICHTER  
JOAN FLEER  
FRANCES & RUTH RICHARDSON  
PERL SO LEWIS  
JOHN WILLIAMS  
THOMAS KNAPIK  
ELIBET MARSHALL  
CHLOE BAJWA  
YES! YOU!!!!



**NEW MEMBERS!**  
**WELCOME!**

TOM GAWRONSKI  
DON BRENT  
ALAN NIKODYM  
REGINA BERNES \*\* from Long Island C&S Society!!!  
MAX NEGRI MD  
EUGENE FERGUSON  
B. JUAN CHAHINIAN \*\*\* editor of THE SANSEVIERIA JOURNAL

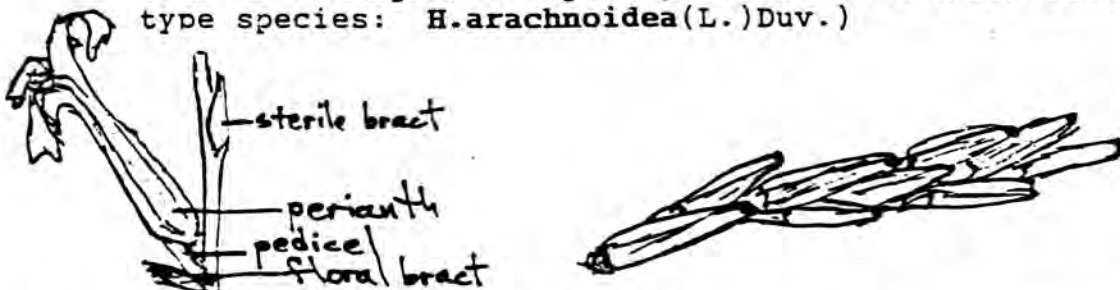


**SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH: HAWORTHIA**  
**The Subgenus *Robustipedunculares* (*Uitewa* ) Bayer**  
**Amna Cornett**

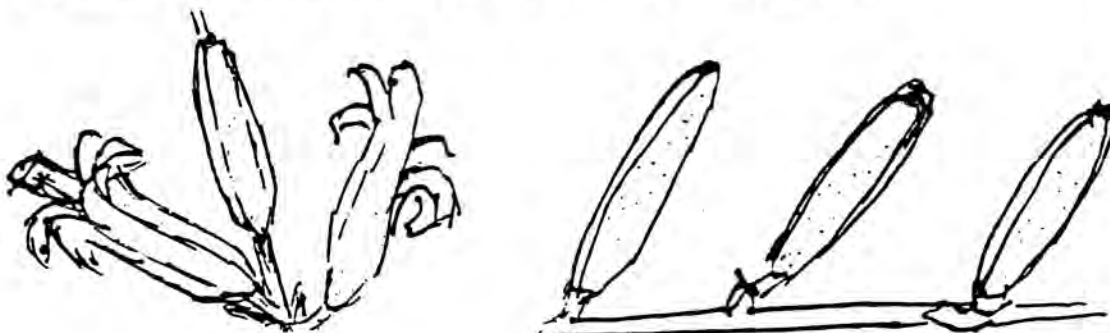
I certainly hope no one is expecting a review of the entire genus *Haworthia*. That would be a mighty ambitious undertaking. Maybe somebody feels like writing a book? I have chosen to do a study of the group of *Haworthias* closely related to *H. pumila*, since I am fairly sure that it was not among those groups covered so comprehensively by Bob Kent.

*Haworthias* have long been classified chiefly according to vegetative characteristics into between 17 to 20 sections. In 1947 *Uitewa* divided the genus into 2 sections using floral structure, and in 1971 Bayer carried this division further into 3 sub-genera, and for the most part the physical characteristics follow the floral divisions. It must be mentioned however that Scott disagrees rather vehemently with this classification.

