

# ESPINAS Y FLORES

PUBLICATION OF THE SAN DIEGO  
CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

TOMO IV #6  
JUNE--1969

EDITOR: Jim Stalsonburg, Spring Valley, Ca.  
STAFF: Dr. A. Ph'D, Nema Tode, Rhip Salis  
and many others in the Club whose hobby  
is succulent plants and who are not  
allergic to work.

BUSINESS ADDRESS: 4351 Alder Dr., SD 92116  
SUBSCRIPTION: Single \$2.00, family \$3.00  
MEETING DATE: First Saturday of each month  
at 2 o'clock in the Floral Bldg., in Balboa  
Park. Visitors welcome.

SOUTHERN CALIF-  
ORNIA EXPOSITION  
June 25--July 6  
D-E-L M-A-R

We must have your coop-  
eration. May was the 8th  
Anniversary of the found-  
ing of our Club and it is

the month which signals the start of preparations for the Sou-  
thern Cal. Exposition at Del Mar. The Club is obligated to complete THREE ex-  
hibits, i.e. Cactus & Succulent Gardens and a Graft Exhibit. Our Vice President  
is Fair Chairman and he will head up the Cactus Garden Exhibit. Walt Greenwood  
will supervise the Succulent Garden and Scotty will attempt to do some grafting.

This is a CLUB PROJECT. It is the one activity which affords financial backing  
for the ensuing year's Club activities.

JUNE MEETING, Sat. June 7th, 2 p.m.  
Floral Bldg., Balboa Park, S. D.

P-R-O-G-R-A-M

RECAP OF THE CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOC.  
40TH BIRTHDAY CONVENTION, PASADENA.

BUCKNER, Warren CORLISS, Cacto Phil  
FLETCHERS, The HEGYI, Helen  
RICE, Julianne SCOTT, Hazel  
SCOTT, Walter A Ph'D & Nema Tode

EXHIBIT WINNERS will be named, WIN-  
NING PLANTS on display, RIBBONS & A  
PLAQUE award and other CACTORABILIA.

A FEW COLOR SLIDES--a real WING DING  
Come out and get into the spirit of  
the occasion.. .

EXCHANGE & SALE PLANTS, BRAGGING TABLE



## CALIFORNIA'S FIRST CITY

Beautiful yellow bow ties with long  
flowing tie-tails were proudly worn  
by Col. Robt. H. SANDERS and The  
Old Wagonmaster at Convention Ban-  
quets to call attention to San  
Diego's 200th Anniversary Celebra-  
tion. Come see out City, join  
our Club, you'll enjoy the Combo.

It is very important that our full member-  
ship assists with a supply of plants, labor,  
advice and everything else required for  
completion of the three projects.

A committee of three has been making in-  
spections of members' gardens. It has de-  
veloped an inventory of plants. The work  
is not yet complete. If you have a fine  
potted plant which is not yet on our inven-  
tory, let us know and an effort will be  
made to fit it into the project.

Each one of us realizes that this total ef-  
fort is for the good of the Club as well as  
all individual members. Your support is  
required and the end result should be some-  
thing all of us will be proud of.

You'll enjoy working with plants and the  
friendly spirit which emanates from this  
project each year. Join this "cactivity".

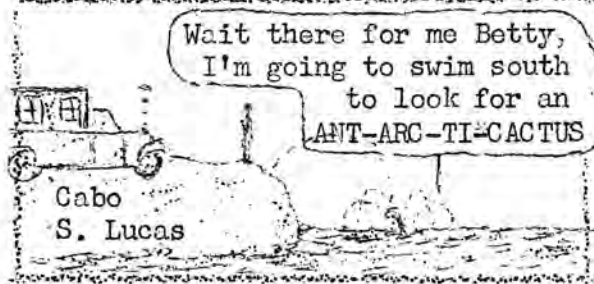
Pres. W.E.G.



HEREIN I PRESENT random jottings on seminars and slide lectures at the Thirteenth Biennial Convention of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America in Pasadena, May 5th to May 9th, 1969. This is my first convention, therefore I have no comparative data. My only comment would be: If preceding conventions were more interesting and busy than this one then it is easy to see why they're held every other year--it takes that long to recuperate in between. A most successful, interesting, worthwhile, yet exhausting week was enjoyed by all.

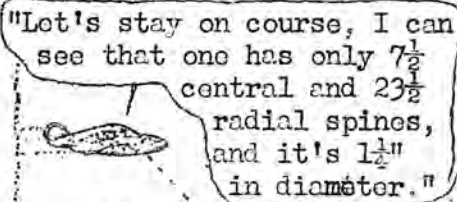
by Warren Buckner

I'll restrict my non-scientific observations to only those seminars and lectures I attended. Since there were concurrent sessions I may not report on the one in which you have a burning interest. I'd suggest you interview other sleepy, red-eyed cactophyles from San Diego, i.e. Corliss, Fletchers, Hegyi, Rice or the Scotts.



BAJA CA. By Ed & Betty Gay A slide presentation of a May '68, 6-week trip the length of Baja by the Gays accompanied by Marlene Toepfen to La Paz and Virginia Martin from there to Cabo S. Lucas, across to the mainland by ferry and return via Nogales. There's a pictorial of the narrative account "La Frontera" now running in serial form in the Cactus & Succulent Journal.

A tremendous trip, photographic excellence--half the audience was contemplating purchase of a four-wheel drive vehicle and camping equipment by intermission. The other half was drooling over cacti and scenery and too green with envy to contemplate anything. Did you ever try to take notes in the dark where the ink runs on drooled-on note paper? (Note Vice President "Col. Sanders" Bob. The trip just described should make for a very interesting program, and it would afford club members the opportunity to meet the Gays, a delightful couple whose friendship is coveted by everyone who had the pleasure of meeting them)



COLLECTING CACTI BY AIR By Mrs. Kathryn Sabo The "Belle of the Ball"--- Kitty was in costume for all banquets...flapper for the "Roarin' 20's", dance hall gal for the "Wild, Wild West", Spanish senorita for "Mission Days" and an authentic grass skirt for the "Luau". She presented a slide show of a five-day trip the length of Baja with collecting trips at the most interesting points.

COLLECTING BY AIR

All one needs is a twin-engine Cessna, a pilot for a husband, a flair for photography and a genuine love of cacti, then he too can present an aerial collecting program. Kitty's quest for the off-beat spots and rare plants was expertly photographed and presented. What a way to collect cacti? Results of her trips live in her garden. (See C. & S. J, March-April '69) Pictures and writeup...they leave much unreported.

