

Let's work together...

~ Espinas y Flores

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



VOLUME XXV11 NUMBER 7 AUGUST 10, 1991

CHARTERED BUS TRIP

SIGN-UP DEADLINE

INTER-CITY CACTUS

AND SUCCULENT SHOW

SDC&S SOCIETY
CHARTERED BUS



INTER-CITY 1991

Cactus and Succulent

SAT. & SUN.
AUG. 17th & 18th
from 9:00 to 5:00

Show

For More Info.
Contact: Karen Ostler
(818) 881-9601

At The Los Angeles State & County Arboretum
301 N. Baldwin Ave. Arcadia, CA
Sponsored by the Los Angeles, Long Beach & San Gabriel
Cactus and Succulent Societies

PROGRAM FOR AUGUST

PAUL HUTCHINSON, TROPIC WORLD NURSERY & FOUNDATION FOUNDER AND WORLD RENOWNED BOTANIST WILL SPEAK ON RARE & EXOTIC SPECIES HE HAS DISCOVERED, DESCRIBED, AND NAMED. PLEASE BRING IN YOU SOUTH AMERICAN SPECIES (PARODIAS, COPIAPOAS, REBUTIAS, ETC) HE WILL TALK ABOUT THEM. NO SLIDE SHOW.

CACTUS ONE

NEWS NEWS NEWS -----

NEW MEMBERS -----

Eileen Keegan - Lemon Grove	Joyce Mcguire - S.D.	Don & Judy Francin S.D.
Pat & Patrice Provencia - Chula Vista	Ida & Victor Wilson - Poway	
Irma Gusfield - La Jolla	Florence Davich - S.D.	
Bruce & Karen April - El Cajon	Calvin & Rita Cabnolahi - S.D.	
H. Leffert & k.S. Koch - Encinitas	Gal & Donald Bamber - S.D.	
Carol C. Roberts - El Cajon	Christina Clifford - S.D.	A.R. Nielson - S.D.
Raymond & Alice Edelstein - Coronado	John McDonald - S.D.	
Dale & Christie Sando - Lemon Grove	Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Ginger	
Stuart & Debra Lasswell - Santee	Louise Newman - Santee	
	Guadalupe Sousa - S.D.	

NOTICE --- It would be appreciated if you would bring OXALIS and PEPEROMIA FOR the succulent of the month.

SOME SHOWS COMING UP

Aug. 3 & 4	San Diego Co. Dahlia Society Show	Sat: 2pm-5:00pm	Sun:10am-4:30pm
Aug. 17 & 18	San Diego Fern Society 13th Show	Sat: 1pm-5:00pm	Sun:10am-5:00pm
Aug. 24 & 25	San Diego Turtle & Tortoise Soc. 17th Show	Sat:10am-5:00pm	Sun:10am-5:00pm
Sept. 8	Paintex Craft Show		Sun:10am-4:30pm

THE 6th ANNUAL
INTER-CITY
 1991
Cactus and Succulent
Show

SAT. & SUN.
 AUG. 17th & 18th
 from 9:00 to 5:00

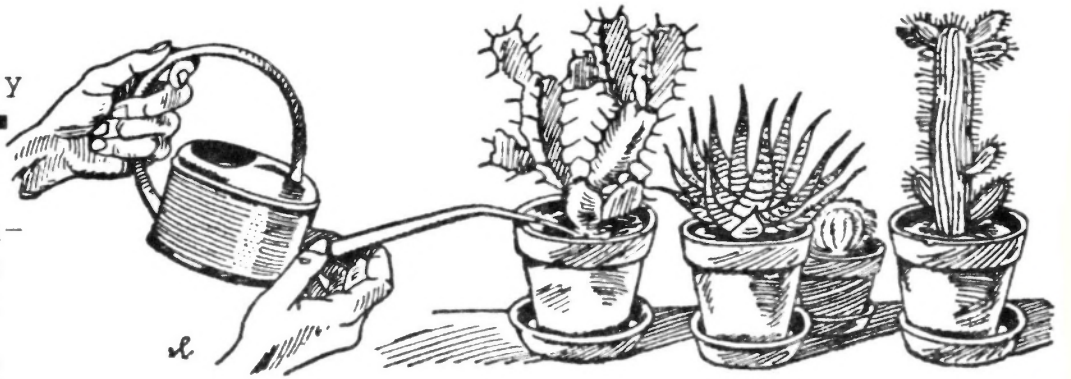
For More Info.
 Contact: Karen Ostler
 (818) 881-9601

At the Los Angeles State & County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia, California. Sponsored by the Los Angeles, Long Beach, & San Gabriel Cactus & Succulent Societies.

