



ESPINAS Y FLORES



TOMO I, No. 10

October, 1969

PUBLICATION OF THE SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

CALIFORNIA - 200

our thoughts turn to autumn, and the quiet time. For as long as we have been in California, land of the subtle season, we can't shake the feeling that fall is returning home, the urge for the first fireglow by the hearth, the reflection and talk of the hours well spent.

Even before the hot blasts of summer's last breath whips westward down through canyon paths, a thousand times a thousand people will have told the story of California in a thousand different ways. A thousand times tomorrow, as a thousand times this day, California is a land that lives. Its mountains are alive, its plains, its deserts, its valleys. Its flowers and sunshine spell warmth and joy. Its amazing fertility is eloquent opportunity. Its reclaimed desert areas record the triumph of indomitable human endeavor. Its startling contrasts of delicate beauty and awe-inspiring vistas play upon the imagination like paths of light upon the sea.

Its big trees breathe and carry on the spirit of days beyond the memory of man. Its gigantic masses of sheer granite, riven into towering precipices, speak of forces that bewilder human minds. Its immensity is gripping; its magnificence is vital.

For some who come to it, it is a land of unending mountains and yawning canyons. For others, it is a great stretch of broad beaches swept by long ribbons of tumbling ocean and pounding surf. For others, the fragrance of orange blossoms, the lovely gardens from which one looks up to snow-crowned peaks, the colorful missions that live still from by-gone days of Spanish California are things that appeal. For others, the enduring memories are those of mile high emerald lakes; of splendid flora lined highways leading to mountain and sea, wilderness and city; of vast reaches of mysterious desert that are aflame with the vivid color of millions of wild flowers in spring, and the strange evergreen foliage of cactus, palms, and Joshua trees.

OCTOBER MEETING

Saturday, Oct. 4, 1969 - 2 pm

Floral Association Building

Balboa Park

SEDUMS

RUTH STANTON

EXCHANGE TABLE

BRAGGIN' TABLE

REFRESHMENTS

To each it speaks in a different language
and for each there is of necessity a different
(Continued next page)

story to tell, and yet, for us there is one main story, San Diego, not too much of any, and an abundance of each. Open to the freedom and fulness of outdoor life, permitting its youthful people more time to play, more time to work, more time for the joy of living. In its fertile climate timelessness passes into time, formlessness into form, the un-created into the created, the prayer into performance, and into its own fulfillment.

-- js

BYLAWS

AFTER QUITE A FEW YEARS, the Board of Directors is trying to bring up to date all the revisions that have come to pass, and modernize

our procedures a little. At the October meeting we will have the final reading of the "new" by-laws suggested by the Board; it is also a good time to make any suggestions lurking in the recesses of consciousness. As soon as the articles are approved, complete copies will be distributed to all members.

The following are a few proposals regarding our governing body, which might clarify some of our mysterious "functionings"..

ARTICLE IV, Section 1. The Officers of the Society shall be: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer.

Section 2. The term of office shall be one calendar year (January through December)

Section 3. No Officer shall be elected to the same office for more than two consecutive terms, but may again be eligible for election after passing a term.

Section 4. Duties of Officers.

