

ESPINAS

Y FLORES

Happy Holidays

PUBLICATION of SAN DIEGO C & S SOCIETY

RESOLUTION # ONE

DO YOU WANT to get ahead of the New Year's rush for good resolutions? Then join with us in a gigantic new undertaking. Being a novice at collecting cactus and succulents and desirous of learning the names and culture of these bizarre creatures of nature, we have worked out a system that should aid tremendously towards those aims, without burdening the mind with every detail. For some of us it will be like starting in the middle, and it will be a difficult chore to catch up, but for many whose modest collection is just starting, this should be the impetus to get off and running in good style. There'll come a time when your prize beauty will sweep the honors at the Braggin' Table, and all you'll have to do is simply refer

to a little ledger at your finger tips and some really meaningful information will be imparted. We are all familiar with the constant changes that go on in the botanical world, and at times it is exasperating; but it is because we are interested in increasing our knowledge and placing things in their proper relationship that make these changes necessary. Hence, keeping a systematic semi-scientific diary will not only keep us abreast of these changes, but might make it possible for some implementation of our own.

At the present the general method for naming the plants in our collection is to write the name on a wooden or plastic label and place it near the plant. Labels of this kind have many drawbacks; they can become weatherworn and unreadable in a short while. Often, our corrections are made by scratching out the old and rewriting around, over, or through with the new. Many times there's a friendly change in the label without one's knowledge; to say nothing of curious dogs, cats or children who have been known to pull up the labels rather than the more formidable looking plants. Greenhouse or potted collections look quite nice with all the little labels standing in a row, each slightly angled in the same direction, but a garden can

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DECEMBER MEETING

Saturday, Dec. 6th, 2 pm
Floral Assoc. Building
Balboa Park

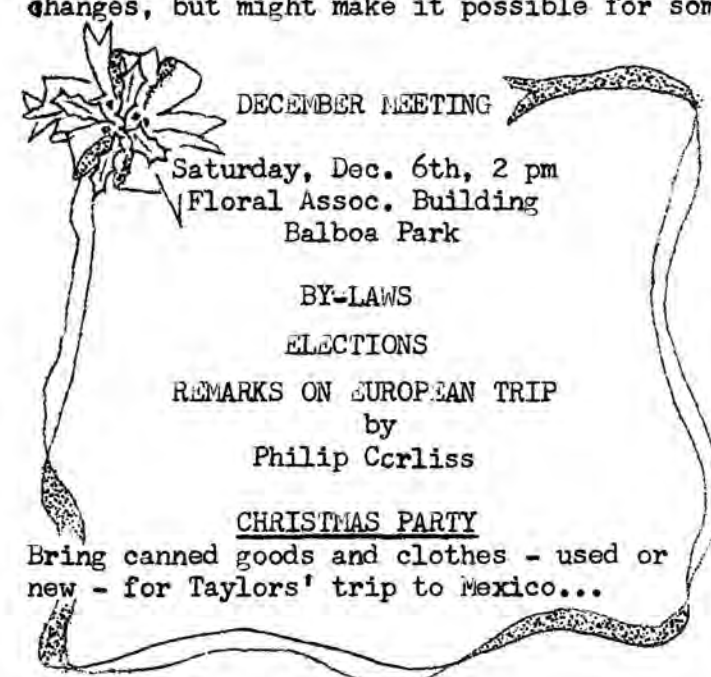
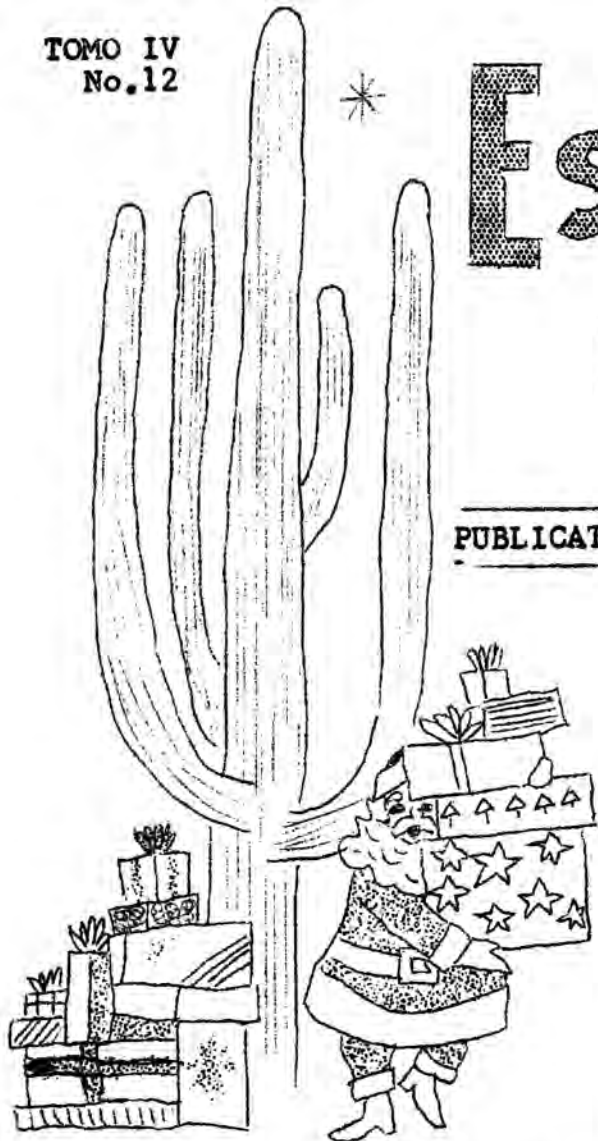
BY-LAWS

ELECTIONS

REMARKS ON EUROPEAN TRIP
by
Philip Ccrliss

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Bring canned goods and clothes - used or new - for Taylors' trip to Mexico...



rapidly change to a graveyard in appearance.
We are sure we would rather devote our time to the living than to await the quick to depart.