As a neophyte cactophyle I had an impression, or image, of individuals whose names are immortalized by names of new species. After meeting namesakes of Mam. Glassii and Mam. Saboae, my mental picture has undergone a very substantial and very favorable revising. The thought of brush or grass fires in both instances frightens me.

THE MAMMILLARIA PICTA COMPLEX by William MADDAMS Editor "Bill" Maddams of the MAMMILLARIA JOURNAL of England discussed problems of studying and classifying "mams" by using the Mam Picta complex as a typical example.

By jove, there's a minimum of one species and not more than seven.

CACTI-CONSERVATISM




Cont'd.

**MAMMILLARIA** Wide variations in spine count, spiral count, flower color, form, **PICTA, Cont'd.** general color and sap, depending on growing conditions, and time of year leads one to the complicated problem of splitting cacti populations into many separate species. Bill's contention was that classification should be based on field observations only and designated varieties rather than new species. (In this context Backenberg is known by many as the "arch splitter of Europe".) Maddam's pointed out that it is ridiculous to expect to classify "mams" rigidly by any one of the usual characteristics...rather the total effect of all characteristics might prove to be a better basis. Naming a type specimen on spine count, etc for everyone's adherence is as ridiculous as saying that ALL IRISHMEN must have 2,136,487 red bronze head hairs, 36 freckles per square inch on their forearms, bright blue eyes and a gift for "blarney".

A very interesting and at times highly technical session brightened at times by such expressions as "bloke", "the likes of you and I", "I'm a bit dim" and "early on" all delivered in a precisely British diction, was most enjoyable to this Missouri brush ape.

The question is: The answer is:



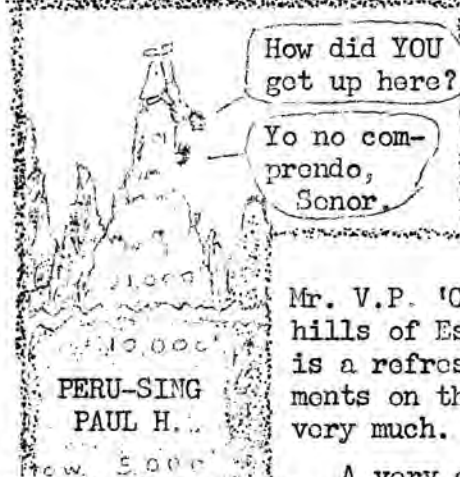
**PLANT CLINIC**--by Don Skinner, Dave Grigsby and Murray in the audience.

Dave Grigsby led off with a discussion of growing cacti from seed. Briefly stated, procedure was as follows:

- a) USE FRESH SEED, fresh depending on variety. Some need 6 mos. and others a full year.
- b) CLEAN THE SEED, get rid of all vegetative matter. That's where mold begins.
- c) USE ORDINARY POTTING SOIL with a layer of sharp sand for the seeds and cover with

fine charcoal, and **STERILIZE POTTING SOIL.** A cheap and easy method is to use 1 oz. of household bleach (chlorine) per gallon of water and saturate soil at least twenty-four hours before planting. e) PLACE PANE OF GLASS OVER TRAY with shade supplied either by position of tray or by a newspaper covering. This supplies a shaded, moist atmosphere for seed sprouting. f) DON'T LET TRAY DRY OUT or don't keep overly wet. Water by placing tray in larger pan of water (capillary action) or use a wick-fed tray. g) REMOVE GLASS AFTER SPROUTING but keep shaded and moist. A light spray with aforementioned bleach spray helps prevent damp-off.

There are many variations of the above procedure with personal experience the dominant factor. (Corliss has a proven method) Next was a rambling dissertation on soils, sprays, insecticides and what have you. My distillation of the discourse would be to use "Espinas y Flores" mix and read all labels on bottles and boxes.



How did YOU get up here?

Yo no comprendo, Sonor.

PERU-SING  
PAUL H.

How 5.000

**CACTI OF PERU** by Paul Hutchison.. Breath-taking slides of the Peruvian Andes and exotic cacti. If I haven't already used up my stock of superlatives, this lecture exhausted it. Magnificent--why wasn't I a botanist? Those lovely and rugged valleys between cloud-covered peaks with Andean succulents thrown in...makes one wonder why Hutchison ever departed from the area. (Once again Mr. V.P. 'Col. Sanders' Bob, let's lure Paul out of the rolling hills of Escondido to Balboa Park some Saturday) Paul Hutchison is a refreshingly blunt and knowledgeable man whose caustic comments on the wholesale designation of new cacti species I enjoyed very much.

**VEGETATION OF BAJA CA.** by Reid Moran

A very complete and enjoyable presentation of the various mountain and desert regions of Baja. Innumerable trips the length of the peninsula and adjacent islands have made Dr. Moran one of the most knowledgeable authorities on Baja. This coupled with excellent photography and Reid's sense of humor and wit made his a noteworthy and memorable evening. How does one express in words the enchantment of two hours of pictures and comments by an authority,

YIP-PI YIP-PI YI--Oo  
CAC-TI CAC-TI II---Oo  
FROM FAR-GO TO WY-Oo

OBSERVATIONS ON  
CACTI IN SOME  
WESTERN STATES--

Slides and comments on cacti in the Dakotas, Wyoming, Colorado, Oklahoma and northern New Mexico. Interesting, informative and well presented. Variations in one species



Larry Mitich ridin' herd

due to habitat were graphically shown, lending credence to the conservative push for a reduction in the number of species. (Since Larry is a SDC&S' Cacti-clubber, he should make San Diego a "port of call" and give us some "points", huh Bob. And Jim S. why not recruit Larry into your Espinas y Flores sanctum?

Gil crossed me with a Jackrabbit--  
I'm a "JAC-TUS"



CULTURAL PANEL by: GIL TEGELBERG, SR.

After spending an afternoon at Tegelberg's and admiring beautiful cacti in three houses I knew any tips Gil dropped would be worth picking up. Tips that "stuck" with me:

- "When collecting cacti observe natural habitat and soil conditions and duplicate in your yard if possible.
- "Mams do better in small pots--keep them root-bound.
- "Maintain a pH 6 in your soil and pots. With our water one needs acid in the soil; add peat moss or leaf mold as required.
- "To bloom Christmas Cacti, give three months of 60° or less.
- "Always sterilize potting mix.
- "A really good potting mix, or growing mix is the "UC" mix. Obtain info for \$1.00 to "Gianinni Hall, UC, Berkeley, Ca. for a booklet "Uni. of Calif. System of Soil Book".
- "Use a fertilizer with a low nitrogen, high phosphate and some potash. "Liquinox" bloom and grow fertilizer is good example.
- "The old standard cacti mix of equal parts of loam, sand and leaf mold or humus plus a little bone meal is still an excellent mix.

