

Espinas y Flores

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

APRIL MEETING

Saturday April 10, 1982

1:30 pm

Casa del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park

The Program for April

"PERU - A TRAVELOG"

by Fred DelCover

Del, a member of our club, vacationed in Lima and Mauchu - Pichu, Peru in November of 1981. He has put together a slide program of the interesting sights and the plants of these two far away places. This will be an informative program for all of us to enjoy.

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HAPPY EASTER AND PASSOVER

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NEWS OF INTEREST

Welcome to our New Members- - -

Harvey Edmunds, San Diego- - -Carl Nordstrom, Valley Center- - -Ed and Mary Post, S.D.

BRAGGING TABLE WINNERS WERE:

- 1st - Madelyn Lee for her Pachypodium namaquanum
- 2nd - Dorothy Dunn for her Titanopsis schwantesii
- 3rd - Ruby Winters for her Euphorbia bupleurifolia

ANZA-BORREGO SPRINGS BUS SAFARI _ _ _ April 18

For all of those who have signed up- The bus leaves the parking lot at 8:00. a.m. It is the lot southwest of Spreckles Organ Pavillion. Don't forget lunch, drinks, hats, sunglasses, STURDY shoes and film for your camera. Our guide will be Jim Dice. At press time there were 5 seats available on the bus.

The Huntington Garden trip will be May 15. The cost is \$10.00 payable to Warren Buckner. At press time there were 15 seats available on the bus. More in next issue

The Carlsbad Garden Club will sponsor its annual Spring Holiday Flower Show in the upper level of the Plaza Camino Real in Carlsbad on Saturday and Sunday, April 17-18, 1982. Those who wish to show plants should bring them on Friday, April 16, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. or on Saturday, April 17, from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Judges of cacti and succulents will be Shirley Berry, John Myers, Richard Romero, and Steve Anthony. The Palomar Cactus and Succulent Society will hold a sale of cacti and succulents in conjunction with this flower show, at the same time and place.

SHOW SCHEDULE FOR CASA DEL PRADO, BALBOA PARK

Apr. 11	Convair Garden Club Rose Show	Sun: 1:00 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Apr. 17 & 18	San Diego Bonsai Spring Show	Sat. 10:am - 4:30 Sun. 10 a.m. -4:30 p.m.
Apr. 17 & 18	San Diego Rose Show	Sat. 2:pm - 7 pm Sun. 10 am - 6 pm
Apr. 24 & 25	San Diego-Imperial Co. Iris Show	Sat. 12pm - 5pm Sun 10 am - 5 pm

THOSE WHO HAVE SIGNED UP FOR REFRESHMENTS ARE:

Ed Miller, Susan Barker, Floretta Warner, Brunhilde Graffe, Janie Miller, Curt Hammel, Alberta Widen, Marcelle Barfield, Virginia Buckner, Judy Hammile, Anna Cornett.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Feb. 1 to Feb 28, 1982

Balance forward	\$4852.05
Receipts	\$ 863.68
Disbursements	\$ 773.33
Closing Balance	\$4942.40

Mr. Tolen of TOLEN'S CACTUS is selling out his collection. He has a large variety He sells wholesale and retail. Located at 6673 W. Lilac Rd., Bonsall, CA 92003 Please call before you go--- (714) 758-4285

The Succulent-of-the-Month for April is Anacampseros of the Portulaca family. This Family has seventeen Genera and some two hundred species. We are most familiar with the Generas Anacampseros, Portulaca, and Portulacaria. Anacampseros (an-a-kamp'-ser-os) are low succulent perennials from Southwest, Central, East, and Southern Africa, and South Australia. The name is derived from Anakampto (to cause to return) and Eros (love), alluding to the belief by some native peoples that the plant can bring back lost love. Note the popular name for *A. lanceolata* "love plant". This supposed property of Anacampseros was known in one A.D. Both Plutarch and Pliny write of these beliefs.

There are 58 species of this Genus which are divided into four sections by K.v. Poellnitz. Section One - Avonia: This group consists of plants with numerous short stems which bear tiny green leaves completely covered by silver white parchment like scales. These scales act as a window shade, sheltering the fleshy leaves and stems from sunlight and heat. Between the scales there are often long hairs. Most often this group has tuberous roots, as in *A. alstonii*, but not so much so in *A. papyracea*. The flowers are five petaled, terminal, and mostly solitary. The flower color is from white to yellow and from tiny to up to one and one half inches across. They are sometimes called bird dropping plant because of their color and curious clustered form. It has been suggested that this might be a form of protective mimicry.