OPEN SHOW: You do not need to be a club member to enter your plants. TO ENTER PLANTS: Call Larry Grammer 213-599-0856, Woody Minnich 805-944-2784, or Charles Spotts 818-341-7613 for entry materials. SET UP: Wed. 14th 12:00-9:00 pm, Thurs. 15th 9:00 am - 9:00 pm, Fri. 16th 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. JUDGING: Friday the 16th at 5:00 pm. PRESALE FOR PARTICIPANTS & WORKERS: Friday the 16th at 3:00 pm. AWARDS DINNER: Sat. the 17th. For info. contact Charles Spotts, 818-341-7613.

FROM ALL CORNERS

by Shirley Berry



The wisdom and learning of succulent hobbyists and botanists has sought a permanence in books and magazines and journals, but "once writ is soon forgot". Why not bring to light again some of this material so that each new hobbyist doesn't have to "invent the wheel" again! Proper credit will be given to the source, my job being only to condense original articles when necessary.

The following information come from the "National Cactus and Succulent Journal" of March 1949. This excerpt is from Professor J. Borg's book titled "Cacti".

"Watering is best done early in the morning at sunrise, or before the plants have had time to become heated by the sun; the next best time is late in the afternoon after the plants have had time to cool. The same rule applies for spraying. To spray in full sunshine should be avoided.

Water should be given only when necessary. The dry condition of the surface of the soil is not sufficient reason to think that the soil lower down is dry. Just a half inch below the surface the soil may still be moist and in far better condition to promote root activity than it was immediately after watering. Cacti even in real need of water will not suffer if watering is postponed for a short time.

For obvious reasons there can be no hard and fast rules on watering. Small potted plants and those with a strong root system will require watering more frequently, and certain species may require more than others. It is a sound practice, when watering plants in summer, to drench them thoroughly to drain off any excess salts which could be injurious to the plant.

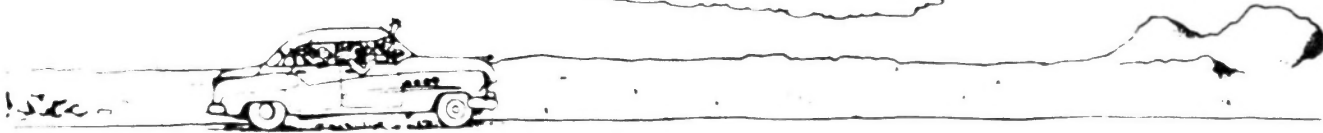
It is important in watering clustering species of cactus not to pour water over the top of the plant as the water may cause rot if it is retained in depressions.

Spraying should be done very lightly, just enough to cover the plant with dew-like drops, and done preferably on days when watering is not due. During the period of rest in winter, the roots are quite inactive and only enough water to prevent them from drying out altogether is necessary."

****WHAT DO YOU MEMBERS THINK OF THIS ARTICLE AS NUMBER ONE IN A SERIES BY SHIRLEY BERRY...A FEW WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT AT NEXT MEETING SHOULD DO IT!!!!..... THANK YOU SHIRLEY! AN EDUCATIONAL COLUMN FOR THE BEGINNER WOULD SERVE AS A TERRIFIC ADDITION IN ESPINAS Y FLORES.

REFRESHMENT VOLUNTEERS FOR AUGUST ?

ONE DOLLAR SALE AT AUGUST MEETING!!!! FIVE (3"-4") CACTI FOR \$5.00!!!
A VALUE OF TEN TO FIFTEEN DOLLARS, SO BRING YOUR CHECKBOOK!



Odds and Evens to Beginnings and Ends

WOW, WOW, WOW!! What a great annual show we had and with many new exhibitors. Thanks particularly to Show Chairman, CHUCK ADAMS and DANA ADAMS, for filling the shoes of five-year now retired show chairman, RICK LATIMER. This is a complex and time consuming job and we are very lucky to have members who can volunteer their expertise and time to make us all look good!!! Thank you Chuck!

The plant sale went very well this year with the help of expertly grown material from PHYLLIS FLECHSIG, BETTY ATHY, and WARREN BUCKNER, along with many fine professionals. There was a great turnout of volunteers helping JOYCE BUCKNER (who was performing treasurer's duties). Starting out with JIM & ROBERTA HANNA of Longwood showing up early Saturday morning with loads and loads of much needed boxes. Wonderful!! Also, thanks to PHYLLIS FLECHSIG, BEVERLY KIRKEGAARD, MICHAEL CULLEN, BETTY ATHY, JOE CLEMENTS, CURT HAMMEL, DOROTHY BYERS, JERRY WILLIAMS, and CHUCK EVERSON* for answering the multitude of questions by the general public. (*Chuck Everson of Rainbow Gardens, Vista, not Chuck Hansen of Arid Lands Greenhouses as I reported in June's E.y.F., sorry, for the typo! But lucky us, Chuck Hansen was spotted previewing the show and visiting with old friends).