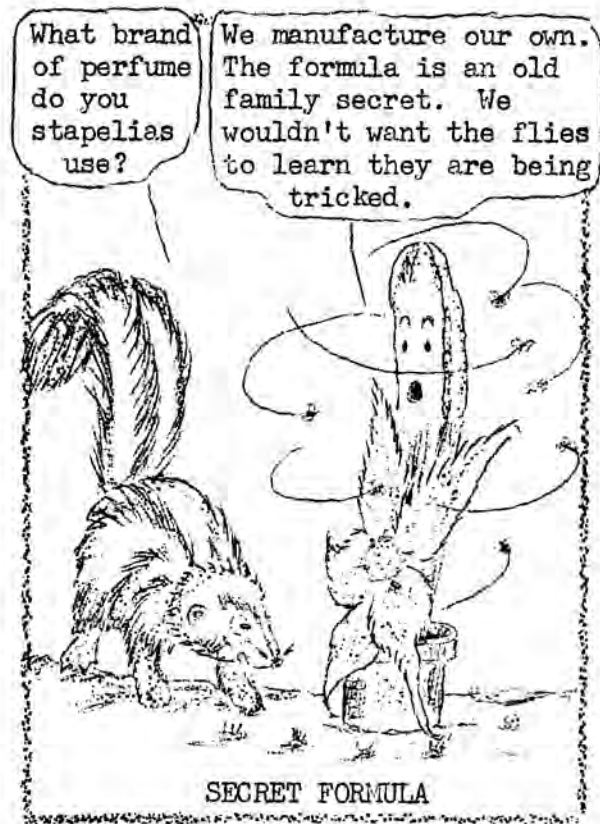
A. President - Shall preside at Society meetings. He shall appoint all "Special Committees" and be an ex-officio member of said committees with the exception of the nominating committee. He shall be empowered to sign checks in the absence of the treasurer. At the end of each term of office, he shall call for an audit of the financial books and inventory of the Society properties real or personal. He shall be Chairman of the Board of Directors.

B. 1st Vice President - Shall assist the President in the performance of his duties, and in the absence of the President shall act in his behalf with full authority of that office. He shall arrange programs for regular society meetings and make necessary introductions of said programs. He shall dispense the Exchange or gratis plant material at the regular meetings.

C. 2nd Vice President. - Shall assist the President and 1st Vice President in the performance of their duties, and in the absence of either shall act in their behalf with the full authority of that office. He shall be responsible for Plant and Garden Supply Sales Programs. He shall be responsible for Gift Plant Program procurement.

D. Secretary. - Shall keep written minutes of the regular meetings of the Society and the Board of Directors, and relate them as directed.

E. Corresponding Secretary. - Shall act as Affiliate Director on behalf of the Society to the Cactus and Succulent Society of America, and shall be responsible for all other Society correspondence, as directed. (Cont. next page)



BY-LAWS (Continued)

F. Treasurer - Shall be responsible for receiving and disbursing all monies of the Society, and shall keep an accurate record thereof. He shall give a report of the financial status at each regular meeting of the Society, and a written statement at the January meeting for general review.

ARTICLE V. BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Section 1. The Board of Directors shall be comprised of the Officers of the Society and the Chairmen of the "Standing Committees" hereinafter provided, and henceforth shall be referred to as the Board.

Section 2. The Board shall consider and act upon the expenditures of the Society. The Board shall promote activities vital to the purposes of the Society and expand the awareness of our mutual interest. The Board shall approve and adopt "operating procedures" for each officer and committee chairman to aid in the performance of their duties, and better relate their respective responsibilities. The Board shall have the power of arbitration in all matters of grievance.

Section 3. The Chairman of said Standing Committees shall be nominated and elected each year by the general membership of the Society, as are the Officers.

Section 4. The Board shall meet monthly, independently of the general body, at the will and pleasure of its members.

Section 5. STANDING COMMITTEES and Duties.