Section Two - Anacampseros: This group forms miniature rosettes of fat lance shaped green leaves with numerous bristly hairs in the leaf axils. The leaves are alternate, often spirally arranged, thick and very fleshy. In some species they are cobwebby, as *A. arachnoides*. The roots may be somewhat tuberous. The flowers are from white to red.

Section Three - Tuberosae: This section has one species, *A. australiana*. Somewhat like Section Two, but with a subterranean large tuber root. Flowers are pink.

Section Four - Rosulatae: Also one species, *A. dielsiana*. Like Section Three, but the stems are much shortened.

Anacampseros flowers are shy in opening and when they are open, if at all, it is for a very short time. The best bet for opening is 4 p.m. and you had best be there looking. In many species, the flowers are selfpollinated in the bud and seeds are produced freely. Unfortunately, these plants have been regarded as difficult to grow. This is not the case at all. In fact, plants in Section Two, you will have more difficulty not growing them, than growing them. The seeds will get into everything and be coming up all over the place. They need a well drained soil, ample water from spring through autumn. In winter, barely let the soil dry between waterings and keep the temperature above 40° F. Full sun autumn to spring, filtered sun in summer, and you should have no difficulty at all with these fascinating little plants.

Cactus-of-the-Month

THE GENUS PARODIA

Dorothy Dunn

Parodia is a genus of small, globular, very attractive South American cacti, belonging to the very large Echinocactinae family, which until 1923 was classified under the name Hickenia by Britton and Rose. However, it was subsequently discovered that Hickenia had previously been used as a name for a genus in the Asclepiadaceae family, which pre-empts the name from further generic usage in any family. The name Parodia was proposed by the eminent Argentinean botanist Spegazzini and honors another botanist, Dr. Domingo Parodi, one of the foremost students of the flora of Paraguay.

Parodias are native to northern Argentina, central Bolivia, and extend across Paraguay in to southern Brazil. The earliest-known species was discovered in northern Argentina in 1895, and prior to World War I only about three species had been described. They are closely related to Notocacti (Alfred Buining believed that Parodia, Notocactus, Frailea, and Uebelmannia are all closely-related genera, differing mainly in their seed structure), and some of the southern Brazilian species are often referred to Notocactus by various authorities (P. brevihamata, P. alacriportana, P. bueneckeri, for example). The number of described species and varieties varies from about 28 (Borg) to 130 - !! - (Backeberg). In the past several years, increased exploration of South American cactus habitats has brought to light a great number of additional "new" species which will undoubtedly eventually prove to be only local variants of already described species since this is quite a variable genus.

In habitat Parodias grow mainly in open plains or high, dry hillsides with scattered shrubs and long grasses providing protection from the sun. The rainfall in these areas may vary from 30 inches annually in Argentina and Bolivia up to 80 inches in Paraguay and southern Brazil. The soils in these regions are rich in leaf-mold, with weathered rock and debris comprising the underlying drainage. Some of the stouter-spined species, such as P. maassii, are found at elevations of about 13,000 feet. These heavily-spined species are reportedly more difficult to flower in cultivation.

The plants are generally small to moderate in size and, while usually solitary, sometimes offset from the base, as in P. mairanana and P. microsperma. They are ribbed, but usually have tubercles on the ribs. They possess varying characteristics: in some species the fruits remain in the copious wool in the tops of the plants like Malacocarpus (P. maassii, P. aureicentra, P. schwebsiana, etc.); in others the fruits retain the floral remains and are visible, as in Notocactus; some have hooked central spines, while in others the spines are straight (P. nivosa, P. penicillata, P. faustiana). The flower tubes are hairy and bristly and the fruits are rather small. The flowers appear at the top of the plant and are usually yellow or red (or orange, as in P. mairanana). They generally occur several at a time and last for three to five days.