Now we just have to mention some great volunteers who made it all work so successfully. Thank you all, Warren and Mary Ann Alexander, Diane Peterson (two-day champion cashier along with Joyce Buckner), Sandy & Cathy Frost, Anna Cornett, Susan Shepard, Joe & Kay Quijada, Ed & Karla Nolen, John Williams, Elibet Marshal, Martin Mooney, Harold & Mildred Richter, Elizabeth & Wilber Glover, Bill & Diane Crowley, Elinor Latimer, Ethel Standish; oh gosh, I know I'm leaving some people out, but Jeez were we busy! Thank you all for making a great show and successful sale. Yes, it is the people who make it all worth while.

A special thank you to Joey Betzler who stayed up all Friday night typing plant labels and also trying to finish finals for advanced black & white photography class. The new labels were a great improvement.

Thanks to Rick Plant who walked miles in search for hot plant-sales material and then carried it here and there and back to there again, labeled it, replanted it, and toted it some more.... to Tom De Merritt for his strong back hauling plants and working the plant sale.... to Michael Cullen for his great sales technique to Mitch Bahr for scouting out rare plant material (a real shame that he got his classic Volvo caught in a ditch at Western Cactus Growers; saved when John dragged him out but his chrome exhaust pipe will never be the same).

Also, a Great Big Thank You to new member, Dave Messinger, son of Jim & Millie Williams, who hauled load after load of flats and potted plants in his truck with a U-Haul trailer behind it - could not have done it without him!!!

WE OWE YOU ONE

SUCCULENTS-OF-THE-MONTH

Oxalis and Peperomia

by Rick Latimer

The main reason that we are covering the genus Oxalis is that we have not done it for over ten years, so we are long past due. Also we need to discover species in this genus that are unjustly obscured by their weedy relatives. The family Oxalidaceae is included in the order Geraniales which includes other families containing succulent species such as Balsaminaceae (Impatiens), Zygophyllaceae (Zygophyllum), and Geraniaceae (Pelargonium & Sarcocaulon). The family Oxalidaceae or "Wood Sorrel" family has some interesting species. The leaves of some species are used in soups and salads as a substitute for Sorrel (Rumex acetosa) wherever they occur. They add a tart but pleasant taste due to their oxalic acid content ("oxalis" derives from the Greek word for "sour", "sharp", and "acid"). One species in this family, Averrhoa carambola is grown for its edible fruits as well as making a nice ornamental tree. The trees are native to India and China, reach up to 30 feet, and has leaves that close when touched at night. The fruits are quince scented, ribbed, and yellowish-brown (see Exotica or Tropica).

There may be as many as 850 different species of the genus Oxalis, but there are probably only about 20 succulent species. All groups in the genus Oxalis exhibit "sleep" movements caused by the loss of water pressure in the leaf cushions at the bases of the leaves whenever photosynthesis stops for the day. At night or in the heavy shade, the leaves close together and the plant appears wilted (if this occurs in sunshine, the plant is wilted!!). The succulent members of the genus are native to Chile, Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and the Galapagos Islands. They live in environments that vary from sea level way up to over 11,000 feet in elevation.

One of the better known succulent species is O. carnososa. It comes from the dry coastal areas of Peru and Chile and even ascending to higher elevations in the Bolivian mountains. The tuberous storage roots and succulent stems enable the plant to survive several months of drought, during the dormant season, when the plants are leafless. In cultivation they may be grown as bonsai specimens and are active in the spring and summer, but prefer dry winters. Perhaps the most outstanding member of this genus is O. gigantea. It comes from Chile, where it has a fairly wide distribution along the coastal desert cliffs. The common name for it is 'churco'. A plant at the UCLA garden was about 6 feet tall. Stems may be as much as 1 inch thick and may be straight and erect or sinuous and drooping. One clone has pubescent leaves. A contrasting species is O. megalorrhiza from both mainland South America and the Galapagos Islands. The succulent stems are pendant and may be hidden by the typical dark green clover-like leaves in the spring, but the foliage falls off in the autumn. The pest of this genus is O. corniculata, which favors areas that it is most unwelcome. O. acetosella is used as the shamrock by those who celebrate St. Patrick's Day and good luck to you!