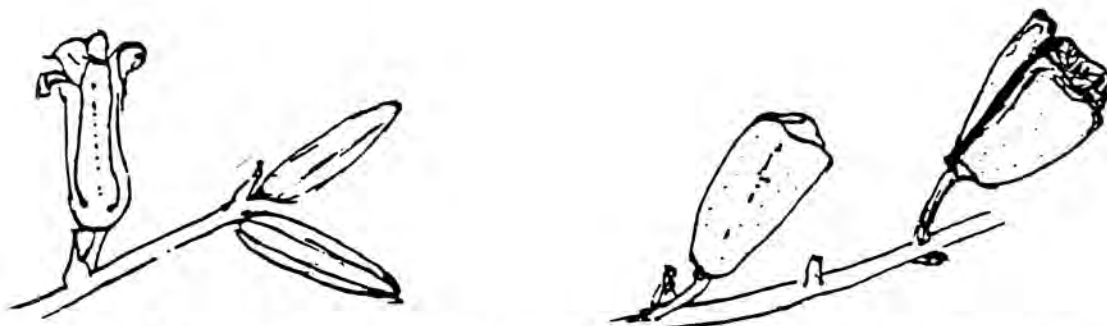
1. **SUBGENUS HAWORTHIA:** Perianth at base triangular or rounded-triangular, style upcurved, tube obclavate.  
 type species: *H. arachnoidea* (L.) Duv.)



2. **SUBGENUS HEXANGULARES** *Uitew.*: perianth at base hexangular or rounded-hexangular, gradually narrowing to the junction with the pedicel ..... type species: *H. coarctata*

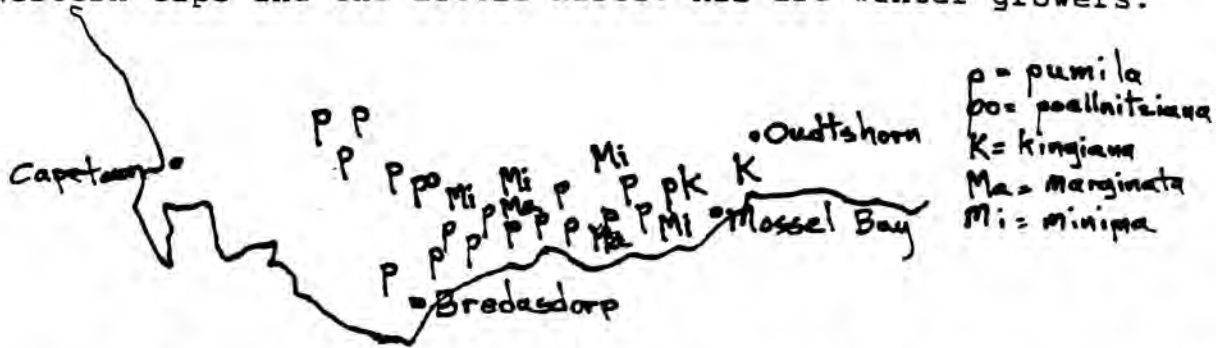


3. **SUBGENUS ROBUSTIPEDUNCULARES** (*Uitew.*) Bayer: perianth at base hexangular or rounded-hexangular, abruptly joined to pedicel ..... type species: *H. PUMILA*



There are 5 species in this last subgenus - *H. kingiana*, *H. marginata*, *H. minima*, *H. pumila* and *H. poellnitziana*. All are stemless

and have stout, branched inflorescences. Their leaves are thick and rigid with a hard epidermis. The *Robustipedunculares* occur chiefly in the Coastal Belt of South Africa, but *H. pumila* is also found in the South Western Cape and the Little Karoo. All are winter growers.



*H. pumila* has had several synonymic names. Either *H. margaritifera* meaning "pearl-bearing" or *H. papillosa* meaning "warted" would be much more appropriate than the retained name *pumila*, which means "small". *H. pumila* is the largest species in the entire Genus, with age and good culture becoming as large as a football. Its color is dark brown in bright sun or dark green in shade, with large, gleaming white tubercles. *H. pumila* is fairly easy to grow, for while mealy bugs may invade its heart and aphids its inflorescence, and its roots may rot away, it will usually re-root and form new growing points if necessary.

*H. kingiana* is a smaller, redder, shinier plant. When it is actively growing it makes me think of a rainbow trout with its gleaming tints.

The silvery-green *H. marginata* is considered to be the most elegant of the group, with its stiff agave-like leaves and clear, horny leaf-margins and keel. It is probably the hardest to grow. Brown spots appear unexpectedly and sometimes the plant turns to mush overnight.

*H. minima* is smaller than the others, and has some of the most beautiful forms, densely covered with glistening white tubercles. I saw some at Huntington with dough-nut shaped tubercles.

*H. poellnitziana* is similar to *H. minima*, but has more attenuated leaves and in my experience tends to cluster more than any of the others. It may turn out to be invalid species.