And the search goes on - we may not have the ultimate in an answer, but from this rudimentary step together there will be no hill to climb. Firstly, buy a small notebook, pocket-size or otherwise. Fill it with ruled paper. Upon receipt of a plant assign it a serial number - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and right on down the page; a line for each plant. If the plant is named, record it; if it is not, state unnamed. We'll call these the acquisition numbers. The only other thing to go on this page, other than the acquisition number and plant name, is the specific number. This takes a little thought. There appears to be two ways to establish this; by working with families of plants or with genera. The easiest seems with the genera. Make a list of cacti or succulent genera and assign a number much the same as we did with the acquisition of plants; but it need not be a formal list. For instance, you received a plant today; it was the sixth plant to be added to the collection; it was a *mammillaria confusa* by name; and it was the second *mammillaria* that you have obtained; also C 14 was the number you assigned to the genus *mammillaria*; your acquisition page would read something like this (we hope) 6. Mam. Congusa - C 14/2 (Fig. 1, page 2).

A second sheet of paper is prepared for the plant itself on which specific information is kept as to date and where obtained, cost, condition received, name, and authority giving said name. Also on this page a running history should be kept, such as time of blooming, seeds collected, where it is planted, and its response to the care given it. (Fig. 2, p. 2) Date and source are always important. The date allows us to better appraise its response. The source will often give us a clue as to culture or where to obtain duplicates. One might also take measurements at the time of acquisition to better illustrate the good or bad care it is receiving. The condition alludes to whether it was a cutting, seedling, grafted, potted plant, etc. The name and the authority that gave it are essential in the clarification and classification of individual species; who knows, you may have unsuspectingly stumbled on to an entirely new and different species. So whether one gets a name by checking it with a photograph, printed description, or neighbor next door, write it down each and every time. The more authorities you have backing you, the better your position is as a collector, and a more knowledgeable one you become.

These are the two important pages, the rest are embellishments, but also make the whole system more satisfying. A third page could be devoted to the genus, especially one that is of particular interest to you. At the head of the page is the genus name and code number that was assigned (Fig. 3, p. 2). It is simply a reference page to determine what species are definitely a part of the collection. Additional pages can be set up for propagation procedures, if one chooses to go on that far, such as pages for grafts, seeds, or cuttings, each following the format originally described for newly acquired plants.

(Continued next page)

Acquisition # 1-15
1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6. MAM. CONFUSA - C14/2
7.
8.
9.
10.
11.
12.
13.
14.
15.

FIG. #1

#6 C14/2
DATE - DEC 1969 COST - 25¢
FROM - TAYLOR'S CACTUS GARDEN
CONDITION - 2 INCH POTTED SEEDLING
NAME AUTHORITY
MAM. CONFUSA TAYLOR
MAM. CONFUSA BRITTON & ROSE
REMARKS -
2 INCHES DIA, 2 IN. HIGH
PLANTED IN GARDEN
DEC. 1969, SUNNY LOCATION

FIG. #2 2

MAMMILLARIA C14
1.
2. CONFUSA #6
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.
11.
12.
13.
14.
15.

FIG #3

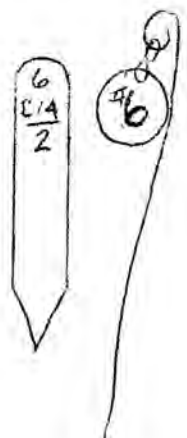


FIG #4

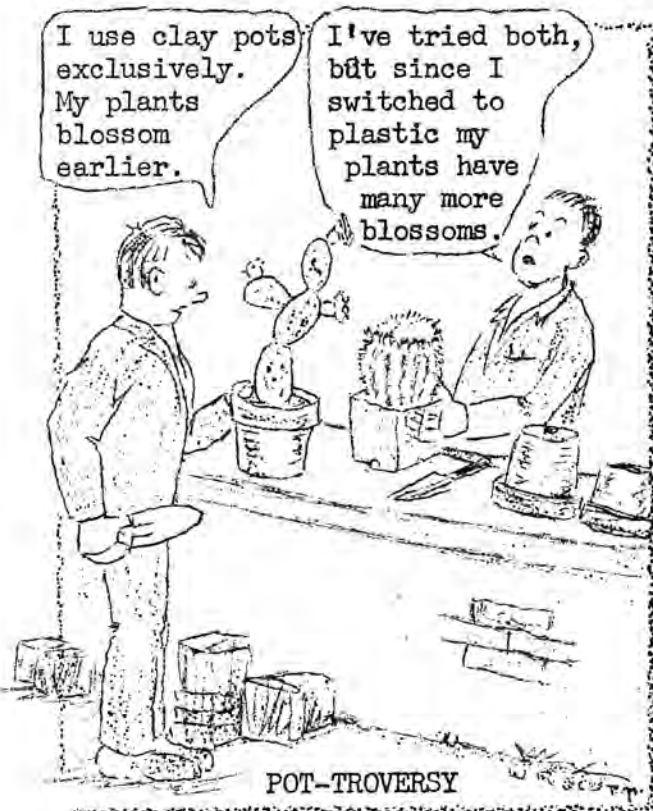
A plot or portion of a seed bed can be marked with one tag; but in a garden where plants are so varied, the most unobtrusive, yet permanent, marking procedure is optimum. If you are a real activist, it will take no time at all to build up such a stand of lumber that one cannot see the plants for the labels. This certainly does nothing to enhance the natural effect so sought after in a cactus garden. Borrowing a page from our Fair exhibits, a metal tag fastened to a piece of galvanized wire bent into a loop (Fig. 4, p. 2) and stuck in the ground under the plant, really serves the purpose. It is not necessary to put the name on the tag, just the acquisition number. This causes one to form the good habit of taking along the plant book each time, and gives a better opportunity to observe and record.