CACTUS OF THE MONTH

ASTROPHYTUM

by Phyllis Flechsig

Who among us has not owned a "Bishop's Cap" cactus at one time or another? Or at least been able to identify one without any doubt? The genus Astrophytum (which means "star plant") has long been a favorite with both beginning collectors and more advanced ones. In the Echinocactus group, this very distinctive genus has only four species, according to Britton and Rose and some more recent botanists, and even that arch-splitter Backeberg only lists six. Species above the basic four have been relegated to varieties nowadays. The four are A. asterias, A. myriostigma, A. ornatum, and A. capricorne. Of these, only the first seems to have no varieties. It is also the only one whose range reaches into the United States, in the Rio Grande Valley of southernmost Texas. The others are all native to north-central Mexico.

The genus is characterized by its small number of ribs (as few as four), either no spines at all or not very strong spines, and (in most) a sprinkling of fine white dots made up of tiny hairs. The flowers are basically yellow, with red centers in some, and are large and showy. Areoles are woolly, the seed pods soft, and the seeds large and helmet-shaped.

A. asterias is a totally spineless cactus, shaped just like a sea urchin without the spines. It has six to ten flat ribs and is more or less covered with the little dots, whose pattern varies much from plant to plant. Some new clones from Japan exhibit some wildly varied patterns, and are much sought by collectors.

A. myriostigma (the specific name means "many spots") is the well known Bishop's Cap, usually with five rounded ribs and an even covering of dots. Its forma nuda is solid green with no dots. This species also lacks spines. There is a four-ribbed form, but it has often been known to throw out a fifth rib in the course of time. There are several varieties with minor differences in body shape.

A. ornatum looks more like some people's idea of a cactus than do the others; it has eight ribs with deep furrows between them, strong spines, and may reach a height of one meter. The dots are arranged in bands; there is a spiral form that is seldom seen.

A. capricorne ("goat's horn") is a pretty plant with about eight ribs and numerous spines that are often long and twisted about the plant body. There are several varieties with spines of gold or white.

These plants readily hybridize with one another; the hybrids can be quite good-looking.

All Astrophytums require warm growing conditions and first-rate drainage--"dirty pumice" (pumice with just a little humus in it) is the recommended potting soil. They need very little water in winter, and a reasonable amount in the hot months. Because they do not offset very much, they are generally started from seed, which is quite rewarding to plant as the little seedlings come up in as few as three days. These plants are all very attractive even out of bloom, and the flowers, which arrive in succession all summer, are very pretty.

Note: if you own any unusual varieties of Astrophytum, do please bring them.

NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

British Cactus and Succulent Society, Bradleya (Vs. 5-8)
G. D. Duncan, The Lachenalia Handbook
Niel Du Plessis & Graham Duncan, Bulbous Plants of Southern Africa
Euphorbia Journal V. 7 (2)
Peter Goldblatt, The Genus Watsonia
Rick Imes, The Practical Botanist
Barbara Jeppe, Spring and Winter Flowering Bulbs of the Cape
R. Kenneth Horst, Westcott's Plant Disease Handbook
W. Olkowski, Sheila Daar & Helga Olkowski, Common-Sense Pest Control
Deirdre Snijman, The Genus Haemanthus
SDCSS, Espinas y Flores (Vs. 23-25)
CSSA Journal Vs. 61-62 & 62)

donated by Frank & Marianne Thrombley:

BCSS, Bradleya (Vs. 1-6)
BCSS Southampton Branch, Yearbook ('83, '85, '87)
BCSS Journal (83-88)
NCSS Journal (79-82)
CSSA Journals (#5 1976-1990, #2 '69)
Wendell S. Minnich, Field Collection Numbers of the Genus Mammillaria
Fish & Wildlife Service, The Ecology of Tijuana Estuary (2)

We will be having a Christmas plant drawing this year. It will be similar but not quite the same as those that we have had in the past. The details will be worked out in the next month and a report given to members. Members interested in helping to form policy please contact Joey.

Hey
Everybody!

Act Now!