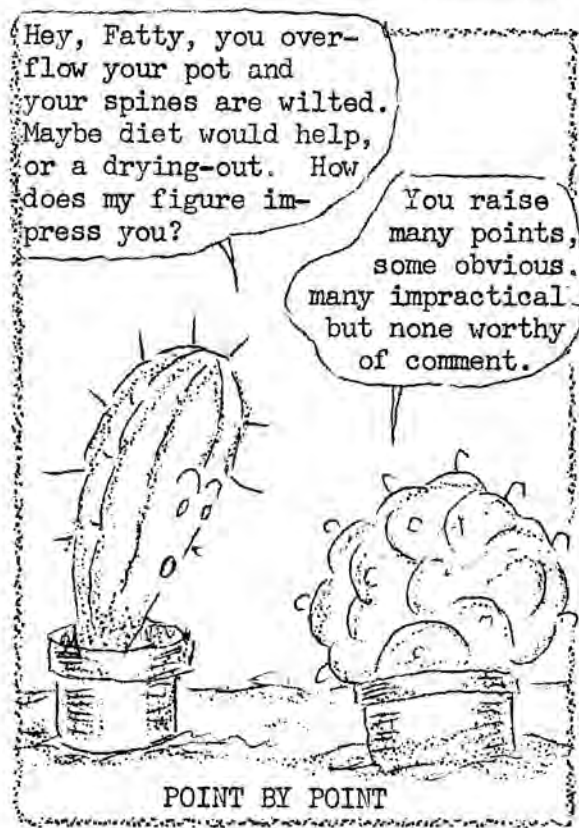
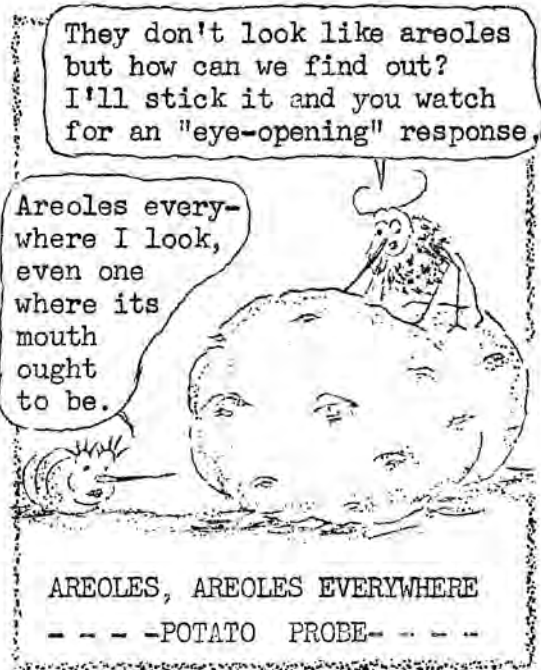
A. RECEPTION COMMITTEE - Shall be responsible for the greeting of members and guests at the door of the regular meetings of the Society; shall perform all necessary functions to convey the warmth and friendship of our Society to one and all in attendance, and shall acknowledge first time visitors and visitors of "note" to the membership.

B. REGALEMENT COMMITTEE - Shall be responsible for the procuring and serving of refreshments and table settings at the regular meetings of the Society, and special events as directed.

C. LIBRARY COMMITTEE - Shall be responsible for maintaining the Society Library, purchasing new literary material, and give periodic reports or reviews on articles or books of interest.

D. HISTORY COMMITTEE - Shall be responsible for maintaining History and Scrap Book of Society activities, keep permanent record of minutes, and keep inventory of club properties, real or personal.

E. PREPARATION COMMITTEE - Shall coordinate and arrange seating, display tables, program and activity requirements for all regular meetings of the Society, and special events as directed; also shall restore meeting place to order at the completion of said functions.



(Continued next page)

BY LAWS - Continued.

F. CACTIVITIES COMMITTEE. Shall arrange and conduct periodic extra or social functions for the Society, endeavoring to further enlighten our understanding of Cacti and other succulents, and to broaden the scope of our fellowship.

G. EDUCATION COMMITTEE - Shall be responsible for conducting a brief informative seminar amplifying the featured "Plant of the Month" or cultural gardening practices at each regular meeting of the Society, and shall administer a contest as to the best representative species displayed at the "Braggin' Table".

H. PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE - Shall be responsible for arrangements and details of displaying Society exhibits at the San Diego County Fair and other Flower Shows as directed.

I. EDITORIAL COMMITTEE - Shall be responsible for editorial policy and publishing the Society publication, and other printed matter as directed.

ARTICLE VI. NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS.

Section 3. No member may be nominated for or elected to more than one elective office at a time, except in the event of incapacitation of an officer or board member, in which case he will serve "pro tem" at the discretion of the Board.

ARTICLE XIII. EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES.

Section 1. The immediate Past President may serve as Parliamentarian of the Society, and as an advisor to the Board of Directors, during his tenure as such; and also shall be considered the titular leader of our reverent amenities at the meetings of the Society.