All of this may seem to be a bit complicated, but if started and kept up, it will make a collection much more interesting, and in a surprisingly short while, a fund of information can be accumulated that will be of interest to many others as well. All plants or cuttings that are traded or given away should carry your number, named or not. Who knows - maybe some day your ward or its offspring may return still numbered and recorded as to where and what it has been doing. Every step in advance is an eternal step and will never have to be taken again. We are not building for a day or a year, but we are building for all time and for eternity.

ALASKA

The trip by plane from San Diego can be made in 10 hours, and if the weather is clear will give even the most seasoned traveler many thrills. As one flies north toward Seattle-Tacoma International Airport the sight of Mount Ranier and Mount Hood, snowcapped year-round is almost too rugged to describe, and it is easy to see why so many mountain climbers make these one of their goals.

Upon leaving Seattle the waterways of the Strait of Juan De Fuca are dotted with hundreds of islands and the towns on both the U. S. and Canadian borders present a lovely view of the street layouts with here and there small areas of blue indicating private swimming pools. In the distance to the right can be seen Vancouver Island, the Canadian terminus of the inland route steamers.



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OUR MOST NORTHERN and largest state is one which can offer the greatest assortment of scenery and wild life of the entire nation.

We left Seattle-Tacoma airport at approximately 3:45 pm and arrived at the Anchorage International airport at 3:50 pm Alaska Time. Since the weather was very clear it was possible to see for miles in all directions. Most of the mountains were snow covered and the glaciers were too numerous to count. Some sections had six or seven glaciers extending toward the lower levels in all directions. The first night in Anchorage was quite a surprise. The hour kept getting later and the sun seemed never to set. Toward 11:00 pm the sun finally disappeared. We were awakened by the bright sunlight, and to our amazement it was 3:00 a.m. This change in our normal route took some doing to overcome, but with the help of some very excellent breathing material were able to sleep our regulation eight hours.

Our first trip took us to Portage Glacier, 50 miles toward Seward on Alaska Highway #1. The earthquake of 1964 destroyed a great portion of this highway, sweeping it into Cook's Inlet and Turnagain Arm along which the highway

(Continued next page)

runs for quite a distance. Evidence of the tremendous movement of earth is in sight all the way with buildings at various angles a half mile from the road on the tidal flats.

According to the Forestry Service, Portage Glacier is receding up the valley about 200 feet per year and will cease to feed icebergs into Portage Lake within 10 years. More than 20 million tons of gravel and sand are fed into Turnagain Arm from Portage Valley and about 400 million tons per year are fed into the Arm from all tributaries. A few days prior to our visit a small earthquake occurred and the lake was crowded with icebergs, each weighing in the tons.

The cost of food, souvenirs, etc. are in keeping with general Alaskan prices - very high. A typical example was a sourdough hotdog sandwich with a few French fries - \$1.05 - drink extra.

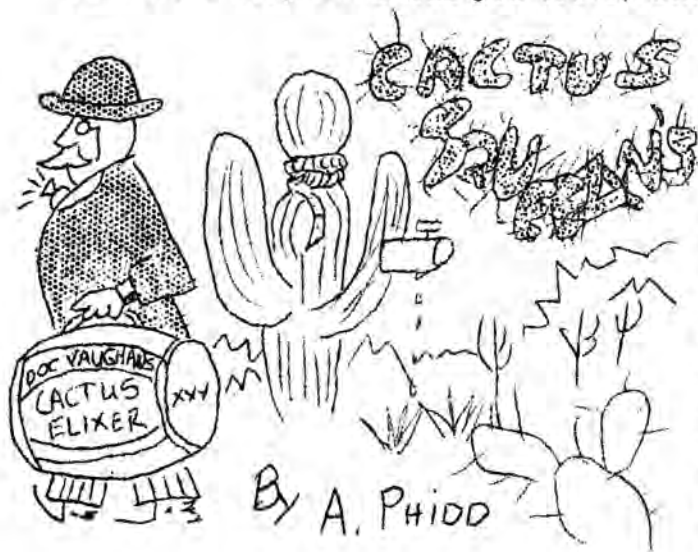
This glacier is situated in the Chugach National Forest. The tourist accommodations are being increased yearly with lodges and camp and trailer sites. Another reminder of the 1964 earthquake is a section of Anchorage badly split and tossed by the quake which has been left in its topsy turvy state and named Earthquake Park.