SPECIAL EVENT: CHARTERED SAN DIEGO AND PALOMAR CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY BUS TRIP TO INTER-CITY SHOW ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 17th. FIRST PAY WILL BE FIRST SEATED ON THE BUS, SO GET YOUR CHECKS IN EARLY. (YOU CAN STILL PAY JOYCE BUCKNER ON BUS IF YOU DIDN'T GET YOUR CHECK OUT EARLY!) WE WILL BOARD AT 8:30-8:45 am AT THE ORGAN PAVILION, BALBOA PARK; BUS WILL DEPART @ 9:00 am SECOND STOP IN CARLSBAD FOR PALOMAR MEMBERS. COST FOR SCENIC CRUISER \$15.00 PER PERSON; BUS IS AIR-CONDITIONED & HAS BATHROOM. BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC LUNCH AND EXPECT TO SEE AN INCREDIBLE SHOW @ THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY ARBORETUM. SPEND THE DAY ENJOYING WHAT WE BELIEVE IS THE LARGEST CACTUS & SUCCULENT SHOW IN THE WORLD! (LAST YEAR OVER TWENTY-FIVE HUNDRED ENTRIES). BRING CHECK BOOKS FOR GREAT RARE PLANT SALES AREA AND COMFORTABLE SHOES FOR EXPLORING THE SPECTACULAR ARBORETUM GROUNDS. BUS WILL LEAVE LOS ANGELES @ 4:00. FREE ADMISSION TO ARBORETUM BEING ARRANGED BY GRACIOUS INTER-CITY SHOW CHAIRMAN; REGULAR FEE IS \$3.00. SO, DON'T BE LEFT OUT. SEND IN YOUR CHECK IMMEDIATELY TO P.O. BOX 33181, S.D. 92163. SORRY, NO REFUNDS - SO PLEASE DON'T BE LATE - BUS CAN'T WAIT... LET'S LIVE, LEARN, AND PLAY.

Books of help to collectors

The latest scoop on new books comes to us from Chuck Everson, owner of Rainbow Gardens Bookshop. Chuck attended the recent Cactus & Succulent Convention in San Antonio in June, and got word of several new publications in the works:

BRADLEYA 9 is coming out in September. There will be a major article: "THE GENUS MELOCACTUS IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AFRICA" by Nigel Taylor. 80 pages, 33 color plates, numerous b/w photos + distribution maps, and 11 scanning electron microscope pictures, mostly of seeds. Later on in the year, this paper will be spinned off into a booklet by itself for sale.

"THE ENDANGERED CACTI OF MEXICO" by Nigel Taylor. Due to be published by the end of this year.

"SUCCULENTS" by Clives Innes/Charles Glass. Due out the end of 1992. Over 1,000 color photos of succulents-----most in flower. Will be patterned after highly successful "CACTI" by both authors. Expected to sell for under \$40.00.

"THE CACTI OF EASTERN BRAZIL". by Nigel Taylor-----early 1993.

"CLEISTOCACTUS AND OREOCEREUS" by Nigel Taylor-----late 1993. This one will have 20 color plates from the same artist who helped Nigel on his book "The Genus Echinocereus".

Just released books and available at Rainbow Gardens Bookshop:

EUPHORBIA JOURNAL #7 -----\$39.95
HELICONIA (232 color photos)----\$19.95
PASSIONFLOWERS (60 color photos)--\$39.95
BROMELIAD LEXICON (Werner Rauh)--\$39.95

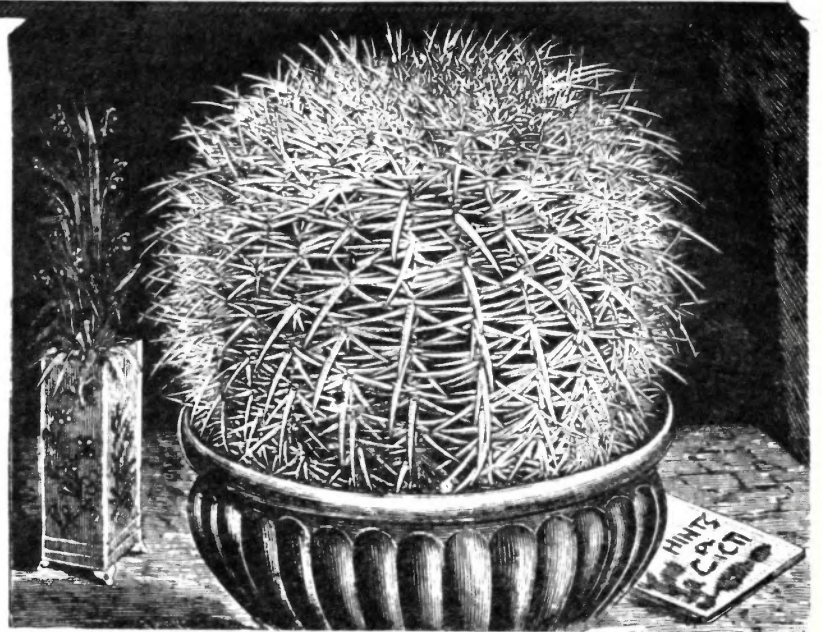
Rainbow Gardens
Nursery & Bookshop

1444 E. TAYLOR STREET
VISTA, CA 92084
Telephone (619) 758-4290

ODDS AND EVENS TO BEGINNINGS AND ENDS

Now for the June Picnic. For those of you who missed our annual summer event, we hope to see you next year (at a new location: Crown Point or Eucalyptus Park or ?... Ideas, Ideas, Ideas, Volunteers, and Chairpersons needed!!) There were many smiling new owners of the "Show Plant Quality" succulents auctioned of by the revolving volunteers auctioneers.