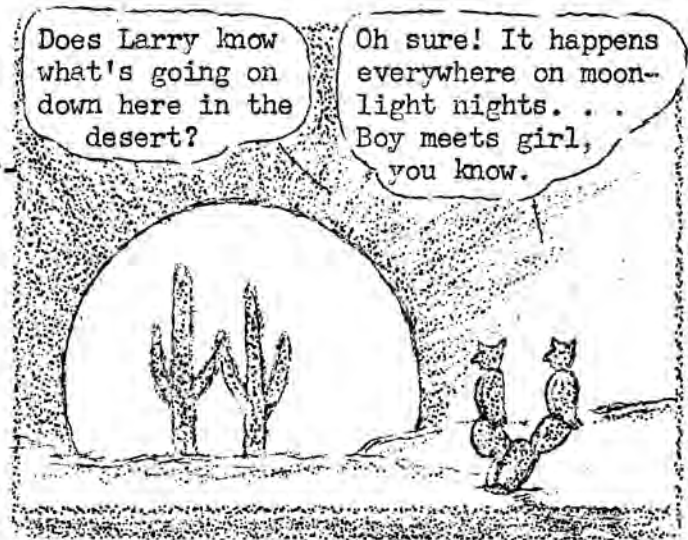
Section 2. The term Honorary Member is a gratuitous recognition of a deserving person, whose commendable services to the Society have been indirect in nature. Confirmation of title is by recommendation of the Board and approval by the Society membership. The designation carries with it all the rights and privileges of full membership, dues free.

Section 3. The term Life Member is a title of distinction given to certain members for their long devoted service to the Society. Confirmation is by recommendation of the Board and approval by the Society membership. The designation carries with it all the rights and privileges of full membership, dues and assessments free.

Section 4. Special committees shall include the Nominating Committee and all other committees not defined or mentioned herein.

NOTE: These are just a few of the suggestions for change and attempts to clarify our operation; be there, ask questions, and vote.

-- js



ROMANCE OF THE SAGUAROS

We OPUNTIAS are vastly superior to people plants. They have ONLY ONE SPINE... and many of them are 'spineless'!

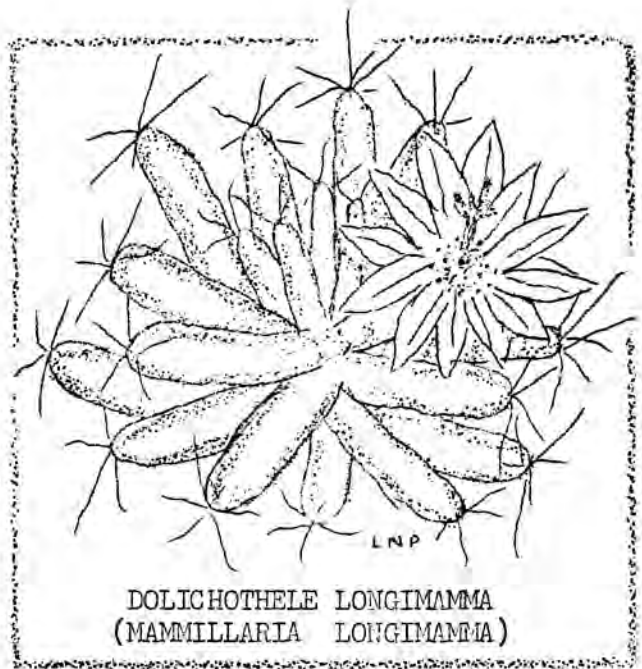
CH-E-E! Just ONE spine--or NONE. It makes me proud.



SPINE COUNT

PLANT OF THE MONTH

DOLICHOTHELE LONGIMAMMA (dol-i-ko-the-le lon-ji-mam-a) is a very common cactus in cultivation whether it is known by this name or as MAMILLARIA LONGIMAMMA (mam-i-la-ri-a). The name in either case is quite redundant since dolichothele means "long nipple" in Greek, mammillaria means "nipple" in Latin and longimamma means "long nipple" in Latin! If you haven't gotten the idea that this cactus has long nipples or tubercles by now, go on to some other article. The genus Dolichothele was created by Britton and Rose for three Mammillaria species, but Marshall and Rock returned the species to the original genus. The plant was originally named by De Candolle in 1828, so this is no recent discovery. No one, apparently, agrees with anyone else on the proper botanical name for the plant at the present time.