Another trip well worth the backbreaking effort was one to Erickson's Gold Mine. It is situated near Girdwood about 27 miles from Anchorage. Glacier Creek, faster flowing and with rougher waters than many of our rivers, cuts across the mine property. The owner dressed and acting like the sourdough of Alaskan fiction conducted a gold panning exhibition every hour on the hour. My first day of gold panning netted a tiny nugget and three flakes of gold. Having seen other would be miners using a sluice box and having a little more success, I took a visual measurement of one of the boxes. With a sluice box the work was lightened a little and the gold take was increased likewise. Needless to say, I was never cut out to be a gold miner or panner.

No trip to Alaska would be complete without attending the Alaska State Fair which was in progress during our stay. As State fairs go it was a miserable failure except for the vegetable exhibition. These vegetables are grown in the Matanuska Valley nearby and are enormous. One large cabbage weighing 75 lbs. was sent to the President to advertise their products. The flowers in general are also very huge, showing the the soil must be fertile since the growing season is so short.

If it's a trip to Alaska you crave, don't put it off; it is well worth the effort.

-- W. J. G.



IT'S TIME to pull the plug.... the holiday season is upon us, and the humming of activity is a sweet sound.... **SPAS PARTY THIS WEEK** at the old meeting hall.... **NELLIE** said she is preparing some special Hors D'Oeuvres... when asked what "they" were, she replied, "A ham sandwich cut into 40 pieces.... speaking of cooking **JOYCE TATE** is putting out a cook book of cactus recipes, everything from entree to encore.... the only cactus she's not giving recipes for is the "Barrel Cactus"... the only things she had from them were very sweet concoctions, and you know we have to watch those calories... There's a great cactus show coming off in the latter part of Feb. at Phoenix.. **Mr. EARLE** is planning a pretty big bask, so mark your calendar... **SCOTTY** Will have more on

this later.... Perhaps a CAR-A-VAN ????

Be careful doing your Christmas shopping. You know those traffic lites are only a trick to get pedestrians half-way across the street safely... the **GAYS** have just returned
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CACTUS SQUEEZINS' - Continued

from a town in Texas to survey the facilities available for the next biennial convention... looks like it will be the Sun City of El Paso... lovely town and not too far for some of those post-convention tours....

BOB BUTLER says, "Alimony is the billing minus the cooing".. who should know better than the wise ole owl.... RUTH STANTON announced that the new seed list from the African Succulent Plant Society would be available soon... check with her for some exotics obtainable no place else... A couple of Xmas specials.... the Cactus Journal for \$4.00 instead of five... if we have 15 subscribers... see PERLSO LEWIS on this one... NIBBY reminds us that the Claifornia Garden Magazine is offering 3 for \$5.00 rates to boost circulation... they are currently running reprints from E y F under a "Succulents of the Season" feature...

TWO new books available at RUTH NELSON'S library stand... "EASY GARDENING" and "BOTANY FOR GARDENERS"... you may also find flowers of the season, and a good selection of fruits and vegetables.... SPECIAL NOTE: PLEASE CHECK YOUR BOOKSHELF... Vol. I of Jacobsen's "Handbook of Succulents" is missing.... there will be no fine if returned... you'll probably get a kiss on both cheeks.... seriously though, everyone should get with it, and get the books properly checked out before they ramble on home.... BILL says it would make Ruth sleep a lot better.... After Brink's got knocked off for a million, and the great mail-train robbery came off without a hitch, LIVY FLETCHER isn't taking any chances... she uses "baggies" for her money... it keeps that green stuff so much fresher, too.....



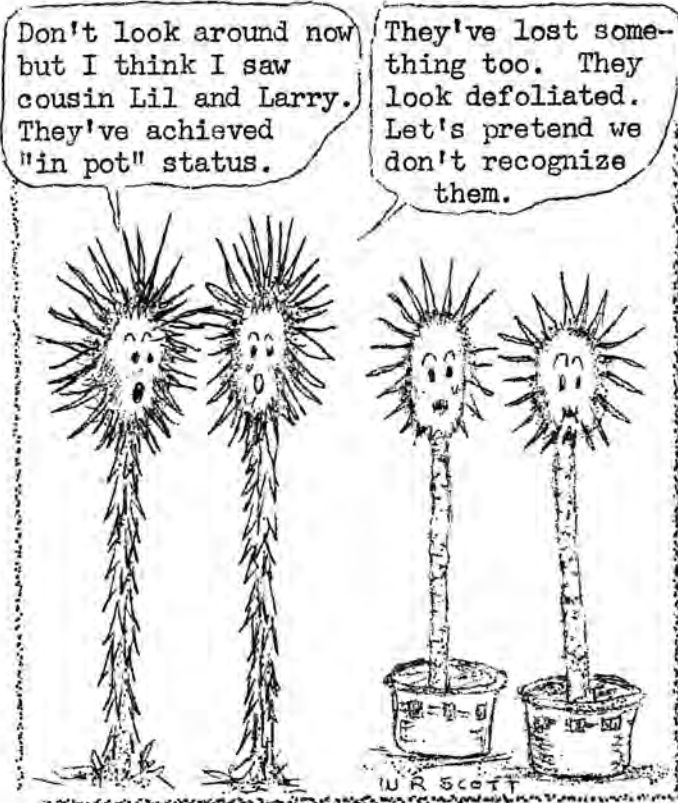
THAT'S WALT.