A good time was had by all and everyone went home with door prizes and Del Mar Fair tickets, and of course full bellies! Another special thanks to Mitch Bahr and Tom De Merritt for making the picnic a great success. From all of us, Salud!!



THANKS TO CHUCK ADAMS FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION AT OUR LAST MEETING, AN EXCELLENTLY GROWN CADEX EUPHORBIA KNUTHII WHICH WAS AUCTIONED OFF FOR \$20.

 AND THANK YOU DANA ADAMS FOR FILLING IN FOR CHUCK BY PRESENTING ERIC ALTONA WITH A TOKEN OF OUR APPRECIATION FOR ALL HIS PRO-BONO WORK AND FOR DOING SUCH A GOOD JOB OF PRESENTING TROPHIES!!!!

 THANK YOU NEW "TEMPORARY BOARD MEMBER" TOM DE MERRITT FOR AGREEING TO BE INVOLVED FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS. WE REALLY APPRECIATE IT!

 ~~~~PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING IN SOME GOODY'S FOR OUR MEETING BREAK ~~~~

~~~~WE ARE STARTING TO LOOK A LITTLE SPARSE OUT THERE!????!!~~~~  

The Board Members & Directors have decided reinstate judging of Brag Table and to award the Award Brag Table winners with plant sales script for First, Second and Third Places: \$5 for First; \$4 for Second; \$3 for Third. The preferred ticket has also been partially reinstated with high hopes for encouraging participation and discouraging abuse of this system. If you feel you are deserving of preferred ticket for Christmas Party plant raffle contact Joey Betzler as he will be the one making "preferred ticket list".

"Think of It This Way"

Because of advances in analytical equipment and measurement techniques, trace elements of synthesized and natural chemicals can be detected in parts per billion or even parts per trillion. The following comparisons may put these numbers in better perspective.

Think of one part per million as:

- 1 inch in 16 miles.
- 1 minute in 2 years.
- 1 cent in \$10,000.
- 1 ounce of salt in 31 tons of potato chips, or
- 1 bad apple in 2,000 barrels.

One part per billion compares with:

- 1 inch in 16,000 miles.

- 1 second in 32 years.
- 1 cent in \$10 million.
- 1 pinch of salt in 10 tons of potato chips.
- 1 lob in 1,200,000 tennis matches, or
- 1 bad apple in 2 million barrels.

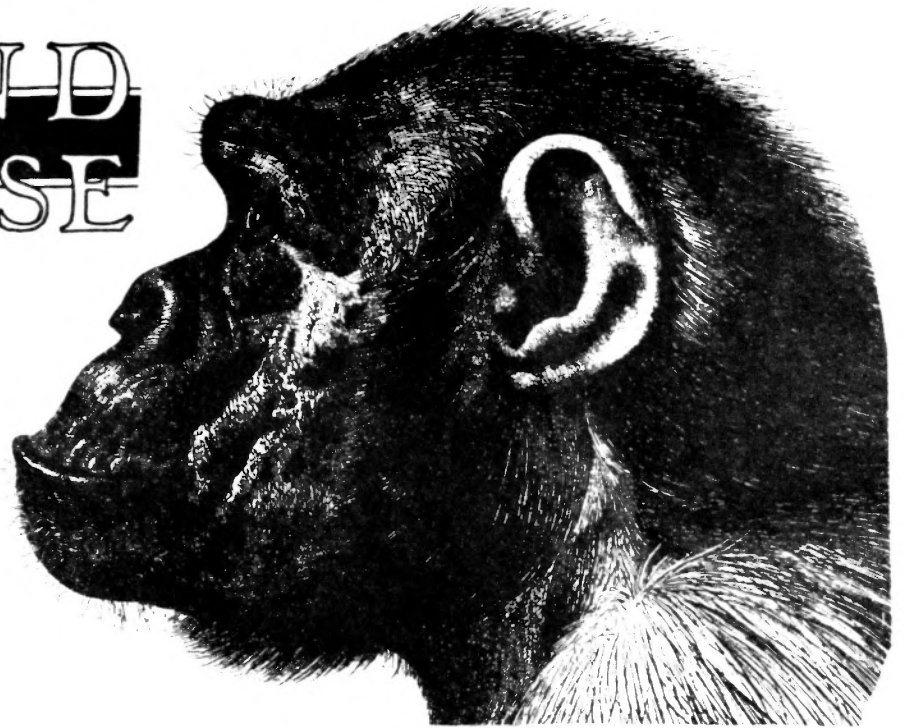
One part per trillion compares with:

- 1 postage stamp in an area the size of Dallas.
- 1 inch in 16 million miles (more than 600 times around the earth).
- 1 second in 320 centuries
- 1 flea on 360 million elephants.
- 1 grain of sugar in an Olympic-sized pool, or
- 1 bad apple in 2 billion barrels.