I should also mention *H. uitewaaliana*, which is intermediate between *H. marginata* and *H. pumila* and is probably either an intermediate form or a hybrid. In fact, many of my plants seem to show evidence of mixed parentage. I hope that if any one has some pedigreed *Haworthias* of the subgenus *Robustipedunculares* you will bring them.

When a friend asked how my paper on herbs was coming along, I said "Huh? Oh, you mean *Haworthias*. Herbs are useful plants." It does seem that their chief usefulness is provoking controversy among their taxonomists. To me, they are a source of wonderment - wonder at their subtle differences, wonder at what a species is and how it comes about and goes on existing. What was the ancestral *Haworthia* - sort an *Aloe*? By what means was it spread from this place to that place? And why this place and not that place? Or maybe I should just accept that God created them all on the Third Day and set them right where they are.

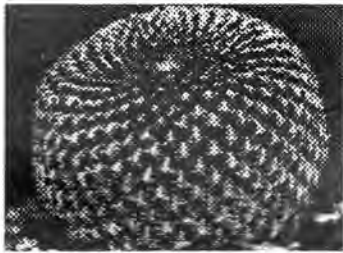
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- Bayer, M.B. 1982. The New *Haworthia* Handbook.  
 Pilbeam, J. 1983. *Haworthia* and *Astroloba*-a Collector's Guide  
 \_\_\_\_\_ . 1981. *Haworthias*-Happy in the Shade. Cact. & Succ. Jour. (U.S.)  
 53(5) 227-232.  
 Scott, C.L. 1985. The Genus *Haworthia* - a taxonomic revision.  
 Wrinkle, G. 1983. "Comments on the Genus *Haworthia*" Cact. &  
 Succ. Jour. (U.S.) 55(4) 164.

## CACTUS OF THE MONTH: SULCOREBUTIAS

Joe Clements

*Sulcorebutia* was separated by from *Rebutia* by Backeberg in 1951. Backeberg knew that *Rebutia* and *Sulcorebutia* had similar habitats and forms, but felt he could separate *Sulcorebutia* for its elongated areoles with comb-like spines and a thickened taproot. With new discoveries and recombinations with *Rebutia* and *Weingartia* the number of the species has climbed to well over forty. Today the status of the genus is still uncertain and may be sunk into *Weingartia* or even *Gymnocalycium* as they have similar floral characteristics(broad scales).



*Sulcorebutia arenacea*

*Sulcorebutias* are small globular clump forming cacti of the High Andes of Bolivia. Many are named for localities where they come from such as *Sulcorebutia mentosa*, *tiraquensis*, or *taratensis*. Others are named for their shape, form or appearance like *Sulcorebutia flavissima*, *arenacea*, *alba*, or *glomerseta*. Still others are named for their collectors or botanist like *S. rauschii*, *krugeri*, *steinbachii*, or *krahnii*. In habitat individual species are quite variable and grade into other species often making it difficult for botanist to draw a boundary line between them.

In cultivation one must remember that *Sulcorebutias* are fundamentally mountain plants and need plenty of light and cool summer nights. Good ventilation is important for it helps control spider mites. Many *Sulcorebutias* have a taproot, and in such cases a deep pot with well drained mix is important. Most species tolerate frost and like bright, cool, and dry conditions during the winter months. During the summer growth period it is important to give plenty of light and good ventilation so the plants harden off for strong spines and a good flower set.

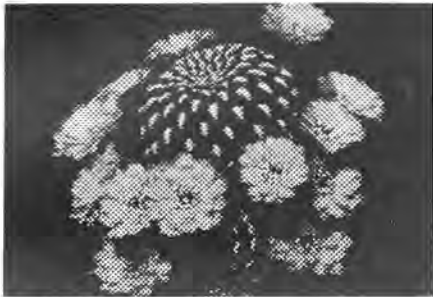
Since Sulcos are clustering plants, pups often with roots, are propagated easily from cuttings. Seed is also easy, but it is often not available and relatively expensive as seed capsules contain only a few seeds.

The genus is quite popular with growers as Sulcos are small, clump-forming, with unusual spines (resembling insects), and range of flower colors from yellow through red to magenta.



*Sulcorebutia verticillacantha*

Below are some highly recommended species for you to grow.