"To reestablish collected plants: Wash and clean with detergent in water (one teaspoonful to a gallon of water. Keep cool and in shade for at least a week and be sure plants are in an "airy" place with ventilation around the plant. Don't water until rooting starts and don't be afraid to examine the plant.

Ted Hutchison volunteered at this point that a good method of reestablishing barrels is to cut off all the roots, clean and place in an upright position clear of the ground until roots start to appear.

The plastic -vs- clay pot controversy broke out but it was solved by a "consensus". If plastic pots are used, use loose mix and if you live close to the coast, use clay pots. In either case watch water requirements. (Doc Corliss, are you goin' to throw away all your plastic pots? Let us know when.)

You had me scared for a moment Bob I thought you were a "mam"



BAJA SURPRISE

COLLECTING IN MEXICO BY BOB FOSTER

This was a replay of an equipment and picture program at Convair Astronautics in San Diego in February. Excellent photography using dual projectors and screens so that combinations of panoramic and flowering close-ups could be seen simultaneously. It is a splendid idea and we hope to see much made of it in future sessions. Charles and Bob make you wish you were there when and where the pictures were taken. John Hilton affords the same feeling with his paint and brushes so you have two ways of enjoying the Baja country...it's nice to have a choice, isn't it?

THE GENUS FEROCACTUS by Dr. George Lindsay

If you like ferocactus, and I do, this was the equivalent of a visit to Mecca for a Moslem. Lindsay probably has forgotten more about the "fierce Cacti" than I'll ever find out; I hope someone can persuade him to do for the

Feros of Baja a study like he did for others. Lindsay, an erudite speaker, illustrated his points with the best possible photography. An interesting side-light was that he had collected Gatesii seed from a (the) plant photographed and had given seed to Tegelberg. Since the banquet favors were small Fero Gatesiis from Tegelbergs, we must correctly have assumed we had seen the "parent" of our favor plants in its natural habitat.



"P E Y O T E"  
Dr. Edward F. Anderson

Dr. Anderson summarized the work done on Lophophora Williamsii to identify range, variety, differentiation and chemical composition.

Three distinct ranges or populations of "peyote" occur from Southern Texas to Central Mexico with numerous "so-called species" or varieties. In the case of peyote it is a highly variable genus with wide variations in ribs, hair and flower color. Dr. Anderson has concluded that there are only two species of Lophos, the northern population being "Williamsii" and he designates the small southern population as "Diffusa". Diffusa is rounder with faint, if any, trans-

verse furrows, random placement of areoles and tufts of hair. Chemical analysis of nonphenolic and phenolic alkaloids support separation into only two species; the two northern populations are practically identical with the southern population distinctly different.



PLANT IMPORTATION AND PERMIT PROCEDURES---by Doyle Noel

Mr. Noel is Chief Agricultural Inspector at Nogales. He is an avid cactophyle. A plant permit is required at the border for all

importation. Altho Mr. Noel states a permit can be obtained at the border, (that may be possible at Nogales) it is better in any case to obtain a permit in advance from Dept. of Agriculture, Hoboken, N. J. Permits should be for plants and seeds under quarantine 337---orchids, cacti and succulents.

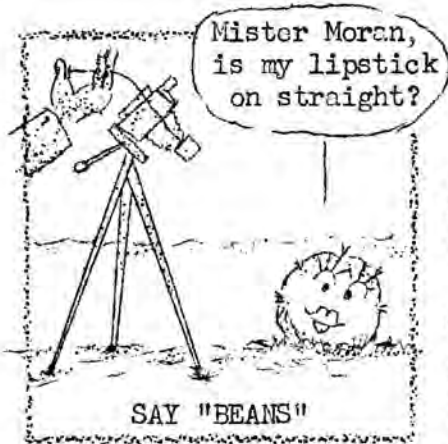
Plants must be free of soil and debris; cut off roots and brush thoroly. Dry newspapers are good packing material. A pproved also are peat moss, spagnum moss and coconut fibers. A good container is an empty bottle box

with individual plants in separate compartments. Never use plastic bags for transporting for any period of time or for long distances.

Woody plants which will grow from seed cannot be imported. If you're in doubt check in advance. Size limitation is 12 inches, any dimonsion. This may be an elastic measurement depending on type of plant. For example medium size agaves and yuccas can be brought back since inspectors are not critical of leaf length.

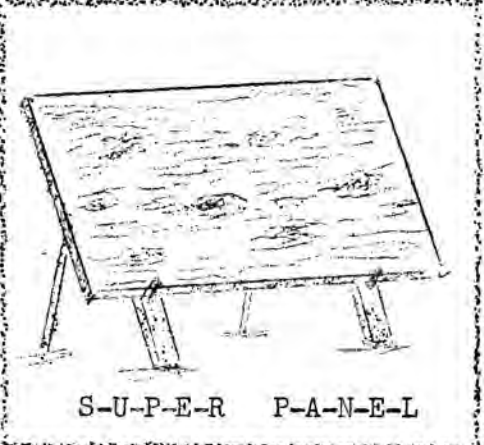
At all stations labeling is necessary---genus is enough; obtain local Spanish names at least. At most stations the inspector, given time, will help name plants and Spanish names are hints and may be quickly recognized by knowledgeable inspectors. As a warning Noel said "officially a permit is required from Mexico" altho you people obtain them. When collecting in Mexico, be prepared to "agente de policia" palms with silver when occasions arise where doing so would be the discreet thing to do.

When mailing within Mexico to border stations, a good label is "Medicinal herbs", value "dos pesos". Mailing procedures and labeling varies, so consult the station where you will be picking up plants or the importastation, San Ysidro for San Diego.