This cactus is a pretty thing, especially when in bloom. The flowers may be up to two inches wide and are a brilliant yellow. The plant is known as a profuse bloomer, so you can expect several flowers at a time. The tubercles are a grassy green and are very soft. They are up to three inches long and have a tuft of spines at the tip. The one to three central spines are needle-like and the five to seven radials are flexible and nearly hair-like. All spines are yellowish. The young areoles also bear white wool. Amazingly, the tubercles will produce roots and eventually new plants if cut off and treated in the normal manner. Borg (in CACTI) states that the plant will propagate by forming new plants from the areoles, although I have never seen this myself.

DOLICHOTHELE LONGIMAMMA is easily grown and may be adapted to growing in either partial or full sun in our area. It is not particular in its soil requirements either. Several species of name are in the same group insofar as tubercles, flowers and cultivation are concerned. These are M. BAUMII and M. CAMPTOTRICHA (bird's nest cactus). All of these would be placed in the genus Dolichothele, if you tend to be a splitter in classification.

-- Lee Phelps.

CARALLUMA

They are the backbone of the stapeliad tribe, which numbers 20 genera and includes stapelias as well. To break it down:

Family: ASCLEPIADACEAE (as KLÉ-pi-a-DÁ-so-e)
Division or Tribe: STAPELIAD
Genus: CARALLUMA
Species: EUROPEA - type GUSSONE
Varieties of Caralluma Europea: marmaricensis, simonis, maroccana, affinis, confusa.

"To compile an easy key to the Carallumas is well nigh a hopeless endeavor." So spoke the leading authorities* in the Stapeliad field -- and I was glad to hear them say so for they rescued me from a frenzy of frustration. The more I read, the less I understood * WHITE & SLOANE, Vol. I, The Stapelias. Available in our library, this tome is distinguished by 63 pages of thumbnail sketches and photos of botanists who discovered different species.....

(Continued next page)

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH - Continued.

stood. How reassuring to find that even botanists have confused them!

The generally accepted distinction between the Carallumas and the Stapelias is a tiny one, depending on the form of the lobes of the outer corona. Think of the star-shape of the flower - the points of the star are the lobes of the corolla. The ring is the annulus. The larger star or crown within the ring is the outer corona. The crown within the outer corona is the inner corona. Are you still with me?

If the points of the outer corona are more or less intergrown with each other, and frequently attached to the lobes of the inner corona, THEN the genus is a Caralluma. Okay? If the points of the outer corona are separate to the base, it is a stapelia.

In general, Carallumas have smaller flowers in greater profusion than the Stapelias. Our genus has over 100 species, and while the need for further classification has been admitted, no single logical basis for separation has yet been found. This genus was established in 1809 by the great English botanist, Robert Brown, who gave it the name used by natives of the area in British India where the plant was discovered. The species *Europea* was named by Giovanni Gussone in 1832 who found it growing on the chalk cliffs of the Italian island of Lampedusa in the Mediterranean. The type was called Gussone. Later five more varieties of *Europea* were added with flowers differing in markings, color, size, and amount of ciliation (fringe of hair).