WALT AND MABEL GREENWOOD, ELAINE NIEHAUS, and NIBBY represented our club at the ground breaking ceremonies of the new cultural and botanical building... the warm Spring-like rain must have made the soil a lot softer than we have ever known it... Nibs dug a trowel full for Club, Mother, Ben, and the lady at the Fine Arts Bldg. that couldn't get away,

and old A. PHIDD now doesn't that put us in our proper perspective..... The last and final reading of the by laws, we hope, will be taken up as the first order of business... be sure to bring the copy mailed you. it will certainly simplify matters.. and speed them up too.... Speaking of new buildings and park developments and things.... reminds us of a few tax dollars well spent, but Gov. Reagan says there will be no change in the tax structure this year, and Pres. Nixon says the sur-tax will remain on the books for a while... SCOTTY says taxes are in a state of woe.....

DOC CORLISS recently returned from a European trip.. and will squeeze in a few remarks about this epic venture between by-laws, elections and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing".... HARRY WARN goes to Sharp Mem. Hospital for a week, for minor surgery... a card would be appreciated - Rm. 411 ... get home in time to help trim the tree, H.F..... BRING \$1.00 GIFT for he or she for the Xmas Party...

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above all bring clothes and canned goods for needy families..... RUTH RICHARDSON extolled

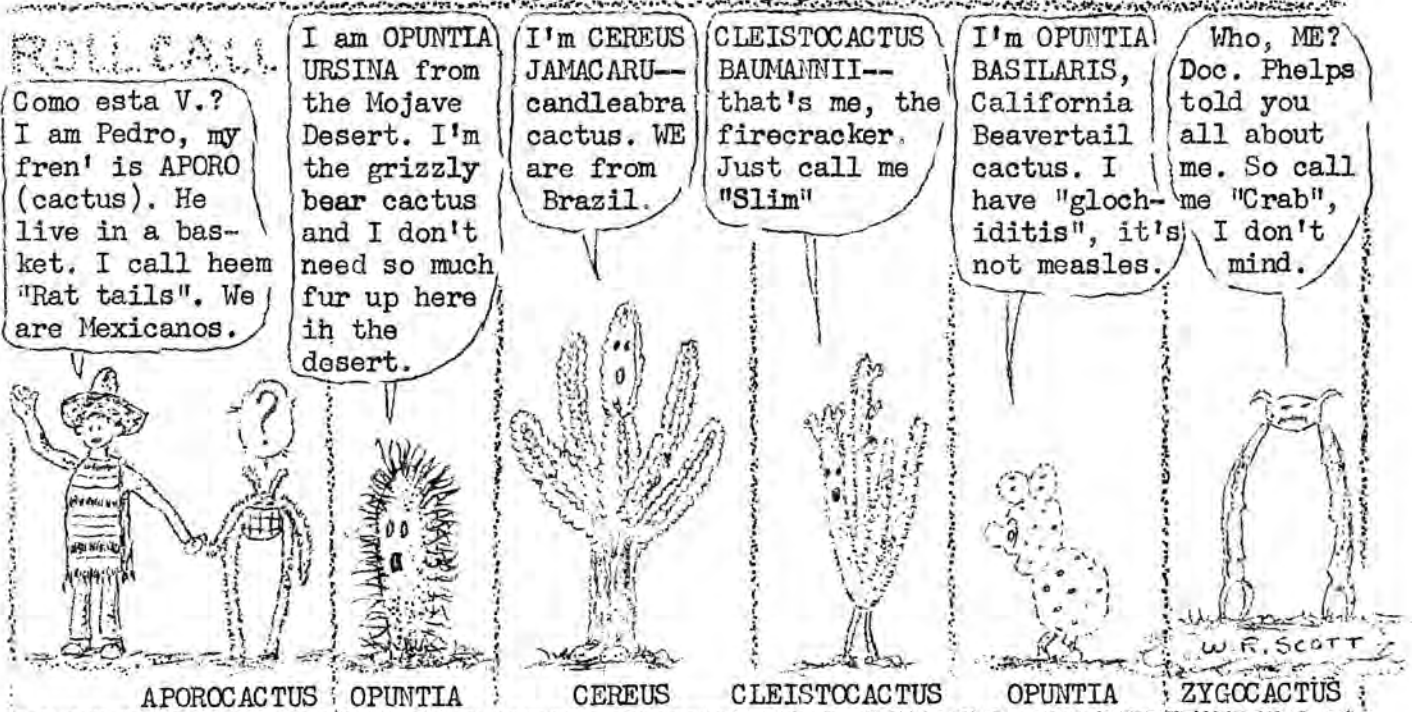
the virtues of the Chiote, the Mexican squash... very high in food value and low in you know what.... be sure to plant it well away from the house... then you'll not have to walk so far to pick the fruit.... JULIANA RICE blessed us with some lovely succulent pomegranates with color to match her cheeks... that EL Centro climate must certainly be wonderful..... many thanks to DAISY AUSTIN for sending us several new members through her monthly publication "OZARK GARDENS"... it is truly a great garden journal....