WISE AND OTHERWISE

Michael Buckner



Make a difference—
VOLUNTEER

"Once more we climbed the sheer wall of the still undescribed Mammillaria Laui form in the Novillo Canyon in the State of Tamaulipas. Is it the fact that at the age of 62 I have to reduce my climbing speed? Or did we have the fear hidden in our hearts that after the huge forest fire of last year no live plants would be found? Somehow the distance seemed longer, and in the heat of May I needed more than a day before I could tackle another mountain. What we saw was absolutely distressing. A number of specimens of the large Mammillaria Rubrograndis were still alive. Also the still unpublished Echinofossulocactus, one of the most beautiful and spectacular in the genus, was still there. When I first discovered this M. Laui form, I photographed two large plants that had close to a hundred heads. I remember the reaction of the public to this slide when I showed it recently during a lecture tour to the Western USA and Vancouver. Seeds that I sowed, soon germinated, covering the pot in a short time. It is extremely caespitose. The spination reminds of a toothbrush. What we had feared had taken place. Of these fabulous large groups we only saw burned remnants. Six or seven smaller groups were still alive. If SEDUE, the government agency responsible for plant conservation, should give permission to collect seeds of this unusual plant, it could be preserved and propagated. We still try to persuade the authorities to review the case. I believe that the coming generations will condemn us for a practice to preserve specimens in the wild that result exactly opposite, the extermination of precious and rare plants on a large scale. I am terrible sorry that I have to disappoint you again and hope that in the next letter I could proclaim the good news that a way has been found, for who else will go to the remotest parts of the mountains to collect seeds? It affects the whole world, including botanical gardens and research stations. It is not my intention to send out photos that make you angry, but on request I could send you some copies of pictures on which you see huge plants of Pachycereus Weberi in Tomellin Canyon burning to make room for agricultural expansion. Of course, the people have to survive after the population doubled in 30 years, but why not preserve the rare species in these areas?"

excerpt from Alfred Lau's June 1991 Cactus Letter

WE DON'T INHERIT THE WORLD FROM OUR PARENTS SO MUCH AS WE BORROW IT FROM OUR CHILDREN.
Epitath overlooking Borego Springs on Tomb of Ranger William S. Coffin Jr.

WISE AND

THINGS, WORDS, AND SAYINGS, TO BE AVOIDED IN CONVERSATIONS

DO NOT USE SUCH WORKS AS "I GUESS", "I CALCULATE", "I EXPECT", "I RECKON", TOO OFTEN AS THEY ARE GENERALLY USED OUT OF PLACE.

WHEN RELATING A CONVERSATION, DO NOT, AT EVERY FEW WORDS, PUT IN "SAYS HE", OR "SAYS SHE", WHICH LAST IS SOMETIMES SHORTENED INTO A CONTINUAL "SHESHE".

INTERRUPT NO ONE WHILE SPEAKING, THOUGH IT BE YOUR MOST INTIMATE FRIEND.

LAUGH NOT AT YOUR OWN STORY; IF IT HAVE ANY WIT, IT WILL BE APPRECIATED.

SPEAKING OF ANY DISTANT PERSON, IT IS THE HEIGHT OF RUDENESS TO POINT AT HIM.

DO NOT FORGET NAMES, NOR MISTAKE ONE NAME FOR ANOTHER. TO SPEAK OF MR. WHAT-D'YE-CALL-HIM, OR YOU-KNOW-WHO, MRS. THINGUM, WHAT'S-HER-NAME, OR HOW-D'YE-CALL-HER, IS EXCEEDINGLY COARSE AND UNLADYLIKE. IT IS THE SAME TO BEGIN A STORY WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO FINISH IT, BREAKING OFF IN THE MIDDLE WITH THE EXCLAMATION "I'VE FORGOTTEN THE REST".