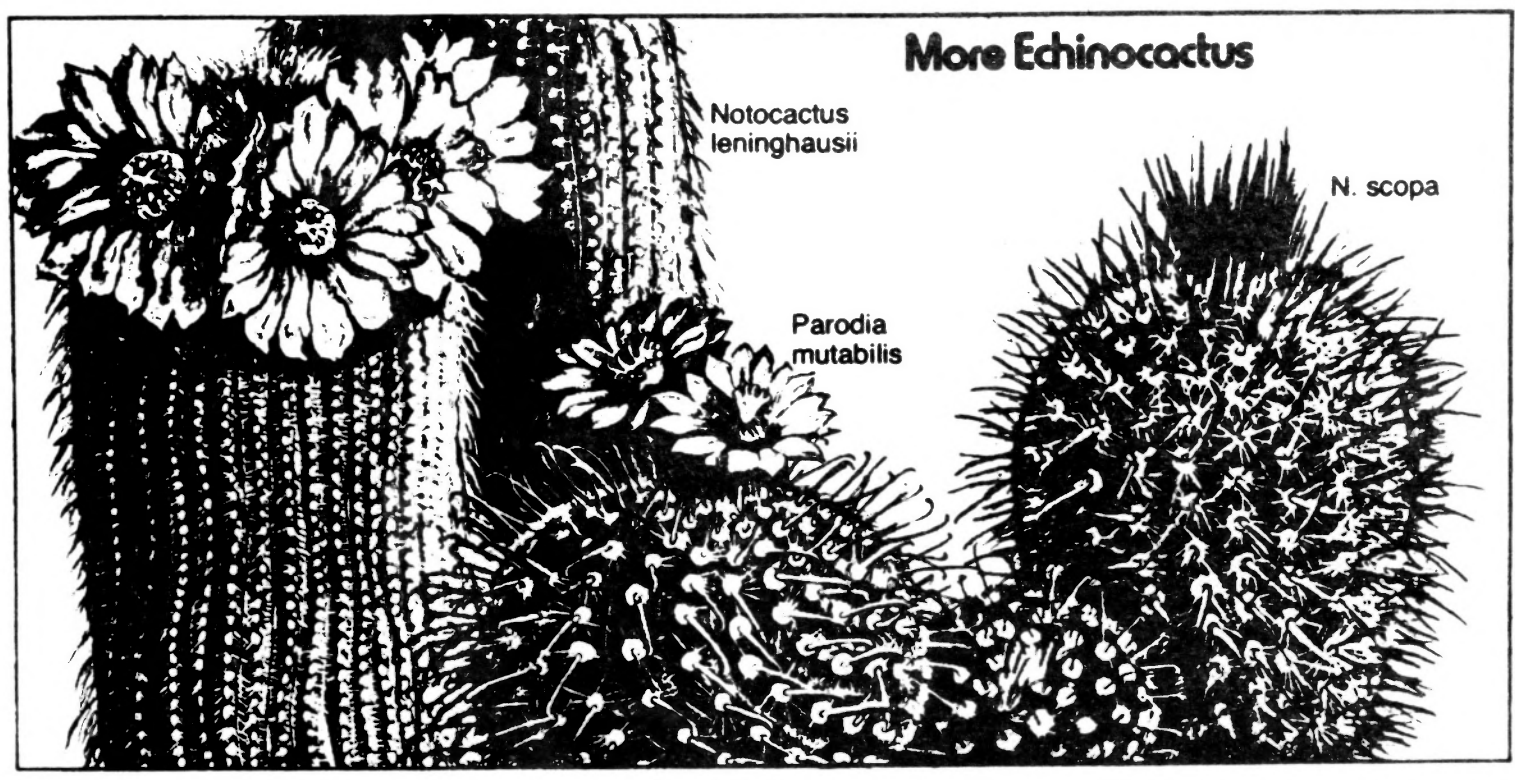
One reason for the relative rarity of some species of Parodia is that they do not lend themselves easily to mass production. The seed

of many species is minute and dust-like, and young seedlings are often tiny and very slow-growing. The species with small seeds occur mostly in northern Argentina and southern Bolivia, and include such beautiful and popular ones as P. mutabilis, P. sanguiniflora, P. aureispina, P. microsperma, and P. nivosa, which has brilliant red flowers, and straight, snow-white spines. The species with larger seeds come mostly from Bolivia, some occurring at very high elevations.

The culture of Parodias is similar to that of Notocacti, only perhaps not quite so easy. They need a fairly rich, very well-drained soil and can take moderate to generous watering during the growing season. Most species are fairly frost-resistant, but should be kept rather dry in the coldest weather. They seem to appreciate some shade, and are more suited to pot culture than to being grown in open ground. They are delightful free-flowering plants, and if you like Notocacti you will surely like Parodias.