EVE WARN had the best specimen of Schwantesia as judged by the members, and from MABEL GREENWOOD'S table... "Fable's Table"... an outstanding melococarpus.... NELLIS KENNETT was right in there again with a delicate Crassula Hybrid, just blooming its heart out.... RUTH STANTON brought a tinsy-winsy succulent Epidendron that was almost overlooked.... LEROY PHELPS displayed his mastery as a shutter-bug by showing some of the finest pics of cactus in bloom that these eyes have ever seen.... the Fallbrook Botanical Garden is closing its doors because of freeway developments and moving to a new location in Riverside County to engage in the nursery trade only.... this will be your last chance to view the 3½ acres of quality plant material.... make arrangements to go soon - 1350 Santa Margarita Drive..... WARREN and VIRGINIA BUCKNER are buying MIKE an alarm clock for Xmas... it's a gadget calculated to scare the daylight INTO him.....

WALT GREENWOOD related about being in the garden one morning when a man walking his dog chanced to look over the alley fence... "Oh," he said with surprise, "Do you like cactus?" that's like asking a dying man on the desert, if he wants a drink of water... Shortly he returned and presented Walt with several nice potted specimens that were just lying about, that he didn't know what to do with.... speaking of it pays to have a cactus garden..... GLENN HEYER, who is also in Real Estate, was tending to his spiny charges one day when a new family in town happened by, while looking for a place to settle... after selling them a house, he unreluctantly bought a new plant for the garden... had to pay a bird-dog fee to his prize canary too, I'll bet ya.... DOC VAUGHAN was telling about a friend of his in the personnel office of a machine tool plant who wasn't too convinced that a long haired applicant he was interviewing was really serious about a job... especially when he answered the question, "What kind of machines can you operate?" with this reply, "Slot, pinball, and cigarette".....

Last week PRESIDENT WALT accepted on behalf of the Society a "loving cup" presented by the San Diego County Supervisors for our participation in the 200th anniversary activities.... namely for our efforts with the MISSION garden... it is an award of which we can all be

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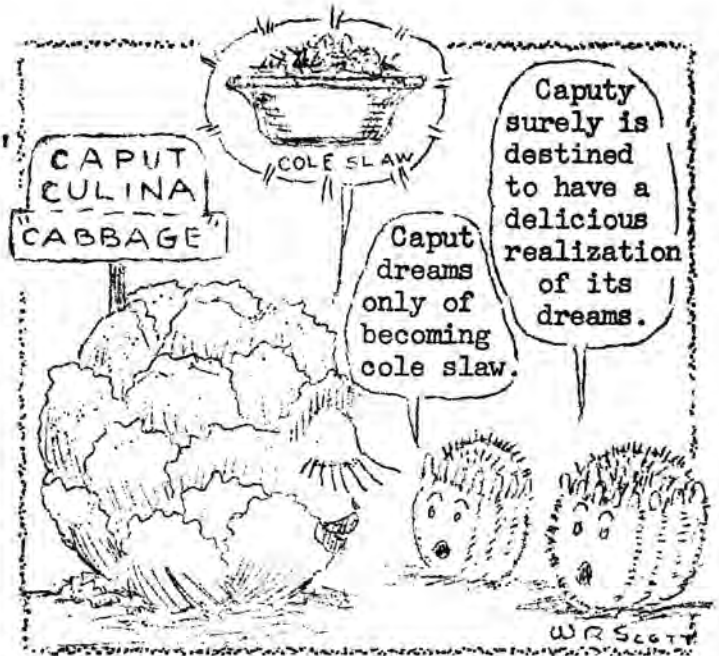


CACTUS SQUEEZINS' - Continued

justly proud.... "It's not the things that can be bought, that are life's richest treasure, it's just the little 'heart gifts' that money cannot measure.... A cheerful smile, a friendly word, a sympathetic nod, are priceless little treasures from the storehouse of God... They are the things that can't be bought with silver or with gold, for thoughtfulness and kindness and love are never sold... they are the priceless things in life for which no one can pay, and the giver finds rich recompense in giving them away." (Helen S. Rice).

-- MERRY CHRISTMAS!! --

-- A. PHIDD



PLANTS OF THE MONTH, 1970.

CACTUS

- JAN: Mammillaria Celsiana
- FEB: Mammillaria Zuccariniana
- MAR: Schlumbergera Gaertneri

- APR: Echinocereus Chloranthus
- MAY: FEATHERSTONE CONTEST
- JUN: Rebutia Miniscula

- JUL: Wilcoxia (open)
- AUG: Cephalocereus Palmori
- SEP: Bozicactus Samaipatanus