DUDLEYAS by  
Dr. Reid Moran

A thorough and absorbing presentation of Dudleyas and their characteristics. Dr. Moran does a splendid job at all times and particularly on "dudleyas", the subject of his doctoral thesis. These native little-known plants deserve much more attention than most hobbyists give them. An illustrated, comprehensive book should show up on the scene at some future time, we hope. Once again, taking notes in darkness, with such a wealth of material, was well nigh impossible... suffice it to say I enjoyed this presentation by Dr. Moran. You would have too had you chosen to attend..we should have been twins at this convention. (By the way, that's Dr. MOR' an)

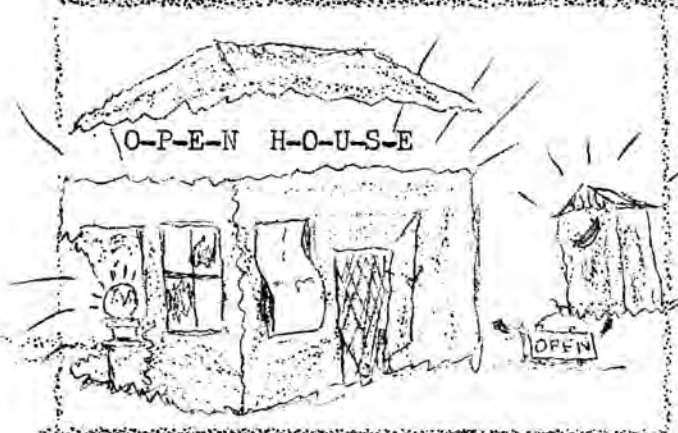


MAMMILLARIA PANEL  
William Maddams  
Robert "Mam" Foster  
Peter Sharp  
Dennis Cowper

A "learned" but technical discussion which at times left the listeners far behind. It was generally agreed that there are TOO MANY SPECIES of Mams. And That variety designations are in order for many species; between two hundred and two hundred fifty species seemed to be an acceptable count after allowing for new discoveries and consolidation.

By this time "museum fatigue" had set in--tired of sitting and without enuf energy to stand.

I had need for a tall tinkling glass of something, tequilla maybe, anything would have been refreshing, at the closing hours of the convention...and preferably in a reclining position in the shadow of a tall lovely brunette. Adieu..



NON-CONVENTION Members of our Club are brave and they are durable--the Club had an "Open House" on May 25th from noon to 5 p.m. in the Floral Bldg. in Balboa Park. A notice appeared in the morning Union. People musta read it...didn't know so many could read.

STATISTICS: Eighteen Club Members showed up, unarmed, to maintain control, the Nat'l. Guard was busy in Berkeley, etc. Provisions for the "Chuck Wagon" were by Sophie and Oliver Loyland, best Chuck Wagon in town. Club members brought 110 plants,

all sizes and descriptions--and dispositions, some even with "stickers" for self-protection. Some were fuzzy, some gentle, some domesticated, and we "hung" some. We thought we heard some of 'em purr when the cuties went by and "eyed" them.

Twenty percent of visitors, by the way 280 registered, some either couldn't write or wouldn't. They signed in from Ireland, (we're going down the list) Alaska, Paris, La Mesa, Escondido, Los Angeles, Baja Ca., Florida, Spokane, New Jersey, Texas, N. M., La Jolla, Minnesota, Ohio, Virginia, New York, No. Car., Illinois, Canada, Wis., and Michigan.

You gotta be careful in conducting these events, if word gets to Washington, they'll send down a Senator or a Justice to make a speech (paid) and maybe get themselves involved in extra-curricular cactivitie\$. T.O.W.

Penny Bunker brot in a "Puya flower" from Quail Gardens and nearly broke up the melee, but we got it organized again. You shoulda seen the men take off ties and shirts to reload the van, some of the gals took off something too, don't know what.

SUCCULENT  
OF THE MONTH  
—MAY 1969—

TITANOPSIS CALCAREA—ty-tan-OP-sis from the Latin for Titan the Sungod plus the Greek 'opsis' equals like, from the resemblance of the many-rayed, bright gold-en yellow flowers to the sun, kal-KAR-ee-a,

pertaining to lime.

Titanopsis calcarea, commonly called the Jewel Plant, is one of eleven species of small, tufted, rosette-forming plants of the mesembryanthemum family. The densely crowded leaves are about an inch long, widened and almost triangular near the tip. Blue-green to purple-hued, the ends are studded with gray or rosy-white warts which match the weathered incrustations among which they grow.

Their mimicry is such that they weren't even discovered until 1907 when Prof. Marloth of Cape Town was lounging among the limestone and crushed a plant when he took a break in Cape Providence from the ardors of plant collecting. Titanopsis is buried to the tips of its leaves in its native habitat, by the way. Another well-known species of this genus is Titanopsis Schwantesii, which has more erect leaves with smaller warts on the somewhat rounded tips.

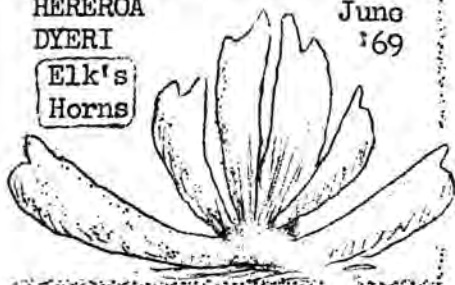
Grow your Jewel Plant in a very sandy but rich soil and add some broken bits of old lime mortar. It's difficult to keep this little plant in good shape over a long period of time as it resents overwatering, especially in winter. Watering should be done carefully in all seasons, for water between the leaves soon causes decay.

Propagation is easy from seed and they flower the second year. It says in the books. Also, I remember reading that the mesembryanthemums do not release their seeds until the rainy season. Will anyone who has grown this charming little plant from seed share his experience? Since it is so small, it would be well to investigate the bragging table at close range before voting time. (Next month, June, HEREROA DYERI)



HEREROA  
DYERI  
Elk's  
Horns

June  
'69



WHAT A SURPRISE it was to me to find that our tough-textured, compact little plant-of-the-month, "ELK'S HORNS" was a member of the Mesembryanthemum family. Further research revealed 'mesembryanthemum' to mean "noon flowers". One authority referred tenderly to members of this family as "Children of the Sun".

Hereroa (hor-er-oh'-ah) Dyeri was named after a native race of Southwest Africa—the Hereros, in whose country many of these plants were found. Elk's Horn :

is one of over 20 species of Hereroa. Its thick, nearly stemless leaves cluster together to form short tufts only a few inches high, triangular, incurved, curiously flattened and notched at the tips, becoming notch-shaped with maturity.

The yellow flowers look like fringed daisies but actually are a single flower, rather than a composite. They bloom in spring and early summer, opening in the afternoon. They will flower the second season from seed. The 5-sided fruit capsule has an ingenious system of valves to regulate its opening—for unlike most seed pods which open when dry, the mesembs open only when wet. Another example of Nature exercising control over climate as well as a cultural hint.