*Sulcorebutia 'langeri'*

- S. arenacea* Beautiful geometric designs of spines with a sandy colored body and gold yellowflowers.
- S. candidae* Dark green clustering mounds with yellowish spines like insects crawling on the plant. Yellow flowers.
- S. canigueralii* Dark body color with interesting tight spines and flowers that are tangerine with tips of red.
- S. flavissima* Greenish colored body with gold colored spines and pale magenta flowers.
- S. mentosa* Shiny dark green body with mahogany colored spines and magenta flowers.
- S. rauschii* My favorite! Dark purple to almost black body with tiny cluster of spines resembling spiders. Flowers are deep purple to magenta.
- S. steinbachii* Often quite variable in form and flower color. Some with long black spines and flowers that range from yellow through violet.



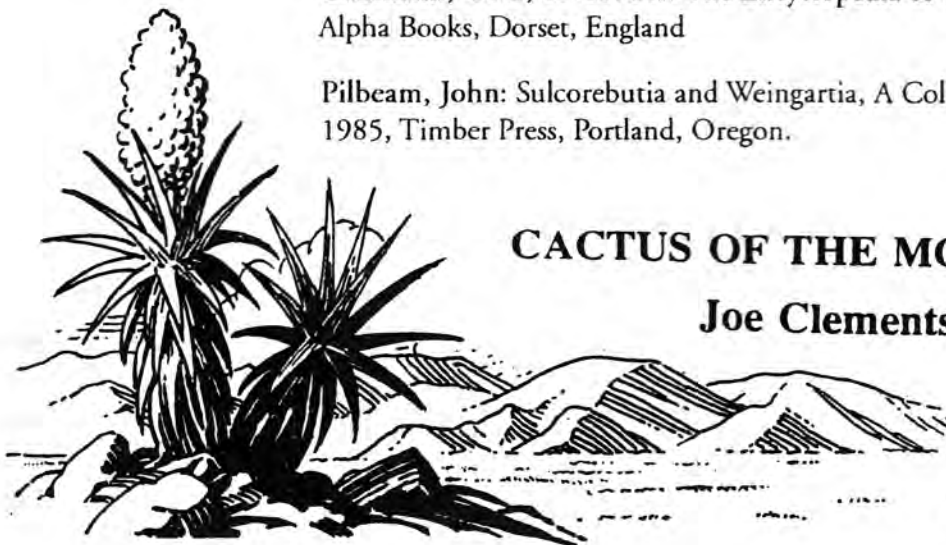
*Sulcorebutia canigueralii*

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Cullmann, Gotz, & Groner: The Encyclopedia of Cactus, 1986, Alpha Books, Dorset, England

Pilbeam, John: Sulcorebutia and Weingartia, A Collector's Guide, 1985, Timber Press, Portland, Oregon.



**CACTUS OF THE MONTH**  
**Joe Clements**

# ENDANGERED SPECIES

In a world where biodiversity is being destroyed at an alarming rate, where habitat loss is the greatest threat to most rare plants and animals, there is some positive encouragement that we are making progress. Six taxa consisting of four animals and two plants (cacti) are being reclassified by the F.W.S. (Fish and Wildlife Service) from the redlined endangered category to the less serious of threatened, or for de-listing altogether. The two cactus species are the silver pincushion cactus, *Pediocactus sileri* and the spineless hedgehog cactus, *Echinocereus triglochidiatus* variety *inermis*. Following is information provided from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Endangered Species Technical Bulletin, Vol. XVIII, No. 2, 1993. This bulletin is provided free to concerned citizens: Endangered Species Technical Bulletin, Dept. of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240.

## Siler Pincushion Cactus (*Pediocactus sileri*)

This small plant, a globose or cylindrical cactus with yellow flowers, grows in parts of northwestern Arizona and southwestern Utah. It was listed in 1979 as an Endangered species because of threats posed by livestock grazing, off-road vehicle use, mining, road construction, energy development, and illegal collecting to the small number of known plants.

The recovery plan for the Siler pincushion was completed in 1986. Recovery actions carried out in recent years by the Bureau of Land Management, which administers most of the species' range, include developing a habitat management plan and conducting surveys for unknown populations. Although threats to the cactus remain, the habitat conservation measures implemented thus far and the discovery of additional populations indicate that it is no longer in danger of imminent extinction. In recognition of the Siler pincushion's improved status, the FWS proposed March 10, 1993, to reclassify the species from Endangered to Threatened.