- OCT: Ariocarpus (open)
- NOV: Matucana (open)
- DEC: Forocactus Stainesii

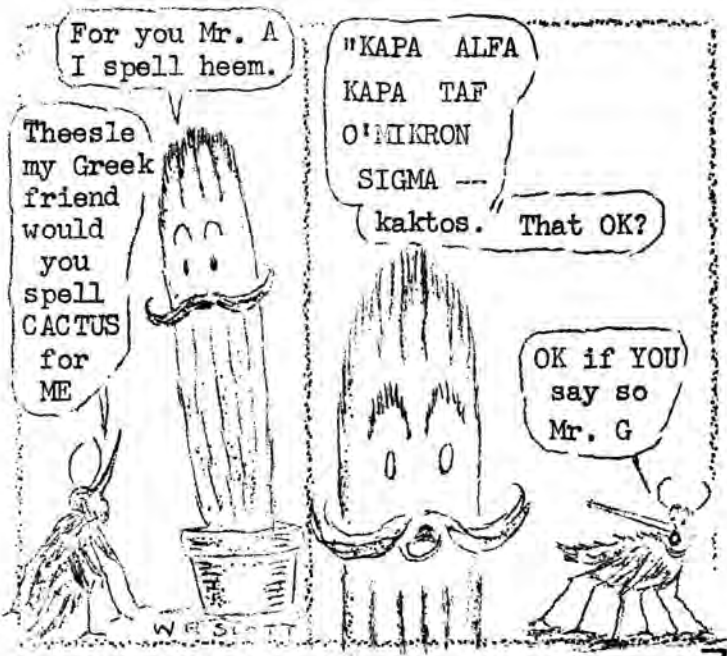
SUCCULENTS

- JAN; Kalanchoe Marmorata
- FEB: Aloe (Open)
- MAR: Dudleya Attenuata

- APR: Haworthia Cuspidata
- MAY: FEATHERSTONE CONTEST
- JUN: Dyckia (Open)

- JUL: Echeveria Harmsii
- AUG: Aeonium Tabulaeforme
- SEP: Sedum Spectabile

- OCT: Tavarosia Barklyi
- NOV: Ceropogia Dichotoma
- DEC: Sedum Stahlia



WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE ARE CACTUS PEOPLE

Take time out from your busy schedule to enjoy your collection... Especially over the Holidays
 A. PHIDD

CACTUS OF THE MONTH

Crab's Claw, Thanksgiving Cactus and Christmas Cactus are all popular names for the varieties of ZYGOCACTUS TRUNCATUS (zy' go kak' tus trun ka' tus). The common names are descriptive of appearance or time of blooming. The plant was originally described by Haworth in 1812 as a species of EPIPHYLLUM. Karl Schumann created the monotypic genus ZYGOCACTUS in 1890, using the Greek roots meaning 'yoke cactus' referring to the appearance of the irregular flower. The species name means the stem segments have a cut off appearance.

The joints or segments of the plant average about two inches long and one inch wide, although there are both larger and smaller varieties. The segments are flat, usually with several teeth on each side. There may or may not be a few very weak spines in the areoles above the teeth. The segments become quite thickened with age and frequently form a woody trunk. The plant is a native of the eastern Brazilian jungles and is an epiphyte (a plant which grows on another plant without attacking the supporting plant). It is moisture and shade loving but also demands that the roots be well aerated. In our climate the plant must have from one-fourth to one-half sun in order to bloom properly. With this amount of sun the plant will have a reddish blush over the normal clear green color. The roots of this plant are not extensive, so large containers are not required. No matter what the size of the container, the soil must be loose, fairly rich and very well drained. It is a hanging plant and is displayed best in a hanging basket or in a stilted pot. The plant grafts well, especially on Selenicereus in our climate, and a single segment will give a beautiful standard specimen in two or three years.

The flowers are the reason for this plant being so popular. They appear in midwinter (late October to January), a given plant remaining in bloom for three to six weeks. There are nearly a hundred varieties, each with its own blooming period and flower color. The flowers normally appear from the end segment of each branch and there may be up to four flowers from each. The flower is nearly three inches long and over an inch wide. They hang down or stand out, and they are nearly always irregular (zygomorphic). The colors available range from nearly pure white through crimson red to deep purple. Some of the color variants have been named as botanical varieties of the species, but their acceptability is in doubt. Many authors talk about the color variants as hybrids, but none of them suggest a second parent! As you probably realize, there are no blue-flowered cacti. It is my idea, however, that a blue-flowered cactus could be developed in ZYGOCACTUS TRUNCATUS since some of the flowers have a blue tone. Who will do it?

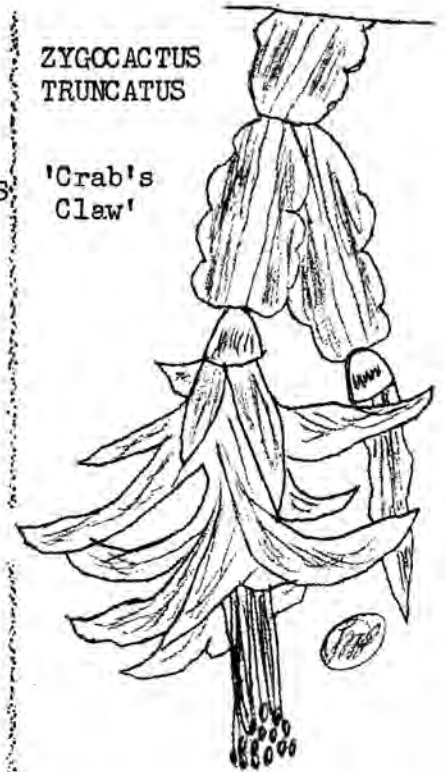
All varieties of this species require a few weeks at 50 to 55° during the fall in order to set buds. Once buds have been set, the plant will bloom quicker if warmed up, although warming is not necessary. It is frost sensitive, so don't leave it exposed if freezing is expected. It has been said that the plants may be induced to set buds by allowing the plants to dry for a few weeks in the fall, but I have never tried this method since the Southern California fall weather offers the perfect conditions. It is wise not to change the light direction drastically after the buds show color as they may twist and drop off. These plants tend to bloom about a month early when grafted, so a particular variety can be had in bloom for up to three months by having a plant grafted and on its own roots. Some plants will set fruit freely (if you're not a faded-flower picker-offer), and the fruits are dull red with a pear shape and about a half-inch long.