Hereroa Dyeri is easily grown in full sun in well drained soil, open and porous. Use 2 parts coarse sand, 1 part decayed leaf mold and 1 part good garden soil. They need no fertilizers which can cause abnormal growth and they make good pot plants. Another interesting species of this genus is the "Shriner's plant" in obvious reference to its resemblance to a Shriner's badge, known in botanical circles as Hereroa Nalii.

We do hope to have more than one plant-of-the-month for friendly competition. Remember, next month's plant (succulent) is HOYA CARNOSA, so start grooming yours for better blooms which is something I keep wondering if they really do. Would appreciate members calling me with proven cultural hints. (276-6517) Nibby

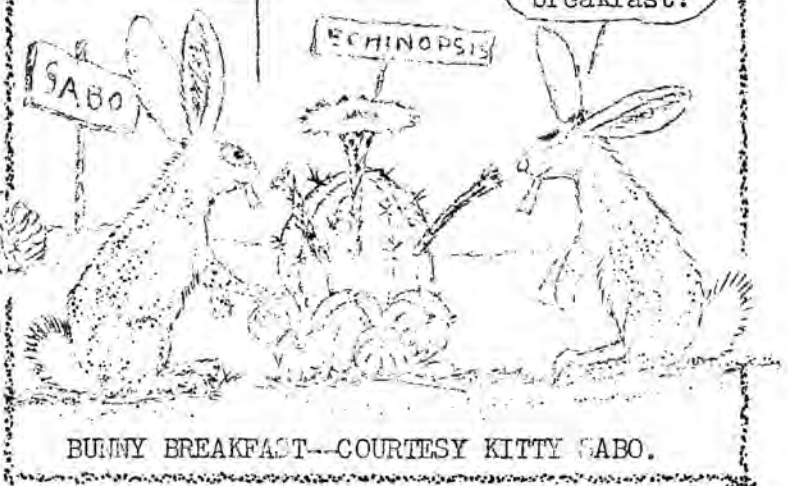
**SABO'S GARDEN**

Have you ever seen two gardens alike? How different can two gardens be? There's no answer, the question is too simple. We read about the Sabo garden in the Journal. It became a "must" on our places to see. Either our reading of the Journal was sketchy or our garden vision was superior.

This garden has plants collected from many places. It is a masterpiece every way one looks at it: planning, planting, care, appearance, utility and comfort. When someone visits our yard we needn't tell them a thousand things need attention. It's obvious. We're never caught up. Catchup has been deleted from our vocabulary. If there ever was a feeling that something was unfinished, it could have been concealed under the tiniest inverted garden pot...at Sabo's.

White echinopsis flowers remind me of broccoli--not much flavor without salt and salad oil.

What say we try the red ones tomorrow morning for breakfast?



BUNNY BREAKFAST--COURTESY KITTY SABO.

How does one go about taming a Trichocereus Thelegonus and teaching it to go in "X" directions without a conflict with itself and its neighbors? This one is friendly; it has the run of the yard; it gets along with everything and everybody.

A garden should be a place to admire, a comfort spot, a place for relaxation. They don't come ready made. The Sabo Garden is one you must see to believe, then you'll distrust your vision. Anything else, oh yes, the rabbits, what about them. You'll have to see their lawyer.

L.H.

**GAYS' GARDEN**

How lucky can two people be? A hillside in the back yard, not the usual kind which drops off sharply from the back doorstep into a 300-foot canyon. This one crosses the lot. It's not high enuf for an elevator nor steep enuf for a L. A. mudslide. Yet it's made to order for all (we use the word like a rubber band) the cactivities two people find time for outside of their professional lives. Our candid opinion (if you want it) is that everyone who trod the tiers admired the hillscape, its design and utilization. One can hardly find anything like that any more. Most of us use benches, block walls and old orange crates but then no cacti-caravan will be pullin' up in front either.

How many of you can sit relaxed in a comfort chair in your patio and call by botanical names all the plants in your back yard? Business people call it "taking inventory". Cactophyles call it "communicating". That feature appeals to us "octo-cactogenarians". You young squirts under 39 will not appreciate this point of view for 40 years but we warn you the time will come when you'll look at your garden more and work less. Look at Charlie and Bob then picture yourself with similar facial foilage but more on the Santa Claus side.

The Hausiis have neat crew cuts but we have more hair.

It's alleged we shoot our seeds onto other decks but we deny the allegation.

This is like living in Arizona--clean air and a good view.

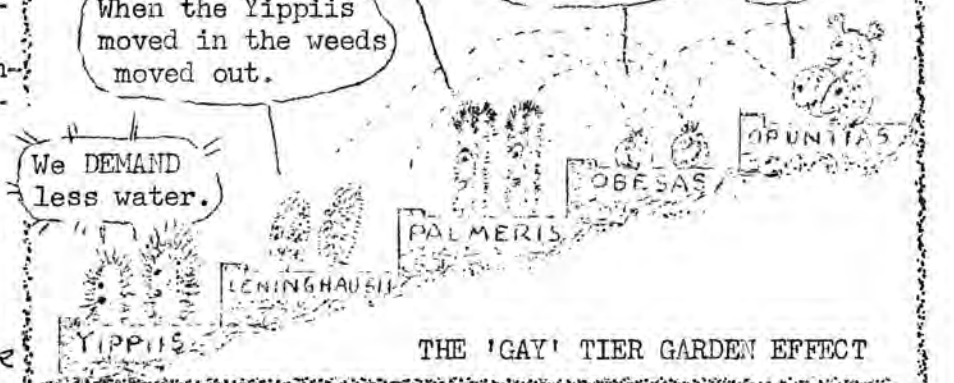
Gardens reflect owner's personalities, they just don't grow up, like a weed. Personality abounds on these premises, inside, outside and all around.

Do I hear the editor shouting "HEAD LINE", no it must be "DEAD LINE". It was so nice visiting with you, now we know how your gardens grow.

LIEF HOPPER

When the Yippiis moved in the weeds moved out.

We DEMAND less water.



THE 'GAY' TIER GARDEN EFFECT





Cholla Cane made by Troy Shipman.

**DESTINATION: --PASADENA--**

We headed the '67 Dodge northward from San Diego on May 5th. In twenty minutes rain descended and it kept us company all the way. We used wind-shield wipers continuously, sometimes fast, sometimes slow.

Wildflowers were beautiful--differing yellows of wild coreopsis and mustard, banks draped with vibrant mesembryanthemum rosea.