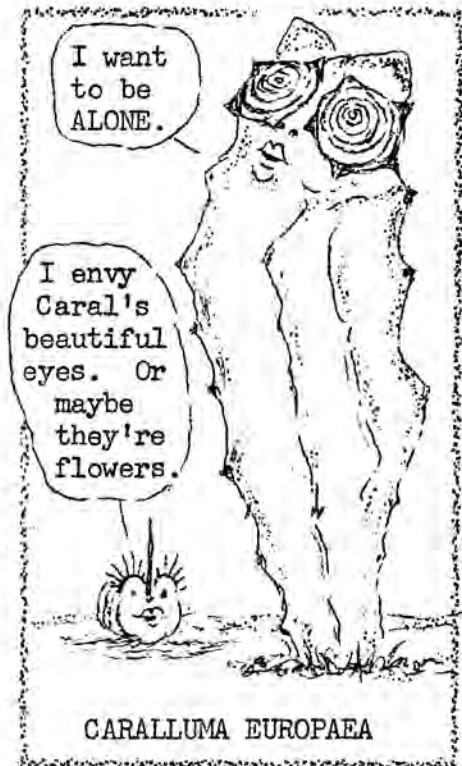
Caralluma Europea Gussone has five distinct pouches grown together at the base, each pouch bearing two very characteristic little golden knobs. (There are no knobs, however, in the Spanish variety, *C. Europea confusa* -- so named because it was reclassified three times!) There are five to eight flowers in an umbel, each scarcely 3/4" in diameter, pale yellow, mottled and banded and tipped with brownish-purple.

The buds look like little cake frosting rosettes. The flowers cuddly-cozily together, their reflexed lobes overlapping, and last for several days to a week. Quaintly exotic with no set blooming time, they are irregular, as well, in their habit of setting seed, which may be immediately, or a year later. The family name, Asclepiadaceae, is from the Japanese for cow's horns in reference to the twin seed pods.

The gray-green stems are about as thick as one's finger, 4-angled, distinctly toothed, branching at will and often running awhile underground. These fleshy stems are called "Damas" by the Arabs and are eaten not only by them, but gobbled greedily by ostriches and cattle. Sad to think of the unseen beauties that have been browsed to extinction.

Both the Stapelias and the Carallumas are great teasers, for the carrion scent and color of their flowers promise much but deliver little to the insects. The pollen is waxy and the intricate design of the coronas is almost a trap.

Carallumas in captivity may well be grown indoors during winter, even in our mild climate. You are advised to grow them fairly dry during their resting period. Beware of allowing them to shrivel, however. Protect from too much sun when grown outside. They enjoy a rich porous soil with good drainage and plenty of root room.



(Continued next page)

SUCCULENT OF THE MONTH - Continued

One recipe called for 1/4 loam, 1/4 leafmold, 1/4 coarse sand, 1/8 well-rotted, sifted cow manure, 1/8 poultry charcoal. Mix well. In a wide, shallow pot place a layer of pebbles or shards or mortar rubble. Over this a layer of sphagnum moss. Now for your delicious soil mix. Top with a layer of sand. Both your Carallumas and Stapelias should thrive in this medium. To further stimulate bloom, alternate a nitrogen fertilizer with a non-nitrogen fertilizer. Repotting every spring was recommended. On the other hand, they have been known to bloom prolifically as hanging plants grown in the same pot for years.

Propagation is considered easy, particularly in spring. The cuttings should be well dried before being stuck in a peaty-sandy mixture. The roots seem to like plenty of water as long as it drains quickly. Several sources stressed using the layer of sphagnum moss between the drainage material and the soil; apparently much stronger root systems are developed.



CALLISIA FRAGRANS

The worst pest is the obnoxious mealy bug who is forever on the prowl for their roots. The red spider is another pest which can at least be washed away, if not destroyed - for a real kill, dust with flowers of sulphur. These plants are also prone to fungus diseases, showing up as brown or black spots - spray with Semesan to control.

Some species are easy to grow, others dishearteningly difficult, but all are fascinating. Try a side or flat graft using Stapelia Variegata for stock if you have a favorite that has failed on its own.

For the Braggin' Table competition we hope to see a number of Caralluma Europea plants. Remember that there are six varieties within the species so they may not look alike. Other Carallumas and Stapelias, too, are welcome in the open class..