ALWAYS LOOK PEOPLE IN THE FACE WHEN YOU SPEAK TO THEM, OTHERWISE YOU WILL BE THOUGHT CONSCIOUS OF SOME GUILT; BESIDES, YOU LOOSE THE OPPORTUNITY OF READING THEIR COUNTENANCES, FROM WHICH YOU WILL MUCH BETTER LEARN THE IMPRESSION WHICH YOUR DISCOURSE MAKES UPON THEM, THAN YOU POSSIBLY CAN FROM THEIR WORDS; FOR WORDS ARE AT THE WILL OF EVERY ONE, BUT THE COUNTENANCE IS FREQUENTLY INVOLUNTARY.

From "The Lady's Guide to Perfect Gentility" first published 1856 in New York and now reprinted from the copy in the Huntington Library, San Marino.

"This is probably the most hated cactus of all in our area, and surely the one with the least to endear it to us, is a very wide-ranging species and one which unfortunately grows in great numbers in much of its territory. No one who has ever carelessly brushed up against what he ignored as just another scrubby little bush, but which is really this cactus will ever forget it. Its nefariousness lies not in its being so spiny - many other cati far surpass it in that - but in that it is so uncactuslike that we often fail to give it proper respect and so it pricks us worst of all. It likes to grow within other bushes, and reaches out stray branches to snare us as we pass. The Spanish names for it, which anyone who understands them will realize are not exactly terms of endearment, are most appropriate. The person who had charity enough to coin the name, Desert Christmas Cactus, for it, after the brilliant fruits which do remain on the bushes and beautify the otherwise dull bush all winter, was a rare soul or else only saw it from the highway and never tried to walk between plants and the Garrambullo." Del Weniger commenting on Opuntia

Leptocaulis in "Cacti of the Southwest", University of Texas Press

OTHERWISE

"THE FIRST THING THAT WOULD IMPRESS A VISITOR FROM OUTER SPACE WOULD BE THE TREMENDOUS, INEXPLICABLE GAP BETWEEN POTENTIAL AND PERFORMANCE. IT'S AMAZING WHEN YOU CONSIDER WHAT THE HUMAN ORGANISM COULD DO IN TERMS OF HIS POTENTIAL, AND WHAT IT ACTUALLY DOES. NO SPECIES THAT IS FUNDAMENTALLY FLAWED COULD BE SO STUPID THIS CONSISTENTLY. LET US CONSIDER THE HUMAN ORGANISM AS AN ARTIFACT. COMPARATIVE EVOLUTION WILL SHOW US WHAT IS WRONG WITH IT AND HOW FAR IT HAS TO GO."

WILLIAM BURROUGHS 1984

"THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF APOCALYPSE"

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President - Michael Buckner
222-3216
Vice President - Mitch Bahr
571-0912
Secretary - Joyce Buckner
222-3216
Treasurer - Laura DeMerritt
571-5127
Immediate Past Pres. - Chuck Adams
530-2551

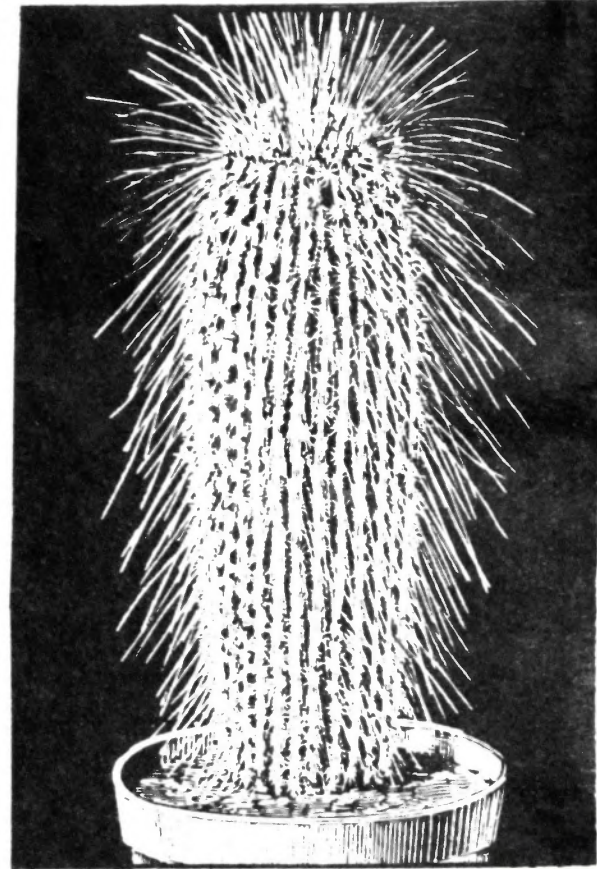
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The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society, Inc. is open to all persons interested in growing cacti or other succulent and exotic plants. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month at 1:30 p.m. in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Board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

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