References used:

Backeberg, Curt	Cactus Lexicon
Barthlott, Wilhelm	Cacti
Bleck, Mary	<u>Parodia</u> spegazzini (<u>Cactus and Succulent Journal</u> , May-June, 1972)
Borg, J.	Cacti
Martin, Auger, Chapman	Cacti and their Cultivation



CONSERVATION

IS THERE A REMEDY

F. C. Thrombly

Legislation to control collecting is one obvious step to take, and it has been introduced in various countries. But, legislation has its drawbacks. One is that genuine nature lovers are made to suffer along with the greedy commercial entrepreneurs. Meanwhile, despite the laws, digging goes on, because the areas involved are too vast for adequate policing.

Cacti and succulents are perennials - that is, they live for more than two years; indeed, some live so long as to suggest trees rather than smaller plants. They will last a lifetime, a great contrast to many garden annuals, which are matured and dead in less than a year, from seed. Nevertheless, each year we add more cactus and succulents to the endangered list and the demise of the rare plants is hastened in spite of restrictions or codes of conduct.

There is one other step that we as individuals can do. Ignore or refuse to deal with nurseries or mail order houses that advertise field collections. Do not purchase from those that have plants that you know are on the endangered list and are not propagated by seed or vegetative methods, by the seller. Purchase from reputable nurseries that describe the plants and how they were propagated. Purchase plants at the societies' sales table. Develop your own code of ethics.

Abraham Lincoln is quoted as saying:

"Important principles may and must be inflexible".

Thomas Carlyle said:

"Conviction is worthless unless it is converted into conduct".

When you make a mistake, don't look back at it long.
Take the reason of the thing into your mind, and then look forward.
Mistakes are lessons of wisdom.
The past cannot be changed.
The future is yet in your power.

Hugh White

DEADLINE FOR MAY ISSUE ---- April 27 ---- Know it is early, but the May meeting is May * 8.

THE PROGRAM FOR MAY will be the second annual mini-show for members only. All of us should participate in this show for the fun, education and the prizes. It will also be the "warm-up" for the societies' annual show, which will be held June 5th & 6th this year.


RULES FOR PARTICIPATION


1. The show will consist of two groups of people: First Group will be made up of all new members, members who have not participated in past SDC&SS shows and members who have not won blue or first place ribbons in past SDC&SS shows. Second Group will be made up of the members who have won blue or first place ribbons in past SDC&SS shows.
2. Judges will not be allowed to enter plants in the show. There will be two sets of judges, one set for each group. Their names will be published in the May bulletin.
3. All participants will bring one cactus or succulent plant only, to enter in the show. The size or species does not matter. Bring your best plant with the intention of winning.
4. All plants must be labeled. We will use the societies' card identifier (see sample below) for identification. These cards will be distributed at the April and May meetings.
5. There will be a first, second, third, and honorable mention awarded in each group. The two groups will not compete against each other. There will be prizes for each award.

Last year there were 54 entrants. Lets all participate this year and show our favorite plant.

Fill the card in with the proper information. Div. and class is not required in this show.

Fold top of card under as shown. Place card under pot so that your name is not visible.

DIV. _____ CLASS _____		
VARIETY <u>FEROCACTUS</u>		
<u>GRACILIS</u>		
Name <u>JOHN DOE</u>		
Address <u>SAN DIEGO</u>		
1st 0 AWARD	2nd 0 AWARD	3rd 0 AWARD
1st 0 AWARD	2nd 0 AWARD	3rd 0 AWARD
Name <u>JOHN DOE</u>		
SAN DIEGO CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY		
		
DIV. _____ CLASS _____		
VARIETY <u>FEROCACTUS</u>		
<u>GRACILIS</u>		

1st 0 AWARD	2nd 0 AWARD	3rd 0 AWARD
1st 0 AWARD	2nd 0 AWARD	3rd 0 AWARD
Name <u>JOHN DOE</u>		
SAN DIEGO CACTUS and SUCCULENT SOCIETY		
		
DIV. _____ CLASS _____		
VARIETY <u>FEROCACTUS</u>		
<u>GRACILIS</u>		

SAN DIEGO CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

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The San Diego Cactus & Succulent Society is open to all persons interested in growing cacti, other succulents and exotic plants. Meeting are held the second Saturday of each month at 1:30 pm in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Board of Directors meetings are held after the general meetings. Annual dues are \$7.00 per family. Single copies of Espinas y Flores are 60 Cents.

Editor
Mary Aubuchon
1058 5th Avenue
Chula Vista, CA 92011

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