Finally the Huntington Sheraton at Pasadena. Free parking. Rain stopped. Nice room on ground floor with windows onto a beautiful garden. Near the end of a corridor was a door leading into another garden.

Then registration, name tags, books of tickets for special events such as nightly banquets, bus trips to Huntington Botanical Garden in San Marino on Tuesday, Lucerne Valley on Wednesday to Tegelbergs' Gardens, box lunches, all this on Wednesday. Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens and Herbarium on Thursday.

It was announced at the Monday night banquet that nearly 300 had registered and more were to come. They represented forty-four affiliate groups. Where did they come from? England, Australia, Maine, New Hampshire, New York State, New Jersey, Ohio, Pennsylvania, twelve from St. Louis. North Dakota was represented by our Larry Mitich and his petite wife.

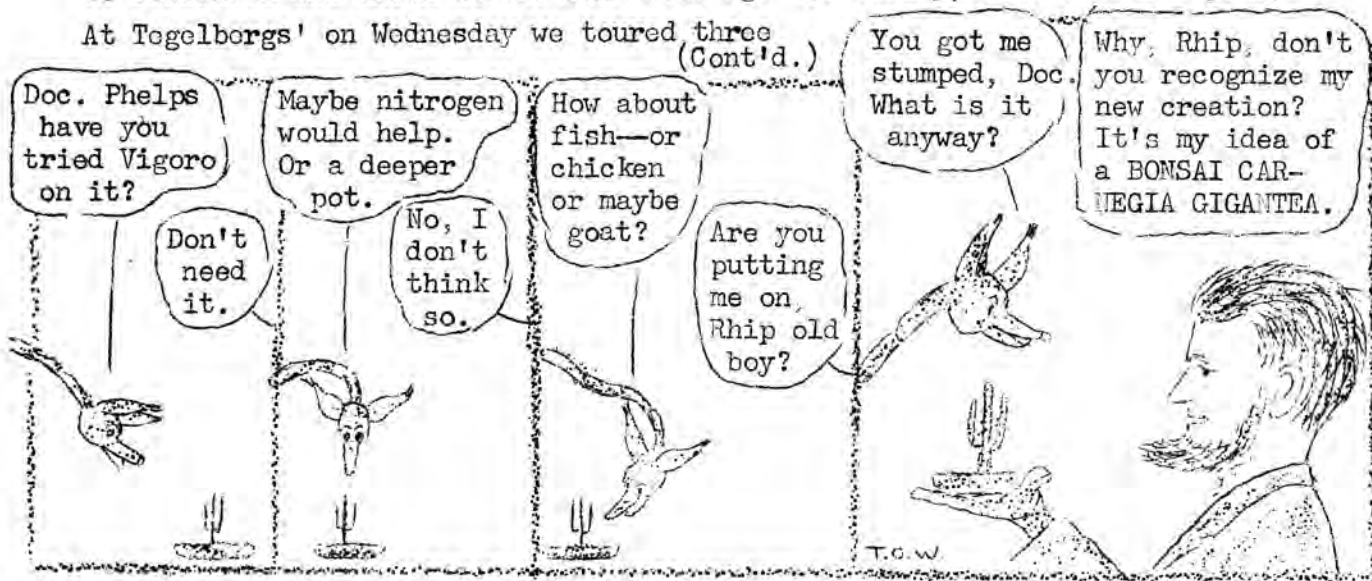
Quote from souvenir program: "Larry has persevered with his cactus hobby through what must be the most adverse conditions from Khyber Pass to Fargo, North Dakota, where he is an associate professor of agronomy at North Dakota State University. He has written several articles on cacti of the northwest which survive bitterly cold winters of states like Wyoming and North Dakota." Larry conducted a symposium Thursday afternoon in the Wentworth Room titled "Observations on Cacti in Some Western States." Larry says four cacti species are native to his state.

The Hospitality Room had special displays, an information bulletin board, a table of books and pamphlets for sale, unusual collections and interesting objects. AND good coffee with treats always on tap and free.

Cactus and Succulent exhibits were displayed on The Deck. Judges awarded ribbons on Monday. Our own San Diego exhibits were (blush) "outstanding". Plant sales tables were set up in the patio. Once an auction. Drawings for plants at the banquets resulted in our Warren Buckner claiming a "Mam". And Larry was a winner on another night, a mammillaria geminispina.

Banquet foods were delicious and helpings generous. Different themes each night with matching table favors, center pieces and overhead decorations. Favors will be described and shown at the June meeting. (Saturday, June 7th at 2 p.m.)

At Tegelbergs' on Wednesday we toured three (Cont'd.)



T.C.W.

DESTINATION: :  
--PASADENA--  
(Continued)

THANKS TO  
LIVIA & BOB

green houses--contents were most impressive. Flats of seedings you wouldn't believe if you didn't see them. After box lunches we went out on the "desert" on our own to dig up cactus plants wherever we saw them. Shopping Bags were bulging when the collectors returned from the hunt. (The specimens had been thoughtfully preplanted by the Tegelbergs prior to our arrival).

Troy Shipman should have been on hand to note the attention a "cholla cactus cane" received. He made it. Many looked at it in disbelief. Many more asked about it.



We arrived in Pasadena at the Huntington Sheraton Hotel in a round-about way after encountering several off ramps and a like number of on ramps in our attempt to negotiate the shortest distance between two points-- San Diego and the Convention Hotel.

We missed the northern section of the Santa Ana Freeway thru Los Angeles by steering too far to the right and we were headed toward Santa Monica. Got off that freeway, stopped for gas and asked for directions. Were directed to the Golden State Freeway or Santa Ana Freeway after listening to a verbal picture of the California Highway system, so our problem was as exasperating as before. The sign said "Freeway Entrance" but it really meant just another "faux-pau"...I was heading back to San Diego.

Did you ever notice how far apart off ramps are when you've made a mistake in directions? It may have been my frame of mind but it seemed like two or three miles was a short distance between exits.

Finally got the car headed for Pasadena and arrived at the Convention. But--the address was on "Oakmoll". Oakmolls are common in Pasadena, "Way", "circle" "Drive". My driving instinct told me to take "Drive"...it was right.