-- Nibby

NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS - 1970

The following have expressed a desire to serve, and their names are respectfully submitted by the Nominating Committee for approval as your officers for 1970:

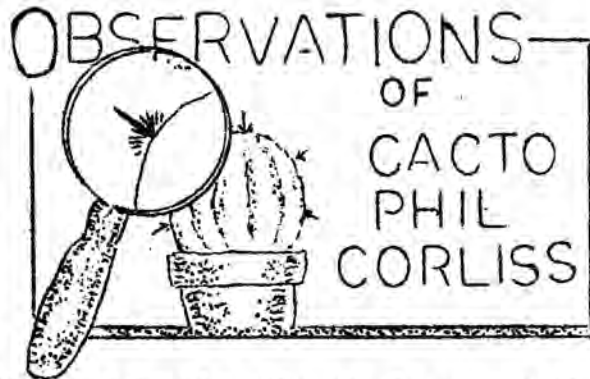
<u>OFFICERS:</u>	PRESIDENT	Jim Stalsonburg
	1st VICE PRESIDENT	Ione Hubnor
	2nd VICE PRESIDENT	Oliver Loyland
	SECRETARY	Nibby Klinofelter
	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Perlso Lewis
	TREASURER	Reuben Wachtel

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RECEPTION COMMITTEE	Julia Ann Rice
REGALEMENT COMMITTEE	Lucile Bockfield
LIBRARY COMMITTEE	Ruth Nelson
ISTORY COMMITTEE	Hazel Scott
PREPARATION COMMITTEE	William Nelson
CACTIVITIES COMMITTEE	Walter Scott
EDUCATION COMMITTEE	Leroy Phelps
PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE	H. Warren Bucknor
EDITORIAL COMMITTEE	Mike Buckner

The meeting will be opened for additional nominations from the floor; anyone wishing to serve, please let your thoughts be known.

-- Reuben Vaughan, Elaine Niehaus, Jim Stalsonburg



THE PROBLEM of when or whether to repot cactus plants has during the past year given me considerable thought. My findings and conclusions, based on advice from other writers and my own experience may be helpful to other members.

If repotting of cactus is indicated, it may be done at any time of the year. If done with due care, it does NOT interfere with bloom nor seed development, although the ideal time may be when the plants are resting. Since the repotted plants need not be watered during the resting stage, damage to the roots at this time will not result in much harm. However, if you wish NOT to disturb the roots the pot should be watered BEFORE you repot, and this may stimulate growth at this time. Most often, however, you will wish to inspect the root system or to completely replace the soil mixture, and lifting them while dry will facilitate this.

The indications for repotting are familiar, but I would like to comment on some:

(1) Change of Soil: After several years the plants may have "used up" their soil. If you fertilize with a complete food this may not be an indication for change, but I feel there is some organic matter that is best supplied from your potting mixture, such as in leaf mold. Also, you may decide you have found a better potting mixture than you previously used - one that is more porous or higher in content of some essentials.

(2) Crowding Roots: It is probably true that most cacti, like many other plants, bloom better when somewhat potbound. But, except for those whose space is limited, most cactus enthusiasts want their plants to grow, and growth is curtailed when the cactus is potbound. It is best to repot before the plant has crowded the edges of the pots, since even with the greatest of care, the plant may be injured when you cannot run a knife around the sides of the pot to facilitate removal.

(3) Lack of Growth: Since the advent of Cygon, it is no longer necessary to remove plants from their pots to examine for root mealy bug. But if the plant shrinks, sulks, or otherwise seems unhappy, I advise repotting. Sometimes you will find that the soil is waterlogged, even though you have given it the same watering schedule as other plants. Or the variety may be one that develops a massive root system or a large tuber, and needs more growing space. Perhaps you will find that the roots have indeed rotted; but the plant may be saved by cutting back the rotted area, dusting with sulphur, drying, and repotting.

I suggest the following: (1) Because broken pottery or brick fragments are so heavy, I suggest the use of cinders in the bottom of pots to facilitate drainage. The difference in weight is considerable and takes much strain off your shelving. (2) Use at least 10% Perlite (Sponge-Rock) in the potting mixture. This is better than gravel for aiding porosity, since it is very light in weight; cactus roots cling to it with great affection!