Most authors agree there is only one species in the genus, but a few authors think the genus should be discarded and this plant put in the genus SCHLUMBERGERA. There is a

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ZYGOCACTUS TRUNCATUS

'Crab's Claw'



similarity in appearance and habitat, but the latter genus has a regular flower, usually held more upright, and the members of the genus all bloom in spring--commonly called "Easter Cactus". I am of the opinion that there are enough differences to maintain the two genera as distinct entities. -- Dr. LeRoy N. Phelps

SUCCULENT

"That old thing?" was my first thought--"well, at least I've grown it - which is a change!" The more thought given to this familiar plant, the more realization of a slight to an old friend. An old friend with so many virtues as to seem dull, for this gasteria can sit around the house gathering dust and still survive, can be neglected and still endure. "Cast iron" is its reputation for it requires little in the way of attention, water and light. This placid plant is great for a child, a man's office or the bookshelves, as well as the shady rock garden.



GASTERIA
MACULATA

There are some 50 species of gasterias, member of the liliaceae family and first cousin to aloes and haworthias. In fact, aloes formerly contained the gasterias and haworthias. These three leafy succulents from South Africa hybridize freely among themselves and occasionally with each other, so don't expect too much fidelity when growing from seed.

Gasteria from gaster, Greek for belly or paunch, the name refers to the irregular shape of the closed flowers that have no definite blooming time. Maculata means spotted or stained, which the leaves most certainly are. The sturdy tongue-shaped leaves are fleshy and stiffly erect. The white markings show to good advantage on dark green glossy leaves which in well grown maturity are 8 inches long and 2 inches at the base. More or less two-ranked, unequal sided, the blunt tip has a horny terminal spine. The flowers dangle loosely on tall, gracefully curving spikes which sometimes branch. Hanging pink through red, our plant has scarlet blooms tipped with green. You might think of them as delicate Chinese lanterns, bobbing along at intervals, rather than a bunch of red bellies.

Gasteria pulchra (handsome) is quite similar but has longer and narrower leaves which taper to a sharper point and are more densely blotched with white.

Gasteria verrucosa (warted) is the most well-known of the genus, whose white tubercles give it a frosty look and a rough texture. It has flowers of a soft glowing coral color. The largest species is G. acinacifolia (scimitar-leaved) 18" or more tall with leaves 15" long, forming loose rosettes. One of the tiniest is G. liliputama, a charming miniature.

Looking at a photograph of G. Armstrongii really can give you the creeps. It resembles a number of life-size tongues closely overlapping in opposite directions, all saying a-h-h-h- as they cling together pointing down to hug the edge of the pot. It is hoped that we see this one in person. G. Noliama is described as a beautiful species! by Jacobson who is not a man easily carried away. Elsewhere G. Noliama is spoken of as one of the more recently discovered gasterias with a trim, clean-cut appearance.

Gasterias respond to care. When their roots are too dry too long, they get off to a slow start with the growing season. Give them a little more water and a rich porous soil and a shady spot. While they can merely endure, they can also thrive, becoming splendid specimens, proud and fulfilled.

OBSERVATIONS OF CACTO PHIL CORLISS



The most interesting plant I saw at the Cactus Show on Sept. 9th (Royal Horticultural Society at Vincent Square) was a *Zygocactus Opunticoides* exhibited by Mr. William Maddams. Although the flower is that of the zygocactus the plant looks for all the world like a small tree of *Opuntia Monacantha*. There were many excellent entries and

what impressed me most of all was the impeccable grooming all the plants had received - washed with detergents, hair brushed, leaves wiped with oil, etc.

Since cacti in England must perforce be grown under glass, there were no "brown spots" to mar any of the plants. When I return to San Diego, I am going to have a heart-to-heart talk with my *Kalanchoe Nykiae* to see why it cannot emulate Mr. Maddams' magnificent plant with its sturdy 24" stalk and plethora of fat leaves. Bill also exhibited a *Mammillaria Picta* which was over 12" tall and had two pups, and I had thought *M. Picta* was one of the dwarfs!

After the show I attended the meeting of the National Cactus & Succulent Society. In a talk on cacti unusual in cultivation, Miss Margaret Martin showed excellent slides on her subject made from her collection.

When I visited the fruit buyer of the great Harrod's Department Store in London to further sales of my *Mineola Tangelos* in London, I was delighted to see that they offer "Prickly Pears" for 2/ (two shillings each, that is 24¢ U.S.) They import the fruit (tunas) from the Canary Islands and I presume they are a by-product of the opuntias which were originally planted there for the cochineal dye industry. I had observed opuntia "plantations" on the Island of Lanzarote on my visit in 1967 to the Canaries.