*Siler pincushion cactus*

## Spineless Hedgehog Cactus (*Echinocereus triglochidiatus* var. *inermis*)

In 1979, the FWS recognized this spineless, mound-forming cactus as a unique variety and listed it as Endangered. Known only from southeastern Utah and southwestern Colorado, it was believed to be vulnerable to illegal collecting for the cactus trade. A recent taxonomic revision, however, indicates that the listed variety is not a valid taxon and is therefore ineligible for Endangered Species Act protection. The Act authorizes protection for species, subspecies, and varieties of plants, but not for finer distinctions such as forms. This plant is now regarded merely as a sporadically occurring spineless form of a common and widespread variety, *E. t.* var. *melanocanthus*. Accordingly, the FWS proposed January 14 to remove the spineless hedgehog from the list of Endangered and Threatened species.

**AND SOME GOOD NEWS!!!**

photo by Sue Rutman

# MEMORABLE MOMENTS

by Frank Thrombley

Walking down memory lane with a gentle person; one who had many memorable moments that were shared with so many others is our walk into the past. He is a member of CSSA, Palomar Cactus Society and the San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society. **BOB TAYLOR** is indeed a kind, gentle and considerate person but he is also a horticulturalist, a nurseryman, and was an explorer. He explored botanically for the purpose of studying the plant life in habitat. He collected, for collecting was legal and appropriate during that period for the purpose of propagating and distributing material and information.

When Marianne and I first joined the SDC&SS the annual picnic was held at Bob & Suzanne's home and nursery in El Cajon. All were welcome and all could walk through the nursery to see the collection of outstanding plants.

Bob very seldom misses a meeting at the Palomar or San Diego Societies. Too, he always enters a plant or plants in the annual show at SDC&SS. A member who believes in participating for the benefit of all.

Various discussion with Bob revealed his true love for finding and studying plants in the field, especially into Mexico. Travelling in the State of Coahuila, Mexico between Saltillo and Monterey, he came upon a large colony of *Agave victoriae-reginae* and collected many pups of these plants. He also found pups of *Agave fernandi-regis*. After bringing them home he willingly gave 80% of them to fellow horticulturalists. His travels have taken him through the States of Durango, Chihuahua, and Sonora as well; he travelled extensively throughout the Baja Peninsula. One of this trips he found two small seedlings of *Ferocactus fordii*, growing so close that they were touching each other. Bob told me that he was sure they were from the same seed pod. What made them unusual? One had the normal red flower and the other had a bright yellow flower. No, the yellow flowered plant was not *Ferocactus viridescens*. This find was on the southeast side of the main road to El Socorro. Both of these plants were brought home – then disappeared from his nursery, as Bob generously gave so many plants away.

In the year 1960, Bob Taylor found the second known plant of *Pachgerocereus orcutti*. A natural hybrid between *Pachycereus pringlei* and *Bergerocactus emoryi*. He discovered this at El Rosario, Baja near the foothills of Sierra Pedro Martir. Cuttings of this plant were grown by Bob in his nursery in El Cajon. Cuttings from his plant have been given to many nurserymen, horticulturalists and collectors of cactus. The hobbyist of the San Diego C&S Society have certainly benefitted from his generous nature. The Wild Animal Park has two of these plants growing in their Baja garden. Thank you! Bob.

## Looking Down Memory Lane...



MEMORABLE MOMENTS by Frank Thrombly continued:

This is a very brief and condensed statement – a few paragraphs about our friend. However, before ending this synopsis I would like to reiterate what Michael Buckner printed in the June/July 1993 issue of *Espinasy Flores*: "Bob Foster and Charlie Glass have discovered and /or described twenty–eight new species of cacti – including *Mammillaria tayloriorum* named in honor of **Bob & Suzanne Taylor**.

**Thank you Bob for all that you have done for this hobby.**

NOTE: Rick Latimer, historian for the SDC&SS has provided pictures of young Bob Taylor at the site of the *Pachgerocereus orcutti* and the plant with flowers and fruit. They will be on display at the meeting. Also, Frank Thrombly promises us a future article: a brief history of this "lost" plant.

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## PEOPLE

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We are pleased to announce that our esteemed Life Member, Phyllis Flechsig, will be working for the C.S.S.A., Myron Kimnach, and all of us, as she tediously brings up to date our Cactus & Succulent Journal of America indexes.

We also look forward to a special C.S.S.A. Journal Issue in the summer of 1994 on "Growing Cacti and Succulents from Seed". If you do not subscribe to this Journal, you should consider joining the C.S.S.A. and receive this wonderful publication. We have membership subscription forms and brochures at our meetings for your convenience. Your own personal interest and education will grow with each journal and you will find yourself waiting anxiously for your new publication to arrive every other month. At \$30.00 per year, it is a tremendous bargain! So please subscribe and support your local and national organizations. We will have some free samples of this journal at the October meeting for those interested.