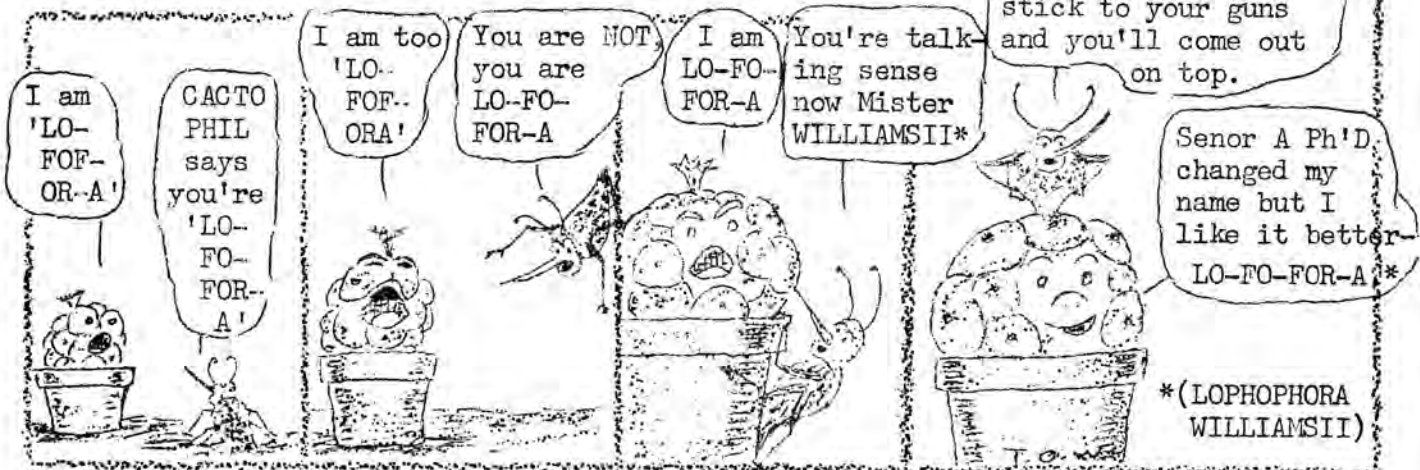
The Hotel is situated in a very pretty setting with terraced gardens, rustic bridges, and LOTS of parking spaces...which I could have used a couple of at the moment. Many parking spaces also meant many Conventioneers and lots of good fellowship. What else among Cactophyles?

Preparations for delogates, their activities and exhibits were the best. A sales table was set up in the patio upon which was exhibited an unusual selection of plants...specimen plants from affiliated clubs and nurseries on the quarter deck.

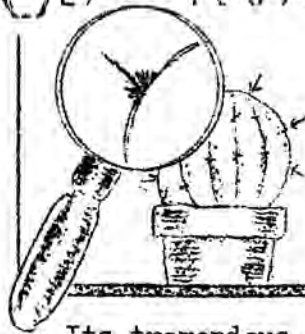
Speaking of "exhibits", let's call them masterpieces, I must say they would have been hard to beat no matter where one looked. It appeared everyone had brought rare specimens for the show, which makes for a hard target to shbot at in '71.

Comments from all our members were very complimentary, it was a real achievement. W.E.G.

It's like Cacto Phil says: "If you think you're right and can prove your point, stick to your guns and you'll come out on top."



# OBSERVATIONS



OF  
CACTO  
PHIL  
CORLISS

THE GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH It was the Greatest show on earth--of cacti and succulents, that is. Truly a three-ring circus with a choice of at least three things: talks, garden visits, panel discussions, etc. most of the time.

The 40th Anniversary Convention of the Cactus & Succulent Society of America, with 342 registrants, was the most exciting, rewarding and enjoyable of any of the considerable number of conventions, horticultural or otherwise, I have ever attended.

Its tremendous success was due to the work of Charles Glass and his staff and the splendid contributions of all those on the programs.

The "show" offered a chance to see what was without question the largest and finest collection of rare cacti and succulents ever assembled. On display were hundreds of rare plants that one reads about with almost disbelief. In addition to remarkable entries from individuals and local societies were scores of the choicest items from the great collections of the Huntington, Berkeley and Abbey Gardens.

The "Hospitality Room" bulged with every conceivable item that might interest conventioners: plants, accessories, books, plus a bountiful table of free coffee and snacks.

Each night there was a banquet in the Viennese Room, decorated in the theme of the evening: Cinco de Mayo, Anniversary Birthday Party, Wild West, Mission Days and a Luau, each followed by splendid talks. There were drawings for many fine plants but everyone was a winner because of the souvenir favors which included such things as plants of *ferocactus Gatesii*, seeds, cactus seedlings, little Spanish ollas, etc. Even the food was outstanding, featuring succulent pot roast, sanguinous roast beef, turkey alba and chicken supertexta.

The trip to Tegelbergs' gardens was an highlight. Their entire collection of the newest and finest cacti was available for inspection. Picnic lunches were enjoyed in the outdoor cactus garden. Mr. Gilbert Tegelberg, Sr. had "planted" hundreds of cactus plants in some 40 acres of his 400 acres of desert and they were prizes to finders on a "treasure hunt".

Three busloads made the trip to Mme. Ganna Walska's famed Lotusland in Santa Barbara. This rates as one of the greatest botanical gardens in the world and although it is exceeded by Huntington Gardens in its cactus content, it shares with Huntington Gardens, Jardin Exotique of Monaco and Les Cedres of Marnier-Espostelle that rank as tops for succulent material. This was the first time that Lotusland had been opened in 1969 and previous to our visit 22 gardeners worked for three weeks in preparation.

Lotusland is a walled estate of 55 acres. It is meticulously groomed with every weed and stray blade of grass eliminated. Mme. Walska personally supervises every purchase of plant material and its placement and care. She directs her regular staff of six full-time gardeners every day from 7:30 in the morning. For our visit she had provided umbrella tables and a catered buffet featuring champagne and fruit punches, coffee, sandwiches and cakes. She stood waiting at the gate several hours for our arrival which was delayed by a stop for a picnic lunch on the beach and then led the tour around the gardens. She graciously posed for photos and chatted with everyone.

Santa Barbara enjoys a climate probably unsurpassed in the world for horticultural purposes. Mme. Walska has included plant material of almost every type and all specimens are clearly labelled. Outstanding displays include cactus, succulents, cycads, palms, roses, bromeliads and water gardens.

I feel that mention should be made of the remarkable way in which our Society manages to include harmoniously the amateur gardener and the scientific botanist. Most special plant societies today are composed chiefly of amateur gardeners plus plant breeders--rose, iris, *hemerocallis*, dahlia, African violet, etc.

(Cont'd.)