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## MILESTONES

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We note here with much sadness the loss of a dear friend and well-known plant enthusiast, explorer, propagator, and nurseryman: Manny Singer, of "Singer's Growing Things", Reseda, California. His genial conversation, helpfulness, and supportive attitude will be missed by many ..... And his wonderful *Euphorbia "Sunset"* – a cross utilizing *Euphorbia bougheii* and *Euphorbia cactus* (or was it *X Hummel's Zigzag*) is a wonderful living epithet for him, a remarkable "off into the Desert Sunset" magnificence ..... Thanks Manny!

*Nothing lives long  
Nothing lives long  
Nothing lives long*

*Except the Earth and the Mountain  
Cheyenne Song*

## WISE AND OTHERWISE

*by Michael Buckner*



"An old Chinese story goes like this: a group of herbal students was ready for its final exam. Their teacher told them to search eight miles out on all sides of the city, and bring back samples of all the plants they could find that had absolutely no medicinal value. Within a few days, all but one of the students had returned, each with a few plants. Finally, on the fifth day .... the last student returned looking very sad indeed, for he was empty-handed. "Why so sad?" asked the teacher. "You are the only one qualified to pursue the herbal path."

from "THE MAGIC CHAIN", as quoted by Robert Lee

"WHENEVER YOU ARE ANGRY, BE ASSURED THAT IT IS NOT ONLY A PRESENT EVIL, BUT YOU HAVE INCREASED A HABIT."

"AN INVESTMENT IN KNOWLEDGE ALWAYS PAYS THE BEST INTEREST."  
BENJAMIN FRANKLIN



"NOTHING GREAT WAS EVER ACHIEVED WITHOUT ENTHUSIASM."  
RALPH WALDO EMERSON



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# WISE AND

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"Since every species and population has its own intrinsic value, and many species, even those that are not yet identified, may be potentially useful to humanity, we must concern ourselves with the total number of extinctions. But it also seems reasonable to place value on the proportion of a group of organisms that is disappearing; most biologists would consider the loss of 1,000 species of birds (from a total of less than 10,000 bird species) as a more serious matter than, say the loss of 1,000 species out of the millions of insect species.

An array of problems confronts scientists attempting to evaluate these rates of loss of biodiversity. First, we simply don't know how much diversity there is. Estimates of the total number of species worldwide range from 5 million to 30 million or even 100 million, and there may be billions of genetically distinct populations. Second, no one knows how many species and populations of all kinds of organisms disappear each year, although rising rates of extinction in groups as diverse as North American fishes and Hawaiian birds have been abundantly documented. But it is not difficult to ascertain that the overall loss of biodiversity is accelerating. After all, it is not necessary to have counted and named each grain of sand on a beach, and recorded which have been washed away, to observe that the beach is rapidly eroding.

Biologists know that extinction rates are directly related to rates of habitat loss because all organisms are adapted to specific habitats, and most can only live within a restricted set of conditions. Plants, for example, at the base of terrestrial food chains, may require particular soil types, regimes of temperature, humidity, light, and day length. In one sample of British plant species, about half were found to have narrow habitat requirements. Plant-eating insects, the most diverse taxonomic group supported directly by plants, tend to feed on a specialized few. The basic point is that when habitats are destroyed, populations that depend on them inevitably go extinct.

*taken from "Is the Extinction Crisis Real?" by Paul R. Ehrlich, Wildlife Conservation magazine, Sept-Oct 1993. Paul R. Ehrlich is Bing Professor of Population Studies at Stanford University. His most recent book, co-authored with David Dobkin and Darryl Wheye, is Birds in Jeopardy (Stanford University Press, 1992).*

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"The race of mankind would perish from the earth did they cease to aid each other."

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The San Diego Cactus and Succulent Society, Incorporated is open to all persons interested in growing cacti or other succulent and exotic plants. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 1:30 P.M. in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Board of Directors meetings are held at 12:00 P.M. prior to general meetings. Annual dues are \$10 per single member per year, and \$5 for each additional member of same household. Single copies of Espinas y Flores are \$1 per copy sent within U.S.A. Affiliated with the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, Incorporated. Fax available - please call editor for number!

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