OBSERVATIONS OF  
CACTO PHIL CORLISS  
(Cont'd)

A few small societies such as those devoted to cycads and palms are concerned only with species rather than hybrids. Perhaps the Orchid Society is closest to us in composition but hybrids and breeding are rapidly becoming their principal interest and I can see that the same will come to pass for us before long. The program of the 40th Anniversary was an admirable blend of all the interests present today in our membership.

At the delegates meeting I unsuccessfully urged selection of Mexico as the site of the 1971 convention. First choice was Texas followed by Las Vegas and Mexico. I brought up the matter of having our society made official registrar of cactus and succulent hybrids and this was referred to the Board of Directors.

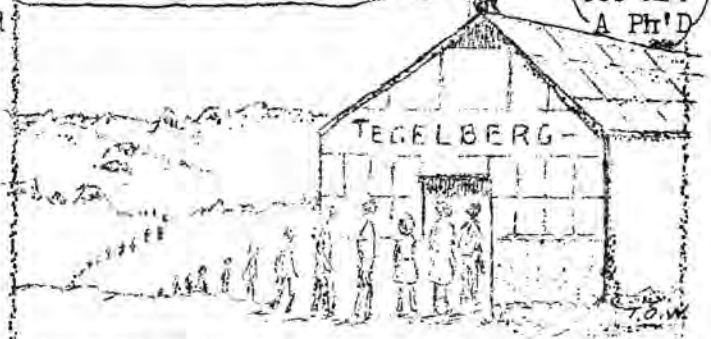
I was shouted down when I suggested that membership lists be prepared each year, as is the custom with every other special plant life society, for distribution to members and for sale to commercial growers, etc. I am shocked that so many members should not wish to share fellowship in a mutual interest and excuse their antisocial behavior on the pretext that they do not want to be on "mailing lists".

There was a plant sale area in the hotel patio. Growers and local societies donated hundreds of potted plants and the money collected went to the Society's convention fund. Excellent specimens of popular varieties were available as well as a large number of newly described rarities.

The lectures and panels covered a wide range of subjects. There were talks on genera such as lophophora, dudleya, and ferocactus; panels on culture, mammillaria and grafting; talks on collecting cactus in Peru, Central Mexico and Baja California.

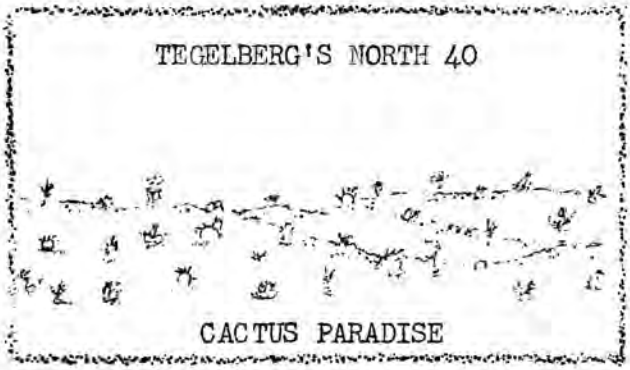
Nema, the line is backed up to Dead Man's Point.

They're coming out the back too Mr. A Ph'D



TRAFFIC JAM—LUCERNE VALLEY, May 7, '69

TEGELBERG'S NORTH 40



CACTUS PARADISE

May 7, 1969, 1 o'clock p. m.

There were also talks on chromosome counts in cactus, judging at shows, life at Lake Titicaca and other interesting things.

With the convention staff of the national society pledged to do the organizational part of the work, I think we should consider inviting the Society to hold its 1973 convention in San Diego. We have fine local gardens, more commercial growers than any other region and are ideally located for field trips and post convention trips.

HUNTINGTON GARDENS Visits on Sunday p.m. and again Tuesday by special arrangement for Conventioneers. We devoted full time to the Desert Collection. The desert never had it so good. Special: PUYAS in flower with emerald and aqua floral displays. Everybody ogled and ah-h-ed and took pictures. Picture taking vantage points were there, either by design and intend or the result of great demand and in constant use. The puyas should have been very proud. They would have inspired and challenged an artist's imagination as well as his paints and brushes. (Cont'd.)

PARADISE LOST



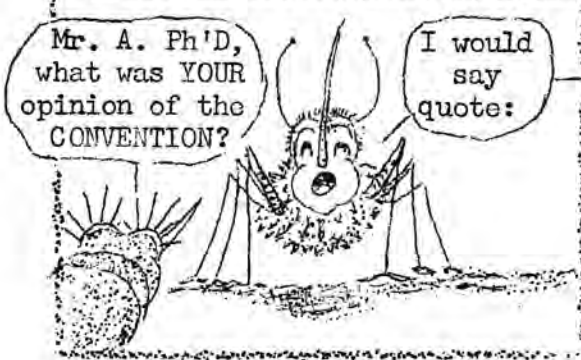
May 7, 1969—1:30 p. m.

HUNTINGTON  
Cont'd.

Succulent borders beyond description; beaucarneans with immense, ever expanding bases, some appeared to have been originals from the First Garden. How could Myron Kimmach arrange all this on a schedule?

Orders must have come from the top thru the chain of command--Top Spine Charles Glass. It seemed at times we would lose Mike Buckner but we didn't. He tarried at times and we thought he might become rooted, The garden grew on him, it was mutual "cactivation". What a floral fantasy, what botanical ecstasy *by Anony Mous*

Charlie Cutworm was assigned by the Editor to "cover" the Huntington Gardens for this issue of E. & Y. That was our mistake. Charlie is interested ONLY in succulents. *ED*



"T-H-A-N-K-S T-O E-V-E-R-Y-O-N-E . . . .

Cactophyles all, thru and thru...they came from nearby Pasadena and faraway England and Australia; 342 registered, representing forty-three affiliated organizations...novices and PhD's, growers and hybridizers; lecturers and writers, specialists...cactophyles of every hue and interest.

They came and went away only to return again and again at every opportunity. Enthusiastic,

totally occupied and absorbed in the cactivities at hand....a breed which will not gather together again under such favorable circumstances for many moons.

Cactophyles in spirit, at heart and in fact...all with a purpose and dedication... they were witness to the most magnificent collection and display of succulent plants ever assembled. They liked what they came to see and do...and what they saw and did at the CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY OF AMERICA'S fortieth Birthday celebration from May 5th to 9th.

All went away grateful for the opportunity and experience and appreciative of the efforts expended by numerous individuals and organizations. A superb achievement, skilfully coordinated and expertly directed.

Puny words failleth me.....

